



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Knowledge of sugarcane growers regarding integrated pest and disease management practices in Nandurbar district

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ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken in Nandurbar district with the specific objectives to know the knowledge level of sugarcane grower regarding IPDM practices. It was observed that regarding practice wise knowledge level of IPDM most of respondents had good information about cultural operations followed by Mechanical practices. In distributional analysis it was concluded that majority of the respondents had medium level of knowledge of IPDM practices. In relational analysis it was observed that education, land holding, area under sugarcane, annual income, socio-economic status and sources of information were positively and significantly correlated with Knowledge level.

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INTRODUCTION

Sugarcane is an important cash crop in Nandurbar district. Sugarcane production per unit area is comparatively low in this area. The lower yields are attributed to infestation of the crop by insect, pest and diseases. Therefore, the present study was conducted to know the extent of knowledge level of integrated pest and disease management practices by sugarcane growers. Thus, the study was conducted with following specific objectives to study the extent of knowledge of integrated pest and disease management practices by sugarcane growers and to study the relationship of selected characteristics of sugarcane growers with their level of knowledge about integrated pest disease management practices in Nandurbar district.

On the basis of the review of literature having direct and indirect bearing on the problem, conceptual framework was developed for the study and various concepts were operationalised suitably.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Shahada and Taloda Panchayat Samitees of Nandurbar district in Maharashtra state,

where the sugarcane production was comparatively on large area. From this Panchayat Samiti, 15 villages were selected on the basis of more area under sugarcane crop. The village wise list of sugarcane growers, cultivating sugarcane since, last three years was prepared with help of Shahada and Taloda Panchayat Samitees officers and talathi. Out of these lists 150 sugarcane growers were selected by proportionate random sampling.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the present study as well as relevant discussions have been presented under following sub heads:

Distributional analysis :

The study of personal, socio-economic and communication was made with reference to age, education, land holding, area under sugarcane, farming experience, annual income, socio-economic status and source of information. The results pertaining to the characteristics have been presented.

From the above table it was observed that majority of the sugarcane growers (48.67 %) represented middle age group, about half of the respondents (46.00 %) were educated up to high school level followed by one third of sugarcane growers