

Technological gap- An emerging issues in transfer of custard apple production technology

J.H. GAIKWAD AND P.G. KHALACHE

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Purandar Tahsil of Pune district, in all 15 villages on random basis were selected on the basis of more acres under plantation. From each village, 9 respondents were selected on the same criteria hence in all 135 respondents were interviewed. It was found that about 75 per cent of the custard apple cultivators were in between the age of 34 to 55 years. 62 per cent of them were Secondary educated. About 60 per cent had low level of social participation. Their orchard size was 0.29 to 0.94 ha. (88.00 per cent), 74 per cent of them earned Rs. 1 lakh to 2 lakh per annum earning from custard apple cultivation. Disease management (64 per cent), pest management (63 per cent), fertilizer management (63 per cent), selection of planting material (61 per cent) training and pruning management (61 per cent), weed management (50 per cent). The reasons for existence of technological gap was scarcity of irrigation water during Bahar treatment period (91 per cent), lack of knowledge about recommended chemical fertilizer dose (90 per cent) and unavailability of disease pest and drought resistant variety (85 per cent). The study emerged with the major implications that to promote the respondent cultivars for establishing the processing units and markets on co-operative basis.

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

J.H. GAIKWAD

Department of
Extension Education,
Mahatma Phule Krishi
Vidyapeeth,
RahurI, AHMEDNAGAR
(M.S.) INDIA

INTRODUCTION

The custard apple mostly consumed as table fruit, is grown in India over a vast area. It is a very delicious fruit belonging to the family Anonaceae, which is also known as, sitaphal, serifera, sugar apple and sweet sop. It is predominantly grown in Andrapradesh, Tamilnadu, Assam, Orissa and Maharashtra. It contains Vitamin C. its pulp is used in ice-cream and preparation of Shrikhand, custard apple powder, milk product, jam etc. Its immature fruits, seeds, leaves and roots are of considerable medicinal values both in Ayurvedic and Unani system of medicinal value both in tropical and subtropical region in the country and abroad the world. The average yield of custard apple is of 80 to 100 fruits per plant. Very less study has been conducted on custard apple production technology in particular. The present study is mainly focused on studying socio-economic profile of custard apple cultivators, to find out the technological gap in custard apple production technology, to ascertain the reasons for existence of technological gap in cultivation practices adopted by custard apple cultivators, to identify the constraints faced by them in production and marketing of the produce of custard apple. Now-a-days, custard apple is one of the most

important fruit crops in Purandhar Taluka of Pune district. This is because extension-cum resource gap for developing strategy to overcome this gap, it is essential to have an analysis of constraints of rating area are identified and appropriate solutions to overcome these constraints are formulated the production per unit area can be increased. In view of this the present investigation was carried out on custard apple production technology with the following specific objectives : to study the profile of custard apple cultivars, to study the extent of technological gap in custard apple production technology and to study the post harvest technology followed by the custard apple cultivars and to identify the constraints and suggestion made by the custard apple cultivars.

METHODOLOGY

There are 96 villages in Purander Tahsil. On the basis of area under custard apple orchard, only 15 villages were selected on random sample and from each selected village the list of custard apple growers was prepared and from each selected village 9 custard apple growers were selected randomly on the basis of area under custard apple plantation with the condition that the cultivartors should have an experience of 5 years harvesting from his

Key words :
Technological gap, Emerging issues, Custard apple production, Transfer of technology

Accepted :
June, 2010