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Constraints Experienced by the Beneficiaries in Adption of Watershed Management Technology

J. B. Patel[1], R. S. Vekaria[2] and G. M. Patel[3]

INTRODUCTION

Water, soil and vegetation are the most vital resources for agriculture. Agriculture productivity depends on how efficiently these resorces are conserved and managed on agricultural land. The rainfed agriculture is a mainstay of the global agrarian economy as it occupies about 84 percent of the total cultivated area in the world. The importance of rainfed farming in Indian economy is well known. In our country, out of 329 million ha. of total area, 143 million ha. area is under cultivation. Out of this cultivated area 108 million ha. area is of land is under rainfed agriculture (Khaper and Rao, 1987).

The Gujarat State is predominently the State of dryland agriculture. Out of 96 lakh ha. cultivated area, 88 percent is drought prone receiving an annual rainfall less than 1000 mm or less. (Anonymous, 1984). The technology developed for dryland agriculture has proved beneficial but has not made much impact on agricultural production even at present level of improved technology This indicates that these technologies still have some constraints. For understanding the constraints faced by the beneficiaries in adoption of Watershed Management Technology, this study was under taken.

OBJECTIVES

To identify the constraints faced by beneficiaries in adoption of Watershed Management Technology and their suggestions to evercome the constraints were the objectives of this study.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Panchmahals district. Four villeges of Zalod Subdivision, where the National Watershed Development Project was implemented, were selected. The study consisted of two categories namely beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. Out of four selected villages 15 beneficiaries and 15 non-beneficiaries were selected randomly from each village making a total sample of 120 farmers. The data were collected from the respondents through well structured pretested interview schedule for the purpose.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The major constraints experienced by beneficiaries and non beneficiaries were noted. The responses were compiled and percentage were calculated. The data in this regard are presented in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 reveal that 'Lack of finance", 'Lack of Training, Lack of

1. P. G. Student, N.M.C.A. GAU, Navsari.
2. Asso. Professor, N.M.C.A., GAU, Navsari
3. Asstt. Ext. Educationist, E.E.I., GAU, Anand.

Constraints Experienced by...

Table 1 : Distribution of the respondents according to constraints faced in adoption of Watershed Management Technology. **(N=120)**

Sr. No.	Constraints.	Category of respondents					
		Beneficiary			Non-Beneficiary		
		Frequ-uency	Per-centage	Rank	Frequ-uency	Per-centage	Rank
1.	Lack of knowledge about utility of soil and water conservation.	32	52.33	IV	43	90.00	I
2.	Lack of technical guidance.	36	60.00	III	48	85.00	II
3.	Fragmentation of land into unconventional shape and size	14	23.33	VII	37	61.66	V
4.	Land wasted in bund & channels.	22	36.66	V	30	50.00	VII
5.	Lack of finance.	50	83.33	I	54	71.66	IV
6.	Lack of training.	42	70.00	II	51	80.00	III
7.	Non availability of credit facility in time.	17	28.33	VI	33	55.00	VI
8.	Lack of co-operation of neighbourers.	12	20.00	VIII	29	48.33	VIII
9.	Common belief that from this technology no benefit is derived.	2	3.33	XII	25	41.66	XI
10.	Watershed Management Technology is risky.	5	8.33	X	27	45.00	IX
11.	Common belief that it is a job of Government.	10	16.66	IX	21	35.00	XII
12.	Common belief that after this measures the productivity of land is diminished.	4	6.66	XI	24	40.00	X

technical guidance and Lack of knowledge about utility of soil and water conservation" were perceived as the main constraints by majority of beneficiaries, (83.33, 70.00, 60.00 and 52.33 per cent respectively.)

Whereas, in case of non-beneficiaries, "Lack of knowledge about utility of soil and water conservation", "Lack of technical guidance", "Lack of training" and "Lack of finance" were perceived as the main constraints by the majority of non-beneficiaries, (90.00, 85.00, 80.00 and 71.66 per cent respectiverly.)

As regard to suggestions, it can be seen from Table 2 that majority of the beneficiaries had indicated constructive suggestions to overcome these constraints which were, more financial assistance should be provided by Government, more training programme should

Table 2 : Suggestions made by beneficiaries to overcome the constraints faced by them in adoption of Watershed Management Technology. (N=60)

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Proper technical guidance should be given on agronomical practices	18	30.00
2.	Field demonstration needed	04	06.66
3.	More training programme should be held.	22	36.66
4.	More financial assistance should be provided by Government	28	46.66
5.	Improved implements should be provided.	10	16.66
6.	Timely and ample supply of inputs	05	08.33
7.	Proper guidance regarding soil & water conservation practices given by extension officer.	13	21.66
8.	More schemes for soil conservation should be provided.	03	05.00
9.	Subsidy granted should be increased	07	11.66
10.	Timely payment of subsidy	04	06.66

be imparted and proper technical guidance should be given on agronomical practices (46.66, 36.66 and 30.00 per cent respectively.)

CONCLUSION

The major constraints faced by beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries were lack of finance, lack of training, lack of knowledge about utility of soil and water conservation practices.

The most important suggestions offered by the beneficiaries were more financial assistance provided by government and more training programme should be held.

IMPLICATION

There is need to provide training and give technical knowledge about Watershed Managemant Technology and provide adequate financial assistance to cover large area under this treatment.

REFERNCES

Anonymous (1984) : "A general guideline on Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture, (WDP) Govt. of Karnataka.

Khaper, S. D. & Rao, B. H. (1987 : "Role of Agricultural Engineering in high productivity of Dry land Agriculture". Agricultural Engineering Today, 11 (i) 71-79

- He who defines his conduct by ethics imprisons his song-bird in a cage.

  - KAHLIL GIBRAN

- The need of exercise is a modern superstition, invented by people who ate too much and had nothing to think about. Athletics don't make any body either longlived or useful.

  - GEORGE SANTAYANA

- Cooperation is thorough conviction that nobody can get there unless everybody gats there.