



Research Article

Attitude of farmers towards soil health card (SHC) programme

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Summary

The present study was conducted in five villages' viz., Gana, Mogari, Vadod, Gopalpura, Ravdapura and Bedhava of Anand district of Gujarat state to assess the attitude of farmers towards soil health card programme. A scale developed by Department of Extension Education to measure attitude of the farmers towards soil health card programme was used to measure attitude of the farmers. Total 100 farmers were approached personally by the investigators for the collection of relevant data. The study revealed that more than one third (35 per cent) of farmers had neutral attitude towards soil health card programme, while 20 per cent of farmers had strongly favourable attitude. Equal number (17 per cent) of farmers had unfavorable and strongly unfavorable attitude towards soil health card programme. Rest of them (11 per cent) had favourable attitude towards soil health card programme, respectively.

Key words : Attitude, Soil health card programme

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Introduction

Injudicious and haphazard use of chemical fertilizer in agriculture is a matter of concern in recent times. To avoid deterioration of soil in long run and visualizing the importance of balance nutrient in crop production, government of Gujarat commence soil health card programme. The soil health card (SHC) provides soil health data to get appropriate guidance to the farmers for the efficient use of fertilizer to cultivate crops based on soil health analysis. The SHC is a simple document, which contains useful data on soil based on chemical analysis of the soil to describe soil health in terms of its nutrient availability and its physical and chemical properties. The soil health card is made available online also for the farmers. To understand the feelings of the farmers against this system, there was an urgent need to study the degree of positive or negative disposition associated with farmer towards the usefulness and application of soil health card.

Hence, present study entitled attitude of the farmers towards soil health card programme was planned with following specific objectives.

- To study attitude of the farmers towards soil health card

programme.

- To study the constraints faced by the farmers in the adoption of soil health card.
- To study suggestions of the farmers to accelerate application of soil health card.

Resources and Research Methods

The present study was conducted in Anand district (GUJARAT). This district consists of 8 talukas. From which one taluka viz., Anand was selected purposively looking to the number of respondent having soil health card. Five villages having more number of respondents from the taluka were selected. A comprehensive list of all the respondents having SHC was obtained from e-dhara office of the respective villages. Thus, twenty respondents from each village were selected at random sample for the study. The data were collected through pre-tested gujarati version interview schedule. The data were tabulated and analyzed in light of the objectives to draw the meaningful conclusion. The statistical tools used for the analysis of the data were percentage, mean and standard deviation.