

Opinion and Usefulness of Krushi Vigyan Kendra Perceived by Groundnut Growers

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Deesa block of Banaskantha district with a view to know the usefulness of Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Deesa as perceived by groundnut growers. 150 groundnut growers were selected purposively from five villages. Majority of groundnut growers had perceived Krushi Vigyan Kendra as reliable source of information regarding improved variety, plant protection measure and fertilizer management. Majority of the respondents were found aware about the various activities carried out by the Krushi Vigyan Kendra in which short term training programme more preferred by the growers. Majority of them were also aware with the farmer oriented activities of Krushi Vigyan Kendra.

Keywords: Usefulness, Awareness, Krushi Vigyan Kendra

INTRODUCTION

Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) is an innovative science based tool designed for filling up the gap between the available technologies at the one end and their applications in the field condition for increasing production at the other. Thus, the institution playing significant role in increasing knowledge of the farmers regarding the improved technologies through multifactor extension activities at grass root level. It is therefore, decided to study the usefulness of the Krushi Vigyan Kendra as perceived by the farmers. The Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Deesa was established on 22nd February, 1976 in the 5th Five years plan of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The activities of this Krushi Vigyan Kendra are focused on Banaskantha district of Gujarat State. Groundnut is one of the important oil seed crops of the district and hence, opinions of the groundnut growers collected to know the usefulness of Krushi Vigyan Kendra as perceived by them. The study was conducted in Deesa block of Banaskantha district of Gujarat state with the following objectives.

OBJECTIVES

- (i) To determine the usefulness of the Krushi Vigyan Kendra on the basis of the opinion expressed by the groundnut growers.

- (ii) To know the awareness of groundnut growers about the role of Krushi Vigyan Kendra.
- (iii) To identify the type of advantages availed by the groundnut growers through the Kendra.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Deesa block of Banaskantha district. Five villages namely Malgadh, Juna Deesa, Rampura, Rasana and Kansari were purposively selected because more number of participants in the different activities of Krushi Vigyan Kendra took part from these villages as well as all five villages having maximum area under groundnut cultivation. From each selected villages 30 groundnut growers were selected by simple random sampling technique. Thus, the sample consisted of 150 respondents. The data were collected by personal interview technique with the help of structural interview schedule.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Usefulness of KVK as information centre

The results revealed that majority of the respondents (80.00 %) had perceived Krushi Vigyan Kendra as centre of agriculture information as temple of farmers.

Table 1 : Perception of respondents regarding usefulness of the Krushi Vigyan Kendra as an information centre

n= 150

Sr. No.	Usefulness	No.	Per cent
1	No. of groundnut growers who perceived Krushi Vigyan Kendra as information centre.	120	80.00
Groundnut planting materials			
2	Information regarding improved variety	133	88.66
3	Information regarding source of procuring planting material of improved variety	126	84.00
4	Information regarding seed rate Kg/ha	113	75.33
5	Information regarding seed treatment	103	68.66
Chemical Fertilizers			
6	Information regarding proper time of application	110	73.33
7	Information regarding dose of fertilizer	98	65.33
8	Information regarding method of applying fertilizer	86	57.33
Plant Protection Measure			
9	Information regarding pesticides/ insecticides to be used against pest of groundnut crop	105	70.00
10	Information regarding proportion of pesticide/ insecticides to be used	90	60.00
11	Information regarding when and how to apply pesticides / insecticide	104	69.33

Majority of the groundnut growers (88.66 %) had considered Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a source of information regarding improved varieties of groundnut while 84.00 per cent and 75.33 per cent groundnut growers had expressed their views as a source of information regarding improved varieties and seed rate, respectively.

Majority of the groundnut growers (73.33 %) received the information regarding timely application of fertilizer from Krushi Vigyan Kendra. However, 65.33 and 57.33 per cent considered it as a source of information for the

Useful of KVK as a source of inspiration

proper dose and methods of application, respectively.

