

CONSTRAINTS FACED BY BANANA GROWERS IN MANAGEMENT OF BANANA CULTIVATION

M. V. Chaudhary¹ and P. B. Khodifad²

1 P. G. Student, Department of Extension Education, NMCA, NAU, Navsari - 396450

2 Assistant Professor, Department of Extension Education, NMCA, NAU, Navsari - 396450

Email : pbkhodifad@nau.in

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to find out with an objective to study the constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of banana production technology and obtained their suggestions to overcome these constraints. the constraints and to seek the suggestion for solving the problem faced by the banana growers regarding management efficiency in Navsari district of south Gujarat. The major constraints with regarding the management efficiency is Non-availability of labours, High cost of labours, Lack of knowledge about plant protection, Irregular supply of electricity, Unavailability of planting material at proper time respectively. The important suggestion endorsed by farmers were Low cost farm mechanization is required, Sufficient knowledge should be provided regarding plant protection, Sufficient electric power should be available for long time, Good and healthy planting material should be provided at proper time respectively.

Keywords : constraints, suggestion, management efficiency, banana grower, navsari

INTRODUCTION

Banana is the most popular fresh fruit all over the world. Bananas are grown in more than 150 countries. During 2012-13, the world acreage of banana was 5007520 hectares; while the world production 103632349 Metric Tonnes and productivity was 20.7 Metric Tonne/Hectare. Bananas are grown in more than 150 countries among them of India, China, Philippines, Ecuador, Brazil, Indonesia, Angola, Guatemala, Tanzania and Mexico. India contributes 15.50 percent in terms of area and 25.58 percent production India occupies ranks first in production and second in area among the fruit crops grown in India with a production of 26509096 tonnes of banana from an area of 775995 ha with an average productivity of 34.64 tonnes. However, as compare to other banana growing counties, India has higher productivity it rests behind Indonesia and Guatemala with 56.83 tonnes/ha and 41.52 tonnes/ha, respectively (GOI, 2015) It clearly indicates that there is scope to increase productivity. This can be achieved by adoption of production technologies developed through research and efficient management of enterprise.

Many factors determine the banana production, among them management efficiency of banana growers is an important one. The recent advances in banana production

technology have demonstrated that scientific management has great potential for increasing the banana production. Therefore, raising management efficiency is of paramount importance for banana producer. This will open up new vistas and make possible for banana growers to achieve substantial gain in income. Raising the management efficiency is the fundamental problem. This problem needs to be carefully tackled for long run solution of small banana growers. Management efficiency can be raised through the knowledge of scientific technology and this requires a comprehensive effort that integrates capacity building of the stakeholders in quality banana production, post harvest technologies and market interventions. The banana growers will not be able to contribute effectively and efficiently in the banana production unless the constrained they faced are solved. To improve management efficiency of banana growers, extension agents need to know how about the constraints faced in banana crop production and to find out the suitable solutions for overcoming the constraints. However, there are rare studies has identified the constraints faced by banana growers that will probably hamper in improving their management efficiency. Hence the study to analyze the constraints faced by the banana growers in was undertaken with an objective to identify the constraints faced by banana growers and to seek their suggestions to solve the constraints.

OBJECTIVES

- (a) To know the constraints faced by banana growers in management of banana cultivation
- (b) To know the Suggestions to overcome constraints as perceived by respondents in management efficiency

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Navsari district of the Gujarat State. Navsari district has All banana growers irrespective of area under crops grown were the population of the study. For selection of sample of study multistage sampling techniques was employed. The Navsari district has six talukas among them two taluka viz. Chikhli and Navsari, had been selected randomly for the present study. From each taluka five villages and from each selected village 06 respondents had been selected randomly for sample. Thus, the size of sample was 60 banana growers.

Management efficiency of banana growers was measured by using the scale developed by Patel (2005) slight modification. The Scale had 49 statements distributed under seven major components viz; ability in planning, timely adoption, ability to co-ordinate activities, rational marketing, mobilizes resources, efficient use of resources, and competence in evaluation. Under each major component, there were seven statements. The scale was then administered to get responses on five point continuum-strongly agree, agree undecided, disagree and strongly disagree. Responses were obtained through personal interview in the line of interview

schedule.

The study was conducted by employing the ex-post-facto research design. According to Robinson (1976), ex-post-facto research design is a systematic empirical inquiry in which the independent variables have not been directly managed because they have already occurred or because they are inherently not manageable. Further, he stated that ex-post-facto studies based on deduce theories, identifies behavioural phenomenon to explore condition under which a phenomenon occurs.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints as faced by the respondents

Constraint is operationally defined here as the difficulties as perceived by banana growers in improving the their management efficiency of banana cultivation. To identify the constraints faced by the banana growers, they were interrogated by open ended questions. They were requested to narrate the constraints as they experienced. All narrated constraints were enlisted in the abstract form. Frequencies of each constraint as appeared were counted and percentage was worked out and then ranked accordingly. Also, considering the constraints experienced by the banana growers their valuable suggestion to overcome their constraints were also collected. The responses were summed up and converted into frequency and percentages. The rank was given to each suggestion by putting them in descending order.

