

IMPACT OF TRAINING PROGRAMME ON KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF FARMERS REGARDING SCIENTIFIC CULTIVATION TECHNOLOGIES OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

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ABSTRACT

Institutional training programmes are designed to acquaint farmers with modern and scientific techniques of farming and also to disseminate information to the farming community for the improvement of their socio-economic status. Only providing training is not sufficient task for development of farmers but it is necessary to measure the effectiveness of that training programme on them in terms of impact. In this context the study of impact is carried out by on campus training programme on scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops organized at Sardar Smruti Kendra (SSK), Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Junagadh for selected farmers from various villages of Kutch district in collaboration with Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Kutch-Bhuj during September 27th and 28th, 2018. The Sample of 50 farmers was selected from various villages of Kutch district of Gujarat. The findings revealed that the majority (40.00 percent) of the respondents had low knowledge level about different aspects of scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops before participating in the farmers training. These farmers were trained at Sardar Smruti Kendra, JAU, Junagadh in different aspects of scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops. After training, majority of the respondents (50.00 percent) had medium level of knowledge about scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops. The difference between before and after training is increase 24.00 percent in medium, 10.00 percent in high and 08.00 percent in very high group of knowledge level of farmers. The findings of this study highlighted that there was a significant gain in the knowledge level about different aspect of scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops by the training programme.

Keyword: training, knowledge level, cultivation technologies of horticultural crops

INTRODUCTION

Training and education are lifelong requirement to improve the living standard of large number of people in the rural as well as urban areas. The significance of training for development and mobilization of human resources energies has been recognized long back, but finding out ways for improving effectiveness of training received attention only recently (Vinaya et al. 2015). The training brings out the required change in the individuals behavior for improving own performance. Institutional training programmes are designed to acquaint farmers with modern and scientific techniques of farming and also to disseminate information to the farming community for the improvement of their socio-economic status. Only providing training is not sufficient task for development of farmers but it is necessary to measure the effectiveness of that training programme on them in terms of impact. Impact means measuring the effectiveness of organizational activities and judging the significance of changes brought about by those activities. In

this context the study of impact is carried out by on campus training programme on scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops. It can be defined as the branch of agriculture concerned with intensively cultivated plants directly used by man for food, for medicinal purposes or for aesthetic purposes. Horticulture crops traditionally include fruits, vegetables and all the plants grown for ornamental purposes as well as spices, plantation, medicinal and aromatic purposes. Because of its importance in human diet, medicinal value, aesthetic value, economic value, and environmental value, it is one of the most popular branch of agriculture among the farmers. In this study, the Sardar Smruti Kendra, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh has organized an on campus training programme on scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops for selected farmers from various villages of Kutch district in collaboration with Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Kutch-Bhuj. Keeping these points in view, present study was conducted with the following objective.

OBJECTIVE

To know the impact of training programme on knowledge level of farmers regarding scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops

METHODOLOGY

Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Kutch-Bhuj had organized two days on campus training programme during September 27th and 28th, 2018 for farmers at Sardar Smruti Kendra, JAU, Junagadh. Total 50 farmers from various villages of Kutch district had participated in training programme. In order to measure the impact of training on change in knowledge regarding scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops

a study was conducted. Keeping the theme of the training content in mind a simple yes/no dichotomy type knowledge inventory was prepared and pre and post test before training and after training respectively were conducted for data collection. The gain in knowledge was operationalized as difference between the knowledge regarding various aspects of scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops before and after the exposure of trainings. To measure the knowledge of respondent a score of one for knowledge about that technology and zero for not knowledge about that technology was given. Thus, the summation of all scores treated as the knowledge of the respondents at pre-exposure stage. Similarly post training knowledge score was calculated separately. Suitable statistical tools and techniques were used for analysis of data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

