



Research Article

Adoption of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) recommended practices

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SUMMARY : Present investigation was carried out in four KVK's under State Agricultural Universities of Maharashtra state to know the profile of the respondents, adoption of recommended practices of KVK and their relation with their profile. Keeping the objectives in mind, the list of beneficiaries was obtained from KVK which acts as beneficiary population. Fifty beneficiaries from each course were selected by using nth number method. Same numbers of non-beneficiary respondents were randomly selected from outside the population. Thus, 150 beneficiaries and 150 non-beneficiaries formed the sample for the study. The respondents were personally interviewed with a well-structured and pre-tested interview schedule. From the study it was observed that most of the respondents were middle aged, educated up to Higher Secondary and College level, with medium land holding farming experience and annual income, agriculture + business as their occupation. Whereas socio-economic status, economic motivation, infrastructural facilities, sources of information of the respondents and knowledge about selected KVK recommended practices had shown extent of their existence up to medium level. Majority of the respondents were found in medium level adoption of organic manures and pesticides, sweet orange cultivation practices and dairy animals management practices. In case of correlation coefficient, education, land holding, annual income, socio-economic status, economic motivation, infrastructural facilities, sources of information, knowledge and attitude towards KVK of the beneficiaries were having significant and positive relationship with all the selected courses. While socio-economic status, economic motivation, knowledge and attitude towards KVK were significant contributors for adoption of KVK recommended practices. Data were analysed by using mean, percentage, frequency, correlation and multiple regression.

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

In the post GATT scenario, scientific transformation of agriculture is an important pre-requisite for rural development. To propel Indian agriculture into 21st century the quality, technical skills and management of agriculture manpower must improve in consonance with rapidly changing national and global market needs. If any organization wishes to assume a leadership role, it has no option but to strengthen its human resource base. The ICAR is fully seized of this issue and hence is providing highest priority to the human resource development of farmers. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (Farm Science Centres) play key role for training to the farmers about agricultural technology. Evaluation of Krishi Vigyan Kendra gives facts, comprehension and

adaptation of training strategies to make them more useful for the farmers.

The major goal of the research has been to identify the factors which influence the adoption behaviour of the KVK beneficiaries. The knowledge of which will help extension agents, KVK officials to develop appropriate strategy to increase adoption of KVK recommended practices. The present study examined the adoption process among the beneficiary and non-beneficiary farmers in respect of selected KVK recommended practices viz., adoption of organic manures and pesticides, adoption of sweet orange cultivation practices and dairy animals management practices.

Therefore, the present study was undertaken with the following specific objectives in view:

- To study the personal, psychological, socio-economical and situational characteristics of

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