

**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

# Analysis of Krushi Sanjwahini of Agriculture Technology Information Centre (ATIC)

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**SUMMARY :** The Agricultural Technology Information Centre is a single window delivery, dissemination and supporting system for various innovative and farm worthy techniques, technical advice, diagnostic services, input supply. To fulfil objectives of ATIC one of the important service offered to farmers is, information or technical knowhow is given on telephone (02452-229000) to farmers as per their demand in the form of questions/ doubts/ problems/queries. From the inception *i.e.* 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 this service is offered to farmers on every Tuesday 06.00 to 08.00 pm, all subject experts sit around the telephone and farmers calls are attended in the evening hours. The total questions received are 365, maximum question were received from the Parbhani district followed by Hingoli, major questions were belong to Agronomy discipline followed by Horticulture and Entomology. The results were discussed in detail in the paper.

**KEY WORDS :**

Krushi, Sanjwahini, Agriculture, Technology, Information centre

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## BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Agri. Tech. Information Centre ATIC is a single window delivery, dissemination and supporting system for various innovative and farm worthy techniques, technical advice, diagnostic services, input supply. It aims to create strong linkage between research and extension in pursuit of excellence in agriculture.

### **Objectives of ATIC are :**

To provide seeds, plants, processed products, bio fertilizers, bio pesticide, implements, literature to farmers to those who

are in need.

- To empower farmers through direct access to information and knowledge.
  - To help farmers in problem solving and decision making.
  - To create strong linkage between different research station, line departments and farmers.
  - To provide advisory services through newspapers, radio, television, Internet, telephone.
  - To impart need based training to officers of agriculture and other department.
- To fulfill objectives of ATIC, one of the

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important service given by ATIC to farmers, is Krushi Mahiti Vahini, means the information or technical know is given on telephone to farmers as per their demand in the form of questions/queries.

From the inception of ATIC, that is from the year 2000 this service is offered to farmers on every Friday 09.00 am to 11.00 am, all subject experts sit around the telephone and farmers calls are answered, this is regular programme of ATIC.

Keeping in view, farmers (farming activities) may not able to utilise this facility in the morning hours so same activity started in the evening hours at 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm on every Tuesday, direct access to information through phone calls in the evening is nothing but Sanjwahini. Sanjwahini was started on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 and it is continued till date. In the span of 1 year and 9 months total question received at Sanjwahini was 365. So it is felt necessary to undertake analysis of Sanjwahini with the following objectives.

- To undertake analysis of Krushi Sanjwahini of ATIC which is scheduled on every Tuesday in the evening hours 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.
- To indentify major areas of agriculture in which maximum questions received from farmers.

## RESOURCES AND METHODS

Krushi Sanjwahini which is runned on every Tuesday in the evening hours 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. for helping farmers to fulfil their information need through telephone was started on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014. From the inception of this programme a registrar was maintained and entry of each questions was taken in it specifying the name of farmers, subject of question, date of question and expert who answered the question.

Purposive sampling method was used and all questions received from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 (inception) to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were selected as a sample for study. All question counted and categorised as per different disciplines like Agronomy, Horticulture, Pathology, Entomology, Agriculture Engineering, Food processing, Animal Husbandry and Dairy, Soil Science, Home

Science and Others. Again an effort was made to classify question from each disciplines sub areas like Agronomy, sub areas land preparation, choice of variety, seed selection, seed treatment, fertilizer applications etc. On the same pattern question from all disciplines were classified and presented in tables.

## OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The results obtained from the present study as well as discussions have been summarized under following heads:

From this Table 1 it is very clear that from inception *i.e.* 1<sup>st</sup> July to December 2014, 233 (63.83%) questions were received. From 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31 December 2015 *i.e.* in complete one year only 124 (33.97 %) questions were recorded. Lastly 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31 March 2016, in the period of 3 months only 8 (2.09%) questions were asked by farmers at Sanjwahini programme.

