



Impact of front line demonstration on production technology of radish cv. DHAWAL KRANTI in Dhule district of Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

The front line demonstration on production technology of radish cv. DHAWAL KRANTI was conducted for four years (2005-06 to 2008-09) on farmers field in four different villages in all the four talukas of Dhule district in *Kharif* season. It was observed that the average yield performance of 40 demonstrated radish crop in an area of 8 hectares ranged from 104 to 118 q / ha. The average yield of 40 demonstrations in an area of 8 hectares of radish crop for four years was found to be 110.5 q / ha whereas for local crop, it was found to be 82.75 q / ha. There was 33.59 per cent increase in demonstration yield over local crop during all the four years. The farmers have incurred average higher returns of Rs. 32275/ha through these demonstrations. The comparative results of the demonstration highlighted the cost benefit ratio of 3.49 as against the local crop which recorded 3.07, respectively. Results of the demonstration had shown that the use of improved variety, improved cultivation practices, proper post-harvest management and plant protection measures resulted in higher productivity of radish.

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Radish (*Raphanus sativus* L.) is commonly known as muli is a favourite crop of kitchen garden and it is easily grown and is ready for use in 4 to 6 weeks from time of sowing. It is important vegetable crops and is cultivated in all over India, especially for the city market. It is grown for its fleshy edible root which is eaten raw with salt or as salad or cooked in vegetable curries. Radish contains vitamin B and C. It has a cooling effect, prevents constipation and increases appetite and is more wholesome when cooked together with leaves. It is considered good for patients suffering from piles, liver trouble, enlarge spleen and jaundice. Radish is tolerant to heat, but to develop its best flavour, texture and size, a cool season (10 to 15.5 C) is required. Radish grows well in sandy loam, rich friable and moist and contains high proportion of humus. (Yawalkar and Ram, 2004).

India is the second largest producer of vegetables that accounts about 16% worlds production. Radish is the major vegetable grown in India. Major importing countries of Indian vegetables are UAE, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. The efforts are underway to increase the productivity of radish by imparting training and conducting demonstrations. The present study

therefore, was undertaken to ascertain the role of demonstrations in exhibiting the production technology of radish and thus increasing the yield.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhule conducted front line demonstrations on radish cv. DHAWAL KRANTI during the year 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 in *Kharif* season. Totally 40 demonstrations in an area of 8 hectares were conducted on Radish crop on farmer's field in all the four talukas viz., Sakri, Dhule, Shindhkeda, Shirpur talukas of Dhule district. The demonstrations were conducted in irrigated conditions and the soils of demonstrations plot ranged from medium to black cotton soils. The demonstrations included important technologies like improved variety, proper layout, use of manures and fertilizers, irrigations, chemical sprays and post harvest management. The yield data was recorded from demonstrations as well as from local plots.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data of front line demonstrations are presented