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Impact analysis of field demonstrations of different temperate vegetables in Kullu Valley

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SUMMARY : The present study was carried out to know the yield gaps between improved package and practices (IP) and farmers practice (FP) of different temperate vegetables. Yield variations were quite large during the year 2007-2011. In total 265 front line demonstrations were conducted during the period on improved package and practices (IP) v/s farmers practices (FP). The averages per cent increase in yield of IP over FP were in cauliflower (22.72), cabbage (22.34), capsicum (21.77) and carrot (21.76). The range of per cent increase over FP was observed in cauliflower from 19.80 to 24.33, cabbage from 20.64 to 25.12, capsicum from 19.53 to 22.77 and in carrot from 19.90 to 25.25 with IP. Newly developed varieties/hybrids have added advantage in cauliflower from 20.10 to 31.79, cabbage from 23.69 to 31.95, capsicum from 38.55 to 49.39 and in carrot from 28.35 to 37.29 per cent higher yield as compared to the existing cultivars.

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Key Words :

Field demonstration, Improved package and practices (IPP), Farmer practice (FP)

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The vegetables are the most important to the human diet for better health, because they possess high nutritive value and are rich source of carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins and minerals. The selection of field demonstrations area in Kullu Valley of Himachal Pradesh was due to the very good conditions for temperate vegetable production of the same. Hence, the area was suitable for both that the vegetable production and their breeding for most of the temperate types of vegetables. The summer being mild is suitable for many sub-tropical important vegetables. Still in this area, the vegetable production is low, because the improved cultivation practices are not adopted by the vegetable growers for high production by adopting the improved package of practices at their own field.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

Field demonstrations in temperate vegetables were conducted from *Kharif* 2007 to *Kharif* 2011 at various fields' locations *i.e.* in Hurla, Tharas, Mathogi, Bara Bhuin and Zia in order to demonstrate the production potential benefits of latest technologies *vis-à-vis* traditional farming practices. The purpose of these field demonstrations was to know the yield gap between field demonstrations and farmers field and to find out the reasons for low yield and specific constraints with the small farmers. The information on output data and inputs used per Bigha was collected from the field demonstration's trails. Yield gap was calculated by using the following formula:

Yield of field demonstration - Yield of farmers field

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The data in Table 1 showed that the yield variations were quite large during the year 2007-2011. In total 265 front line demonstrations were conducted during the period on improved package and practices (IP) v/s farmers practices (FP). The averages percent increase in yield of IP over FP was in cauliflower (22.72), cabbage (22.34), capsicum (21.77) and carrot (21.76). The range of