

Extent of adoption of recommended technology by the chilli growers in Tunga Bhadra project area of Bellary district of Karnataka

R.H. HANUMANAIKAR, S.N. JADHAV AND K.V. ASHALATHA

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

R.H. HANUMANAIKAR

Department of
Extension Education,
University of
Agricultural Sciences,
DHARWAD
(KARNATAKA)
INDIA

ABSTRACT

A study was conducted on adoption behaviour of chilli growers in Tunga Bhadra Project (TBP) area of Bellary District revealed that, majority of the respondents adopted recommended variety, sowing time, irrigation as per the recommendation. Almost all the respondents adopted application of chemical fertiliser and plant protection measures more than the recommendation. Majority of the respondents possessed radio and only few respondents possessed television. Over all participation of the respondents in social organization, mass media and extension activities was low.

INTRODUCTION

Chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.) is universal spice of India. It is one of the important commercial crops in India. Chilli also called, as red pepper, is an important condiment crop, grown for its pungent fruits, which are used, both as green and ripe to impart pungency to food. Chilli is good source of vitamin C, A and B. Oleoresins and essential oils of chilli which are the active principal contents, providing characteristics pungency, flavour and aroma have a number of uses in the pharmaceutical, food and beverage industries. The important chilli growing states are Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Orissa. The chilli is also exported to Srilanka, Kuwait, Nepal, United States of America, Russia and other countries. The area and production of dry chilli in Karnataka is 1.61 lakh hectares and 0.95 lakh million tonnes of dry chilli, respectively. In Tungabhadra command area of Bellary district, chilli crop is grown by a large number of farmers with an area of 16,880 hectares and production of 17,393 tonnes, due to Tungabhadra canal water irrigation facilities, high yielding potential, adoptability to wide range of climatic conditions and high market prices. It is becoming popular with the farming community.

In general, all the farmers do not accept new farm practices at the same time and to the same extent. The higher agricultural production can be achieved by cumulative effect of the adoption of improved package of practices by large number of farmers. But the adoption behaviour of the farmers depends on personal, social, psychological and economic aspects. So, understanding of these multidimensional aspects may pave the way for understanding the complex phenomenon of diffusion of technology, leading to adoption in a sustained manner.

The information on the extent of adoption of recommended practices of chilli crop by the farmers, extent of farmers participation in mass media, social organization and extension activities would help to manipulate the variable which is not being tapped by the farmers, but contribute sufficiently to get higher yields. However, much empirical evidence on the cultivation behaviour of chilli growers of different areas is not available. In this background, the research study on adoption of recommended practices of chilli was conducted in Tungabhadra Command Area of Bellary District with the following specific objectives to find out the extent of adoption of recommended cultivation practices of chilli and to study the extent of farmers participation in

Key words :

Adoption, recommended technology, Socio-economic characters, Chilli growers

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