Hence, it is vivid that in the initial period of six months good response was there but as the days passed response to this programme was very less. In the year 2016 *i.e.* in 3 months only 8 calls were received from farmers at sanjwahini programmes. It was also observed on some Tuesdays not a single question was received.

Table 2 indicates data regarding distribution of questions on the basis of districts. From Parbhani district 111 *i.e.* maximum questions (30.41%) were received, Hingoli was 2<sup>nd</sup>, 42 questions were recorded under this district, followed by Jalna 38, Beed 37, Nanded 35, Latur 27, Osmanabad 24 questions. Very few question were came from Pune, Dhule, Yavatmal, Solapur, Sangli and Amravati. It is very interesting to note that maximum questions were asked by Marathwada farmers.

Table 3 shows that out of 365 questions 102 were from agronomy, 77 questions belonged to horticulture, 44 questions found under the discipline entomology, 22 questions were categorised under pathology, 11 questions were regarding agriculture engineering, only 06 questions were observed under food processing, 18 questions were asked regarding animal husbandry and dairy, whereas, 21 questions were recorded under soil science and very

**Table 1 : Year wise distribution of questions**

Year	No. of questions	Percentage (%)
1 <sup>st</sup> July to December 2014	233	63.83
1 <sup>st</sup> January to 31 December 2015	124	33.97
1 <sup>st</sup> January to 31 March 2016	08	2.09

**Table 2 : District wise distribution of questions**

Sr.No	Name of district	No of questions	Percentages (%)
1.	Parbhani	111	30.41
2.	Hingoli	42	11.50
3.	Jalna	38	10.41
4.	Beed	37	10.13
5.	Nanded	35	9.5
6.	Latur	27	7.03
7.	Aurangabad	25	6.8
8.	Osmanabad	24	6.57
9.	Pune	4	1.09
10.	Dhule	3	0.82
11.	Yavatmal	3	0.82
12.	Solapur	3	0.82
13.	Sangli	2	0.54
14.	Amravati	2	0.54
15.	Nilanga	1	0.27
16.	Jalgaon	1	0.27
17.	Nashik	1	0.27
18.	Ahmednagar	1	0.27
19.	Satara	1	0.27
20.	Kolhapur	1	0.27
21.	Thane	1	0.27
22.	Wasim	1	0.27
23.	Buldana	1	0.27
		365	99.41

**Table 3 : Subject wise distribution of question**

Sr. No.	Subjects	No. of questions	Percentage (%)
1.	Agronomy	102	29.14
2.	Horticulture	77	22.00
3.	Entomology	44	12.05
4.	Pathology	22	6.02
5.	Soil Science	21	6.00
6.	Animal husbandry and dairy	18	5.14
7.	Sericulture	12	3.40
8.	Agriculture engineering	11	3.1
9.	Green house	07	2.0
10.	Sheti Bhati/publication	07	1.71
11.	Food processing	06	1.71
12.	Drudgery reduction	06	1.17
13.	Poultry	04	1.01
14.	Mushroom	03	0.85
15.	Epiculture	02	0.5
16.	Spiriluna	02	0.5
17.	Seed technology	02	0.5
18.	Others	19	5.20
	Total	365	

