IMPACT ANALYSIS OF ACTIVITIES OF KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to analyze the impact of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) trainings on farmer's attitude and to explore the relationship between attitude and profile of the farmers. The total numbers of farmers studied are 200. The questionnaire was prepared in accordance with the objectives of the study. The data were collected by personal interview method. Majority of respondents, who were from middle age with secondary level of education have integrated agriculture with animal husbandry. The another reason might be that the parental occupation taken up by middle age group, induce in them a sense of responsibility to keep in touch with KVK training programme, which may not be same with older ones due to their inability to do farming apart from education and the young ones who are not capable of taking responsibility. Adoption of improved and newer technology requires decision by farmers. Scientific orientation is a degree to which respondents is oriented to the use of scientific methods in relation to adoption behavior. It is important psychological factor in decision making process. Innovations which is the main theme of KVK training, is the degree of an individual interest and desire to seek changes in farming techniques and to introduce each change into his own operations as and when found practicable and feasible. Present study revealed that out of nine independent variables, correlation coefficient has shown positive and significant relationship in case of variables namely, occupation, experience in farming, training received at KVK, scientific orientation and innovation while, non significant relationship in case of age education, size of land holding and animal possession with attitude of the farmers toward training organized by KVK. It is concluded that farmers with progressive attitude will always try to involve themselves in all activities through which more annual income can be achieved. Thus, such kinds of farmers are always optimistic and try to get maximum information and benefit from KVK trainings.

Keywords: *KVK trainings, impact, farmers, economy, attitude*

INTRODUCTION

Analysis of impact refers to the outcome of the results of activities and net effect of activities (done by any agency) on economic and social status of the farmers (Dipak & Basavaprabhu, 2005). Since ancient time more emphasize has been laid of the training as it is one of the integral components of development programmes. The major pre-requisites for training are special skills and positive attitude of the trainer at the same time trainees should have positive attitude and ability of listen and grasp the information. Otherwise these qualities need to be developed in order to achieve the successful training programmes. Trainings develops the skilled human resources which are in turn are the major wealth of the nation to transform socio-economic status of country. These skilled human resources lead the country towards prosperity. In this regards, the role of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) or Farm Science Centre come into play. KVK's having district as jurisdiction, are playing vital role agricultural technology transfer and in turn increasing productivity and income of the farming community. Prime focus on "Learning by doing" to impart training. As in agricultural research system no other agricultural system either large or small has front line decentralized research capacity at district level. KVKs are a model for adaptive research to diagnose and solve problems emerging from district agro-ecosystems. KVKs are perfectly located to lead and incubate local innovation to achieve desire goal. KVKs are very vital in the 21st century as farmers faces natural resource constraints i.e. water, land, biodiversity; climate change i.e. drought, warming, extremes; increasing trans-boundary risks i.e. from trade and traffic and finally market

demands and price volatility. Considering all these challenges KVKs lead local innovations. KVKs are best placed to draw in feedback from district, block, village level institutions, NGOs, PCs, and Farmers' Federations, on Location-Specific, Context-dependent problems. KVKs are best placed to diagnose field problems, characterize field conditions, then apply informed, evidence-based "pressure" on the NARS i.e. SAUs, ICAR, State research centres and the entire network of fellow KVKs. In short, KVKs will enable the entire NARS to become more locally relevant, more useful.

At all front KVK's are unique. Say in terms of creation of valuable resources in terms of manpower and assets, confirmation of technologies to suit local specificity, showcasing the frontier technologies, capacity building among stakeholders, front runner in technological application, information and inputs, participatory approaches in planning, implementing, executing and evaluation etc.

KVK's draws all the information requirement of farmers, most appropriate technological options, management of technologies, including optimal use of inputs, changing farm system options (mixed farming and diversification, animal husbandry, fisheries), sourcing reputed input suppliers, collective action with other farmers, consumer and market demands for products, quality specifications for produce, time to buy inputs and sell produce, off-farm income-generation options, access to credit and loans, sustainable natural resource management and coping with climate change. Therefore, it is desirable to know the impact of KVK trainings on farmer's life. Keeping this in mind, an attention was therefore, focused in present study to assess the impact of the activities conducted by KVK's on attitude and to explore the relationship between attitude and profile of the farmers.

OBJECTIVES

(a) To know the Profile of the farmers

(b) To know the Details of farmer land, animals and experience

(c) To know the Effect of Training at KVK on farmer's attitude

METHODOLOGY

This study was undertaken to assess attitude and to explore the relationship between attitude and profile of the farmers towards KVK training programmes as a result of training programmes conducted by KVK Devataj, implemented by Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat. For measuring the attitude of farmers towards training, scale developed listing 1-10. The total numbers of farmers studied are 200 selected by random sampling technique from different villages. The questionnaire was prepared in accordance with the objectives of the study. The data were collected by personal interview method. The information pertaining to the status of farmers with respect to age, education, occupation, land holding, animal possession, experience, trainings with KVK, scientific orientation, innovation, and attitude towards trainings was collected.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Profile of the farmers **n=100**

Sr No.	Category	Percent
1	**Age**	
	Young (Up to 35 years)	35
	Middle age (36 to 50 years)	48
	Old age (above 50 years)	17
2	**Education**	
	Illiterate	00
	Primary (up to VII Std.)	17
	Secondary school (VIII to X Std.)	39
	Higher secondary (XI to XII Std.)	28
	College education	16
3	**Occupation**	
	Farming	00
	Farming + Animal husbandry	77
	Farming + Animal husbandry + service	23
4	**Size of land holding**	
	Marginal (up to 1 ha)	31
	small (1.01 to 2.0 ha)	40
	Medium size of land holding (above 2.00 ha).	29
5	**Animal possession**	
	No animal	00
	Up to 1 animal	17
	2 to 5 animal	73
	Above 5 animal	10
6	**Experience in Farming**	
	<5 years	12
	5 to 10 years	32
	11 to 15 years	27
	16 to 20 years	13
	>20 years	16

This study assesses the impact of the activities conducted by KVK's on attitude and to explore the relationship between attitude and profile of the farmers.

