

Constraints Faced by Farmers in Adoption of Turmeric Production Technology

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ABSTRACT

Turmeric (Curcuma longa) is an important spice crop which is well known for its wide use in medicines and processing industry. The present investigation was conducted with view to know the constraints faced by the respondents in adopting recommended turmeric production technology. The study was conducted in 10 selected villages each of Umarkhed and Mahagoan tahsil of Yavatmal district. From each selected village, 12 respondents were selected on random basis. Thus, total 120 respondents were selected and interviewed personally. It was observed that, majority (82.50 per cent) of the respondents faced constraints of more fluctuation in market price, followed by less technical knowledge about seed treatments (78.33 per cent), non-availability of needed fertilizer and also lack of knowledge about proper fertilizer dose (70.83 per cent). In the present investigation 92.50 per cent of the respondents suggested that, there should be minimum support price for turmeric, market facilities should be provided by the government (90.83 per cent), control of middleman and commission agent by adopting control measures of rules and regulation (86.60 per cent).

Keywords: Turmeric production technology, Constraints, Suggestions

INTRODUCTION

Turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) the ancient and sacred spice of India known as 'Indian Saffron' is an important commercial crop grown in India. Turmeric is a native of Southern Asia and is cultivated in India from very ancient time. It is an important spice crop of India which accounts for 78 per cent of total world turmeric production. It has achieved the most important place in each and every Indian household and also having a great demand in number of countries of the world. Maharashtra is also one of the important states in turmeric production. In Maharashtra about 113.60 thousand ha area is under turmeric crop and produce 96.60 thousand tones of turmeric. The district growing turmeric in Maharashtra are mainly Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Hingoli, Parbhani, Nanded and some part of Vidarbha region. The Yavatmal district is surrounded by Andhra Pradesh and Nanded district to South and Hingoli district to West.

In the year 2000-2001 India produced 3726 thousand tones of turmeric and in 2009-10 the production

was 4016 thousand tones (The Hindu survey of agriculture 2010). Maharashtra is also one of the important states in turmeric production. In the maharashtra about 113.60 thousand ha of cultivation area under turmeric crop and produce 96.60 thousand tones of turmeric. Looking towards increase in area under turmeric, present study was carried out to know the constraints faced by the respondents in turmeric production technology.

METHODOLOGY

The list of turmeric growing villages of Umarkhed and Mahagoan tahsil was obtained from Taluka Agriculture Officer. There are 158 and 116 villages in Umarkhed and Mahagoan tahsils respectively. The area under turmeric cultivation in Umarkhed and Mahagoan tahsils were 300 ha and 200 ha. The area out of these, 5 villages from Umarkhed and 5 villages from Mahagoan tahsil that were total 10 villages were selected having highest area under turmeric cultivation. A list of turmeric growers was prepared from village functionaries. The 12 farmers from each selected

village were selected by random sampling technique on the basis of area under turmeric crop. Thus, total of 120 respondents were selected as a sample for the study. The data were collected through interview schedule and analysed on the basis of frequency and percentage.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints faced by the turmeric growers

Table 1: Constraints faced by the respondent turmeric growers in the adoption of turmeric production technology n=120

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Per cent
1	More fluctuation in market price	99.00	82.50
2	Less technical knowledge about seed treatment	94.00	78.33
3	Non-availability of needed fertilizer (lack of knowledge about proper dose)	85.00	70.83
4	Non-availability of labours at the time of sowing and harvesting	82.00	68.33
5	Higher charges by commission agent	77.00	64.16
6	Lack of knowledge about pest management	76.00	63.33
7	Lack of knowledge about disease management	80.00	66.66
8	Lack of timely credit availability	48.00	40.00
9	Lack of awareness about improved variety	47.00	39.16

From Table-1 it was observed that about (82.50 per cent) of the respondents faced constraints of more fluctuation in market price, followed by less technical knowledge about seed treatment (78.33 per cent), non-availability of needed fertilizer and also lack of knowledge about proper fertilizer dose (70.83 per cent), non-availability of labours at the time of sowing and harvesting (68.33 per cent), higher charges by commission agent (64.16 per cent), lack of knowledge about pest management (63.33 per cent), lack of knowledge about disease management (66.66 per cent), lack of timely credit availability (40.00 per cent), lack of awareness about improved variety (39.16per cent).

Suggestions offered by the turmeric growers

Table 2: Suggestions made by the respondent turmeric growers in minimizing the technological gap in the production of turmeric n-120

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Per cent
1	Minimum support price for turmeric	111	92.50
2	Market facilities should be provided by the government	109	90.83
3	Control of middleman and commission agent by adopting control measures of rules and regulation	104	86.60
4	In time and sufficient credit facilities should be made available by financial institutions nearby locality	102	85.00
5	For technical knowhow of post harvest technology of the turmeric training should given by appropriate source (Agril.university, Agril. department, KVK)	101	84.16
6	Seed treatment chemical (Quinolphos) should be made available at reasonable rates	98	81.66
7	To minimize transport cost on produce the sale counter to be open at nearby in the sample area	87	72.50
8	Bio-pesticides and fungicides should be made available	70	58.33

In the present investigation majority (92.50 per cent) of the respondents suggested that, there should be minimum support price for turmeric, market facilities should be provided by the government (90.83 per cent), control of middleman and commission agent by adopting control measures of rules and regulation (86.60 per cent), 85.00 per cent of the respondent suggested that, in time and sufficient credit facilities should be made available by financial institutions nearby locality whereas, for technical knowhow of post harvest technology of the turmeric training should be given by appropriate source (Agril. university, Agril. department, KVK) (84.16 per cent), 81.66 per cent of the respondents suggested that, seed treatment chemical (Quinolphos) should be made available at reasonable rates. About 58.30 per cent respondents suggested that, biopesticides and fungicides should be made available.

About (72.50 per cent) of the respondent turmeric growers suggested that, minimizing the transport cost on produce the sale counter or sale center to be open at nearby in the sample.

CONCLUSION

It can be conclude that More fluctuation in market price, Less technical knowledge about seed treatment, Non-availability of needed fertilizer (lack of knowledge about proper dose) and Non-availability of labours at the time of sowing and harvesting were the major constraints in adoption of turmeric production technology. The majority turmeric growers suggested that minimum support price should be given minimum credit should be provide and control on

middle men & commission agent and post harvest technology training should be given to farmers.

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