

TRAINING NEEDS OF FARMERS ABOUT MUSTARD PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

S. S. Kubrevi¹, M.S.Kanwar² and S.H.Bhat³

1&3 Assistant Professor, Division of Agri.Extension & Communication, FoA Wadura,SKUAST-K,
Shalimar,Srinagar-190025

2 Programme Coordinator, KVK Nyoma, Ladakh, SKUAST-K, Shalimar, Srinagar-190025
Email: shafatkubravi2015@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study was conducted in Nyoma block of Leh district of Jammu & Kashmir to know the training gap of mustard growing farmers during the agricultural year 2015-16. A sample of one hundred and twenty farmers was selected randomly from the list of 5 purposively selected villages for collection of primary data. A well structured and pretested interview schedule was used for data collection through personal interview. The data exposed that most of the respondents did not possess required knowledge concerning to the mustard production technology, especially plant protection measures, application and use of manures and fertilizers, field preparation etc., So, there is an urgent need to enhance the good communication and extension system and input service system to make the farmers aware about latest technology.

Keywords : mustard, production, training gap

INTRODUCTION

Oilseed crops have significant contribution in Indian agriculture and are second largest agricultural commodity in India after cereals sharing 14% of the gross cropped area and accounting for nearly three per cent of gross national product and 10% value of all agricultural products (Meena et al., 2012). Now, the question is how to increase the production of mustard. There can be two possible approaches to enhance the production of mustard either by increasing the area under the crop and by increasing the productivity per unit area per unit time. Since the crop area expansion is not feasible anymore the only alternative is to adopt the better management practices through imparting need based training i.e. critical input for knowledge and skill up-gradation of mustard production.

Training is an integral part of any development activity. The first and foremost activity for planning a good training programme is to assess the training needs. Training is an important process of capacity building of individuals as to improve the performance. Hence, training needs assessment is vital to the training process. It helps to identify present problems and future challenges to be met through training and development. The training needs of farmers in order of importance were method of sowing, field preparation, and plant protection measures, use of manures & fertilizers, harvesting and post-harvest technology as these areas have emerged as important ones. The result shows that May, June and September were suitable periods of training for farmers.

Most of the mustard growers preferred the training at village panchayat and research farm, so the training should be provided at village panchayat and research farm. However, in spite of high social values prevailing in these communities, they have remained backward, underdeveloped or neglected due to the factor like lack of ambition lack of initiative, inadequate land holding, limited needs and orthodox behavior. Training has become an integral part of the entire system need to be equipped with latest knowledge, technology in agriculture for rural development. Thus, the present research was designed with the objective to find out first hand information about training needs relation to agriculture.

OBJECTIVE

To know the training needs of farmers about mustard production technology.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in tehsil Nyoma , Changthang ladakh of high altitude (4500 metres above sea level, 33 degree 10 to 33 degree N and 77 degree 55 to 78 degree 20 E), Jammu and Kashmir in 2015. Five villages in tehsil Nyoma namely Nyoma, Mudh, Tokla, Tarchit and Henle were selected for investigation. Twenty four respondents were selected from each village, thus making a total of 120 respondents for the investigation. Data were collected through structured and pre-tested interview schedule. The collected data were coded, tabulated & analyzed and the results were interpreted accordingly.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings drawn in respect to the specific objectives of the study on the basis of preference to place, months, duration, size of the training group, methods and follow up activities as perceived by the mustard growers by using relevant statistical techniques. It has been observed that most of the farmers did not have more interest in the training programmes, hence motivational activities should be initiated

among farmers with the help of quality input management .The training should be emphasized on method of sowing, field preparation, plant protection measures, use of manures and fertilizers, harvesting, post harvesting technology, as these areas have emerged as important ones. Most of the training programmes should be provided in the month of May, June and September and at in all the three months. The findings of this study have been divided and discussed into following subhead.

Table-1 : Training needs of mustard growers in the main area

Sr. No.	Main area	Degree of training needs						
		MN (3)	N (2)	LN (1)	NN (0)	Total score	Mean score	Rank
1	Field preparation	62	44	11	03	285	2.37	II
2	Method of sowing	76	35	16	01	375	3.12	I
3	Use of manures and fertilizers	54	37	22	07	258	2.15	IV
4	Plant protection measures	59	48	08	05	281	2.34	III
5	Harvesting	42	48	25	05	247	2.05	V
6	Post harvest technology	11	33	72	04	171	1.42	VI

MN=Most needed, N=Needed, LN=Least needed, NN=Not needed

The Table 1 showed that majority of the respondents indicated that method of sowing as main training areas as it is apparent from the main score value (3.12) likewise, the training needs areas ranked in descending order were 11nd field preparation (2.37), 111rd plant protection measures (2.34),

1Vth use of manures & fertilizers (2.15) , Vth harvesting (2.05) and post harvest technology VIth (1.42), respectively. Hence, the areas which got Ist, IInd and IIIrd rank orders may be considered as important areas of training.

