



Research Paper

Knowledge and adoption of sapota growers in Thane district

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ABSTRACT : The study was conducted in two Tahsils of Thane district having maximum area under sapota cultivation by interviewing fifty farmers. It was observed that two third of the respondents had 'high' knowledge level and nearly one third respondents had 'low' knowledge level about recommended practices of sapota. Majority of the respondents had 'medium' adoption level, while very less respondents had 'low' and 'high' adoption level. Maximum farmers had knowledge about all the practices. Major constraints were found in the manuring and fertilizer application, irrigation, plant protection and in harvesting.

KEY WORDS : Knowledge, Adoption, Major constraints

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INTRODUCTION

Thane is the sapota growing district in the Konkan region. This district is in close vicinity and is immediately surrounded by the metropolitan city of Mumabi. The area and production is increasing day by day. The plantation is increasing but not on scientific ground. Hence, the study was proposed with the following objectives :

– To access the knowledge and adoption of the sapota growers about recommended practices of sapota, to know the constraints experienced by the sapota growers in adoption of improved cultivation practices.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in two Tahsils of Thane district having maximum area under sapota cultivation. Fifty farmers from two Tahsils were interviewed. Data collection was done by personal interview. Statistics tools like averages, frequencies were used for analysis of the study.

RESULTS AND DATA ANALYSIS

The findings of the present study are presented under the following heads.

Knowledge and adoption of the sapota growers about recommended practices of sapota :

The information about knowledge and adoption of the sapota growers about recommended practices of sapota is presented in Table 1 and 2, respectively.

It is seen from Table 1 that two third (66.00 per cent) of the respondents had 'high' knowledge level and 34.00 per cent respondents had 'low' knowledge level about recommended practices of sapota. The average knowledge quotient was 95.23. The result is similar so the findings of Misal (2002) and Singh (2005).

It is seen from Table 2 that majority (76.00 per cent) of the respondents had 'medium' adoption level, while 14.00 and 10.00 per cent respondents had 'low' and 'high' adoption level, respectively. The average adoption quotient was 66.74. The results are similar so the findings of Misal (2002) and Singh (2005).

The practicewise knowledge and adoption of sapota growers is depicted in Table 3.

From Table 2, it is revealed that, majority of the farmers (80.00 per cent to 100.00 per cent) had knowledge about all the practices. Full adoption about soil type (88.00 per cent), varieties (100.00 per cent), spacing in sapota (58.00 per cent), pests of sapota (90.00 per cent), diseases (90.00 per cent), causes of