

Usefulness of Information About Maize Production Practices Given During Krushi Mahotsav

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in jurisdiction of Vadodara district. 10 villages of Sankheda taluka for the study. Ten respondents were randomly selected from each village. Respondents of the study were beneficiary farmers of Krishi Mahotsav programme which is organized every year by Government of Gujarat. The study was undertaken to know usefulness of information on maize production practices given during Krishi Mahotsav. The study revealed that during Krishi Mahotsav programme, the majority of farmers gained information regarding maize production practices like land preparation, name of advantageous chemical fertilizers, deficiency symptoms of major plant nutrients, trade name of weedicides/insecticides/pesticides, biological control of pests, method of irrigation, useful insects, ideal thrasher for thrashings, care during harvesting, weather forecast, seed rate, depth of sowing, place of availability of fertilizers, nutrient requirements, making organic matter from farm waste, hand weeding, fertilizer management during irrigation, method of preparing solution of insecticides/pesticides, proper time of harvest, storage practices etc. These information were found useful to maize growers.

Keywords : Maize production practices, Socio-economic characteristics

INTRODUCTION

The Government of Gujarat celebrates the 'Krishi Mahotsav programme'. The main aim is to boost up the agriculture and allied production. Maize is widely grown in Vadodara district. This crop plays an important role in the rural economy. Looking to the importance of maize crop for farmers, the study was carried out to know the usefulness of information about maize production practices given during Krishi Mahotsav.

OBJECTIVES

- (i) To know the socio-economic characteristics of farmers.
- (ii) To know the usefulness of information about maize production practices given during Krishi Mahotsav.

METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangal Bharti in Vadodara district under middle Gujarat. Total 10 villages were randomly selected in Sankheda taluka of Vadodara district namely Harehwar, Kasumbiya, Manjarol, Orwada, Bhuriyakuwa, Aritha, Aambapura, Sundarpura, Kathmandava and Ratanpur. From each village, 10 respondents were randomly selected for the study. Thus the total sample size of the respondents became 100. The data were collected through interview schedule and analyzed with simple statistics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data regarding the study were analyzed and presented in the following tables.

Table 1: Socio-economic characteristics of farmers

n=100

Sr. No.	Socio-economic Characteristics	No.	Percent
A	Age		
	(i) Young (18 to 35 years)	13	13
	(ii) Middle (36 to 50 years)	61	61
	(iii) Old (above 50 years)	26	26
B	Education		
	(i) illiterate	06	06
	(ii) Primary (1 to 7 std.)	47	47
	(iii) Secondary (8 to 10 std.)	32	32
	(iv) Higher Secondary (11 to 12 std.)	09	09
	(v) Graduate	06	06
C	Type of family		
	(i) Joint	41	41
	(ii) Nuclear	59	59
D	Size of family		
	(i) Small (up to 2 members)	08	08
	(ii) Medium (3 to 4 members)	33	33
	(iii) Big (above 4 members)	59	59
E	Membership in organizations		
	(i) No membership	15	15
	(ii) Membership in one organization	62	62
	(iii) Membership in more than one organization	20	20
	(iv) Office bearer	03	03
F	Size of land holding (irrigated)		
	(i) Land less	12	12
	(ii) Marginal farmers (below 1.0 ha)	46	46

Sr. No.	Socio-economic Characteristics	No.	Percent
	(iii) Small farmers (1.01 to 2.0 ha)	34	34
	(iv) Medium farmers (2.01 to 4.0 ha)	06	06
	(v) Big farmers (above 4.0 ha)	02	02
G	No. of milch animals		
	(i) up to 2	16	16
	(ii) 3 to 4	53	53
	(iii) above 4	31	31
H	Annual income		
	(i) up to ₹ 10,000/-	20	20
	(ii) ₹ 10,001/- to ₹ 20,000/-	19	19
	(iii) ₹ 20,001/- to ₹ 30,000/-	29	29
	(iv) ₹ 30,001/- to ₹ 40,000/-	20	20
	(v) above ₹ 40,000/-	12	12

The data presented in Table 1 revealed that the majority of farmers (61.00 per cent) had in middle age group and majority of farmers (47.00 per cent) had an educated up to primary school level followed by 32.00, 9.00 and 6.00 per cent had an education up to secondary level, higher secondary and graduation level respectively. The data portrayed in Table No.1 indicated that the 59.00 per cent farmers had nuclear family and big family size (above 4 members) followed by 41.00 per cent had joint family. It also revealed that the majority of farmers (80.00 per cent) belonged to marginal to small land holding categories, 53.00 per cent farmers had 3 to 4 numbers of milch animals. The data indicated that 29.00 per cent farmers had annual income of ₹ 20,001 to ₹ 30,000, while 20.00, 19.00 and 12.00 per cent of them had up to Rs.30,001 to ₹ 40,000 & up to ₹ 10,000, ₹ 10,001 to ₹ 20,000 and above Rs.40,000 annual income respectively.

