

CONSTRAINTS FACED IN ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF TOMATO CROP BY TOMATO GROWERS

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ABSTRACT

Tomato crop is grown on large scale in India and has high economical value. Various recommendations for cultivation of tomato crop have been made by Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri. However, these practices are not fully adopted by the tomato growers due to various constraints faced by them. Hence to know these constraints and to obtain suggestions from tomato growers the study was undertaken in Purandar tehsil from Pune district of Maharashtra. The sample size of 120 tomato growers were selected from 8 villages and data was collected by personal interview method. The study revealed that fluctuating market price (43.33 per cent), high cost of inputs (39.17 per cent) and lack of knowledge and unavailability of university seed (35.83 per cent) were the major constraints faced by the respondent tomato growers. Also lack of knowledge about insecticides and pesticides and unavailability of labour were reported as the constraints by the respondents. Fixed minimum support price for the tomato (37.50 per cent), provision of immediate information on pest and disease control (27.50 per cent) and guidance of university scientists on different aspects of tomato crop (22.50 per cent) were the major suggestions offered by the respondent tomato growers.

Keywords: tomato growers, constraints of tomato growers, suggestions by tomato growers

INTRODUCTION

Tomato is vital vegetable crop grown in India next to potato. It is widely used as a vegetable alone when it ripens, consumed as fresh or used as salad, soup, sauce, ketchup and many other processed products. Commercial tomato rank first among all processed vegetables. It has very high nutritive value and hence it is called as poor man's orange. It is cultivated all over year in different seasons and temperature. Tomato crop is well fitted in different cropping systems of cereals, grains, pulses and oilseeds. It is cultivated on large scale. Being short duration and high yielding crop, it is important from economic point of view.

In Maharashtra the area under tomato production is 43000 ha with the production of 10 lakh tonnes. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri from Maharashtra state has made various recommendations regarding cultivation of tomato crop. However, tomato growers face various constraints in adoption of these practices. Hence study was undertaken to understand constraints of tomato growers and

to obtain suggestions from them.

OBJECTIVES

- (a) To know the constraints faced in adoption of recommendations of tomato crop and suggestions by tomato growers
- (b) To know the suggestion to overcome constraints faced in adoption of recommendations of tomato crop and suggestions by tomato growers

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Pune district from Maharashtra state. Among 13 tehsils of Pune district, Purandar tehsil has highest cultivation area under tomato crop in both kharif and rabi season. Hence this tehsil was selected for present study. From four mandals in Purandar tehsil, eight villages were selected. From each selected village, 15 tomato growers were randomly selected to form the sample size of

120 respondents. Various constraints faced and suggestions percentage for each statement was calculated. made by the respondents were obtained and frequency and

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints faced by the tomato growers.

The data regarding the constraints faced by the tomato growers is depicted in Table 1.

Table 1 : Distributions of tomato growers according to their constraints **n=120**

Sr. No.	Constraints	Number	Percentage
1	High cost of inputs	47	39.17
2	Lack of knowledge about fertilizer application	25	20.83
3	Fluctuating market rates	52	43.33
4	Unavailability of labour and high wages	36	30.00
5	Unavailability of FYM	21	17.50
6	Lack of knowledge and unavailability of university seed	43	35.83
7	Unavailability of biofertilizers and bio-pesticide	16	13.33
8	Heavy incidence of pest and diseases and lack of knowledge about insecticides/pesticides	41	34.17
9	Lack of market information	09	07.50

The perusal of data from Table 1 reveals that fluctuating market price was the major constraint faced by 43.33 per cent of the respondents followed by high cost of inputs (39.17 per cent) and lack of knowledge and unavailability of university seed (35.83 per cent). It was further observed that 34.17 per cent of them faced the constraint of heavy incidence of pest and diseases and lack of knowledge about insecticides and pesticides. The other constraints reported by the respondents were unavailability of labour and high wages (30.00 per cent), lack of knowledge

about fertilizer application (20.83 per cent) and unavailability of FYM (17.50 per cent). Unavailability of biofertilizer and bio-pesticide (13.33 per cent) and lack of market information (7.50 per cent) were also the problems reported by respondents.

Suggestions made by the tomato growers

The data regarding the suggestions made by the tomato growers is presented in Table 2.

Table 2 : Distribution of respondents according to suggestions made by them **n=120**

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Number	Percent
1	Availability of university seed	36	16.67
2	Immediate information of pest and disease control	33	27.50
3	Fixed minimum support price for tomato	45	37.50
4	Guidance of university scientists on different aspects of tomato crop	27	22.50
5	Knowledge and availability of biofertilizers and bio-pesticides	13	10.83
6	Varieties for long distance market	11	09.10
7	Provision of timely market information	07	05.83

The results from Table 2 indicates that fixed minimum support price for the tomato (37.50 per cent) and provision of immediate information on pest and disease control (27.50 per cent) were the major suggestions made the respondents. 22.50 per cent of them suggested that guidance of university

scientists on different aspects of tomato crop should be provided to the tomato growers. The other suggestions given by them were availability of university seeds should be made (16.67 per cent) and knowledge and availability of bio fertilizers and bio pesticides should be made (10.83 per cent).

Some of the respondents also suggested for development of varieties for long distance market (9.10 per cent) and provision of timely market information (5.83 per cent).

CONCLUSION

Fluctuating market prices, high cost of inputs, lack of knowledge and unavailability of university seed and lack of knowledge about insecticides and pesticides were the major constraints reported by the respondents. Fixed minimum support price for tomato, provision of immediate information on pest and disease control and guidance of university scientists were the major suggestions made by the respondents. It is necessary to consider the constraints and suggestions made by the respondents along with the other measures for maximum adoption of university technology regarding cultivation of tomato crop.

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