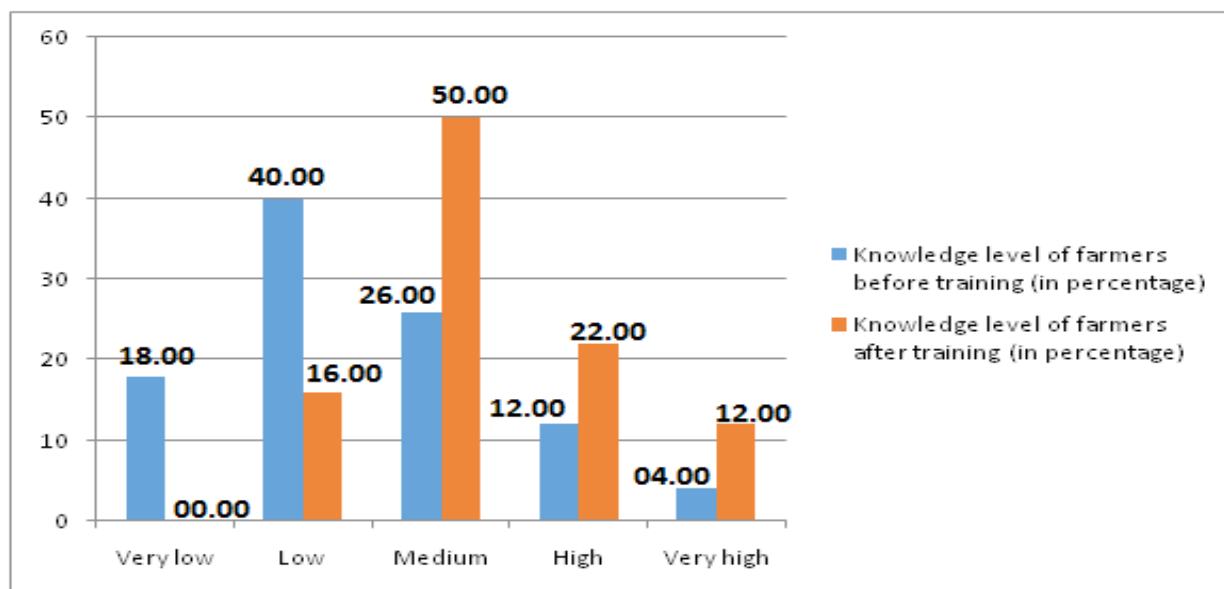
Table 1: Distribution of respondents on the basis of knowledge level before and after training

n=100

Sr. No.	Level of knowledge	Before training		After training		Difference in percentage
		No. of respondents	Percent	No. of respondents	Percent	
1	Very low	09	18.00	00	00.00	-18.00
2	Low	20	40.00	08	16.00	-24.00
3	Medium	13	26.00	25	50.00	+24.00
4	High	06	12.00	11	22.00	+10.00
5	Very High	02	04.00	06	12.00	+08.00

The above findings revealed that the majority (40.00 percent) of the respondents had low knowledge level about scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops followed by medium (26.00 percent), very low (18.00 percent), high (12.00 percent) and very high (04.00 percent) level of knowledge before participating in the campus training programme. While in case of after training on scientific

cultivation technologies of horticultural crops, majority of the respondents (50.00 percent) had medium level of knowledge, followed by high (22.00 percent), low (16.00 percent) and very high (12.00 percent) level of knowledge. The difference between before and after training is increase 24.00 per cent in medium, 10.00 percent in high and 08.00 percent in very high group of knowledge level.



CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that majority of the farmers had shown the low (42.00 percent) to medium (26.00 percent) level of knowledge about scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops before getting training. While after getting training majority of respondent had shown medium (50.00 percent) to high (22.00 percent) level of knowledge. The gain in knowledge after training was increase 24.00 percent in medium group, 10.00 percent in high group and 08.00 percent in very high group. So, here the impact of on campus training programme on knowledge level of farmers regarding scientific cultivation technologies of horticultural crops can be easily seen.

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