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Adoption pattern of improved cultivation practices of mustard

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan to find-out the adoption pattern of improved package technologies of mustard crop with a sample of 98 mustard growing farmers. The study found that almost all farmers (98%) used recommended variety and sowed their crop at normal time (95%) but 75 % of them used excess seed rate. 83 % of the farmers treated their seeds while only 51 % of them followed the recommended doses of manure and fertilizers. 22 % applied less fertilizers and 27 % of them opted for higher doses. No farmer used weedicide and 86 % of them opted for manual hoeing and weeding. 84 % farmers gave 2 irrigation and 9 % went for only one irrigation and the rest went for 3 irrigation. 73 % of the respondents followed plant protection measures. The average yield was found to be quite high (15 qtl/ha) in the selected villages under the study.

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Key words : Mustard, Improved production technology, Agronomic practices

INTRODUCTION

Mustard is the main oilseed cash crop being grown by farmers during *Rabi* season in Rajasthan. The State is a leading in the country ranked first in area and production of the mustard crop (Singh, 2005). Scientists have developed improved production technologies of this crop for obtaining higher production level. North western part of the state having assured irrigation facilities contributes a significant share in total production of this crop. Important technologies such as new varieties, agronomic practices and control measures for insect pest and diseases have been developed for zone 1-b. It is worth to know the adoption of these packages of practices by the farmers of the zone and also the constraints if any in adoption of the package. Primary data were collected in a set of schedule from the farmers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Sriganganagar to find-out the adoption pattern of package technologies developed

for mustard by Agricultural Research Station, Sriganganagar. Five villages namely- Jameetsinghwala, Odaki, Mirjewala, Netewala and Kundlawali of Sriganganagar were selected. A sample of 98 farmers covering various categories of farmers was taken to collect the data from the five selected villages of the district. The number of the farmers was chosen on the basis of area under mustard crop in these villages. Data collected in interview schedule developed for this purpose and analyzed as per objectives of the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study have presented on the basis of major sub-heads of the package of practices of the mustard. These are as follows. Variety, seed rate, seed treatment and sowing, manures and fertilizers, weed control, irrigation, plant protection and harvesting and yields.

Variety:

Majority of the farmers adopted recommended