



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Training needs of agro service centre owners and their constraints

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SUMMARY : The most of the agriculture input dealers are related to transfer of agriculture technology. Agriculture inputs dealers may this way perform the function of the “Change agent”. Agriculture input dealers are also playing an important role in increasing agricultural production in the country. The main aim of agriculture input dealers was thus, to provide expert services, advice to farmers and supply of inputs to agriculture according to local needs *i.e.* quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, engineering material and provide the employment to the people indeed an input dealer forms an important bridge between the farmers and the agriculture developmental agencies and is often regarded by the farmers as a “Friend, Philosopher and Guide” and is truly a change agent. Study is designed with specific Objectives: To know the training needs of owners of agro service centre and to study the constraints faced by owners of agro service centre. The study was conducted in Ahmednagar district of the western Maharashtra region, as maximum number of agro service centre owners of agro service centres in this district. Rahuri, Rahata, Shirampur, Ahmednagar, Sangamner and Kopargaon tahsils selected for study, results are majority of owners (73.33%) had medium level of training need. On the other hand 20 per cent had more level of training need and majority of respondents faced constraints mostly related to overdue from farmers followed by lack of technical assistance, competition with other owners and lack of finance.

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