

CONSTRAINTS FACED BY THE AGRO-INPUT DEALERS IN GETTING THE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS OF ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

The present investigation was carried out in Anand district of Gujarat State. All the talukas of Anand district were selected for the study. Only those agro-input dealers were selected who sell fertilizers, pesticides and seeds all to gather. Total numbers of the agro-input dealers were 140. The major constraints faced by the agro-input dealers in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University in descending order of rank were; booklet of research recommendations is not provided by the University, the benefits of research recommendations are not explained to the input dealers through training by the University, research recommendations are not informed as such through different sources. The major suggestions given by the agro-input dealers in descending order of rank were; a booklet of research recommendations should be provided by the University, according to the taluka, timely research recommendations should be informed on the WhatsApp group of input dealers, University should be called input dealers periodically for informing about research recommendations through training.

Keywords : agro-input dealers, constraints, research recommendations, suggestions.

INTRODUCTION

Being the largest component of India's economy, agriculture is of utmost importance for the vast number of people. Agriculture sector employs 54.6% of the total workforce. After conducting the research, different research recommendations are given by research stations and Agricultural Universities. Private sector plays major role for dissemination of the knowledge about new technologies and new recommendations. Many transfer of technology studies indicated that the input dealers were consulted more frequently by the farmers than other sources. If the agro-input dealers have proper knowledge about research recommendations, they can transfer that to the farmers for improving farming by boost up production which ultimately resulting in increasing living standard of farmers.

OBJECTIVES

(i) To identify the constraints faced by the agro-input dealers of Anand district in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University

(ii) To explore the suggestions from the agro-input dealers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting the knowledge about research recommendations.

METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was carried out in Anand district of Gujarat State. All the talukas of Anand district were selected for the study. Only those agro-input dealers were selected who sell fertilizers, pesticides and seeds all to gather. A sample of 100 agro-input dealers who had not undertaken Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input-dealers (DAESI) were selected from different talukas of Anand district by using proportionate random method of sampling. Moreover, 40 agro-input dealers who had undertaken DAISE course were also selected. Thus, total numbers of the agro-input dealers were 140. To study the knowledge of the agro-input dealers about research recommendations of AAU, a knowledge test was developed. The interview schedule was prepared in the local language in light of the objectives of the study and was pre-tested. The data of this study were collected through personal interview. The collected data were classified, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted in order to make the findings meaningful.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints faced by the agro-input dealers in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University

Constraints faced by the agro-input dealers in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of AAU were studied. The data in this regard are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Constraints faced by the agro-input dealers in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University

n=140

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1	Booklet of research recommendations is not provided by the University.	121	86.43	I
2	Research recommendations are not informed as such through different sources.	53	37.86	III
3	Knowledge of innovative research recommendations is delivered very late.	34	24.29	V
4	It takes a lot of time to go to the research centre / University.	43	30.71	IV
5	The benefits of research recommendations are not explained to the input dealers through training by the University.	65	46.43	II

It can be seen from the Table 1 that major constraints faced by the agro-input dealers in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University in descending order of rank were; booklet of research recommendations is not provided by the University (Ranked 1st), the benefits of research recommendations are not explained to the input dealers through training by the University (Ranked 2nd), research recommendations are not informed as such through different sources (Ranked 3rd), it takes a lot of time to go to the research centre / University (Ranked 4th) and knowledge of innovative research recommendations is delivered very late (Ranked 5th).

Suggestions from the agro-input dealers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University

An attempt was also made to ascertain suggestions from the agro-input dealers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University. The Table 2 shows major suggestions given by the agro-input dealers to overcome constraints faced by them in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University.

Table 2: Suggestions from the agro-input dealers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University

n=140

No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1	A booklet of research recommendations should be provided by the University.	127	90.71	I
2	University should be called input dealers periodically for informing about research recommendations through training.	62	44.29	III
3	Fast reporting should be made to inform innovative research recommendations.	43	30.71	IV
4	According to the taluka, timely research recommendations should be informed on the WhatsApp group of input dealers.	84	60.00	II
5	Information about research recommendations should be provided by E-mail.	42	30.00	V

The result indicates that major suggestions given by the agro-input dealers in descending order of rank were; a booklet of research recommendations should be provided by the University (Ranked 1st), according to the taluka, timely research recommendations should be informed on the WhatsApp group of input dealers (Ranked 2nd), University

should be called input dealers periodically for informing about research recommendations through training (Ranked 3rd), fast reporting should be made to inform innovative research recommendations (Ranked 4th) and Information about research recommendations should be provided by E-mail (Ranked 5th). The results are inline with Ananthnag

et al. (2014), Khatri et al. (2018) and Parmar et al. (2017).

CONCLUSION

The major constraints faced by the agro-input dealers in getting the knowledge about research recommendations of Anand Agricultural University in descending order of rank were; booklet of research recommendations is not provided by the University, the benefits of research recommendations are not explained to the input dealers through training by the University, research recommendations are not informed as such through different sources. The major suggestions given by the agro-input dealers in descending order of rank were; a booklet of research recommendations should be provided by the University, according to the taluka, timely research recommendations should be informed on the WhatsApp group of input dealers, University should be called input dealers periodically for informing about research recommendations through training.

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