



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Knowledge level of beneficiary and non-beneficiary red gram farmers

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SUMMARY : The research was conducted in Vijayapura district of Karnataka during the year 2019-20 with the sample size of 120 respondents. The findings revealed that, in case of beneficiary farmers about 40.00 per cent of red gram farmers were belonged to high level of knowledge. In case of non-beneficiary farmers about 38.33 per cent of red gram farmers were belonged to medium level of knowledge. It is clear that, in case of beneficiary farmers about cent (100.00 %) per cent of the respondents had knowledge about improved red gram variety, recommended seed rate, recommended spacing, irrigation frequency, intercultivation, weeding, important pests, pest control, important diseases, harvesting and post-harvesting. In case of non-beneficiary farmers it is revealed that, cent (100.00 %) per cent of the respondents had knowledge about weeding and post-harvesting, 98.33 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about inter cultivation, 90.00 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about time of sowing, 86.67 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about important diseases, 85.00 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about disease control.

KEY WORDS:

Knowledge level, Beneficiary, Non-beneficiary, Red gram

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Agriculture continues to be the basis for the Indian economy, contributing about 40 per cent to the country's gross national income. Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK's) have been assigned to take up the responsibilities of technology evaluation and impact assessment, demonstration of technology on the farmer's field, organizing capacity building programmes for the extension functionaries to update their knowledge and skill and conduct trainings for the farmers including farm women and youth. The KVK's helps farmers to update their information with regard to recent advances

in agriculture and allied branches. Thus, increase in knowledge and help the farmers to raise better crops on their farms.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vijayapura is district level Farm Science Centre established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in the year 2004. It is responsible to transfer agricultural technologies and research to the farmer's fields so that the farmer can gain the high productivity and profitability. The KVK has excelled in bringing the modern technological packages at the farmers doorstep with the help of various instructional units.

Looking to the importance of red gram

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crop of the area and importance of frontline demonstration conducted by KVK, the present study was conducted to understand the influence of farmers' Frontline demonstration on the knowledge of improved cultivation practices of red gram by farmers of Vijayapura district with the following specific objectives. To measure the knowledge level of beneficiary and non-beneficiary red gram farmers.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The research study was conducted in Vijayapura district of Karnataka. A list of FLD beneficiary farmers was obtained from the KVK Vijayapura from the years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18. From the list 60 FLD beneficiary farmers was selected randomly. A list of non-beneficiary farmers of non-FLD villages who have grown red gram for three years was obtained from the Karnataka State Department of Agriculture (KSDA). From the list 60 FLD non-beneficiary farmers will be selected randomly. Therefore, 60 beneficiaries and 60 non-beneficiaries was selected. Thus, the total sample size was 120.

The dependent variables selected for the study were knowledge level whereas, age, education, land holding, annual income, farming experience, extension participation, mass media participation, innovativeness, economic motivation and cosmopolitaness were the independent variables selected for the study.

A schedule was developed and personal interview method was administered to collect the information in the light of objectives of the study. Package of practices recommended by University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad for the cultivation of red gram was considered for the study. The data collected were tabulated and analyzed by using suitable statistical tools like mean, frequency, percentage, standard deviation and correlation test.

Knowledge level of the red gram farmers refers to the factual information possessed by a farmer regarding

recommended cultivation practices of red gram.

The "Teacher made test" suggested by Anastasi (1961) was employed to measure the knowledge level of respondents. All the important operations of red gram cultivation were listed separately in consultation with the experts. The question and answer were carefully framed by referring to the package of practice of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. The answers elicited from the farmers were quantified by giving "1" score to correct and "0" score to wrong answers to ascertain the knowledge level of farmers about red gram cultivation practices. The knowledge level was quantified by using frequency and percentage. Based on the total score, the respondents were classified into three categories namely; 'low', 'medium' and 'high' using mean and standard deviation (SD) as a measure of check.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The experimental findings obtained from the present study have been discussed with the following heads:

Overall knowledge level of red gram farmers about recommended cultivation practices:

The data in Table 1 and Fig. 1 inferred that, in case of beneficiary farmers about 40.00 per cent of red gram farmers were belonged to high level of knowledge. Whereas, 36.67 per cent and 23.33 per cent of the respondents belonged to low level and medium level of knowledge categories, respectively. In case of non-beneficiary farmers about 38.33 per cent of red gram farmers were belonged to medium level of knowledge. Whereas, 36.67 per cent and 25.00 per cent of the respondents belonged to low level and high level of knowledge categories, respectively.

Here the beneficiary farmers have more knowledge compared to non-beneficiary farmers, because beneficiary farmers were participated in frontline demonstration organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra Vijayapura about improved red gram cultivation practices.

