



## Impact of KVK training programme on personal, socio-economic status and knowledge level of pigeonpea farmers in Gulbarga district

J.S. BINKADAKATTI, S.N. HANCHINAL AND BASAVARAJ PAWAR

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

**J.S. BINKADAKATTI**  
Department of  
Agricultural Extension  
Education, College of  
Agriculture, University  
of Agricultural Sciences,  
DHARWAD  
(KARNATAKA)  
INDIA  
jagadajyithi@gmail.com

### ABSTRACT

The study was taken up in Gulbarga district of Karnataka to know the impact of KVK trainings on use of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides, Among 160 farmers, 80 trained and 80 untrained farmers spread in sixteen purposively selected villages with four Talukas namely; Gulbarga, Chittapur, Aland and Sedam under the domain of Krishi Vigyana Kendra. Two variables namely, socio-economic status and levels of knowledge about the training programme of the KVK were measured by pre-structured and pre-tested schedule. Finding of the study showed that 57.50 per cent of the trained and 60.00 per cent of untrained farmers were from the middle age group, With regard to level of education, 30.00 per cent of the trained and 36.25 per cent of the untrained respondents were educated up to Middle School. It was found that 45.00 per cent of trained and 41.25 per cent of untrained respondents were belonging to semi-medium income category and 61.25 per cent of trained and 53.75 per cent of untrained respondents were of medium farmer category. It was evident from study that 33.75 per cent of trained and 11.25 per cent of untrained respondents were regular listener of radio and 75.00 %, 57.14 %, 71.95 % and 42.86 % of trained respondents regularly participated in training, field day, Krishimela, demonstration and field visit, respectively and it was also found that 38.75 per cent of trained and only 17.50 per cent of untrained farmers belonged to high category in overall knowledge level.

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### INTRODUCTION

To increase the food production at the rate of at least three per cent per year the efforts of government organizations alone is not sufficient. In this context, appropriate training of practicing farmers, extension personnel and the agricultural teachers and trainers is very crucial in increasing agricultural production. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), during the fifth five-year plan, launched an innovative project for imparting training in agriculture and allied areas to the farmers, school dropouts and field level extension functionaries in the country by establishing Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

Socio-economic status is an important factor, which pervades all the fields of social action in Indian society. This is needless to say that a man's position in the socio economic status is determined, by an large, his behaviour in the society. People belonging to higher socio-

economic status are said to be more modernized in their values and behaviours than the people who are in comparatively low ranges of the socio-economic status. One of the main tasks of Krishi Vigyan Kendras is to conduct trainings on different aspects to transfer the technology. To bring sustainability in farm production through bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gulbarga, Karnataka is imparting training to the farmers in its jurisdiction. There has been no empirical studies in this regard. Gulbarga district is known as "Pulse bowl" of Karnataka. Hence, the present study was designed with the objective; to study the personal, socio-economic profile and level of knowledge of the trained and untrained respondents with respect to use of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides.

### METHODOLOGY

The study was taken up in four Talukas

### Key words :

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namely, Gulbarga, chittapur, Aland and Sedam of Gulbarga district. These Talukas were purposively selected, because they had maximum number of farmers trained under KVK on bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides. From each Taluka, four villages were selected. Thus, totally sixteen villages were selected for the study.

List of farmers from each of the sixteen selected villages was obtained. From each village, ten farmers were selected randomly. Again out of ten farmers, five trained farmers from the list who have undergone training organized by KVK and five untrained farmers from the village were randomly identified for making the total sample of one hundred and sixty (80 trained and 80 untrained farmers). Thus, 160 farmers formed the sample for study. Data were collected by personal interview method using structured interview schedule.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study have been discussed in detail as under:

### Distribution of the respondents according to their personal characters:

The data presented in Table 1 reveal that 57.50 per

cent of the trained and 60.00 per cent of untrained farmers were belonged to the middle age group. Usually farmers of middle age groups are enthusiastic and have more work efficiency than the younger and older ones. Further, individual of 31 to 50 years of age group have more family responsibility than young and old age groups. This might be the important reason to find majority of respondents in the age group of 31 to 50 years.