Majority of respondents, who were from middle age with secondary level of education have integrated agriculture with animal husbandry (Table 1). Availability of high school education near their home might be reason for majority (67%) of respondent are literate up to higher secondary schooling. Similar finding are also observed by Chauhan et al. (2004) and Durgga (2009). The another reason might be that the parental occupation taken up by middle age group, induce in them a sense of responsibility to keep in touch with KVK training programme, which may not be same with older ones due to their inability to do farming apart from education and the young ones who are not capable of taking responsibility or there may be easy availability of jobs in various industries in Gujarat (Sabapara, 2009; Sabapara et al., 2012; Prajapat, 2012).

Majority of farmers have 1-2 ha of land. Similar observations are also recorded by Durgga (2009). Land fragmentation is the major problem. This leads to less land holding of most of the farmers. In present study, it was observed that majority of farmers have integrated agriculture with animal husbandry (77%). Similarly, Patel (2005) and Patel (2016) also reported that 86% of the farmers have integrated agriculture with animal husbandry. Most of the farmers (73%) have medium size of herds i.e. 2-5 animals. This is significantly higher than those reported by Gour (2002). Probable reason might be that over period of time farmers learnt that more animals will definitely added to the more economic returns which is evident in present study.

Innovations which is the main theme of KVK training, is the degree of an individual interest and desire to seek changes in farming techniques and to introduce each change into his own operations as and when found practicable and feasible (Table 2).

Adoption of improved technology requires decision by an individual. Scientific orientation is a degree to which respondents is oriented to the use of scientific methods in decision making in relation to adoption behavior. It is important psychological factor in decision-making process of the farmers. Similar to present study, Sharma et al. (2013) also infer that the on-campus trainees had more favorable attitude and exposure to KVK training programmes significantly changed the attitude of farmers in desired direction. Dubey & Srivastava (2007) are also indicated that KVK training have major impact on farmers to adoption of newer technologies and knowledge than those farmers who have not undergone any training.

Table 2: Effect of Training at KVK on farmer's attitude

n=100

Sr. No.	Category	Percent (%)
1	**Training Received at KVK**	
	Low	14
	Medium	69
	High	17
	Mean=4.71 SD=2.02	
2	**Scientific orientation**	
	Low	13
	Medium	72
	High	15
	Mean= 53.18 SD=9.09	
3	**Innovative proneness**	
	Low	9
	Medium	71
	High	20
	Mean= 13.09 SD=1.89	
4	**Attitude towards training programmes**	
	Low	10
	Medium	73
	High	17
	Mean=40.82 SD=5.55	

Table 3: Correlation Coefficient of trainees of KVK Devataj according to independent variables

n=100

Sr. No.	Independent Variables	Correlation Coefficient
X_1	Age	-0.1121NS
X_2	Education	0.0852NS
X_3	Occupation	0.2891*
X_4	Size of land holding	-0.0419NS
X_5	Animal possession	-0.1426NS
X_6	Experience in Farming	0.3934*
X_7	Training Received at KVK	0.3123*
X_8	Scientific orientation	0.6856*
X_9	Innovative proneness	0.3115*

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability

Age, occupation, education and family had significant influence on the adoption decision (Singh et al., 2010). Years of formal education, social status, upward social mobility, land holdings are positively related with adoption (Rogers, 2003) of newer technologies. Innovative proneness is a socio-psychological orientation of farmers to get linked or closely associated with change, adopting innovative ideas and practices. This study revealed that out of nine independent variables, correlation co-efficient has shown positive and significant relationship in case of variables namely,

occupation, experience in farming, training received at KVK, scientific orientation and innovative proneness while, non-significant relationship in case of age education, size of land holding and animal possession with attitude of the farmers toward training organized by KVK Devataj (Table 3). Similar to present study, other reportes are also indicated that KVK's training programme has contributed immensely in increasing productivity of farm enterprise (Ahmad et al., 2012) family income (Singh et al., 2010), (Vinaya *et al*., 2013) and higher productivity (Kumar et al., 2006)

It is concluded that KVK's trainings are able to bring significant changes in the level of knowledge and adoption among farmers. Training and guidance given to trainees by KVK have played key role in influencing technological changes besides other managemental tasks, therefore having positive impact. Farmers with progressive attitude will always try to involve themselves in all activities through which more annual income can be achieved. Thus, such kinds of farmers are always optimistic and try to get maximum information and benefit from KVK trainings and likely to get new ideas to change their outlook towards life, which made them more innovation prone. Thus, KVK's are instrumental in positively influencing the life style of farmers and there is direct relationship between profile and attitude of farmers towards training programmes.

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