Relative preferences proper place for training

Table 2 : Relative preferences proper place for training

n=120

Sr. No.	Venue	Degree of training needs					
		MP (2)	P (1)	NP (0)	Total score	Mean score	Rank
1	Village panchayat	91	26	3	208	1.73	I
2	Block head quarter	66	36	18	168	1.40	IV
3	Research farm	83	31	6	197	1.64	II
4	Village school	59	30	31	148	1.23	V
5	Farmers field	73	38	4	194	1.61	III

MP=Most prefer, P=Prefer, NP=Not prefer

It is evident from the Table 2 that the place of training responded by the respondents in order of preference were village panchayat Ist (1.73), research farm 11nd (1.64), farmers field IIIrd (1.61), Block head quarter IVth (1.40),

and village school Vth (1.23), in descending order. It may be concluded that village panchayat, research farm and farmers field were mostly preferred for place of training.

Relative preference of mustard growers for month of training

Table 3 : Relative preference of mustard growers for month of training:

N=120

Sr. No	Month	Morning (2)	Noon (1)	Evening (0)	Respondents		
					No.	Percent	Rank
1	January	-	07	-	07	05.83	V
2	February	-	06	-	06	05.00	VI
3	March	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	April	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	May	19	03	27	49	40.83	I
6	June	10	12	09	31	25.83	II
7	July	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	August	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	September	11	-	08	19	15.84	III
10	October	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	November	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	December	01	06	01	08	6.67	IV

It is evident from the table 3 that the months preferred by the mustard growers in which training needs to be organized. The data shows that the months preferences for training in descending order as: May Ist (40.83%), June IInd (25.83%), September IIIrd (15.84%), December IVth (6.67%), January Vth (5.83%), February VIth (5.00%) respectively. It can be concluded that May, June and September months are most preferred in which training should be organized for the mustard growers.

the majority of mustard growers showed the days preferences for training i.e. up to 1 day (35%), up to 3 day (26%), up to 5 day (14%), up to 10 days (13%), and up to 20 days (32%), respectively.

Preference of mustard growers for duration of training

n=120

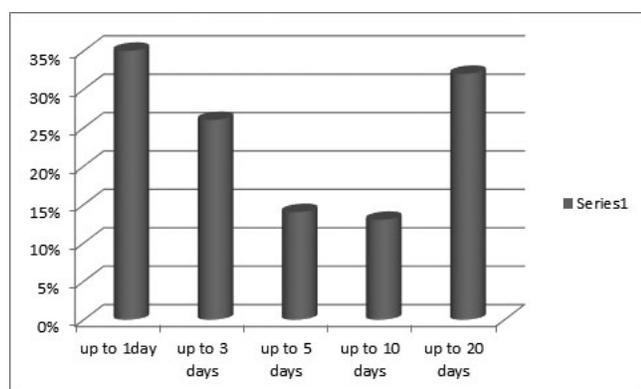


Fig. 1 : Preference of mustard growers for duration of training.

The data given in Fig.1 indicated that the preference of mustard growers for duration of training. It appears that

Preference of mustard growers for size of the training group

n=120

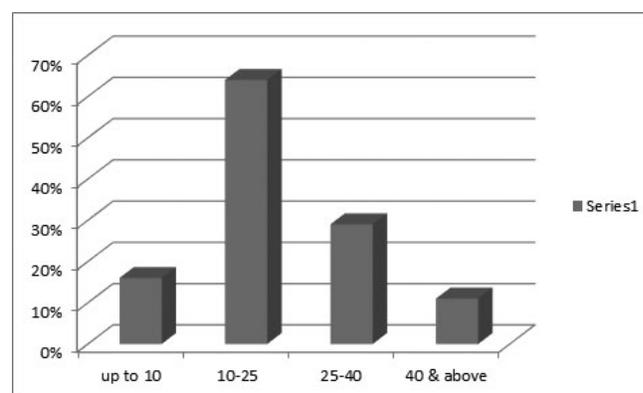


Fig. 2 : Preference of mustard growers for size of the training group

The data given in fig 2 indicated that the most preferred size of training group expressed by the maximum respondents (64%) was 10-25, the next size of group in order of preference was up to 10 members, which were preferred by 16% of the respondents, 25-40 group by 29% and 40 & above by 11%.