With regard to the level of education, it revealed that 30.00 per cent of the trained and 36.25 per cent of the untrained respondents were educated up to Middle School. The education generally empowers the human being not only to understand the situation but also aware of problems and solutions to get out of the deprived situation. It was noticed from Table 1 that 56.25 per cent of trained and 55.00 per cent of untrained respondents were from the nuclear family. This might be due to changing value of family system and modernization. It is revealed from the data that, 72.50 per cent of trained and 70.00% untrained farmers belonged to medium experience category. Majority of the trained and untrained farmers were educated up to Middle School therefore, majority of the respondents belonged to medium experience category. The above findings were in conformity with Bhatkar *et al.* (1995), Kanavi (2000) and Kharatmol (2006).

**Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their personal characteristics (n=160)**

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Trained (n=80)		Untrained (n=80)	
		F	%	F	%
<b>1.</b>	<b>Age</b>				
	Young (up to 30 yrs)	28	35.00	21	26.25
	Middle (31 to 50 yrs)	46	57.50	48	60.00
	Old age (>51 yrs)	6	7.50	11	13.75
<b>2.</b>	<b>Education</b>				
	Illiterates	8	10.00	12	15.00
	Primary (1-4)	18	22.50	17	21.25
	Middle (5-7)	24	30.00	29	36.25
	High School (8-10)	16	20.00	8	10.00
	College (11-12)	10	12.50	10	12.50
	Graduate (12 & above)	4	5.00	4	5.00
<b>3.</b>	<b>Family type</b>				
	Joint	35	43.75	36	45.00
	Nuclear	45	56.25	44	55.00
<b>4.</b>	<b>Farming experience</b>				
	Low	8	10.00	13	16.25
	Medium	58	72.50	56	70.00
	High	14	17.50	11	13.75
	Mean	22.43		21.41	
	S.D.	5.76		5.96	

F-Frequency

**Table 2 : Distribution of the respondents according to their economic characteristics (n=160)**

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Trained (n=80)		Untrained (n=80)	
		F	%	F	%
<b>1.</b>	<b>Annual income</b>				
	High income (>51000)	7	8.75	5	6.25
	Medium income (34001-51000)	11	13.75	15	18.75
	Semi medium income (17001-34000)	36	45.00	33	41.25
	Low income (up to 17000)	26	32.50	27	33.75
<b>2.</b>	<b>Land holding</b>				
	Marginal farmers (up to 2.5 acres)	0	0.00	0	0.00
	Small farmers (2.51 to 5.00 acres)	2	2.50	1	1.25
	Semi medium farmers (5.01 to 10.00 acres)	18	22.50	28	35.00
	Medium farmers (10.01 to 25.00 acres)	49	61.25	43	53.75
	Big farmers (>25.00 acres)	11	13.75	8	10.00

F-Frequency

### Distribution of the respondents according to their economic characteristics:

It was found from Table 2 that 45.00 per cent of trained and 41.25 per cent of untrained respondents were from semi-medium income category. Slightly more than half of the trained and untrained farmers belonged to the nuclear family. Because of nuclear family, the family expenditure was more leading to fewer saving as compared to joint family. This was the important reason that majority of the respondents belonged to low-income category. It was observed from the Table 2 that 61.25 per cent of trained and 53.75 per cent of untrained respondents were belonging to medium farmer category (*i.e.* 10.01 to 25 acres). Farmers had inherited land holding from their ancestors and further carried farming as their main occupation. As a result, it was quite possible that farmers with their land holding evince keen interest to known about the new ideas and technologies and try to co-ordinate their resources to get the maximum results out of their land holdings. This finding is in conformity with the results reported by Kharatmol (2006).

### Distribution of the respondents according to their social characteristics:

It is evident from Table 3 that 33.75 per cent of trained and 11.25 per cent of untrained respondents were regular listener of radio, while 10.00% and 13.75% and 21.25% and 56.25 % of the trained and untrained respondents belonged to occasional viewers and readers of Television and News papers, respectively. The probable reason for majority of the trained and untrained farmers to be in regular and occasionally listener, viewers and readers of the radio, T.V and News paper with regarded

to agricultural programmes might be due to their interest in acquiring latest information in agriculture and market news etc.. The mass media provides information on experiences of successful farmers through various channels like television, radio and newspaper etc. which create the confidence in other farmers to take up similar activities or try out new innovations.

