

Constraints faced by the rice growers in adopting recommended summer rice cultivation practices in Raigad (M.S.)

R.G. TAMBAT AND S.S. SHINDEDESAI

S.P. College of Agriculture, Kharawate -Dahiwali, Chiplun, RATNAGIRI (M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Karjat, Roha and Mangaon tahsils of Raigad district of Konkan region. The sample was constituted 150 rice growers drawn from 15 villages. The respondents were interviewed with the help of a specially designed schedule. The exploratory survey design was used for the present study. A major constraint faced by the respondents in adopting summer rice cultivation practices were 'lack of knowledge' was the major constraint as reported in 23 practices. The second major constraint was 'do not feel it necessary' observed in 12 practices. Another two important constraints were 'lack of time' and 'requires more labour' as found in 8 and 5 sub practices. The best varieties in order were GPU 28 and GPU 45 which registered the grain yield of 1753 kg ha⁻¹ and 1685 kg ha⁻¹, respectively.

Key words : Constraints, Rice growers,

INTRODUCTION

Rice [*Oryza sativa* (L.)] commanded recognition as a supreme commodity to mankind, because rice is truly life, culture, a tradition and a means of livelihood to millions of people all over the world. It is the staple food of nearly half of the world population. It is not only a cereal crop, but also a way of life in Asian countries. It contributes about 40 to 70 per cent of the population's total calorie intake. Hence, sustained production and increased productivity of rice crop is critical for food and nutritional security in Asia.

Rice production in India in the year 2004-05 was 83.130 million tonnes, which is projected at a record 91.00 million tonnes in the year 2006-07. Summer rice was cultivated on an area of about 205 metric ha with total production of 490 metric tonnes in the year 2004-05 in Maharashtra. Konkan region accounts for summer rice area of about 154 metric ha with total production of 371 metric tonnes in the year 2004-05. (www.agri.mah.nic.in).

Among the four districts of Konkan region, Raigad is the major rice producing district which accounts for 55.19 per cent area and 57.41 per cent production of summer rice in Konkan region. According to 2004-05 estimates, in Raigad district, summer rice occupied about 85 metric ha area with the production of 213 metric tonnes. The data with respect to constraints faced by the summer rice growers are scanty. Hence, the study was undertaken to ascertain constraints perceived by the farmers in adopting recommended summer rice cultivation practices.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Raigad district of the Konkan region. Among the four districts of Konkan

region, Raigad is the major summer rice producing district. Three Tehsils were selected based on the maximum area under summer rice cultivation. From each Tehsil, five villages were randomly selected. Thus, a total of 15 villages were selected. From each selected village list of summer rice growers was obtained from Agricultural Assistant of the selected villages. From the list ten summer rice growers were selected randomly, thus, making a sample of 150 rice growers. An interview schedule was prepared, so as to collect the information in line with the objectives of the study. Personal interview technique was used for data collection. Then the data collected were analyzed with suitable statistical

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints faced by the rice growers in adopting recommended summer rice cultivation practices:

With the close observation of the above Table 1 it can be concluded that at overall level 'lack of knowledge' was the major constraint as reported in 23 practices. This constraint accounts about 47.33 per cent of them. The second major constraint was 'do not feel it necessary' observed in 12 practices accounting about 43.33 per cent. Another two important constraints were 'lack of time' and 'requires more labour' as found in 8 and 5 sub practices accounting 44.00 per cent and 46.67 per cent, respectively. The analysis indicated that the summer rice growers requires technical knowledge in important practices of summer rice like, 'seed treatment', 'use of weedicides', 'use of pest and disease resistant varieties', 'use of medicines against pests and diseases of rice'. Further, the summer rice growers do not feel the certain practices like, 'fungicidal seed treatment', 'destruction of eggs and