Sr. No.	Category	Beneficiary farmers (n ₁ =60)		Non-beneficiary farmers (n ₂ =60)	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low	22	36.67	22	36.67
2.	Medium	14	23.33	23	38.33
3.	High	24	40.00	15	25.00
		Mean =20.81	SD =1.26	Mean =12.26	SD =2.50

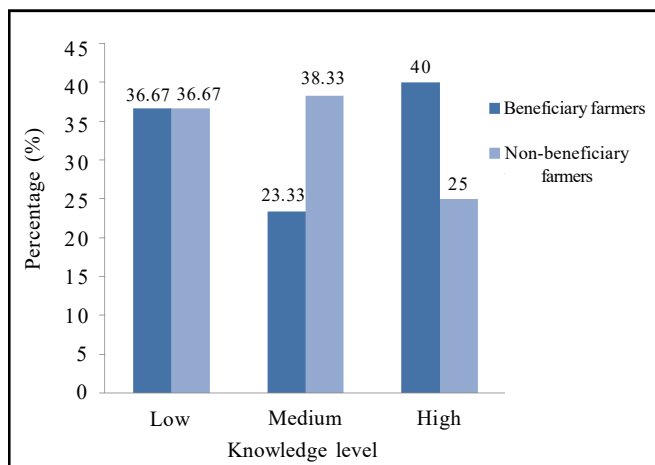


Fig. 1: Overall knowledge level of red gram growers about recommended cultivation practices

This might be the reason that, beneficiary farmers had more knowledge compared to non-beneficiary farmers. The above findings were in accordance with the findings of Patel (2006) and Raghavendra (2010).

Individual knowledge level of red gram farmers about recommended cultivation practices:

From the Table 2, it is clear that, in case of beneficiary farmers about cent (100.00%) per cent of the respondents had knowledge about improved red gram variety, recommended seed rate, recommended spacing, irrigation frequency, intercultivation, weeding, important pests, pest control, important diseases, harvesting and post-harvesting. Whereas, 93.33 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about time of sowing and recommended dose of fertilizer, 91.67 per cent of them had knowledge about recommended dose of FYM, 90.00 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about disease control and intercrop. Further, it is clear that, 88.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about seed treatment, 86.67 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about summer ploughing for land preparation, 83.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about nipping practice and 60.00 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about growth regulator.

In case of non-beneficiary farmers it is revealed

Table 2: Individual knowledge level of red gram farmers about recommended cultivation practices (n=120)

Sr. No.	Recommended cultivation practices	Beneficiary farmers (n ₁ =60)				Non-beneficiary farmers (n ₂ =60)			
		Yes		No		Yes		No	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Summer ploughing for land preparation	52	86.67	8	13.33	48	80.00	12	20.00
2.	Improved red gram variety	60	100.00	0	0.00	32	53.33	28	46.67
3.	Recommended seed rate	60	100.00	0	0.00	39	65.00	21	35.00
4.	Seed treatment	53	88.33	7	11.67	43	71.67	17	28.33
5.	Time of sowing	56	93.33	4	6.67	54	90.00	6	10.00
6.	Recommended spacing	60	100.00	0	0.00	29	48.33	31	51.67
7.	Recommended dose of FYM	55	91.67	5	8.33	23	38.33	37	61.67
8.	Recommended dose of fertilizer	56	93.33	4	6.67	26	43.33	34	56.67
9.	Growth regulator	36	60.00	24	40.00	30	50.00	30	50.00
10.	Irrigation frequency	60	100.00	0	0.00	37	61.67	23	38.33
11.	Intercultivation	60	100.00	0	0.00	59	98.33	1	1.67
12.	Nipping practice	50	83.33	10	16.67	48	80.00	12	20.00
13.	Weeding	60	100.00	0	0.00	60	100.00	0	0.00
14.	Important pests	60	100.00	0	0.00	50	83.33	10	16.67
15.	Pest control	60	100.00	0	0.00	48	80.00	12	20.00
16.	Important diseases	60	100.00	0	0.00	52	86.67	8	13.33
17.	Disease control	54	90.00	6	10.00	51	85.00	9	15.00
18.	Intercrop	54	90.00	6	10.00	49	81.67	11	18.33
19.	Harvesting	60	100.00	0	0.00	60	100.00	0	0.00
20.	Post-harvesting	60	100.00	0	0.00	48	80.00	12	20.00

