



## A study on knowledge level and adoption behaviour of improved cultivation practices of bajra growers in Bijapur district of Karnataka

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### ABSTRACT

The study revealed that majority of the respondents belonged to the medium level of knowledge as this crop grown with the long experience of farmers and cultivation practices are simple and easy to adopt. Majority of respondent belonged to the medium level of adoption category followed by high and low adoption category. The practices like harrowing, varieties/hybrids, seed rate, optimum time of sowing and right time of harvesting were fully adopted by majority of farmers. Cent per cent of respondents not adopted spraying to control ergot disease.

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### INTRODUCTION

Bajra is the most drought and heat tolerant crop among the cereal crops. It is predominantly cultivated as rainfed crop in diverse soils, climates and is an indispensable of semi-arid and arid regions in the country. The features associated with cultivation of this crop are low value status, adoption to poor resource base, production and consumption by poorer sections of society, stagnant demand and price structure.

Karnataka is the 6<sup>th</sup> major pearl millet growing states in the country both are area and production. Pearl millet is the important and indispensable *Kharif* cereal crop of shallow to medium black and red soils of the state and is largely cultivated in northern districts. In Northern Karnataka, among the *Kharif* cereals, pearl millet is the most important and most assured crop among many other crops. In Karnataka bajra growing districts are Bijapur, Bagalkot, Koppal and parts of Belgaum, Dharwad, Gadag and Raichur districts. Among the pearl millet growing districts, Bijapur had the largest area (97620ha). In Bijapur district,

Bijapur, Indi, B. Bagewadi stands first, second and third place in area and production, respectively. The present study was undertaken with the specific objectives to know the level of knowledge and adoption of improved cultivation practices of bajra by the farmers of Bijapur district.

### METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Bijapur district during the year 2009. From Bijapur district, Bijapur and Indi Talukas were purposively selected as they stand first and second in area and production, respectively. In each Taluka, six villages were selected by random sampling method. A list of bajra growing farmers of selected villages was obtained from Department of Agriculture. Ten farmers from each village were randomly selected as respondents for the study. Thus, the sample size constituted of 120 respondents. The information was collected by personal interview method with the help of structured schedule. The data were analysed with the help of frequency and percentage.

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Knowledge,  
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