

**A case study :**

## **Adoption level of trained and untrained paddy farmers on integrated pest management**

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### **ABSTRACT**

A study was conducted to compare the adoption level of trained and untrained paddy farmers about Integrated Pest Management in selected eight villages of Kollidam block of Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu, Sixty farmers trained through Central Pest Management Centre and sixty untrained farmers were selected by proportionate random sampling technique. Thirty five per cent of the trained farmers had high level of adoption on Integrated Pest Management, whereas only 6.67 per cent of untrained farmers had high level adoption. Out of thirty technologies on Integrated Pest Management, significant difference could be observed between the trained and untrained farmers on the adoption of nine technologies viz., use of resistant varieties, narrow bunds, use of light traps, pheromone traps, use of pesticides at recommended dose, use of Aluminium phosphide tablets, use of neem based insecticides, use of NPV and use of parasites and predators.

**Key words :** Trained and untrained farmers, Adoption, IPM practices.

### **INTRODUCTION**

India is the world's second largest producer of rice after china. Rice yield increased by 170.00 per cent. Rice production during 1999-2000 reached a new height with production touching 84.74 million tones. Government of India launched Integrated Pest Management programme with farmers field school approach in 1992 on a small scale, for rice and cotton crops as the pesticides used for these crops contribute more than 78.00 per cent of total consumption. Integrated pest management is a programme by farmers and not for fanners. It seeks to empower farmers to become managers and decision makers so that they can handle and control methods to maximize profits, while optimizing production inputs and resources. The integrated pest management programme aims at educating the farmers and extension agencies through farmers field schools. The subject matter specialist (SMS) function as master trainers in their states. Training is an important mechanism for transfer of technologies and improving the human resources at all levels.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The study was carried out in Nagapattinam District of Tamil Nadu. Paddy is the major crop in Nagapattinam district, where intensive crop development programmes on Integrated Pest Management were organized. In this Nagapattinam district, the Central Integrated Pest Management Center has organized training on Integrated

Pest Management in three blocks namely, Nagapattinam, Sirumarugal and Kollidam. Of the three blocks, kollidam block was selected by simple random sampling. The list of villages of kollidam block where training was offered by Central Integrated Pest Management was considered for the selection of the sixty trained farmers. The list of villages of kollidam block where no training was offered by central integrated pest management center was considered for the selection of the sixty untrained farmers. A well structured interview schedule was used to collect the data from the selected respondents.

Towel personal, socio-economic and psychological variables were selected for determining their relationship with the adoption level of farmers. The practice-wise adoption level of trained and untrained paddy farmers on IPM technologies, was also studied. The collected data were analysed by using the statistical test viz., percentage analysis, cumulative frequency method, zero order correlation and critical ratio analysis.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

It could be observed from the Table 1 that the most of the trained farmers (53.33 per cent) were found to have medium level adoption for integrated pest management technologies followed by high (35.00 per cent) level and low (11.67 per cent) level, whereas nearly an equal percentage (48.33 per cent and 45.00 per cent) of untrained farmers belonged to low and medium

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