Table-2: Usefulness of information about Maize production practices given during *Krishi Mahotsav*

n=100

Sr. No.	Item	Not given (%)	1 st time known correct information (%)	Usefulness (%)	
				Useful (%)	Most useful (%)
A	Nursery management				
1	Sources of seed	11	89	13	87
2	Suitable high yielding variety for the area	15	85	07	93
3	Rate of seeds	100	00	00	00
4	Land preparation	69	31	100	00
5	Soil treatment methods	100	00	00	00
6	Place of availability of soil treatment inputs	100	00	00	00
7	Seed rate	28	72	82	18
8	Price of soil treatment inputs	100	00	00	00

Sr. No.	Item	Not given (%)	1 st time known correct information (%)	Usefulness (%)	
				Useful (%)	Most useful (%)
B	Post nursery phase				
9	Sowing time	41	59	71	29
10	Depth of sowing	39	61	91	09
11	Method of sowing	39	61	67	33
12	Spacing	18	82	69	31
13	Seed treatment inputs	25	75	38	62
14	Gap filling	30	70	74	26
15	Price of fertilizers	100	00	00	00
16	Place of availability of fertilizers	78	22	81	19
17	Name of advantageous chemical fertilizers	65	35	100	00
18	Method and time of fertilizer application	21	79	46	54
19	Nutrient requirements of crop	27	73	84	16
20	Calculating the doze of chemical fertilizer	100	00	00	00
21	Deficiency symptoms of major plant nutrients	89	11	100	00
22	Bio-fertilizers	12	88	19	81
23	Making organic matter from farm waste	82	18	88	12
24	Organic manures	16	84	84	16
25	Chemical weed control	59	41	78	22
26	Price of weedicides	100	00	00	00
27	Place of availability of weedicides	60	40	75	25
28	Trade name of weedicides	68	32	100	00
29	Hand weeding	35	65	84	16
30	Schedule for irrigation	34	66	65	35
31	Critical stages of irrigation	41	59	71	29
32	How to save crop during shortage of water	63	37	67	33
33	Fertilizer management during irrigation	48	52	92	08
34	Method of irrigation	61	39	100	00
35	Insect management	30	70	37	63
36	Diseases management	28	72	33	67
37	Price of insecticides and pesticides	100	00	00	00
38	Integrated pest management	32	68	72	28
39	Biological control of pests	82	18	100	00
40	Useful insects	86	14	100	00
41	Method of preparing solution of insecticides/pesticides	39	61	90	10
42	Trade name of insecticides/pesticides	62	38	100	00
43	Place of availability of insecticides and pesticides	61	39	92	08
44	Proper time of harvest	30	70	80	20
45	Ideal thrasher for thrashings	48	52	100	00
46	How to store production	74	26	84	16
47	Care after harvesting at farm level	100	00	00	00
48	Care during harvesting	81	19	100	00
C	Marketing of the products				
49	Market price	100	00	00	00
50	Quality parameters that affects price	86	14	57	43
51	Time of market inflow	100	00	00	00
52	Place of marketing	89	11	18	82
53	Marketing procedure	100	00	00	00
54	Facilities available at market	100	00	00	00

Sr. No.	Item	Not given (%)	1 st time known correct information (%)	Usefulness (%)	
				Useful (%)	Most useful (%)
55	Value addition	18	82	54	46
56	Export marketing	100	00	00	00
D	Related information				
57	Weather forecast	67	33	100	00
58	Crop related government policies	100	00	00	00
59	Credit/loan facilities for crop cultivation	100	00	00	00
60	Insurance of crop	70	30	56	44
61	Subsidies for crop cultivation	100	00	00	00

The data presented in Table-2 revealed that during *Krishi Mahotsav* programme, the information regarding land preparation, name of advantageous chemical fertilizers, deficiency symptoms of major plant nutrients, trade name of weedicides/insecticides/pesticides, biological control of pests, method of irrigation, useful insects, ideal thrasher for thrashings, care during harvesting and weather forecast found cent percent useful to the farmers. More than eighty percent (>80.00per cent) farmers found useful information regarding seed rate, depth of sowing, place of availability of fertilizers, nutrient requirements, making organic matter from farm waste, hand weeding, fertilizer management during irrigation, method of preparing solution of insecticides/pesticides, proper time of harvest, storage practices. While information regarding rate of seeds, soil treatment methods, place of availability & price of soil treatment inputs, price of fertilizers, insecticides/pesticides & weedicides, calculating the doze of chemical fertilizers, care after harvesting at farm level, marketing procedure, crop related government policies & subsidies for crop cultivation were not given during *Krishi Mahotsav* programme.

CONCLUSION

From the above results and discussion, it could be concluded that majority of the farmers (87.00 per cent) had in middle to old age group. Majority of farmers (79.00 per cent) had an education up to primary to secondary level. It was also observed that the majority of farmers (80.00 per cent) belonged to marginal to small land holding categories, 53.00

per cent farmers had 3 to 4 numbers of milch animals. It could be found that during *Krishi Mahotsav* programme, information regarding maize production practices like land preparation, name of advantageous chemical fertilizers, deficiency symptoms of major plant nutrients, trade name of weedicides/insecticides/pesticides, biological control of pests, method of irrigation, useful insects, ideal thrasher for thrashings, care during harvesting, weather forecast, seed rate, depth of sowing, place of availability of fertilizers, nutrient requirements, making organic matter from farm waste, hand weeding, fertilizer management during irrigation, method of preparing solution of insecticides/pesticides, proper time of harvest, storage practices were found useful to farmers.

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