

Adoption level and constraints in vegetable production technology

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ABSTRACT

The yield level of vegetable which is comparatively low at present need to be increased substantially. Higher vegetable production can be achieved by adoption of all the recommended technologies by large number of farmers. Adoption of vegetable production technology was studied during 2004-09 at Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh. Majority of the farmers showed low level of overall adoption of recommended technology. Weedicide application in nursery, weedicide application in main field, plant population, seed treatment with fungicides, organic manure application and nursery area were not adopted by the majority of the farmers. Non availability of high-yielding varieties, High cost of labour, Lack of awareness of new technology and weak extension activities at the village level were the major constraints faced by the farmers. Therefore, it was necessary to intensify the extension efforts to increase their knowledge level and adoption of recommended vegetable technologies, which would help in increasing the yield, of vegetable at farm level.

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Key words : Adoption, Constraints, Vegetable production technology

INTRODUCTION

Vegetable is most important to the human diet for better health, because vegetable possess high nutritive value and is a source of carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins and minerals etc. The selection of research area in Kullu Valley of Himachal Pradesh was due to the chilling required after vegetative phase to transform in to reproductive phase. Hence, the area was suitable for both vegetable production and their breeding for most of the temperate types of vegetables. The yield of vegetable is low at present, need to be increased sustainably. Higher vegetable production can be achieved by adoption of all the recommended technologies by large number of farmers. In general, recommended vegetable technologies are not accepted by all the farmers at a time and also to full extent. In this context the study was conducted with the objective to ascertain adoption level of recommended Vegetable technologies by the farmers to find out the relationship between socio-personal and psychological traits and adoption of vegetable production technologies and to delineate the constraints experienced by the farmers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted during 2004-09 in the Kullu district for the research and number of villages in each Block were collected from the Block headquarters and as well district headquarters. After the collection of the

information as above, 3 blocks, 20 villages and the 300 farmers (Large, Medium and Small) were selected on the basis of purposive and stratified random sampling. Based on the judges opinion, thirteen recommended vegetable technologies were selected for studying level of adoption by the farmers. Personal interviews were conducted using a pre tested structured interview schedule. The data collected, compiled, tabulated, analysed and interpreted (statistical methods mean and S.D. were applied).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained from the present investigation as well as relevant discussion have been presented under following heads :

Adoption of recommended vegetable technologies:

Majority of the respondents (48.40 per cent) were found to be low adopters, followed by medium (42.00 per cent) and high (9.60 per cent) adopters (Table 1).

It is revealed from the Table 2 that farmers with

Table 1 : Distribution of respondents according to the overall adoption of recommended vegetable production technologies (N=300)

Sr. No.	Adoption level	N	Percentage
1.	Low	137	48.40
2.	Medium	140	42.00
3.	High	23	9.60