RESEARCH NOTE

Knowledge Level of Contact and Non-contact Farmers Regarding Recommended Gram Production Technology

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INTRODUCTION

To increase farm production, the level of adoption of improved farm practices ought to be increased. In the same way, knowledge of the recommended technology is a prerequisite of adoption process. In itifluences the human behaviour in producing both favourable and unfavourable responses.

The Bhal area of Gujarat state is one of the main gram producig districts in the state. A tremendous gap has been observed between available grem production technologies and its actual adoption by the farmers. Knowledge level, being a prime factor in adoption process, has been attempted to study.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in Dhandhuka taluka of Ahmedabad district and Limbdi taluka of Surendranagar district of Bhal area of Gujarat state. These talukas were having the highest average area under gram cultivation during the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91) and hence, selected purposively Nine villages were randomly selected from each of the talukas for the study. From each of the selected villages, five contact and five non-contact farmers who were gram growers were randomly selected, making a sample of 90 contact and 90 non-contact farmers. The data were collected withthe help of well structured and pretested interview schedule.

For the purpose of this study, knowledge was operationalized as the amount of information and understanding of the respondents regarding gram production technology. A suitable teacher made type achievement test was developed to measure knowledge of the gram growers about gram production technology.

A test had 27 questions covering the recommended package of practices. The answers of the respondents to each question were marked correct or incorrect. A score of one was given to correct answer and zero to an incorrect answer. The possible total score that respondent could obtain would vary from 0 to 27. The knowledge index was calculated for each respondents. All the respondents based on their knowledge index were grouped into three levels of knowledge as under :

Level of Knowledge	Range of scores
Low	o to 33.33
Medium	33.34 to 66.66
High	66.67 to100.00

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The true source of lights is duty

If we all discharge over duties

light will not be far to seek

- M.K. Gandhi