

Opinion of Farmers About Krushi Mela

R. K. Dani¹ and B. B. Patel²

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture fair is a versatile dynamic and powerful medium, has immense capabilities for disseminating information. The first and foremost purpose of agriculture fair is to provide first-hand information to farmers about the availability of technology useful to them. The second purpose is to inform them about the on going research activities on various problems of farming.

The usefulness of agriculture fair can be increased to a great extent by orienting it to the requirement of the farmers. To work in this direction, information to the type of the farmers participating in the fair and also their suggestions were studied with respect to conducting agriculture fair still in a better way.

OBJECTIVES

1. To study the personal characteristics of the farmers visited the agriculture fair.
2. To identify the difficulties faced by the farmers in visiting agriculture fair.
3. To seek suggestions offered by the farmers for making agriculture fair more effective and meaningful.

METHODOLOGY

Agriculture fair was organized from 4-3-95 to 8-3-95 at Anand. The farmers who had visited the fair, among them one hundred sixty (160) participants were randomly selected. Questionnaire was prepared in (Gujarati) local language according to the objectives of the study and the data collected by personal interview schedule.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

(A) Personal characteristics :

It is evident from Table 1 that about ninety per cent respondents were adult in age. The reason may be that this age group farmer is generally indulged in progressive agricultural activities. Farmers having education upto primary level (50 per cent) which is followed by upto Secondary education level, up to College level and up to Higher Secondary level. Because of low level of literacy in rural areas, large number of illiterate farmers were engaged in agriculture. So, a large section of farmers having primary education had attended the agriculture fair. A large section of respondents (60.63 per cent) were small farmers. Most of participants (53.13 per cent) having animal

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1. P.G. Student. B. A. C. A., G. A. U., Anand
 2. Associate Extension Educationist, E.E.I., G.A.U., Anand

Table 1 : Personal characteristics of respondents**(N=160)**

Sr. No.	Variable	Category	Respondents	
			Number	Per cent
1.	Age	Young (upto 30 yrs.)	30	18.75
		Adult (31-50 yrs.)	90	56.25
		Old (above 51 yrs.)	40	25.00
2.	Education	Parimary (1-7 std.)	80	50.00
		Secondary (7-10 std.)	46	28.75
		Higher Secondary (10-12 std.)	09	5.63
		College level	25	15.62
3.	Land Holding	Small farmer (upto 3 ha.)	97	60.63
		Marginal farmer (3.1 to 6 ha.)	42	26.82
		Big farmer (Above 6 ha.)	21	13.55
4.	Occupation	Farming	24	15.00
		Farming + Labour	05	03.13
		Farming + Animal husbandry	85	53.12
		Farming + Business	17	10.62
		Farming + Service	29	18.13

Table 2 : Constraints faced by the respondents**(N=160)**

Sr. No.	Constraints	Percent
1.	Use of complex language for guidance	20.13
2.	Competent guides for explaining Exhibits/Photos. etc.	28.14
3.	Lack of plant protection equipments	4.86
4.	Lack of technical guidance	5.06
5.	Non-availability of seeds fertilizers at a time	32.27
6.	Inadequate transport facilities	5.06
7.	Inadequate boarding and lodging facilities	4.48
Total		100.00

husbandry as a subsidiary business, means, varieties and put in action on their farm it is believed that most of the respondents so that they can increase their production were from farming and allied field. Thus, by adopting latest technology.

Table 3 : Suggestions offered by the respondents (N=160)

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Percent
1.	Large scale of agricultural inputs	16.80
2.	Transport arrangement at subsidized rate	23.02
3.	Seperate section for latest varieties hybrids	52.60
4.	More information on seed production input	07.58
Total		100.00

more number of farmers visited Agriculture fair to get more knowledge about agriculture and animal husbandry field.

Constraints and Suggestions :

Data revealed that majority of (32.27 per cent) the visiting farmers faced the problem of non-availability of seeds & fertilizers at a time. Which is followed by competent guides for explaining Exhibits/Photos, etc, use of complex language for guidance (20.13 per cent).

The suggestions offered by the respondents with respect to conducting agriculture fair still in a better way are presented in Table 3. Large section of farmers gave suggestions (52.60 per cent) for separate section for latest varieties which was followed by transport arrangement (23.02 per cent). The probable reason might be that, farmers wanted seperate section for latest varieties by which farmers got knowledge about new

CONCLUSION

The above discussion tends to conclude that, most of farmers were from the middle age group having low literacy level. Majority section of visiting farmers having small size of land holding with animal husbandry as their subsidiary business. Majority of farmers had constraints of low availability of input and gave suggestion for keeping seperate section for latest varieties.

IMPLICATIONS

Agriculture fair plays an important role in making their farm advisory work effectively. So some concentrated efforts should be made for popularizing agriculture fair among the farming communities.

Government should also take step to organize fair at different location at proper time. Farmers should be provided with various agricultural inputs

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viz., seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, various agricultural aspects should be insecticides, manures etc. at reasonable presented for the farmers so a motto of rates. Live demonstrations and models on "Seeing is believing" Can be satisfied.

REFERENCES

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- Sundra Swamy B., Jahagirdar A. K. and Solanki B. S. (1992). Characteristics of participate of Krishi-Mela. MJEE 11 : 319-323

A man really writes for an audience of about ten persons of course, it others like it that is clear gain. But if those ten are satisfied, he is content

- ALFRED NORTH WHITEHEAD