



Knowledge level of farmers regarding recommended cultivation practices of mango

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ABSTRACT

The study on technological gap in adoption of recommended practices of mango cultivation was conducted in Dharwad district of Karnataka during 2008-09. In the present study, it was observed that 39.33 per cent of the mango growers belonged to medium level of knowledge about the recommended practices of mango cultivation with mean score of 36.82. Where as, 34.00 and 26.00 per cent of the mango growers belonged to the high and low knowledge levels with mean knowledge of 41.03 and 36.82, respectively. A lion share of the mango growers (96.00%) had correct knowledge of recommended varieties of mango. It was observed that 98.00 per cent of the mango growers were having correct knowledge about size of pits for planting mangoes (92.67%) and filling material used in pits (95.33%). With regard to soil, per cent of the respondents were aware of suitable soil for mango plantation and number of days pits should be exposed to the sun before planting (90.67%).

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INTRODUCTION

India has achieved self-sufficiency in food grain production and now the major concern is to achieve higher growth rate. The focus has now shifted from agriculture to horticulture which besides imparting nutritional security, offers a great potential for efficient input use, higher returns per unit area, crop diversification, foreign exchange earning and greater employment generation through post harvest processing in agro-industries. Fruit cultivation in India is one such major commercial and business sectors for exporting merchandise and shipping from which much of the international revenue is incurred.

Mango is considered as national fruit of India and it is termed as the "King of fruits". Major varieties of mangoes exported include Alphonso, Dashehri, Kesar, Banganapalli, Langra, Chausa, Mallika and Swarnarekha. The major markets for Indian mangoes comprise U.A.E., Bangladesh, U.K., Saudi Arabia and Nepal. Major cultivation and production areas are in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

METHODOLOGY

The study on technological gap in adoption of recommended practices of mango cultivation was conducted in Dharwad district of Karnataka during 2008-09. Dharwad district was purposely selected since it is having largest area under mango cultivation in northern Karnataka. Among five Talukas of Dharwad district, Dharwad Taluk has maximum area (2618 ha) under mango cultivation, followed by Kalaghatagi (715 ha), Hubli (668 ha) and Kundgol (114 ha). Hence Dharwad and Kalaghatgi Taluks were selected.

Proportionate random sampling technique was followed to select the appropriate sample size of 150. The data were collected by interview method by using well structured interview schedule. The data were analyzed using the statistical tools such as percentage, mean and standard deviation.

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The data of Table 1 revealed that 39.33 per cent of the mango growers belonged to medium level of knowledge about recommended practices of mango cultivation with a mean score of 36.82. Where as, 34.00

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