Table 4 : Discipline wise distribution of questions		
Sr. No	Subarea	Questions
<b>Agronomy</b>		
1.	Cotton cultivation	27
2.	Soybean cultivation	30
3.	Sugarcane cultivation	9
4.	Reddening and yellowing in cotton	7
5.	Phyto toxicity due to 2 4 D	5
6.	Weed management	5
7.	Jowar cultivation	5
8.	Wheat cultivation	3
9.	Gram cultivation	2
10.	Arhar cultivation	2
11.	Bajra cultivation	5
12.	Castor cultivation	2
	Total	102
<b>Horticulture</b>		
1.	Vegetable cultivation	21
2.	Turmeric cultivation	8
3.	Seed treatment in turmeric	6
4.	Tomato cultivation	4
5.	Sweet orange cultivation	4
6.	Onion plantation	6
7.	Horticultural seedlings	5
8.	Management of mango orchard	2
9.	Chilly cultivation	5
10.	Lemon cultivation	5
11.	Papaya cultivation	3
12.	Banana cultivation	2
13.	Coconut plantation	2
14.	Custard apple planting	1
15.	Floriculture	3
16.	Total	77
<b>Entomology</b>		
1.	Kapsavaril kid vayvasthapan	9
2.	Sericulture	9
3.	Soybean pests	7
4.	Pigeonpea pest management	5
5.	White grub management	4
6.	Neemark preparation	4
7.	Sugarcane woolyaphid	2
8.	Gram pest control	2
9.	Vegetable pest management	2
10.	Total	44

Table 4 : Contd.....

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<b>Pathology</b>		
1.	Disease management in cotton	10
2.	Disease of turmeric	4
3.	Disease of soybean	4
4.	Flower dropping in chilli	1
5.	Disease of fruits	1
6.	Bio fungicides	1
7.	Pigeonpea disease	1
8.	Total	22
<b>Other</b>		
1.	Shetibhati/ publication	4
2.	Wheather forecasting	3
3.	18 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Kharif</i> Melawa	3
4.	Teltada planting	3
5.	Epiculture	2
6.	Bettlevine cultivation	1
7.	Green house	1
8.	Farm pond	1
9.	Spirulina	1
10.	Total	19

few questions were asked regarding green house, Shetibhati/publication, food processing, drudgery reduction, poultry and mushroom.

Discipline wise distribution of question shows that agronomy is the prime subject of agriculture in which maximum queries were on soybean cultivation followed by cotton. Only nine queries were regarding sugarcane, whereas 7 queries were made about reddening and yellowing in cotton. Weed management were also found place in queries. Very few queries were about arhar, wheat, gram and castor cultivation (Table 4).

Regarding horticulture, total 77 questions were received and 21 belonged to vegetables cultivation, 14 were about turmeric cultivation. Onion, chilli, lemon and tomato were also occupied place in question in Krushi Sanj Wahini.

Entomology was also very much important subject for question, cotton insects and pest was the most consent topics followed by sericulture, soybean pest also found 3<sup>rd</sup> position, pigeonpea pest, white grub management, née

mark preparation were also important subject for farmers queries.

In pathology 22 questions were received in which maximum *i.e.* 10 questions were about disease management in cotton followed by disease of turmeric and soybean.

In the category others question regarding Sheti Bhati, VNMKV magazine, whether forecasting, 18<sup>th</sup> May *Kharif* Shetkari Melawa, teltada planting, green house, farm pond were categorised under other category. In this aspect total 19 questions and maximum queries were about Sheti Bhati (VNMKV, magazine) and *Kharif* Shetkari Melawa.

### Conclusion :

It is very indicative from data *i.e.* only in the time span 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 to December 2014 maximum questions were received. Even in the year 2015 quite good responds of farmers was observed toward this programme but in year 2016, within 3 months only 8 questions were received so it is very clear that farmers are not taking benefit of this programme. Again it is also observed that only Marathwada farmers were taking information through this Sanj Wahini, very few questions were coming from other than Marathwada district *i.e.* Jalgaon, Nashik, A.Nagar, Satara, Thane and Kolhapur. It is also very clear that regarding subject of question agronomy ranked 1<sup>st</sup> horticulture 2<sup>nd</sup>, entomology 3<sup>rd</sup>, pathology 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Implication :

It is very necessary to popularise Kurshi Sanj Wahini through different extension methods. Particularly each and every farmer visiting to ATIC will be given information regarding Krushi Sanj Wahini by ATIC staff members. Again even on telephone this information regarding Sanj Wahini will be given by ATIC staff members. Special pamplate/ leaflet will be prepared and will be distributed in different training programme and Shetkari Melawas to framers.

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