

Growers Managerial Ability for Plant Protection Measures in Chilli Crop

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ABSTRACT

With a view to know the level of managerial ability of the chilli growers', this study was undertaken. A majority of the respondent chilli growers possessed medium level of managerial ability of plant protection measures in chilli. The significant and positive correlation was observed between literacy level, social participation & extension participation and the managerial ability. High cost of pesticides, lack of finance and lack of knowledge about pests were the main constraints faced by the chilli growers.

Introduction

Every organization may be agriculture; industry or business; or even individual requires making the decision, coordinating activities, handling of people and evaluation of performance. In all these physical and mental processes, management plays a vital role. According to Belshaw (1974), management reflects the ability for effective use of people, money, equipments, materials and methods. In agriculture too, management plays an important role at various level.

Chilli is an important crop in the area close to Gandhinagar. It requires many management decisions to be taken up by the farmer during the crop period. Chilli crop is affected by many pests and diseases and are resulting in low yield as well as inferior quality. As such, plant protection measures seem to be critical inputs in chilli. Keeping this in view, the challenge before the chilli grower is how well he can manage the plant

protection measures to enhance the yield. It is observed that many a times, farmers with good managerial ability, fails to manage a process due to various constraints he is facing while managing plant protection measures.

To look in to the matter, the present study was taken up with following specific objectives:

1. To study managerial ability of growers in regard to plant protection measures in chilli crop.
2. To study relationship, if any, between personal characteristics of chilli growers and their managerial ability.
3. To inquire into constraints, if any, for efficient management of plant protection measures of chilli faced by the growers.

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Methodology

The Gandhinagar district was purposively selected for the present study with a consideration not only as chilli is important crop of the area but also as the produce from this area has achieved premium quality reputation in the market. A two stage simple random sampling technique was used for this study for selection of respondents. The Gandhinagar and Kalol taluka were purposively selected. From the list of important chilli growing villages, five villages in each taluka were randomly selected. The lists of chilli growers were obtained from each village panchayat. With the help of proportionate random sampling method, 114 respondents were selected for the present study.

An interview schedule for collecting information was specifically constructed. The interview schedule also consist a specially designed test to measure the growers' managerial ability for making decision about use of plant protection

The data were tabulated and analyzed. For every respondent, managerial ability index was calculated. Correlation of coefficient was used to measure relationship between personal characteristics of the growers and their managerial ability.

Results and Discussion

Growers' Managerial ability

The managerial ability of farmers directly influences their decision making ability for use of plant protection measures in chilli crop. The managerial ability of chilli growers was measured with the help of a specially constructed measurement test. From the test values, managerial ability index was calculated for each respondent and on the basis of that the respondents were grouped into three categories of managerial ability.

The distribution of respondents as per their level of managerial ability is presented in Table-1.

Table 1: Distribution of farmers on the basis of level of managerial ability

Level of Managerial Ability	No. of farmers	Per cent
Low	17	14.91
Medium	80	70.18
High	17	14.91
Total	114	100.00

measures in chilli crop. The test consist high value of reliability (reliability coefficient 0.8352) and also a high value of validity (validity coefficient 0.9138).

It is obvious from the Table-1 that majority of the respondents possessed medium level of managerial ability. An equal number of respondents fall in the categories of low and high level of managerial ability.

Table 2: Correlation between respondents' personal characteristics and their managerial ability

Sr. No.	Personal Characteristics	Correlation Coefficient (r)
1	Age	(-) 0.093 NS
2	Literacy	0.251 **
3	Social Participation	0.398 **
4	Extension Participation	0.447 **
5	Size of Land Holding	0.122 NS
6	Economic Condition	0.090 NS

** Significant at 0.01 level of probability

NS=Non-significant

Relationship between personal characteristics and managerial ability

The data pertinent to relationship between personal characteristics of the chilli growers and their managerial ability are presented in Table-2.

It is obvious from the results that the managerial ability has no concern with entrenched characteristics either like age or size of land holding and economic conditions. Contrarily, it is highly correlated

with literacy level, social participation and extension participation. This clearly shows that managerial ability is not associated with ingrained factors; but it will be more if one keep more linkage with people and extension.

Constraints in management of plant protection measures

Managerial ability of the growers may not be the only aspect of consideration

Table 3: Constraints in management of plant protection measures in chilli crop
(N = 114)

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Total score	Meanscore	Rank
1.	Lack of finance	113	297	2.63	2
2.	Lack of knowledge about pest & diseases	113	157	1.39	3
3.	Lack of skill about the use of pesticides and equipments	045	047	1.04	9
4.	Non-availability of pesticides in time	030	031	1.03	11
5.	Fear about poisonous effect on man and animal	109	143	1.31	5
6.	Fear about poisonous effect on crop	108	144	1.33	4
7.	High cost of pesticides	112	312	2.79	1
8.	Non availability of plant protection measures	020	031	1.55	10
9.	Non availability of skilled labour	081	100	1.23	8
10.	Lack of time	105	111	1.05	6
11.	Plant protection is complicated process	093	114	1.23	7

for effective management of plant protection measures in chilli. There may be some constraints beyond managerial ability that may impede effective management. The data collected in regard to the constraints in management of plant protection measures in chilli crop are presented in Table-3.

It is clear from Table-3 that high cost of pesticides, lack of finance and lack of knowledge about pests were the main constraints faced by the chilli growers and ranked first, second and third respectively.

Conclusion

It is clear from the results of the study that majority of the respondents possessed medium level of managerial ability. The literacy level, social participation and extension participation has significant and

positive relationship with the level of managerial ability of the chilli growers. High cost of pesticides, lack of finance and lack of knowledge about pests and diseases were the main constraints faced by the chilli growers.

Adequate facilities shall be created so as credit and pesticides are made available to the farmers in time. Necessary infrastructure should be developed to train Chilli growers for the identification and control measures of pests and diseases of chilli crop.

REFERENCES

Belshaw, D. 1974. Improving management procedures for agricultural development, Paper presented at International Seminar on Change in Agriculture, Reading, U.K.