

**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

# Knowledge and adoption of recommended package of practices by banana growers

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**SUMMARY :** The study was conducted in randomly selected districts of Marathwada region viz., Nanded and Hingoli of Maharashtra state. Results of study revealed that majority of the respondents belong to medium farming experience, educated upto secondary school level, had nuclear type of family, semi-medium size of land holding and marginal land holding about area under banana. Majority of them had annual income of Rs. 1,10,751 to 9,77,750/-. Majority of the banana growers used well as a source of irrigation. Majority of the banana growers were having medium extension contact, social participation, sources of information and market orientation. Majority of the respondents (51.67%) belong to the medium level of knowledge and (48.83%) were falling under medium level of adoption.

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Knowledge,  
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## BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Agriculture is the main occupation at the Indian community. Consequently, much part of her planning is diverted to the development of agriculture. Therefore, horticulture occupies an important place in the agriculture economy at India. The contribution of horticulture has been estimated to 45.49 MT from 3.79 Mha. At present study is, therefore, an attempt to understand the level of adoption and potential characteristics of banana growers. Keeping this in view the present study was undertaken to know the knowledge level and rate of adoption of recommended package of practices by banana growers with the following specific objectives:

– To study the profile of the banana growers.

- To study the knowledge of recommended package of practices of banana growers.
- To study the extent of adoption of recommended package of practices by banana growers.

## RESOURCES AND METHODS

The study was conducted in randomly selected district of Marathwada region viz., Nanded and Hingoli in order to know knowledge and adoption of recommended package of practices by banana growers. Further, three villages were selected by random sampling method from each taluka of respective districts. Then 120 growers selected from small, medium and large category, respectively. The data were

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collected by personally interviewing the selected respondents with the help of structure interview schedule. The statistical methods like percentage, frequency were employed for analyzing the data.

## OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been presented under following heads.

### Profile of the banana growers :

Profile of the banana growers were studied. The data pertaining to profile of banana growers have been give in Table 1.

It was evident that majority of the respondents belonged to medium farming experience (63.33%) followed by low farming experience 20.00 per cent and high farming experience 16.67 per cent. Large number of respondents were educated upto secondary level, while 20.83 per cent of the respondents were educated upto higher secondary level, 11.67 per cent of the respondents educated upto college level. Whereas, 6.67 per cent of the respondents are educated upto primary level and 5.83 per cent were illiterate. The majority of respondents 68.33 per cent belonged from nuclear type of family, while 31.67 per cent having from joint type of family. In respect of land holding, 27.50 per cent were in medium land holding category, 15.84 per cent were in small land holding category. While 13.33 per cent of the respondents were from large land holding category. Only 8.33 per cent from marginal land holding.

In case of area under banana cultivation higher percentage of respondents were about 49.17 per cent having marginal land holding, whereas, 33.33 per cent respondents were found in small land holding. Only 17.50 per cent respondents having semi-medium land holding and nobody were found from medium and large land holding of under area of banana cultivation. In case of irrigation facilities higher percentage 61.67 per cent of respondents were used wells followed by 20.00 per cent used canal and wells, while 10.83 per cent used canal, 4.17 per cent used only tube wells and 3.33 per cent used other facilities of irrigation. The annual income majority of the respondents 72.50 per cent fall under medium level of income having Rs. 1,10,751 to 9,77,750/-, while 14.17 per cent respondents were of high level of income and remaining only 13.33 per cent were low level of income.

It was observed that majority of 61.67 per cent of

**Table 1 : Distribution of respondents by the profile of banana growers (n=120)**

Sr. No.	Category	No.	Per cent
1.	<b>Farming experience</b>		
	Low	22	18.33
	Medium	77	64.17
	High	21	17.5
2.	<b>Education</b>		
	Illiterate	7	5.83
	Primary	8	6.67
	Secondary	66	55.00
	Higher	25	20.83
	College	14	11.67
3.	<b>Type of family</b>		
	Nuclear	82	68.33
	Joint	38	31.67
4.	<b>Land holding</b>		
	Marginal land	10	8.33
	Small land	19	15.84
	Semi-medium	42	35.00
	Medium land	33	27.50
	Large	16	13.33
5.	<b>Area under banana</b>		
	Marginal	59	49.17
	Small land	40	33.33
	Semi-medium	21	17.50
6.	<b>Irrigation facilities</b>		
	Well	74	61.67
	Canal	13	10.83
	Tube well	5	4.17
	Canal and well	24	20.00
	Other	4	3.33
7.	<b>Annual income</b>		
	Low	17	14.17
	Medium	87	72.50
	High	16	13.33
8.	<b>Economic motivation</b>		
	Low	16	13.33
	Medium	71	59.17
	High	31	27.5
9.	<b>Extension contact</b>		
	Low	10	8.33
	Medium	99	82.50
	High	11	9.17
10.	<b>Social participation</b>		
	Low	20	16.67
	Medium	82	68.33
	High	18	15.00
11.	<b>Sources of information</b>		
	Low	15	12.50
	Medium	88	73.33
	High	17	14.17
12.	<b>Market orientation</b>		
	Low	22	18.33
	Medium	59	49.17
	High	39	32.5

