



Research Article

## Role of front line demonstrations on transfer of pulses production technologies in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu

■ P. SUMATHI

Article Chronicle :

**Received :**  
02.12.2011;

**Revised :**  
04.01.2012;

**Accepted :**  
10.01.2012

**SUMMARY :** Under centrally sponsored scheme on oilseeds and pulses production technology KVK, Vellore has conducted front line demonstrations on farmers fields. During the period from 2005 to 2010 in all 90 demonstrations were conducted on the pulse production technology to transfer the latest technologies among the farmers of Vellore district. The findings in respect of greengram and blackgram overall yield trend of demonstrations ranged from 7.82 to 9.15 q/ha and 8.15 to 9.25 q/ha and yield increase ranged from 31.25 per cent to 51.01 per cent and 21.86 per cent to 54.68 per cent over the local practices yield. Obviously, this can be attributed to improved technology as well as improved varieties. The yield levels were considerably low under local practices because of considerable variations in the extent of adoption of recommended package of practices depending upon the amount of risk involved in terms of cost, convenience, skill and knowledge about the concerned practice. The productivity was better over local practice under demonstrations. Hence, pulses production technology have a broad scope for increasing the area and productivity of pulses at each and every level *i.e.*, Farmers, State and National level.

**How to cite this article :** Sumathi, P. (2012). Role of front line demonstrations on transfer of pulses production technologies in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu. *Agric. Update*, 7(1&2):47-50.

Key Words :

Pulses, Impraed varieties, Front line demonstration

### **BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES**

Over a period of time, a number of improved pulses varieties and production technologies have been developed, but full potential of these varieties as well as technologies could not be exploited due to low rate of adoption and low yields. Thus, factors limiting the productivity can not be overlooked. Research and extension programmes need to be diverted to produce value additive pulses. It may emphasize on quality attributes, adoption and popularization of new agro technology, evolving better varieties for stress conditions and improving present yield potential. The aim of these devices in general is to raise production through transfer of farm technology. The efforts were taken with planning, execution and follow up action of the pulses production technology through front line demonstrations, the present investigation was therefore undertaken to ascertain the role of these demonstrations in importance of pulses production technology in

increasing the yield.

Pulses are the major source of protein in Asia – compared to cereals, oilseeds and other crops. Production of pulses has increased at a much slower rate over the last two decades. In India, out of total food grain production of 220 million tonnes, pulses constitute a meager share of 16 million. tons in 2002-2003. Pulses production in the country has been stagnant between 10 and 14 million tonnes inspite of continued efforts both by farmers and authorities. According to Chowdhury (2000), the pulses output was stagnating around 10-14 million tonnes for the past four decades. Pulses production is mostly from the crop raised under rainfed conditions. Cultivation of pulses in marginal lands, limited area of pulses under irrigated conditions, limited high yielding responsive varieties, pests and diseases and processing loss upto 6-8 per cent are some of the problems in the stagnation of pulses production over decades.

Author for correspondence :

**P. SUMATHI**  
Sugarcane Research  
Station (T.N.A.U.)  
Melalathur  
VELLORE (T.N.)  
INDIA  
Email:  
sumathiperiyasamy  
@yahoo.co.in