



Factors affecting technological gap of cotton growers in recommended cotton production technology

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in the Vadodara district of Gujarat which is well known district for the cotton cultivation in the state. The study has focused on factors affecting technological gap of cotton growers in adoption of cotton production technology. A sample of 120 farmers of 12 villages was included by random sampling and their responses were analyzed with relevant tools. Findings of the study revealed that independent variables viz., education, annual income, scientific orientation, risk preference, economic motivation and knowledge had negative and significant correlation with overall technological gap of cotton growers.

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INTRODUCTION

Cotton is one of the most important cash crops grown by the farmers of our country. Gujarat is one of the major cotton producing states of the country. Cotton is cultivated as a major commercial crop, in almost all the districts of Gujarat state. Amongst this, Vadodara, Surendranagar, Ahmadabad, Bhavnagar, Bharuch, Kheda, Surat, Rajkot, Junagadh and Kutch districts are the major cotton producing districts (Anonymous, 2008).

Main cotton research station Surat has recommended various recommended cotton production technologies and which are being communicated to the cotton growers through various extension agencies like transfer of technology centres of SAUs, State Department of Agriculture and non-government of organizations.

The adoption or acceptance of recommended agricultural technology is a unit that acts but a complex process is involving in the sequence and thought of action. The action of individual farmers is governed by personal, social, economic, psychological and cultural factors involved in situation. Some farmers adopt new agricultural technology more quickly

than others because of the difference in personal characteristics. Thus, in nutshell it may be stated that the adoption of recommended technology differs when there are difference in personal, socio-economic and psychological characteristics of respondents. Hence, considering the importance of these characteristics and review of past research studies, an attempt has been made in this investigation to ascertain the relationship if any, between personal, socio-economic and psychological characteristics of the cotton growers and their technological gap in adoption of cotton production technology.

METHODOLOGY

Vadodara district was purposively selected for the study because it has maximum area under cotton cultivation. Dabhoi and Karjan Talukas were selected purposively for study because it is productivity potential region of cotton crop and have maximum area under cotton cultivation due to favourable soil and climate condition. Six villages from each Taluka having the maximum area under cotton cultivation were selected randomly. A proportionate random sampling technique was followed for selection of respondents. Thus,

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