

## Study of knowledge and adoption level of the brinjal growers about recommended technology and constraints in Rahuri tahsil of Ahmednagar district

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### ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Rahuri tahsil of Ahmednagar district. From Rahuri tahsil, 15 villages were selected in which. Randomly 120 respondents were selected for the present study. Majority of the respondent brinjal growers were aware about the selection of soil varieties and seed rate. Almost all brinjal growers were aware about the time of transplanting and method of planting. As regard the application of fertilizer viz., 100 : 75 : 45 kg NPK/ha, split into two parts i.e. 100 : 50 : 50 kg NPK and 50 kg N/ha was known by 60.00, 40.83, 28.33 % of the respondent brinjal growers, respectively. Major constraints faced by the respondent brinjal growers were lack of labour, unavailability of insecticides and pesticides, high cost of chemical fertilizer, more labour charges, lower prices and price fluctuation in the market, lack of knowledge of technical know how and lack of knowledge about application of chemical fertilizers.

### INTRODUCTION

Vegetable growing is an effective instrument for generating greater income per unit of area, additional employment, provision of nutritive and proteinous diet and diversification of cropping pattern. A vegetable plays a very crucial role in human diet. The main vegetable crops grown in Maharashtra are; onion, chilli, brinjal, methi, palak, tomato, cabbage etc. Among these vegetables brinjal is the most popular vegetable crop. Brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) is a commercial vegetable crop belongs to the family of Solanaceae. It is an annual crop. It is mainly used for culinary purpose. It is a good source of vit. A, C and B like thiamine and riboflavin and also small quantities of other ingredients like carbohydrates, protein, fibres etc. Pickles and industrially processed foods are also produced. In India, the total area under the cultivation of brinjal crop is 507.30 thousand hectares with the total production of 8001.20 thousand tonnes (Anonymous, 2006).

Maharashtra is the leading state of India for brinjal with the total area of 37 thousand hectares and the total production of 5.88 lakh metric tonnes. In Maharashtra brinjal is mainly grown in *kharif* and *rabi* seasons but it is also grown in summer season wherever the

irrigation facilities are available. Ahmednagar, Nashik, Jalgaon and Pune are important brinjal growing districts in Maharashtra. It has been observed found that the social science has given mainly emphasis towards the adoption of cultivation practices of different areas like pomology and floriculture. The present investigation has been taken for study purpose with the following objectives to study the extent of knowledge and adoption level of the brinjal growers about the recommended technology and to identify the constraints faced by the brinjal growers from the sample areas.

### METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Rahuri tahsil of Ahmednagar district. The Rahuri tahsil is situated in the central part of Maharashtra. The list of brinjal growing villages of Rahuri tahsil was obtained from the Taluka Agril. Officer. There are 95 villages in Rahuri tahsil out of these 15 villages were selected randomly From Rahuri tahsil of Ahmednagar district for the study purpose on the basis of maximum area under brinjal crop. Eight brinjal growers from each village were selected randomly and hence, in all 15 villages and 120 respondents were selected for the present study. The structured interview schedule served as a basic

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