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#### Research Article

# Performance of front line demonstrations organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendras

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Received: 14.12.2011; Revised: 25.01.2012; Accepted: 29.03.2012 **SUMMARY:** The present investigation was conducted in ten Krishi Vigyan Kendras under the jurisdiction of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri (M.S.) to access the impact of front line demonstrations on the beneficiaries of Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The results of study revealed that FLDs have positive impact on the beneficiaries in respect of change in their cropping pattern, yield and productivity levels of crops and overall gain was always more. It was observed that FLD programme is an effective tool for increasing the productivity and yield of the crops. The demonstration also acts as source of information for other farmers. Cultivation created greater awareness and motivation to the other farmers to adopt the appropriate production technology. Therefore, it is suggested that every KVK should organize maximum number of FLDs and more coverage needs to be given to various categories of farming communities by following the ICAR norms.

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## **Key Words**:

Front line demonstrator, K.V.K., Performance

# BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the philosophy of Transfer of Technology (TOT) has devoted a Frontline Extension Activity system being organized and conducted by the agricultural scientists with the aim of demonstrating promptly latest agricultural technologies to the farmers and extension workers, testing and verifying the technologies in the socioeconomic conditions of the farmers and getting the first hand feedback to reorient the research, education and training systems. To achieve these objectives, a number of transfer of technology projects have been sponsored by the ICAR viz., All India Co-coordinated Project on National Demonstrations (AICPND), Operational Research Project (ORP), Lab to Land programme (LLP) and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Farm Science Centre )from time to time.

However, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1992 all the above first line transfer of technology projects of the ICAR *viz.*, ND, ORP and LLP have been merged under the concept of KVK. In the reorganized system, the major mandates of the KVK are to

conduct the need based activities *viz.*, training programmes, front line demonstrations, on farm trials and extension activities.

The KVK organize front line demonstrations which aim at demonstrating the production potentialities of newly released and pre-released production technologies of cereals, pulses and oilseeds on farmer's fields. These are called front line demonstrations because the technologies are demonstrated for the first time before being fed into the main extension system. The KVK has also been given the responsibility of conducting at least some good integrated farming system demonstrations which would serve as model for extension agencies. From the FLD, it is possible to generate some data related to factors contributing to higher yield and also constraints of production under various farming situations. Field day is conducted at the demonstration field when the crop is at maturity stage and interaction between the scientists, farmers and extension functionaries takes place at the spot itself. The crop is harvested in the presence of the interested group of farmers so that they can visualize the

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