



Research Article

Analysis of technological gaps and constraints of Bidi tobacco growers in cultivation

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SUMMARY : Study was conducted in Chikkodi and Hukkeri talukas of Belgaum district based on highest area under tobacco cultivation in the state. The ex-post-facto research design used for the study. Each of six villages were identified from two talukas, based on highest area under tobacco cultivation. Inturn ten respondents were selected randomly from each village. Thus the total sample size constituted 120 respondents. Data were personally collected by personal interview method using structured interview schedule. Totally eight independent variables were studied in addition to dependent variables. It could be observed that overall technological gap for the total respondents was quite high as 50.96 per cent. The gap was more than 40 per cent in the case of application of FYM/compost, application of phosphorus, application of potash following the irrigation schedule and plant protection measures. Technological gap in plant protection at 45.53 per cent also deserves attention. Economic variables like economic status, size of holding and area under Bidi tobacco were found to have negative significant relationship with technological gap. Psychological variables like innovativeness and risk orientation also showed a negative and significant relationship with technological gap. Majority of respondents perceived the susceptibility to adverse climatic conditions followed by pest, diseases, labour availability and high cost of inputs perceived by the tobacco farmers.

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