

Adoption behaviour of farmers in chickpea production technology

NITEEN JAYSING THOKE AND SURYA GUNJAL

ABSTRACT

Chickpea, also known as Bengal gram (*Cicer arietinum*) the important pulse crop of our country. KVK, Nashik implemented Front Line Demonstration on chickpea in Khadak Malegaon village successively for 3 years. To find out the impact of the Front Line Demonstration on adoption behaviour of the farmers, the present study was planned and conducted. Looking to this fact, the present study was undertaken on a purposive sampling of 112 chickpea growers of Khadak malegaon Village of Niphad tahsil of Nashik District of Maharashtra with the objectives to study the personal and socio-economic profile and to ascertain the level of adoption chickpea growers. The study reveals that most of the respondents were from middle age group *i.e.* between 26 to 45 years, received education up to Higher Secondary, size of land holding between 4.01 to 7.00 acres. Majority (54.46 per cent) of chickpea growers were having farming experience between 9 years to 17 years, having medium social participation and annual income between Rs. 75,551 to Rs. 1,50,765. Most of the respondents (60.72 per cent) were having their land at 2-3 places. The study on adoption indicated that, the majority of chickpea growers (70.54 per cent) had medium level of adoption. It can be stated that the level of adoption of the chickpea cultivation practices by majority of the chickpea gram growers was satisfactory.

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

NITEEN JAYSING THOKE

Department of
Agricultural Extension,
Krishi Vigyan Kendra,
Yashwantrao Chavan
Maharashtra Open
University, NASHIK
(M.S.) INDIA

INTRODUCTION

India ranks first in respect of total production of pulses in the world. But in case of productivity India ranks 112. This shows that India is far behind as compared to world productivity. It also indicates the potential in increasing the productivity. However, the major pulse crops grown in Maharashtra are Chickpea, pigeonpea, black gram, etc. Among these pulse crops, chickpea is the most important crop grown in *rabi* season. Chickpea (*Cicer arietinum*) is also known as gram, Bengal gram and *Chana*.

Front Line Demonstrations on chickpea were implemented in Khadak Malegaon village since last 3 years by KVK, Nashik. All the farmers do not adopt the recommended crop production technologies at the same time and at the same rate. With this background the present investigation was undertaken to assess the adoption behaviour of chickpea growers about chickpea production technology.

METHODOLOGY

The reason attributed to the purposive selection of Khadak Malegaon village was that every scientific study brings its implications, which may prove very useful for planners and implementers. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nashik has adopted the village for its different

programme implementation. Front line demonstration on oilseed and pulses is one of the mandates of the KVKs. Every developmental activity is measured in terms of its extent of impact on the intended group. Therefore, Khadak Malegaon village from Nashik district of Maharashtra was purposively selected for the study. Among the total 112 chickpea growing farmers, all the farmers were selected for the present study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings obtained from the present study are presented below:

Personal profile:

The data on personal profile were sought, computed presented in Table 1 and discussed accordingly.

Majority (77.67 per cent) of the chickpea growers belonged to the middle age group *i.e.* between 26 to 45 years. Maximum (51.79 per cent) chickpea growers were found literate having formal education level up to Higher Secondary and Diploma. Majority (50.00 per cent) of the chickpea growers had medium size of land holding. Majority (54.46 per cent) of the chickpea growers were having medium farming experience. A few per cent (18.75 per cent) of the chickpea growers were found in

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