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Yield gap analysis in chilli production technology

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ABSTRACT : Frontline demonstrations were conducted in Haveri district of Karnataka with objective of study on yield gap analysis in chilli production technology. Chilli is one of the important commercial crops in Karnataka, which plays a major role in supplementing the income to small and marginal farmers of Haveri district in Northern Karnataka. One of the major constraints of traditional chilli farming is low productivity due to non-adoption of recommended package of practices and inferior seeds. To solve these problems frontline demonstrations on chilli were conducted in adopted villages of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumanamatti in Haveri district. The impact of varieties on yield data indicates the Byadagi kaddi and Byadagi dabbi varieties recorded 22.80 and 19.91 per cent increased yield over local, respectively. The technology gap (5.77) and technology index (92.77) was highest in Byadagi dabbi compared to Byadagi kaddi. While the extension gap (1.60) was maximum in Byadagi kaddi. The higher gross returns, net returns and B:C ratio were recorded in both varieties compared to their respective local/check plots.

KEY WORDS : Front line demonstrations, Technology gap, Extension gap, Technology index, Economics and adoption

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Chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.) is an important spice crop occupies an area of 8.34 lakh hectares in India with production of 8.47 lakh tones. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are leading states in chilli cultivation in India. Karnataka stands second in area (2.37 l ha.) and production (1.31 l tons) while in-productivity it ranks eighth in position with an average yield of 744 kg of dry chilli per hectare (Anonymous, 2007). The reasons for low yield in chilli are low coverage of high yielding varieties/hybrids, heavy incidence of pest and diseases and lack of adoption of scientific package of practices (Indira, *et al.*, 2001). In this direction purification of Byadagi kaddi and Byadagi dabbi varieties and improved technology developed at Agricultural Research Station (Chilli), Devihosur district Haveri were found to be financially attractive. Yet adoptions of several components of the improved technology were low emphasizing the need for the better dissemination. Several biotic, a-biotic and socio-economic constraints inhibit exploitation of the yield potential and these needs to be addressed. The Haveri district in northern Karnataka has sizable area under chilli cultivation but the productivity is very-very low (Anonymous, 2008). The low productivity of

chilli crops is not only threat to economic security of millions small and marginal farmers but also the world trade of chilli hitherto our country had the domination. Keeping the above points in view, the frontline demonstrations (FLD) on chilli was initiated with objectives of showing the productive potentials of the improved production technologies under real farm situation with location/region specific technologies over locally cultivated chilli crop and test there implementing ability, viability and obtain feedback from the end users.

RESEARCH METHODS

The present study was carried out by the of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumanamatti under University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad during *Kharif* season from 2005-06 to 2007-08 (3 years) in the farmers fields of adopted eight villages *viz.*, Tevaramallihalli, Kunimihalli, Baradur, Guttal, Hosaritti, Mahur, Savanur, Devagondanakatti of Haveri district in northern transitional zone of Karnataka. In total 25 frontline demonstrations in 15 hectares area in different villages were conducted. Materials for the study with respect to FLDs and farmers practices are given in Table A. In case of local check plots, existing practices being used. In general, soils of the