It could be observed from Table 3 that 75.00 per cent, 57.14 per cent, 71.95 per cent and 42.86 per cent of trained respondents were regularly participated in training, field day, Krishi mela, demonstration and field visit, respectively. From these results, it could be known that, more than half of the trained respondents had participated in training, field day and demonstration as it was encouraged and organized by KVK. Also, 30 to 50 per cent of the trained respondents had participated regularly in group discussion, field visit and educational tour. The probable reason for above finding might be due to their interest in extension activities, which directly help them to get information on relevant innovations, technologies and skills which help them to seek information from extension experts, subject matter specialists, scientists etc. from the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK). This intern helps to increase their knowledge and adoption level. Similar findings were reported by Kanavi (2000) and Kharatmol (2006).

### Knowledge of the trained and untrained farmers regarding about KVK training programme:

The findings from Table 4 revealed that 38.75 per cent of trained and only 17.50 per cent of untrained farmers belonged to high overall knowledge level category. Here the trained farmers have more knowledge

**Table 3 : Distribution of the respondents according to their social characteristics (n=160)**

Category	Trained (n = 80)						Untrained (n = 80)					
	Regular		Occasional		Never		Regular		Occasional		Never	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
<b>Mass media utilization</b>												
Radio												
General	18	22.50	28	35.00	34	42.50	13	16.25	18	22.50	49	61.25
Agriculture	9	11.25	36	45.00	35	43.75	9	11.25	20	25.00	51	63.75
Television												
General	7	8.75	11	13.75	62	77.50	2	2.50	14	17.50	64	80.00
Agriculture	3	3.75	8	10.00	69	86.25	0	0.00	11	13.75	69	86.25
News paper												
General	4	5.00	14	17.50	62	77.50	0	0.00	14	17.50	66	82.50
Agriculture	1	1.25	17	21.25	62	77.50	0	0.00	13	16.25	67	83.75
<b>Extension participation</b>												
Training	60	75.00	20	25.00	-	-	-	-	5	6.25	75	93.75
Extension meeting	17	21.43	6	7.50	57	71.43	-	-	3	3.75	77	96.25
Field day	46	57.14	26	32.50	9	10.72	9	11.25	16	20.00	56	70.00
Krishimela	58	71.95	23	28.57	-	-	16	20.00	26	32.5	38	47.5
Demonstrations	46	57.14	20	25.00	14	17.50	11	13.75	29	36.25	40	50.00
Field visit	34	42.86	17	21.43	29	35.71	7	8.75	14	17.5	59	73.75
Group discussion	26	32.14	14	17.50	40	50.00	20	25.00	31	38.75	29	36.25
Educational tour	40	50.00	16	20.00	24	30.00	6	7.50	23	28.75	51	63.75

F-Frequency

**Table 4: Overall knowledge level of the trained and untrained farmers with respect to utility of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides (n=160)**

Sr. No.	Categories	Trained (n=80)		Untrained (n=80)	
		F	%	F	%
1.	Low (Mean- 0.425SD)	20	25.00	38	47.50
2.	Medium (Mean ± 0.425SD)	29	36.25	28	35.00
3.	High (Mean + 0.425SD)	31	38.75	14	17.50
	Mean	76.02		28.18	
	S.D.	17.00		12.48	

compared to untrained, because trained farmers participated in trainings organized by KVK, Gulbarga about bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides practices and also they were in regular touch with subject matter specialists of KVK. This might be the reason that trained farmers had more overall knowledge as compared to untrained farmers.

Authors' affiliations:

**S.N. HANCHINAL**, Department of Agricultural Extension Education, College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences, RAICHUR (KARNATAKA) INDIA

**BASAVARAJ PAWAR**, Department of Agricultural Extension Education, College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences, DHARWAD (KARNATAKA) INDIA

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