



Increasing area and productivity of paddy in tribal belt of South Gujarat through effective TOT efforts : A success story

N.M. CHAUHAN* AND A.P. PATEL

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Rice Research Station (N.A.U.), Vyara, TAPI (GUJARAT) INDIA
(Email : nikulsinh_m@yahoo.in)

Abstract : Krishi Vigyan Kendra Vyara is located in the Tapi district – the southeastern part and the tribal belt of Gujarat. The main crops of the district are – paddy, sorghum, groundnut, pulses, sugarcane, gram and vegetables like brinjal, okra and chilly. Paddy is the staple food of the tribal communities of the district. Among vegetable crops okra is main crop for export quality. KVK Vyara is working under the auspices of Navsari Agricultural University. It has started its activities since September, 2000. Kendra has undertaken seed multiplication programme of paddy since 2000-01. Considering the above the whole story KVK has initiated the programme of multiplication of seeds of high yielding varieties of paddy under both rain fed and irrigated condition since 2000-01 on instructional farm. The objective was to popularize high yielding varieties by supplying pure seeds to the farmers on regular basis and thereby increase the area and productivity of paddy. It was planned to cover at least 20-25 per cent of the area under the paddy in the surrounding 45 villages with increasing the productivity and profitability per unit area. As a result of successful introduction of high yielding varieties of the paddy, the whole district has twisted an interest to espouse HYVs in paddy as a replacement for conventional varieties. This efforts has cemented the way to introduce seed village concept in the paddy itself. Four adopted villages of this KVK had been decorated fully self-sufficient paddy seed villages and also supplied paddy seed to the adjacent villages. The apparent impact of this programme can be seen in the form of raising the standard of living of the tribal people. Tribal people are able to discriminate the high yielding varieties of the paddy compared with conventional age old varieties in the form of economics. This study is a boon for tribal upliftment in the other region of tribal in the country. This study can be eye opener for the extension workers in the field of TOT at grass root level. The seed production programme had also increased the revolving funds of this KVK up to the remarkable level. This seed production programme has also created the affection with KVK to tribal farmers and KVK become a popular among tribal community.

Key Words : Productivity, TOT efforts, High yielding varieties, KVK

View Point Article : Chauhan, N.M. and Patel, A.P. (2012). Increasing area and productivity of paddy in tribal belt of South Gujarat through effective TOT efforts. A success Story. *Internat. J. agric. Sci.*, 8(1): 301-306.

Article History : Received : 18.05.2011; Revised : 26.10.2011; Accepted : 10.11.2011

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Vyara is located in the Tapi district – the southeastern part and the tribal belt of Gujarat. The district shares its borders with Surat, Navsari and Dang district in North-west, South and East, respectively with Maharashtra state in East. The geographical area of the district is 7.79 lacks ha. The conspicuous features of the district are undulating topography with steep slopes and heavy rainfall. The average rainfall of the district is about 80–100 inches per annum. The distribution is erratic and thus, causing damage to the crops like pulses, paddy and other cereals. The district is composed

largely of tribal communities. These communities depend primarily on agriculture for their livelihood supplemented by income from seasonal employment in nearest industrial town. Soils of the district in general can be classified as medium black to heavy black, red murrum and rocky with low innate fertility. Agriculturally, about 60 per cent of the cultivated area is undersigned crop during monsoon. The main crops of the district are – paddy, sorghum, groundnut, pulses, sugarcane, gram and vegetables like brinjal, okra and chilly. Paddy is the staple food of the tribal communities of the district. Among