respondents had medium economic motivation followed by high 25.00 per cent and low 13.33 per cent economic motivation. As regards the extension contact, it was noticed that 82.50 per cent of the respondents was belonged to medium extension contact category, while 9.17 per cent and 8.33 per cent of the respondents belonged to high and low extension contact category, respectively. In case of social participation more than half of 67.50 per cent of the banana growers had medium social participation, while 16.67 per cent and 15.83 per cent of banana growers had low and high social participation, respectively. It was observed that majority of respondents fall under medium sources of information 72.50 per cent. However, remaining had high sources of information *i.e.* 15.00 per cent and only 12.50 per cent of the respondents showed low sources of information. As regards the market orientation, it was manifested that majority 46.67 per cent of the banana growers had medium market orientation followed by 35.00 per cent and 16.33 per cent of the banana growers had high and low market orientation, respectively.

**Knowledge of recommended package of practices of banana growers:**

It is revealed from Table 2 that, cent per cent of the respondents had knowledge about recommended package of practices for preparatory tillage operations. Recommended varieties of banana. 98.33 per cent of respondents had knowledge about time of flowering and requirement of FYM to the crop.

**Table 2 : Knowledge of recommended package of practices of banana growers (n=120)**

Sr. No.	Particulars	Freq.	Per cent
1.	Time of planting	108	90.00
2.	Type of soil	110	91.67
3.	Method of planting	117	97.50
4.	Preparatory tillage operations	120	100.00
5.	Recommended spacing	113	94.17
6.	Recommended varieties	119	99.17
7.	Requirement of FYM	118	98.33
8.	Recommended irrigations	116	96.67
9.	Recommended fertilizer doses	107	89.17
10.	Plant protection	59	49.17
11.	Maturity indices for harvesting	117	97.50
12.	Harvesting of banana at proper time	117	97.50
13.	Production of banana from one plant	69	57.50

Whereas, 97.50 per cent of the respondents had knowledge of method of planting, maturity indices for harvesting and harvesting of banana at proper time. It is further seen that 94.17 per cent of respondents had knowledge about recommended planting spacing. It is obviously clear from Table 2 that 90.00 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about time of planting for banana cultivation. It is also observed that 89.17 per cent of respondents had knowledge about recommended fertilizer doses. Whereas, 57.50 per cent of respondents had knowledge about production of banana from one plant. As regards after care and management it is noticed that 49.17 per cent of respondents had knowledge about plant protection, and only 22.50 per cent of respondents had knowledge about soil testing.

It is vivid from Table 3 that majority 55.00 per cent of the banana growers were in the medium level of knowledge while, 24.17 per cent and 20.83 per cent of them were in the high and low level of knowledge, respectively. It is vivid from Table 4 that majority 43.33 per cent of the banana growers were in the medium level of adoption of recommended package of practices while, 32.5 per cent 24.17 per cent of them were in the high and low level of adoption, respectively.

**Table 3 : Distribution of respondents according to level of overall knowledge about recommended package of practices of banana**

Sr. No.	Category	Freq.	Per cent
1.	Low	25	20.83
2.	Medium	66	55.00
3.	High	29	24.17

**Table 4 : Extent of adoption of recommended package of practices by banana growers**

Sr. No.	Category	Freq.	Per cent
1.	Low	29	24.17
2.	Medium	52	43.33
3.	High	39	32.5

**Conclusion :**

From the findings, the profile of banana growers it was observed that majority of the banana growers were having medium level of farming experience, had secondary level of education, joint type of family, were possessing land holding of semi medium size. Further, it could concluded that majority of the banana growers were from marginal land holders and majority of the respondents

used well as an irrigation source, had medium annual income group. As far as the economic motivation is concerned from medium level. It was also observed that majority of banana growers had medium extension contact and having medium social participation. Most of the banana growers were in the medium use of sources of information and having medium market orientation category.

As regards the results, knowledge about recommended banana package of practices of banana growers indicates that majority of the banana growers had medium level of knowledge. And It was observed that most of the banana growers were in the medium level of adoption of banana package of practices. The study suggests that to update their knowledge and increase their level of adoption which will result in higher banana production.

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