

Adoption of dryland farming technologies by the cotton growers

S.M. EKATPURE, H.D. BODAKE, B.A. SHINDE AND R.R. NIMBALKAR

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

S.M. EKATPURE
Department of
Extension Education,
College of Agriculture,
Akluj, SOLAPUR
(M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken to find out extend of adoption of dryland farming technologies by the cotton growers, in randomly selected ten villages of Hinganghat Panchayat Samiti. The exploratory statistical design of social research was used for present investigation. From the results, it was revealed that dibbling method of sowing (78.00 %) and proper method of fertilizer application (74.67%) are the dryland technologies used by the maximum number of the farmers while seed treatment (54.00%) and mulching (50.00%) were not adopted by the maximum number cotton growers. The statistical data of the present study revealed that land holding, annual income, socio-economic status, area under cotton cultivation, availability of inputs and extension contact were significantly co-related with extent of adoption of dryland farming technologies by the cotton growers while only age and education were having non-significant relationship with extent of adoption of dryland farming technologies by the cotton growers.

INTRODUCTION

Dryland farming is an important segment of Indian agriculture which is the backbone of national economy. Dryland farming in India is now done on 100 m ha. *i.e.* about 70 per cent of the total arable land. Crop production on this land is dependent on natural precipitation, which is highly dependable on onset, recession and distribution of rain during the growing season. The land-man ratio is already very low in India and therefore, there is no scope for increasing land under plough. Increase in food production has therefore, to come from the increased land productivity from dryland farming. To achieve this target of increased productivity, tremendous efforts both in development and research front are essential. Cotton (*Gossypium* spp.) is one of the important cash crops cultivated under dryland cultivation which plays dominant role in economic and social affairs of the world. It is a source of natural fiber as well as oil and raw material to textile and oil industry, also being used in manufacture of soaps, cosmetics, plastic and paper etc.

Today, India is the third largest producer of cotton next to China and U.S.A in the world. In India production level of this crop has increased five folds, since independence. Yet the current yield tends to linger on lower average, which has been a matter of concern and a national challenge. It is clear that there is a wide scope for increasing productivity of

cotton in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra which can be possible by adopting improved dryland technologies by the farmers. Hence, the present study was undertaken to find out extend of adoption of dryland farming technology by the cotton growers and relationship of selected personal characteristics with adoption of dryland farming technologies.

METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in randomly selected 10 villages of Hinganghat Panchayat Samiti of Wardha district (M.S.). The list of farmers of selected villages was prepared with the help of Gramsevak and Agricultural Assistant of respective village. The farmers from each village were arranged alphabetically and random sample of 150 farmers were drawn by randomization. Thus, on the basis of random sampling 15 farmers from each village were selected and personally interviewed with the help of specially designed interview schedule. The data were subjected to exploratory statistical analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A study pertaining to extend of adoption of dryland farming technologies by the cotton growers from various categories of farmers was conducted using 150 farmers from Hinganghat Tahasil of Wardha district (M.S.). The results obtained are presented in Table 1 and 2.

Key words :

Dryland technologies, Adoption, Dryland farming, Cotton

Accepted :
April, 2009