

## KNOWLEDGE AND ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDED CULTIVATION PRACTICES OF PIGEON PEA GROWERS

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### ABSTRACT

The present investigation was an attempt to study knowledge and adoption of recommended cultivation practices of pigeon pea by farmers of Bharuch district. Bharuch district was selected purposively, total two talukas viz., Bharuch and Vagra were selected. Six villages were selected from the above selected talukas and ten respondents were selected randomly from each selected village. Thus, the total sample was comprised of 120 respondents. It was observed that 70.83 per cent of the respondents had medium level of knowledge about recommended cultivation practices of pigeon pea and 56.67 per cent respondents were found having medium extent of adoption of recommended cultivation practices of pigeon pea.

**Keywords :** knowledge, adoption, pigeon pea growers

### INTRODUCTION

Pigeon pea is a multipurpose crop that fits very well in the context of sustainable agriculture. It is used as food, fodder, fuel and has functional utility. However, the current production of pigeon pea in India cannot meet the domestic demand. India is compelled to import pigeon pea. A wide gap exists between available techniques and its actual application by the farmers which is reflected through poor yield in the farmers' field. Thus, the study was undertaken.

### OBJECTIVE

To study the knowledge level and extent of adoption of pigeon pea growers about the recommended cultivation practices of pigeon pea

### METHODOLOGY

The present study was confined to *ex- post- facto* research design as the independent variable have already operated in the study area. Bharuch district was selected purposively as it is primarily an agricultural district with pigeon pea as predominant pulse crop. The district has 9 talukas. Of these, Bharuch and Vagra were selected purposively. Six villages were randomly selected from each selected taluka and ten farmers were selected randomly from each village. Hence, 120 farmers were selected as sample for the study. The data were collected by using personal interview method, organized, tabulated and analyzed using appropriate statistical tools and techniques such as frequency, percentage, arithmetic mean and standard deviation.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Level of knowledge

**Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their level of knowledge** (n=120)

Sr. No.	Knowledge level	Frequency	Per cent
1	<b>Low</b> ( $\leq$ Mean – SD)	14	11.67
2	<b>Medium</b> (Between Mean $\pm$ SD)	85	70.83
3	<b>High</b> ( $\geq$ Mean + SD)	21	17.50

Mean = 50.33

SD = 5.67

Knowledge refers to the expertise or skill possessed or acquired by an individual. It is understood from the table that majority (70.83 %) of respondents had medium level of knowledge. 17.50 per cent farmers had high level of knowledge followed by 11.67 per cent farmers with low level of knowledge. The respondents showed medium level of knowledge with regard to cultivation practices of pigeon pea. It may be due to medium level of extension agency contact, lack of timely and proper training and medium level of social participation. The results are in line with Reddy and Mazhar (2018) and Reddy *et al.* (2020).

## Extent of adoption

**Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to their extent of adoption** (n=120)

Sr. No.	Extent of adoption	Frequency	Per cent
1	<b>Low</b> ( $\leq$ Mean – SD)	32	26.67
2	<b>Medium</b> (Between Mean $\pm$ SD)	68	56.67
3	<b>High</b> ( $\geq$ Mean + SD)	20	16.66

Mean = 30.58

SD = 2.44

Adoption is a dynamic decision making process to make full use of an innovation as the best course of action available. It is apparent from the data presented in the table that more than half of the respondents (56.67 %) had medium level of adoption, followed by low level of adoption (26.67 %) and high level of adoption (16.66 %). The majority of respondents showed medium level of adoption as they had medium level of knowledge, scientific orientation, risk orientation and medium level of social participation. All these factors might have influenced them to fall under the category of medium extent of adoption. The results are in accordance with Rajbhar *et al.* (2018) and Reddy *et al.* (2020) Tankodara *et al.* (2021), Rai *et al.* (2021), Ahire *et al.* (2021), Maheta *et al.* (2021) and Vegad *et al.* (2021).

## CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that slightly less than three fourth of the respondents (70.83 %) had medium level of knowledge, while more than half of the respondents (55.67 %) had medium level of adoption.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Authors have no conflict of interest to declare. We certify that the submission is original work and is not under review at any other publication.

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