



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Socio-economic correlates of insecticide usage by the Bt cotton farmers of Punjab

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SUMMARY : The present study was undertaken to analyse insecticide use pattern by the Bt cotton farmers of Punjab state. A total 150 cotton farmers were selected from three major cotton growing districts of the Punjab state. It was found that most of the respondents felt in the age group of 43 to 56 years and were matriculates. Nearly half of the respondents possessed the medium size of operational land holding. Majority of the farmers were found to have medium innovativeness and scientific orientation regarding Bt cotton cultivation. Study further revealed that on average, respondents had applied 8.91 insecticide sprays for management of various insect-pests on Bt cotton crop during the year 2015, incurring an expenditure of Rs. 8485/ha. Operational land holding and gross annual income were found to be positively and significantly related to total number of insecticide sprays whereas education level of the respondents had negative and significant relationship with total number of insecticide sprays used for management of insect-pests in Bt cotton.

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KEY WORDS :

Bt cotton, Insecticide use, Information sources, Chemical control, Adoption

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