

A study of knowledge of the grape growers about recommended grape production technology and suggestions to overcome the adoption gap from Barshi tahsil of Solapur district

S.S. DHAKANE, P.G. KHALACHE AND J.H. GAIKWAD

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

S.S.DHAKANE
Department of
Extension Education,
Post Graduate
Institute, Mahatma
Phule Krishi
Vidyapeeth, Rahuri,
AHMEDNAGAR
(M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

The study revealed that majority (87.33 %) of the grape growers were completely knowing about the recommended type of soil, preparatory tillage (88.00 %) root stock used for grape cultivation (79.33 %), selection of improved varieties (94.66 %), planting time (92.66 %), planting distance and direction (48.00 %), imparting training to the grape orchards (97.33 %), pruning in grape (98.66 %). The practical knowledge regarding control measures of insects pest and diseases was one of the major suggestions made by a majority of the grape growers. They also expressed that adequate provision for obtaining remunerative prices be made and information about market prices of different markets should be made available to them, were the suggestions made by a majority of grape growers.

INTRODUCTION

Grape [*Vitis vinifera* (L.)] is an important fruit crop of the world. It is one of delicious refreshing and nourishing fruit crop. The crop is native of subtropical zone between 34° north and 40° south latitude where the culture is most successful. The crop is mainly grown for wine making to a limited extent for preparation of raisins and to certain extent for Table purpose. However, grape growing in India is mostly for Table purpose.

In Maharashtra, grapes are grown in Nashik, Sangli, Jalgaon, Pimpalgaon, Tasgaon, Solapur, Naryangaon, Pune, Junnar and Satara. The grapes from Baramati in Maharashtra arrive in the market in December, from Narayangaon in February, from Pune in March and from Nasik in May. Maharashtra is alone accounting for about 55 % area under grape cultivation. The state is leading in India in area and productivity of grape. It was realized that the average productivity is more than the average productivity of the state. This means that there is need to promote and maintain the grape production technology among the grape growers. This indicates that there is need to know their existing level of knowledge and extent of adoption for deciding the future strategy in respect of promoting the grape

production technology. In view of this the study was conducted to assess the knowledge of the grape growers about recommended grape production technology and to obtain the suggestions made by the respondents to overcome the constraints faced by them in the adoption of recommended grape production technology.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Barshi tahsil of Solapur district comprising of 136 revenue villages. The study was carried out because the grape is extensively grown in Barshi tahsil over an area of 740 ha. The list of grape growing village was obtained from TAO. From this list 15 villages were selected on the basis of maximum area under grape cultivation purposively. Among these villages the list of grape growers was prepared, arranged and classified into different strata on the basis of the area under grape cultivation. Out of 270 grape growers from the selected villages a sample of 150 grape growers was drawn by proportionately. An interview schedule based on the objectives of the study was prepared in local language The data were collected with the help of pre-designed interview schedule by contacting the grape

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