



Knowledge and adoption of trimbak variety of wheat by farmers through front line demonstration

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ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken of 75 wheat growers from 5 villages of Baramati Tahsil in Pune District of Maharashtra state. The main object of study was to find knowledge and adoption of Trimbak variety of wheat and its package of practices by farmers through its Front line demonstrations which were conducted by Krishi Vidyan Kendra, Baramati Dist-Pune. It was observed that majority of respondents who had visited F.L.D. plot were in high category of knowledge and adoption level of Trimbak variety and its package of practices. So, the research station, extension organization must give emphasis on conduction of F.L.D. in farmer's field for motivating farmers to adopt innovation.

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INTRODUCTION

Wheat is an important cereal crop of Indian agriculture. The production of wheat in India is 72.00 million tones. But according to five year plan of 2011-2012 India's target is to produce 130 million tones wheat. This indicates today's production is half of the target. Reason behind the low production of wheat is that most of the farmers are cultivating local variety and on such variety there is high attack of rusts. In this regards Mahatma Phule Krushi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri(MS) has released rust resistant and high yielding (45 kg/ha) variety of wheat *i.e.* Trimbak (NIAW 301).

As Front Line Demonstration (F.L.D.) is based on principle 'seeing is believing' so it is effective tool for disseminating information to farmers. The main objectives of FLD is to demonstrate newly released crop production and protection technology and its management practice in the farmers field under different climatic regions and farming situation (Singh,2002). Hence, KVK, Baramati (MS) organized FLD plots of Trimbak variety of wheat on the farmers field in 10 villages of Baramati Tahsil in 2007 and 2008. Thus, the present study was undertaken with the objective to study the knowledge and adoption

of Trimbak variety of wheat and its package of practices by farmers through its F.L.D.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was done in Baramati Tahsil because 50 F.L.D. on Trimbak variety were conducted by KVK Pune in 10 villages of this Taluka. Out of that 5 villages *i.e.* Malegaon, Pandhare, Kambleshwar, Wadgaon Nimbalkar and Khandas were randomly selected. From each village, 15 wheat growers who had visited F.L.D. plot were randomly selected for the study. Thus, there was total sample size of 75 respondents. The data were collected with the help of interview schedule containing recommended package of practices for Trimbak variety. The data were statistically analyzed with the help of frequency and percentage.

For determining knowledge level, a questionnaire was prepared as per recommended package of practices of Trimbak variety. Each question carried 1 score for right and 0 score for wrong answer. Thus, total number of correct answers formed the total score. With this data knowledge index of individual farmer was calculated.

For appraising the level of adoption, 2 point

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scale was used *i.e.* fully adopted and not adopted practice. Score 1 was assigned for fully adopted and 0 score was assigned for not adopted practice. On the basis of total score obtained, the adoption index was calculated for each farmer. The respondents were further categorized as per their knowledge index and adoption index on the basis of minimum and maximum score.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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

Knowledge gain of Trimbak variety of wheat and its package of practices by farmers through its F.L.D.:

It is observed from Table 1 that majority of respondents (60.00 per cent) have gained high level of knowledge of Trimbak variety and its package of practices by visiting its F.L.D. plot, followed by 27.00 per cent respondents who gained medium and 13.00 per cent gained low knowledge. It can be inferred that the majority of respondents gained high knowledge.

Table 1: Distribution of farmers according to knowledge level of Trimbak variety and its package of practices (n=75)

Knowledge level	No. of farmers	Percentage
Low (up to 57.00 %)	10	13.00
Medium (58.00 to 77.00 %)	20	27.00
High (above 78.00 %)	45	60.00
Total	75	100.00

Adoption of Trimbak variety of wheat and its package of practices by farmers through its F.L.D.:

Table 2 reveals that majority of respondents (54.00 per cent) had high level of adoption, while 33.00 per cent and 13.00 per cent had medium and low level of adoption of Trimbak variety and its package of practices by visiting its F.L.D. plot, respectively. It could thus be inferred that the majority of respondents were in high category of the adoption of Trimbak variety and its package of practices. This indicates that FLD created great awareness and

Table 2: Distribution of farmers according to adoption of Trimbak variety and its package of practices (n=75)

Adoption level	No. of farmers	Percentage
Low (up to 53.00 %)	10	13.00
Medium (54.00 to 76.00 %)	25	33.00
High (77.00 % & above)	40	54.00
Total	75	100.00

motivation to the other farmers to adopt appropriated crop production. These findings were supported by Katare and Shrivastava (2009) and Kalarani *et al.* (2009).

Conclusion:

It was observed that by seeing the FLD, majority of respondents were in high category of knowledge and adoption level of Trimbak variety and its package of practices. So, the research station, extension organization must give emphasis on conduction of F.L.D. in farmers field for motivating farmer to adopt innovation.

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