About 70.00 per cent groundnut growers considered Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a source of information on pesticides to be used against insect/pests and disease of the crop. The data further revealed that 69.33 per cent respondents considered Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a source of information regarding when and how to apply the plant protection measures. Whereas, 60.00 per cent growers expressed that information regarding proportion of pesticide to be used.

Table 2 : Perception of respondents regarding usefulness of the Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a source of inspiration for adoption of improved farm practices

n= 150

Sr. No.	Usefulness	No.	Per cent
1	No. of groundnut growers considering Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a source of inspiration for adoption of improved production technology	132	88.00
Inspiration Regarding			
2	Adoption of High Yielding Variety.	130	83.33
3	Adoption of seed treatment with fungicides	80	53.33
4	Adoption of Plant Protection Measure	110	73.33
5	Adoption of recommended dose of fertilizer	98	65.33
6	Adoption of weed management and earthing up at proper time	122	81.33

Data presented in Table 2 revealed that 88.00 per cent groundnut growers perceived the usefulness of Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a source of inspiration for adoption of improved farm practices. More than eighty three per cent respondents were inspired for sowing improved variety, while 53.33 per cent were inspired for the adoption of seed treatment. Out of 150 farmers, 73.33 and 65.33 per cent were inspired for adoption of plant protection measures and use of fertilizers, respectively. The result further indicated that 84.00

per cent respondents made aware for weed management and earthing up at proper time in groundnut.

Awareness of activities

The responses of respondents about awareness regarding objectives of Krushi Vigyan Kendra are presented in Table 3. Majority of the respondents (80.00 %) agreed that they were aware about the short term trainings organized by the Krushi Vigyan Kendra.

Table 3 : Awareness of respondents about activities of Krushi Vigyan Kendra

n = 150

Sr. No.	Awareness	No.	Percent
1	Short term training programme on different aspects of agricultural development	120	80.00
2	Organizing various extension activities such as farmers day, field day, farmers field school, exposure visit etc.	95	63.33
3	Diagnostic visit to farmers field	106	70.66
4	Laying out of Front Line Demonstration Oilseed / Pulse crops	98	65.33
5	Long term vocational training for rural youth	55	36.66

It was found that 63.33 per cent respondents were aware about various extension activities organized by the Kendra such as farmer’s day, field day, exposure visit etc. The data further indicated that 70.66 and 65.33 per cent respondents showed awareness about scientific visit to farmers field (diagnostic

visit) and the front line demonstration laid down on farmers field, respectively. Only 36.33 per cent respondents indicated their awareness about long term vocational training for rural youth.

Advantages availed by farmers

Table 4 : Advantage availed by respondents from Krushi Vigyan Kendra

n = 150

Sr. No.	Advantages	No.	Percent
1	Information regarding scientific cultivation method of groundnut	120	80.00
2	Planting material for groundnut	94	62.66
3	Information about availability of planting materials from other source	102	68.00
4	Guidance regarding use of pesticides, its proportion, time and methods.	119	79.33
5	Guidance regarding use of fertilizers its doses, time and methods of application	112	74.66

The data presented in Table 4 indicated that majority of the respondents (80.00 %) had taken advantages about scientific cultivation of groundnut. About 68.00 per cent of the respondents obtained information on the availability of planting material from other source. Out of 150 farmers 79.33 per cent got information regarding proportion, time and method of use of pesticides. While, 62.66 per cent respondents took advantages of knowing about planting material of groundnut. As many as nearly 75.00 per cent of the respondents obtained guidance regarding doses, time and method of fertilizer application.

of the groundnut growers had perceived Krushi Vigyan Kendra as a reliable source of latest information regarding different package of practices of groundnut cultivation. Majority of them were also aware with the farmer oriented activities of Krushi Vigyan Kendra.

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CONCLUSION

It can be concluded from above findings that majority