The results of the study presented in the following table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of respondent according to Constraints as perceived by respondents in management efficiency of banana cultivation n=60

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Percent	Rank
1	Non-availability of labours	58	97.00	I
2	High cost of labours	53	89.00	II
3	Lack of knowledge about plant protection	46	78.00	III
4	Irregular supply of electricity	42	71.00	IV
5	Unavailability of planting material at proper time	38	63.00	V
6	High cost of inputs	32	54.00	VI
7	High cost of transportation	29	48.00	VII
8	Lack of timely technical advice	21	35.00	VIII
9	Irregular supply of irrigation	11	18.00	IX

A critical look into the data in Table 1 bring in to focus that among the all nine problem in management efficiency of banana growers “non-availability of labours” (97.00 per cent) ranked I, “high cost of labours” (89.00 per cent) ranked II, “lack of knowledge about plant protection” (78.00 per

cent) ranked III, “irregular supply of electricity” (71.00 per cent) ranked IV, “unavailability of planting material at proper time” (63.00 per cent) ranked V, “high cost of inputs” (54.00 per cent) ranked VI, “high cost of transportation” (48.00 per cent) ranked VII, “lack of timely technical advice” (35.00 per

cent) ranked VIII and “irregular supply of irrigation” (18.00 per cent) ranked IX.

In general, the discussion leads to conclude that most important problem of banana cultivation faced by the farmers in management of banana cultivation is Non-availability of labours, High cost of labours, Irregular supply of electricity, Unavailability of planting material at proper time, High cost of inputs, High cost of transportation, Lack of timely

technical advice.

Suggestions to overcome the constraints

An attempt was also made to ascertain suggestions from banana growers to overcome various constraints faced by them in management efficiency of banana. The respondents were requested to offer their valuable suggestions against difficulties faced by them in management efficiency of banana cultivation. Valuable suggestions given by respondents are presented in table -2.

Table -2: Suggestions to overcome constraints as perceived by respondents in management efficiency n = 60

Sr.	Suggestions	Frequency	Percent	Rank
1	Low cost farm mechanization is required	53	89.00	I
2	Sufficient knowledge should be provided regarding plant protection	44	73.00	II
3	Sufficient electric power should be available for long time	41	68.00	III
4	Good and healthy planting material should be provided at proper time	36	60.00	IV
5	Price of input should be minimized	35	58.00	V
6	Training on new technologies should be imparted to the farmers	33	54.00	VI
7	Guidance should be provided to adopt proper cultivation practices	27	45.00	VII
8	Regular and timely visit of the farm should be necessary by horticultural officer	22	37.00	VIII
9	Timely technical advice should be provided to the farmers	17	29.00	IX
10	Sufficient irrigation water should be available at proper time	10	16.00	X

The data depicted in table - 2 that low cost farm mechanization is required (89.00 per cent) ranked I, sufficient knowledge should be provided regarding plant protection (73.00 per cent) ranked II, sufficient electric power should be available for long time (68.00 per cent) ranked III, good and healthy planting material should be provided at proper time (60.00 per cent) ranked IV, prices of inputs should be minimized (58.00 per cent) ranked V, training on new technologies should be imparted to the farmers (54.00 per cent) ranked VI, guidance should be provided to adopt proper cultivation practices (45.00 per cent) ranked VII, regular and timely visit of the farm should be necessary by horticultural officer (37.00 per cent) ranked VIII, timely technical advice should be provided to the farmers (29.00 per cent) ranked IX and sufficient irrigation water should be available at proper time (16.00 per cent) ranked X. findings are in line with Patel *et al.*, (2015), Patel (2015).

CONCLUSION

Regarding problem of management efficiency, Non-availability of labours, High cost of labours Lack of knowledge about plant protection, Irregular supply of electricity, Unavailability of planting material at proper

time, High cost of inputs High cost of transportation, Lack of timely technical advice, Irregular supply of irrigation. These problems can be solve by certain extension strategies like organization of training programmes, establishment of coordination and availability of day to day farm services to the door of farmers.

REFERANCES

- Anonymous (2015). Post harvest profile of banana: 2015. Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, Nagpur
- Patel, A. G. (2015). Management efficiency of small scale horticultural nursery growers in Navsari and Valsad districts of South Gujarat, M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis (Unpublished) Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari
- Patel, A.G. and Vyas, H.U. (2015). Constraints Faced by Small Scale Horticultural Nursery Growers in South Gujarat. *Guj. J. Ext. Edu.*, 26(2): 135-137
- Robinson, J. A. (1976). Sampling autobiographical memory. *Cognitive Psychology*, 8 (4) : 578-595