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Technological gap in adoption of cotton production technology

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in the Vadodara district of Gujarat, a well-known district for the cotton cultivation in state. The study has focused on technological gap in adoption of cotton production technology. A sample of 120 farmers of 12 villages was selected by random sampling and their responses were analyzed with relevant tools. Study revealed that majority (61.66 per cent) of respondent cotton growers had medium technological gap in cotton cultivation, followed by low (17.51 per cent) and high (20.83 per cent) technological gap in cotton cultivation.

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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 nation, which covers about 22829 hundred ha area with 76101 hundred million tones productions. Cotton is cultivated as 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 cotton production technologies and are being communicated to the cotton growers through various extension agenesis like transfer of technology centres of SAUs, State Department of Agriculture and Non-Government of Organizations. However, it is observed that there is a wide gap in adoption of technologies. Personal, social, economic and psychological factors of the farmers influence for non-adoption of farm technology. Looking to the importance and urgency of the problem the study was undertaken with the objective: to identify the technological gap in adoption of cotton production technology among the cotton growers.

METHODOLOGY

Vadodara district was purposively selected for the study because it has the maximum area under cotton cultivation. Dabhoi and Karjan Talukas were selected purposively for study because it is the productivity potential region of cotton crop that have maximum area under cotton cultivation due to assured irrigation facility and 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. There after 10 per cent farmers of each village were selected randomly in such a manner that there would be proportionate to total size of farmers in respective selected villages. Thus total 120 cotton growing farmers were selected as respondents from twelve villages of two Taluka.The technological gap index in each of the selected practices was calculated by the formula developed by Dubey *et al.* (1981). In light of the objectives, pre-tested well-structured interview schedule was prepared in Gujarati version. Required information was collected through personal interview technique. Collected information was analyzed with appropriate statistical tools like percentage,