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Research Article

Impact of improved technologies and pest-disease management on productivity of Indian mustard

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SUMMARY : To study the impact of pest-disease management and improved technologies on mustard crop, a series of front line demonstration's (FLD,s) and on farm testing (OFTs) were conducted at farmer's fields (126) starting from 2005-06 to 2009-10 in Rajsamand district of Semi Arid Zone IVa of Rajasthan state during *Rabi* seasons in irrigated farming situation. Four technologies *viz*., improved variety Bio-902/ Vasundhara (T_1), aphid management by early sowing (up to 15th October) and one spray of malathion 50 EC @ 1.25 l/ha or dimethoate 30 EC @ 875 ml/ha (T_2), disease (Alternaria blight and rust) management by seed treatment with mencozeb @ 2.5 g/ kg seed and one spray of mencozeb @ 2.0 kg/ha at 45 days after sowing (T_3) and fertilizers application @ 60 kg N, 40 kg P_2O_5 and 250 kg gypsum/ ha.(T_4). The results revealed that aphid management over rest of the technologies with highest increase in grain yield (34.37 %) followed by use of improved variety, fertilizers management and disease management with an increase of 31.90, 24.90 and 16.04 per cent, respectively. The use of improved variety had highest cost benefit ratio (4.19) followed by aphid management (3.22), fertilizer management (2.03) and disease management (1.55). The productivity of mustard per unit area could be increased by adopting feasible scientific and sustainable management practices with suitable sustainable technologies.

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