



Constraints faced by the brinjal growers in adoption of recommended productions technology

D.K. BADHE AND A.S. SAIYAD

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

D.K. BADHE

Department of
Extension Education,
B.A. College of
Agriculture, Anand
Agriculture University,
ANAND (GUJARAT)
INDIA
Email : dhirajbadhe@
rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT

Anand district was selected for the study. 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 revealed that major constraints faced by brinjal growers in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal were high cost of inputs, fluctuations in market rate, unavailability of healthy seedlings, non-availability of labours, high cost of transportation, lack of timely technical guidance, high rate of labours and non-availability of timely credits. The prices of inputs should be minimized, timely technical guidance, good and healthy seedlings be provided, rate of agricultural produce should be regulated and proper marketing facilities should be established were the important suggestions given by brinjal growers for over coming the constraints faced by them.

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INTRODUCTION

Brinjal or egg plant (*Solanum melongea* L.) belongs to Solanaceae family. It 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).

Brinjal is an important and indigenous vegetable crop of India. It contributes 9 per cent of the total vegetable production of the country. It occupies the third position amongst vegetable crops. West Bengal is the largest producer of brinjal followed by Maharashtra and Bihar. The other main states growing brinjal are Karnataka, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh.

Recent data of area and production of the district show that areas under brinjal cultivation have been increased however the yield in downfall year by year. Therefore, there is a wide gap between the average yield of farmer's field and the potential yield of the crop. This indicates that the farmers might be facing

certain problems in brinjal cultivation. Looking to this situation, a study was under taken with the specific objectives : to identify the constraints faced by the farmers in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal and to seek the suggestions from the brinjal growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal.

METHODOLOGY

Anand district was selected 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. A simple ranking technique was applied to measure the constraints faced by brinjal growers and

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suggestions given by them to overcome the constraints faced by them. 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 frequency and percentage.

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Constraints in adoption of new technology never end. However, they can be minimized. Frequency and percentage for each constraint were calculated and on that basis of that, the constraints were ranked and presented in Table 1.

As seen from the Table 1 that major constraints faced by brinjal growers were high cost of inputs (93.33 per cent), fluctuations in market rates (90.00 per cent), unavailability of healthy seedlings (85.00 per cent), non-

availability of labours (81.66 per cent), high cost of transportation (77.50 per cent), lack of technical guidance (75.00 per cent), high rates of labours (71.66 per cent), non-availability of timely credits (60.83 per cent), lack of market facilities (55.83 per cent), irregular supply of irrigation (39.16 per cent), irregular supply of electricity (35.83 per cent) and lack of stress of product (31.66 per cent).

Suggestions made by brinjal growers to overcome the constraints faced by them

The brinjal growers were requested to offer their valuable suggestion against difficulties faced by them in the adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal crop. The data were collected and summarized in Table 2.

It can be inferred from Table 2 that the brinjal growers suggested that prices of inputs should be minimized (93.33

Table 1 : Constraints faced by brinjal growers in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal crop (n = 120)

| Sr. No. | Constraints | Number | Per cent | Rank |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--------|----------|------|
| 1. | Unavailability of healthy seedlings | 102 | 85.00 | III |
| 2. | High cost of inputs | 112 | 93.33 | I |
| 3. | High cost of transportation | 93 | 77.50 | V |
| 4. | Non-availability of labours | 98 | 81.66 | IV |
| 5. | High rates of labours | 86 | 71.66 | VII |
| 6. | Non-availability of credit in time | 73 | 60.83 | VIII |
| 7. | Lack of timely technical guidance | 90 | 75.00 | VI |
| 8. | Irregular supply of irrigation | 47 | 39.16 | X |
| 9. | Irregular supply of electricity | 43 | 35.83 | XI |
| 10. | Lack of market facility | 67 | 55.83 | IX |
| 11. | Lack of stress of product | 38 | 31.66 | XII |
| 12. | Fluctuations in market rate | 108 | 90.00 | II |

Table 2 : Suggestions given by brinjal growers to overcome constraints faced by them (n=120)

| Sr. No. | Suggestions | Number | Per cent | Rank |
|---------|--|--------|----------|------|
| 1. | Minimum price of seed | 112 | 93.33 | I |
| 2. | Good and healthy seedlings | 97 | 80.83 | III |
| 3. | Regular and timely visit of the farm by horticulture officer | 27 | 22.50 | X |
| 4. | Regulation of rate of produce | 83 | 69.17 | IV |
| 5. | Proper marketing facility | 76 | 63.33 | V |
| 6. | Training on new technologies to the farmers | 54 | 45.00 | VIII |
| 7. | Timely technical guidance to the farmers | 104 | 86.67 | II |
| 9. | Guidance to raise nursery | 58 | 48.33 | VII |
| 10. | Sufficient electric power supply | 36 | 30.00 | IX |
| 11. | Sufficient knowledge regarding recommended dose of fertilizer, insecticide / pesticides etc. | 64 | 53.33 | VI |

per cent), provision of timely technical guidance (86.67 per cent), good and healthy seedlings should be provided (80.83 per cent), rate of agricultural produce should be regulated (69.17 per cent), knowledge regarding recommended dose of fertilizer, insecticide / pesticide should be provided (53.33 per cent), guidance on raising nursery (48.33 per cent), training on new technology (45.00 per cent) and regular visit of horticultural officer should be necessary (22.50 per cent).

It can be concluded that major suggestions given by brinjal growers was that prices of inputs should be minimized and there should be timely technical guidance supply of good and healthy seedlings and proper marketing facilities should be provided.

Conclusion:

Findings of this study revealed that major constraints faced by brinjal growers in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal were high cost of inputs, fluctuations in market rate, unavailability of healthy seedlings, non-availability of labours, high cost of

transportation, lack of timely technical guidance, high rate of labours and non-availability of timely credits. The prices of inputs should be minimized, provide timely technical guidance, good and healthy seedlings should be provided, and proper marketing facilities should be established were important suggestions given by brinjal growers for over coming constraints faced by them.

Authors' affiliations:

A.S. SAIYAD, Department of Extension Education, B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agriculture University, ANAND (GUJARAT) INDIA

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