F – Frequency

% - Percentage

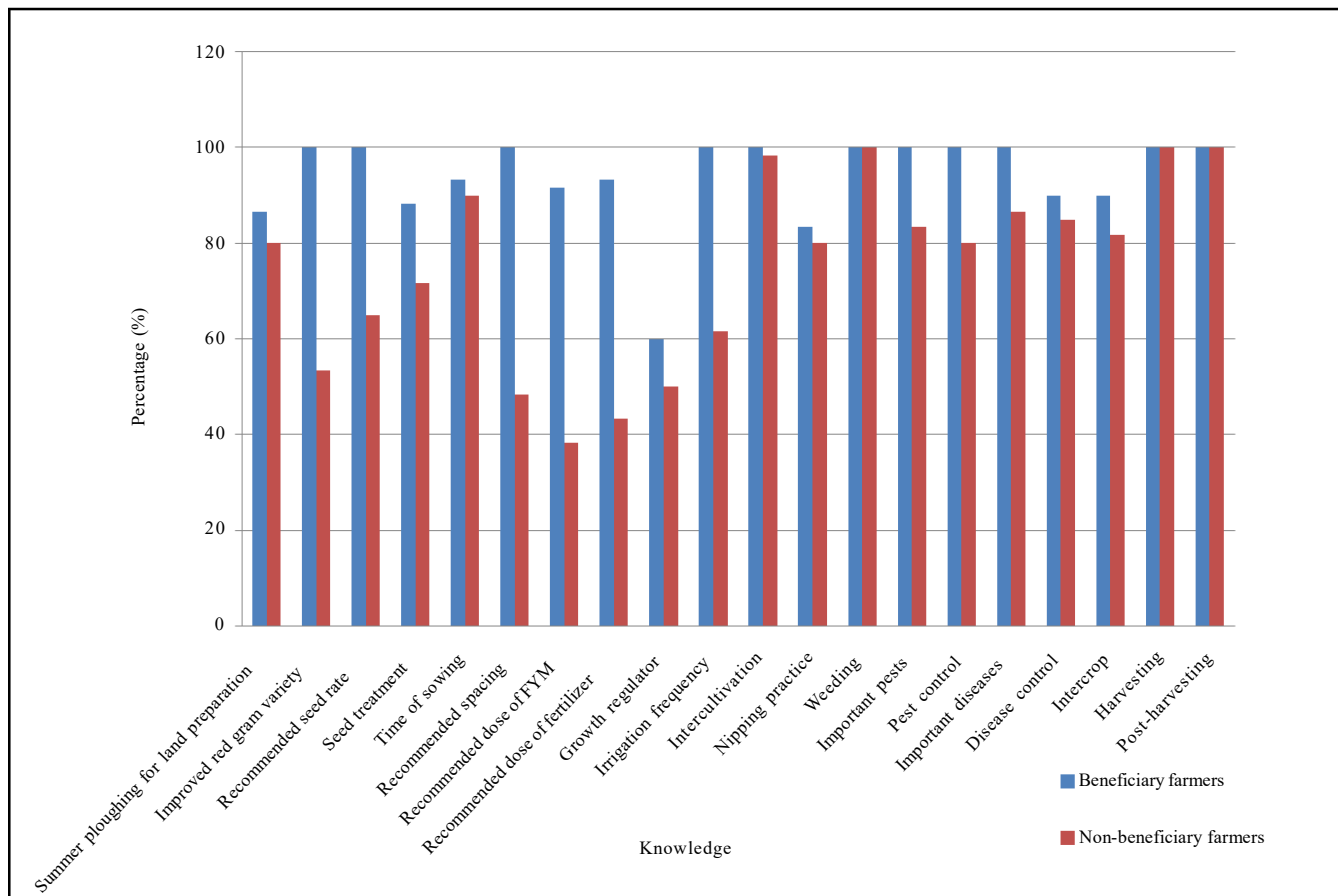


Fig. 2: Individual knowledge level of red gam growers about recommended cultivation practices

that, cent (100.00 %) per cent of the respondents had knowledge about weeding and post-harvesting, 98.33 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about Intercultivation, 90.00 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about time of sowing, 86.67 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about important diseases, 85.00 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about disease control, 83.33 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about important diseases, 80.00 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about summer ploughing, nipping practice, pest control and post harvesting, 71.67 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about seed treatment, 65.00 per cent of them had knowledge about recommended seed rate, 61.67 per cent of the red gram farmers had knowledge about irrigation frequency. Further, it is clear that, 58.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about disease control, 53.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about improved red gram variety, 50.00 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about growth

regulator, 48.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about recommended spacing, 43.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about recommended dose of fertilizer and 38.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge about recommended dose of FYM.

From these result it is clearly observed that, frontline demonstration organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra Vijayapura has created a positive impact on the knowledge of beneficiary farmers in making them highly knowledgeable about practices of red gram cultivation. The results are in conformity with the findings of Rathore and Dhakar (2012).

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