Agriculture Update | Vol. 6 | Issue (3&4) | Aug. & Nov., 2011 | 116-117 | *RESEARCH ARTICLE*

A study on knowledge of recommended production technology among brinjal growers of Anand district of Gujarat

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ABSTRACT
Anand district, was chosen for the study. Anand, Borsad, Anklav and Umreth Talukas of Anand district were purposively selected. Total 120 brinjal growers, with minimum 3 years of experience in brinjal cultivation were selected randomly from twelve villages of selected four Talukas. Findings of this study stated that majority (62.50 per cent) of the brinjal growers had medium level of knowledge regarding recommended practices of brinjal, while 21.67 and 15.83 per cent of brinjal growers had high and low level of knowledge, respectively.

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INTRODUCTION

Botanical name of brinjal is *Solanum melongea* L. and it belongs to Solanaceae family. It is originated in India. According to USDA, production of eggplant is highly concentrated. China is the top producer having 55 per cent of production from world and India is second producer having about 28 per cent production about 8,200,000 MT. Anonymous (2006)

The current advances in brinjal production technology have demonstrated that improved practices have great potential for increasing the brinjal production. Therefore, raising the efficiency of the growers is essential for getting desired profit from the brinjal cultivation. However, none of the detailed study has yet been carried out in this regards. Thus, to know the knowledge level of brinjal growers regarding recommended practices of brinjal crop, a study was undertaken with the following specific objective to study the knowledge level of brinjal growers regarding recommended production technology of brinjal.

METHODOLOGY

Anand district, was chosen for the study. Anand, Borsad, Anklav and Umreth Talukas of Anand district were purposively selected, because these Talukas have more brinjal growing area as compared to other Talukas. Twelve brinjal growing villages were randomly selected from these four Talukas. From each selected village, 10 brinjal growers with minimum 3 years of experience in brinjal cultivation were selected randomly making a total sample of 120 brinjal growers. Measurements of knowledge about recommended production technology of brinjal crop was done by using teacher made test. The data were collected with the help of well-structured, pre-tested, Gujarati version interview schedule through personal contact and data were then compiled, tabulated and analyzed to get proper answers for objectives of the study. The statistical tools used were percentage, mean score and standard deviation.

OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS

In the present study, knowledge refers to know-how about different brinjal cultivation technology possessed by the brinjal growers. Adequate knowledge is essential to brinjal growers for successful and profitable cultivation of brinjal. The data regarding level

of knowledge are given in Table 1

It is observed from the Table 1 that majority (62.50 per cent) of the brinjal growers had medium level of knowledge regarding recommended practices of brinjal, while 21.67 and 15.83 per cent of brinjal growers had high and low level of knowledge, respectively. Thus, it can be concluded that 62.50 per cent of brinjal growers had medium level of knowledge regarding recommended practices of brinjal. This finding is in the line with finding of Mate (2005) and Rathod (2009).

Table 1: Distribution of brinjal growers according to their knowledge level

Sr. No.	Level of knowledge	Number	Per cent
1.	Low (below 51.61score)	19	15.83
2.	Medium (between 51.61 to 73.11 score)	75	62.50
3.	High (above 73.11 score)	26	21.67
Total		120	100.00

Mean= 62.36, S.D. = 10.75

Table 2: Practice wise knowledge level of brinjal growers about recommended brinjal production technology n = 120

Sr. No.	Recommended practices	Number	Per cent
1.	Nursery management		
	Soil solarization	00	0.00
	Size of nursery bed	89	74.14
	Seed rate	120	100
2.	Land preparation	120	100
3.	Time of transplanting	87	72.50
4.	Selection of seedlings	120	100
5.	Recommended variety	120	100
6.	Seed treatment / use of treated seeds	107	89.16
7.	Spacing	92	76.66
8.	Manures / FYM	106	88.33
9.	Chemical fertilizers	82	68.33
10.	Irrigation management	103	85.83
11.	Weeding		
	Manually	120	100
	Chemical	47	39.16
12.	Insect pest control	84	70.00
13.	Disease control	67	55.83
14.	Harvesting	120	100
15.	Post harvest management	120	100

It is observed from Table 2 that cent per cent of the brinjal growers had high level of knowledge regarding seed rate, land preparation, selection of seedlings for transplanting, recommended varieties, manual weeding, harvesting criteria and post harvest management, followed by seed treatment (89.16 per cent), manure and FYM (88.33 per cent), irrigation management (85.83 per cent), recommended spacing (76.66 per cent), size of nursery bed (74.17 per cent), time of transplanting (72.50 per cent), and insect pest control (70.00 per cent).

It was also found that brinjal growers had medium level of knowledge regarding recommended practices of brinjal namely, recommended dose of chemical fertilizers (68.33 per cent) and disease control (55.83 per cent) while they had low level of knowledge regarding weeding (39.16 per cent). None of the brinjal growers was aware about soil solarization of nursery soil.

Conclusion :

It can be concluded from above finding that majority (62.50 per cent) of the brinjal growers had medium level of knowledge regarding recommended practices of brinjal, while 21.67 and 15.83 per cent of brinjal growers had high and low level of knowledge, respectively. While cent per cent of the brinjal growers had high level of knowledge regarding seed rate, land preparation, selection of seedlings for transplanting, recommended varieties, manual weeding, harvesting criteria and post harvest management while they had low level of knowledge regarding recommended dose of chemical fertilizers, disease control and soil solarization of nursery soil. Efforts should be done for providing knowledge to farmers regarding recommended dose of chemical fertilizers, disease control and soil solarization of nursery soil.

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