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Role of Krishi Vigyan Kendra in technology transfer to create awareness on vermicompost technology

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ABSTRACT

Vermicomposting is a component of organic farming. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bijapur conducted training to farmers on vermicompost technology. The study revealed that, the training has a positive impact on the trained farmers in comparison to untrained farmers of the same village in gaining more knowledge on the vermicompost technology. Trained farmers had more specific knowledge on vermicompost making an ill-effect of chemical fertilizer on the soil, crop and human beings. Further, their educational qualification, media exposure and extension contacts had led them to think scientifically. These trained farmers expressed that they need some more training on subsidiary enterprises like dairy, goat and sheep rearing and bee keeping etc. to get some more additional income as they are dry land farmers.

Key words : Knowledge, Training, Training needs, Vermicompost technology.

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INTRODUCTION

Production of NPK fertilizers in India are less than the required quantity and it is estimated that about 5 to 7 million metric tonnes of NPK fertilizers would be the short fall in the next two decades (Bagyaraj, 2004). Organic manures such as vermicompost, compost and biofertilizers would form the source to bridge this concerning gap. Besides, the limitations of conventional agriculture, have driven the attention of Indian farmers to adopt alternate agricultural systems that are sustainable. Currently, we are facing the problem of decline in production year after year that is during 2004 it was 214 million tonnes while in 2005 it was 204 million tonnes. What we require today is to maintain present level of production and then increase slowly. Sustainability is lacking and key to sustainability is going for organic farming. Vermicomposting is a component of organic farming.

Training is an important input which will help farmers to practice techniques scientifically, Krishi Vigyan Kendras conduct trainings on different aspects to transfer technology. To bring sustainability in farm production through vermicomposting, the KVK, Bijapur is also giving training to farmers on vermicompost technology. Keeping this in view the present study was designed with the specific objectives to know the knowledge level of trained and untrained farmers on vermicompost technology, to know the correlation between socio-personel characteristics and knowledge level and to understand the training needs ofthe farmers.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in the jurisdiction of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bijapur. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bijapur was purposively selected to know the impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra training on farmers. A list of trainees who were undergone training on vermicompost technology was obtained from Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bijapur. Highest number of trainees were observed from six villages *viz.*, Yamal, Utnal, Telgi, Akalwadi, Managoli and Tikota and ten trained and ten untrained respondents from each of these villages were randomly selected. Thus, the total sample of the study constituted 120 respondents. A teacher made test was developed to test the knowledge level and training needs of the trainees. The data were collected through personal interview method and the same was analysed with the help of frequency, percentage and simple correlation tests. The results obtained are presented below.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results presented in Table 1 revealed that a majority of trained farmers had medium knowledge (53.33%) as compared to untrained