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Constraints and suggestions of chickpea growers in adoption of its production technology

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ABSTRACT

To find out the constraints perceived and suggestions to overcome the constraints by the farmers, the study was planned and conducted. Looking to this fact, the present study was undertaken on a purposive sampling of 112 chickpea growers of Khadak malegaon Village of Niphad tahsil of Nashik District of Maharashtra with the objectives to study the personal and socio-economic profile and to ascertain the constraints and suggestions of chickpea growers in adopting its production technology. The study revealed that most of the respondents were from middle age group *i.e.* between 26 to 45 years, received education up to Higher Secondary, size of land holding between 4.01 to 7.00 acres. Majority (54.46 per cent) of the chickpea growers were having farming experience between 9 years to 17 years, having medium social participation and annual income between Rs. 75,551 to Rs. 1,50,765. The highly perceived constrains in adoption of recommended cultivation practices of chickpea faced by the farmers were high cost of seed, non availability of improved seed, high cost of fertilizers and resistance of pod borer. The major suggestions of the chickpea growers were regular supply of electricity (100 per cent), timely availability of improved seed (92.85 per cent), assured availability of bio-fertilizers and bio-fungicide (87.50 per cent).

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INTRODUCTION

India ranks first in respect of total production of pulses in the world. But in case of productivity it ranks 112. This shows that India is far behind as compared to world productivity. It also indicates the potential in increasing the productivity. Major pulse crops grown in Maharashtra are chickpea, pigeonpea, urdbean, etc. Among these pulse crops, chickpea is the most important crop grown in *rabi* season. The chickpea (*Cicer arietinum*) is also known as gram, Bengal gram.

Chickpea is cultivated on 9.89 million hectares of land all over the world. Total production is 7.80 million tons. India's contribution in respect of area in the world is 61.55 per cent while, contribution in chickpea production is 69.13 percent. Maharashtra ranks 4th position in area and production in the country. The productivity of Maharashtra is only 595 kg/ha. The total area under chickpea in Maharashtra is 7,56,000 ha and it is 12.40 per cent of total chickpea area in India. The total chickpea area in Nashik district is 28,200 ha, total production is 14000 metric tons and productivity is 497 kg/ha. The figure itself depicts the huge gap between production potential and actual production and productivity.

Front Line Demonstrations on chickpea were implemented in Khadak Malegaon village since last 3 years by KVK, Nashik. All the farmers do not adopt the recommended crop production technologies at the same time and at the same rate. With this background, the present investigation was undertaken to assess the constraints and suggestions of chickpea growers in adopting the recommended chickpea production technology.

METHODOLOGY

The reason attributed to the purposive selection of Khadak Malegaon village was that every scientific study brings its implications, which may prove very useful for planners and implementers. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nashik has adopted the village for its different programme implementation. Front line Demonstration on oilseed and pulses is one of the mandates of the KVKs. Every developmental activity measured in terms of its extent of impact on the intended group. Therefore, Khadak Malegaon village from Nashik district of Maharashtra was purposively selected for the study. Among the total 112 chickpea-growing farmers, all the farmers were selected for the present study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Personal profile:

The data on personal profile are presented