

Impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra on Knowledge of Farmers About Improved Agricultural Technologies of Wheat Crop

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ABSTRACT

The aim of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Farm Science Centre), an innovative science based institutions, were consequently established mainly to impart vocational training to the farmers and field level extension workers. The concept of vocational training in agriculture through KVK grows substantially due to greater demand for improved agricultural technology by the farmers. The present study was conducted in Ahmedabad District. By following simple random sampling 120 wheat growers from 10 villages were selected. The ex-post-facto research design was used for study. The finding revealed that great majority of beneficiary (93.33 per cent) of farmers had medium to high and non-beneficiary (95.00 per cent) of farmers had low to medium level of knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

Keywords: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Knowledge, Improved technologies, Wheat

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the most pivotal sector of Indian economy in the current phase of development. Therefore, the transformation of traditional agriculture to modern agriculture is a challenge to fulfill the requirements of over increasing population. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, an innovative science based institutions, were consequently established mainly to impart vocational training to the farmers and field level extension workers. The concept of vocational training in agriculture through KVK grows substantially due to greater demand for improved agricultural technology by the farmers. Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) is the important instrument of transfer of technology at grass-root level. It is situated in Agro Climatic Zone of Bhal and Coastal –VIII of the Gujarat to bring out improvement in the production and economy of the district. KVK directly deals with the farming community for rural development. KVK acts as link between Agricultural University, Research Institutes and farmers for transfer of agricultural technologies. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arnej has started it functioning since 2004, with the objectives to improve the productivity for achieving social justice for all most needy and deserving weaker sections of the society. It would be necessary to review the development activities and programmes undertaken by Government to improve the socio-economic conditions of farmers through increased agricultural production. Therefore, the investigator felt necessary to examine the impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra

on level of knowledge, adoption and attitude towards various activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. With a view analyzing these, present study on impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Ahmedabad district was undertaken.

OBJECTIVES

- (i) To study the impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra on knowledge level of beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.
- (ii) To ascertain relationship between knowledge level and independent variables of beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers.

METHODOLOGY

In Ahmedabad district, Dholka and Bavla talukas would be selected purposively, where the maximum numbers of activities carried out by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arnej. The present investigation was carried out on a 120 randomly selected samples of Ahmedabad district of Gujarat. Dholka and Bavla talukas of Ahmedabad district were selected purposively, where the maximum numbers of activities carried out by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arnej. All 10 villages were selected purposely, where maximum numbers of activities carried out by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arnej. 6 beneficiary farmers were selected from each village for the

study. Thus, 60 non-beneficiary farmers were selected for the study.

To know the impact the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arnej. The same numbers of non-beneficiary farmers were selected from the same villages. Thus, 60 non-beneficiary farmers were selected for the study.

To measure the selected dependent variable like knowledge of farmers about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop was measured with the help of knowledge index. To measure the selected independent variables, the scales developed by various researchers were used with slight modifications. The data were collected with the help of structural schedule by personal interview method.

The data so collected were coded, classified, tabulated and analyzed in order to make findings meaningful.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Level of knowledge

Knowledge refers to know-how about different improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop possessed by the farmers. Adequate knowledge is essential to farmers for the success and profitable cultivation. It was therefore thought necessary to obtain information from the farmers about the knowledge they possessed about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop. The data about level of knowledge are given in Table 1.

Table 1 : Distribution of respondents according to their knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop n=120

Sr. No.	Level of Knowledge	Beneficiary (n=60)		Non- beneficiary (n=60)	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1	Low (Up to 19.4 score)	04	06.67	18	30.00
2	Medium (Between 19.4 to 26.12 score)	39	65.00	39	65.00
3	High (Above 26.12 score)	17	28.33	03	05.00

$$\bar{X} = 22.77$$

$$SD = 3.37$$

The analysis of data showed that great majority of beneficiary (93.33 per cent) of farmers had medium to high and non-beneficiary (95.00 per cent) of farmers had low to medium level of knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

It means this may be perhaps due to positive impact of KVK activities. The probable reasons for above finding might be due to favourable attitude towards various activities carried out by KVK, frequent contacts with extension

agencies, higher mass media exposure and active involvement in various extension activities of beneficiary farmers.

Comparison between groups

The 't' value was calculated to examine whether there was any significant difference in level of knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop between beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers. The detail analysis was carried out in this regard which is presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Comparison between beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers in respect of their knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop

Category of respondents	Number	Mean score of Knowledge	Standard deviation	't' value
Beneficiary farmers	60	24.57	3.02	6.820**
Non-beneficiary farmers	60	20.97	2.67	

** Significant at 1 per cent probability level

It evident from Table 2, 't' value (6.820) was found to be significant at 0.01 level of significance, indicating thereby that beneficiary farmers had significantly higher knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat

crop than non-beneficiary farmers. From the above finding an inference can be drawn that KVK activities had influenced in increasing the knowledge of the beneficiary farmers about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

Relationship between the selected characteristics of beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers and their level of knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

In order to find out the relationship between the selected characteristics of beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers and their level of knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop, correlation was worked out the finding are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Relationship between knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop and independent variables of beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers. n=120

Sr. No.	Variable	Correlation-coefficient (r-Value)	
		Beneficiary (n=60)	Non-beneficiary (n=60)
X ₁	Age	-0.623**	-0.260*
X ₂	Education	0.782**	0.303*
X ₃	Land holding	0.070NS	0.112NS
X ₄	Animal possession	0.079NS	0.446**
X ₅	Occupation	0.281**	0.170NS
X ₆	Social participation	0.388**	0.099NS
X ₇	Extension participation	0.115NS	0.181NS
X ₈	Mass media exposure	0.327**	0.009NS
X ₉	Scientific orientation	0.161NS	0.027NS
X ₁₀	Achievement motivation	0.070NS	0.075NS
X ₁₁	Innovativeness	0.473**	0.038NS
X ₁₂	Risk orientation	0.185NS	0.151NS
X ₁₃	Attitude towards KVK	0.335**	0.180NS

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability

**= Significant at 0.01 level of probability

NS= Non Significant

Six variables viz. Education, occupation, social participation, mass media, innovativeness and attitude towards various activities of KVK of beneficiary farmers were observed positively significant with their knowledge regarding improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop. Six variables like Land holding, animal possession, extension participation, scientific orientation, achievement motivation

and risk orientation of beneficiary farmers were positively non-significant with their knowledge regarding improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop. Age was negatively significant of beneficiary farmers with their knowledge regarding improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

Ten variables viz. Land holding, occupation, social participation, extension participation, mass media, scientific orientation, achievement motivation, innovativeness, risk orientation and attitude towards various activities of KVK of non-beneficiary farmers were positively non-significant with their knowledge regarding improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop. Age was negatively and Education and Animal possession was positively significant of non-beneficiary farmers with their knowledge regarding improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

CONCLUSION

Great majority of beneficiary of farmers had medium to high and non-beneficiary farmers had low to medium level of knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop. ‘t’ value was found to be significant indicating thereby that beneficiary farmers had significantly higher knowledge about improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop then non-beneficiary farmers. Age was negatively significant of all farmers with their knowledge regarding improved agricultural technologies of wheat crop.

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