

Technology Utilization Behaviour of Paddy Growers

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ABSTRACT

Present study was conducted in purposively selected of Khambhat and Tarapur taluka of Anand district of Gujarat state. One hundred and twenty (120) paddy growing farmers were selected by proportionate random sample method from randomly selected ten villages of selected taluka. An interview schedule was developed for collection of data. Respondents were interviewed personally. The data were coded, processed, tabulated and analyzed in light of the objective of the study. Results indicates that, 41.66 per cent of the respondents were comes under the category of above average technology utilization behaviour in paddy cultivation. Looking to the practice wise technology utilization behaviour it is observed that majority of the respondent had medium level of technology utilization behaviour in nursery management, time and spacing, fertilizer and irrigation and pest and diseases control measures respectively.

Keywords: Technology utilization behaviour, Paddy growers

INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa L.*) is an important staple food crop grown worldwide. It belongs to Family Poaceae and Genus Oryzae. It is the most important food crop of the world, next to wheat for human consumption. Rice is one of the most important cereal crops of the country. In Gujarat most of the area under rice crop is confined to middle and south Gujarat comprising the districts of Kheda, Anand, Vadodara, Dahod, Godhra, Ahmadabad, Surat, Valsad, Dang and Navsari. Paddy is one of the important commercial crops of Anand district having with total area of 87700 hectares with total production of 1.85 million tones (Anon 2011). Khambhat and Tarapur are major rice growing taluka of the district. Majority of the farmers in the area has undertaken the cultivation of paddy since a very long time. Considering this facts present study was conducted with a view to identify the behaviour

of the paddy growers in utilization of recommended paddy production technology.

METHODOLOGY

To identify the technology behaviour of the paddy growing farmers 120 respondents were selected by proportionate random sampling technique from 10 randomly selected villages of khambhat and Tarapur taluka of Anand district. An interview schedule based on objective of the study was developed and respondents were personally interviewed for collection of information. Frequency, percentage, standard deviation and mean were used to analyze the data to draw the meaningful conclusion.

OBJECTIVES

To know the technology utilization behaviour of paddy growers

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Technology utilization behaviour

Table 1 : Distribution of paddy growers according to their overall technology utilization behaviour.

n=120

Sr. No.	Level of technology utilization behaviour	No.	Percent
1	Very low (up to 20 per cent)	10	08.33
2	Low(21 to 40 per cent)	10	08.33
3	Average (41 to 60 per cent)	30	25.00
4	Above average (61 to 80 per cent)	50	41.66
5	High (Above 80 per cent)	20	16.66

Table 1 indicated that 41.66, 25.00 and 16.66 per cent of the respondents were comes under the category of above average, average and high overall technology utilization behaviour in paddy cultivation. While equal (08.33 per cent) of each had very low and low technology utilization behaviour.

Traditional attitude towards new farm technology due to low level of education, poor or no contacts with extension agencies and poor economic condition due to limited sources of income might be possible reasons for low and very low technology utilization behaviour. Above average and high technology utilization behaviour might be due to sincere efforts of NGOs and extension agencies in study area.

Practice wise technology utilization

Table 2 : Practice wise technology utilization behaviour of paddy grower

n-120

No.	Technology	Frequency	Percent	Mean	S.D
1	Nursery management			8.06	2.59
	Low(up to 5.48 score)	20	16.66		
	Medium (5.49 to 10.66 score)	75	62.50		
	High (above 10.66 score)	25	20.83		
2	Time and spacing			4.11	1.41
	Low(up to 2.7 score)	25	20.83		
	Medium(2.8 to 5.51 score)	65	54.16		
	High(above 5.51 score)	30	25.00		
3	Fertilizer and irrigation			7.84	2.37
	Low(up to 5.46 score)	33	27.50		
	Medium(5.47 to 10.20 score)	78	65.00		
	High(above 10.20 score)	09	07.50		
4	Weed management			2.69	1.15
	Low(up to 1.54 score)	60	50.00		
	Medium(1.55 to 3.83 score)	52	43.33		
	High(above 3.83 score)	08	06.66		
5	Plant protection				
	(a) Pest control			7.68	2.18
	Low(up to 5.5 score)	20	16.66		
	Medium(5.6 to 9.8 score)	70	58.33		
	High(above 9.8 score)	30	25.00		
	(b) Disease control			7.65	2.51
	Low(up to 5.14 score)	55	45.83		
	Medium(5.15 to 10.15 score)	65	54.16		
	High(above 10.15 score)	10	08.33		

Looking the data presented in Table 2 shows that among various paddy cultivation technology: (1) majority (62.50 per cent) respondent had medium level of technology

utilization behaviour followed by 20.83 per cent and 16.66 per cent high and low level of technology utilization behaviour of nursery management. (2) So far time and spacing is

concerned more than half (54.16 per cent) of the respondent had medium level and 25.00 and 20.83 per cent had high and low level of technology utilization behaviour. (3) In case of fertilizer management 65.00, 27.50, 07.50 per cent of the respondents had medium, low and high level of technology utilization behaviour. (4) Majority (50.00 per cent) of the respondents had low level of technology utilization behaviour of chemical weed control. (5) In case of plant protection measure in paddy cultivation 58.33 per cent and 25.00 per cent respondents had medium and high level of technology utilization behaviour in pest control. While of 54.16 and 45.83 per cent of the respondent paddy growers had medium and low level of technology utilization behaviour in disease control. Poor technology utilization might be due to lack of knowledge about recommendations, lack of finance and high charges of farm inputs.

CONCLUSION

It could be inferred that majority of the paddy growers had above average to average overall technology utilization behaviour. Looking to the practice wise technology utilization behaviour majority of the respondent paddy grower had medium level of technology utilization behaviour in practices like nursery management, time and spacing, fertilizer and irrigation, weed management and control measures against pests and diseases control, respectively

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