



Adoption of post harvest technology of groundnut by farm women

P.V. DAFALE, V.V. GOHAD AND A.S. BHOYAR

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

V.V. GOHAD

Department of
Extension Education,
Shri Shivaji Agriculture
College, AMRAVATI
(M.S.)INDIA

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in randomly selected four villages in Parbhani and Purna Taluka of Parbhani district with the objective to study the personal and socio-economic characteristics of farm women to assess the adoption of post harvest technology by farm women and to find out relationship of personal characteristics with adoption of post harvest technology and to identify the constraints faced by farm women in adoption of post harvest technology of groundnuts. It was observed from the data that age had negative significant relationship with adoption of post harvest technology of groundnut while family size was having negative but significant relationship with adoption of post harvest technology of groundnut by farm women.

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INTRODUCTION

Women play a significant role in strengthening the economy of family, community and ultimately of the nation. Most of the key operations on farm are done by farm women. They participate in most of the pre and post harvest operations like sowing, intercultural, water management, groundnut harvesting, stripping, decorticating. If the proper post harvest technology is adopted by farmwomen in groundnut farming, they will withstand in the present competitive market and can fetch remunerative prices for their produce. Since farmwomen are the major group involved in post harvest operation of groundnut, there is need to study their socio-economic characteristics and their adoption about post harvest technology of groundnut.

Marathwada Agricultural University Parbhani developed some post harvest machineries for groundnut and disseminated technical guidance to the extension personnel, farmers and farm women. In spite of these efforts, it was seen that adoption of post harvest technologies of groundnut by farm women was considerably low and reason for this may be due to unavailability of inputs, lack of awareness of farm woman about available post harvest technology, lack of knowledge of

post harvest machineries and technologies.

The investigation was therefore undertaken to know the extent of adoption of post harvest technology of groundnut by farmwomen, which will ultimately help in planning strategy for increasing the use of this technology. Though the study was conducted in only one district, care was taken while selecting the villages, where developed post harvest machineries were provided to farm women. This study was also focused on identifying constraints of farm women about adoption of post harvest technology of groundnut.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in Parbhani district of Marathwada region. Two villages were selected from each Taluka randomly viz., Yerandeshwar and Pimpalgaon from Purna and Asola, Karegaon from Parbhani Taluka. The farm women were selected who had been provided with the post harvest machineries under NATP. List of farm women was obtained from the scientists working in NATP project at Home Science College, Marathwada Agriculture University Parbhani. Thus, the sample of 120 farmwomen was selected for the study.

Key words :

Adoption, Post
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Data were collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of specially designed and pre-tested interview schedule. The statistical methods such as frequency and percentage, mean, correlation coefficient were used for analysis of data. For this study, four important post harvest machineries and six post harvest operations were considered *viz.*, groundnut digger, groundnut stripper, groundnut decorticator, grading machine and drying, grading, storage, marketing, transporting, respectively. Constraints found during pre-testing were structured according to the developed post harvest technology and machineries of groundnut. Age, education, annual income, family size, land holding, socio-economic status, social participation, source of information, market orientation were studied as independent variables while adoption was taken as dependent variable.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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

From Table 1 it was observed that variables like education, annual income, land holding, source of information, socio-economic status, social participation and market orientation were positive and having significant relationship with adoption of post harvest technology of groundnut. Deshmukh (1994) reported SES and market orientation were positively related with adoption technology. Whereas age showed negative significant relationship with adoption. The similar type of finding was reported by Darba (1997). The family size had negative and non-significant relationship with adoption.

Table 1: Relationship of personal characteristics of farmwomen with adoption

Sr. No.	Variables	Coefficient of correlation
1.	Age	-0.309**
2.	Education	0.633**
3.	Annual income	0.560**
4.	Family size	-0.009 NS
5.	Land holding	0.759**
6.	Socio-economic status	0.892**
7.	Social participation	0.502**
8.	Source of information	0.733**
9.	Market orientation	0.722**

NS=Non-significant

Among the socio-physiological constraints, 37.5 per cent of the respondents, said that neighbours do not adopt any post harvest machineries for groundnut, 43.33 per cent respondents said that they do not want to leave the traditional method of harvesting. While 45.83 per cent of the respondents expressed that they were afraid of using new post harvest machineries and technology. Regarding situational constraints, 54.16 per cent expressed that they had less production of groundnut, 58.33 per cent respondents mentioned non-availability of separate space for post harvest machineries. From economical constraints, 8.33 per cent respondents felt that the cost of post harvest machinery is high, while 4.16 per cent respondents reported constraints about repair and maintenance.

From the class of informational source, 35.83 per cent respondents reported inadequate availability of mass

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to the constraints faced by farmwomen about post harvest machineries

Sr. No.	Items	Number	Percentage
1.	Socio-psychological constraints		
	Neighbours do not adopt	45	37.5
	Reluctant to leave traditional methods	52	43.33
	Afraid of using new machineries and technologies	55	45.83
2.	Situational constraints		
	Less production of groundnut	65	54.16
	Non-availability of space for machine cost	70	58.33
3.	Economic constraints		
	High cost of machine	10	8.33
	High repair and maintenance cost	5	4.16
4.	Information source constraints		
	Inadequate availability of mass media in village	43	35.83
	Lack of training among farmwomen about developed post harvest machinery and technology of groundnut	80	66.66

media in the village and 66.66 per cent respondents reported lack of training about post harvest machineries. Deshmukh (2002) also reported finance was the major constraints faced by farmer for adoption of new technology.

Authors' affiliations:

P.V. DAFALE AND A.S.BHOYAR , Department of Extension Education, College of Agriculture, Marathwada Agricultural University, PARBHANI (M.S.) INDIA

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