Preference of mustard growers for method of training

n=120

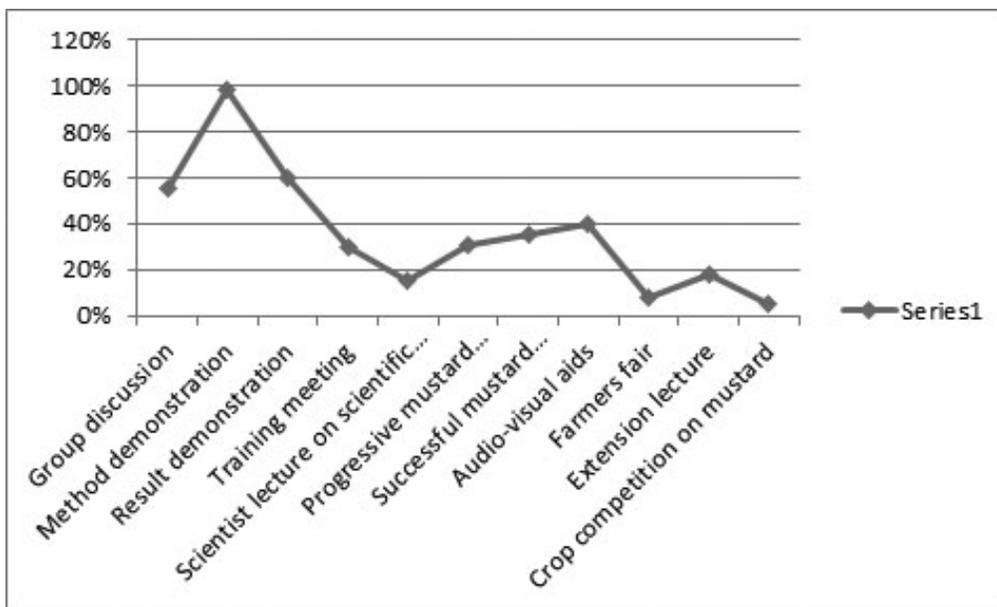


Fig. 3 : Preference of mustard growers for method of training

The above fig. 3 shows the preferences of mustard growers for method of training. The majority (98%) of respondents gave priority to method demonstration. While (60%) for result demonstration. The other methods in order to their preference were group discussion (55%), audio-visual aids (40%), successful mustard entrepreneurs lecture (35%), progressive mustard growers lecture (31%), training meeting (30%), extension lecture (18%), scientists lecture on scientific mustard cultivation (15%), farmers fair (8%) and crop competition on mustard (5%), respectively. The results are in line with the Patel et al. (2016a&b), Chandravadia et al. (2016) and Vinaya et al. (2016).

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, It has been observed that most of the farmers have least interest in the training programmes, hence motivational activities should be initiated among farmers with the help of quality input management. The training should be emphasized on method of sowing, field preparation, plant protection measures, use of manures & fertilizers, harvesting and post-harvest technology as these areas have emerged as important ones. Most of the training programmes should be provided in the month of May, June and September months. Most of the mustard growers preferred the training at village panchayat and research farm so the training should be provided at village panchayat and research farm.

The majority of mustard growers showed the days preferences for training i.e. up to 1 day (35%), up to 3 day

(26%), up to 5 day (14%), up to 10 days (13%), and up to 20 days (32%), respectively. The most preferred size of training group expressed by the maximum respondents (52%) was 10-25, the next size of group in order of preference was up to 10 members, which were preferred by 29% of the respondents, 26-40 group by 28% and 40 & above by 10%.

The preferences of mustard growers for method of training, the majority (98%) of respondents gave priority to method demonstration, while (60%) for result demonstration, the other methods in order to their preference were group discussion (55%), audio-visual aids (40%), successful mustard entrepreneurs lecture (35%), progressive mustard growers lecture (31%), training meeting (30%), extension lecture (18%), scientists lecture on scientific mustard cultivation (15%), farmers fair (8%) and crop competition on mustard (5%), respectively.

It could be concluded that method demonstration and result demonstration and group discussion has emerged as best methods of training hence, these methods may be mostly utilized by training organizers for the better understanding of the mustard grower to fulfill the knowledge gap among them.

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