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Training needs for Bhil Tribes for agriculture and allied activities in Rajgarh district Madhya Pradesh

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■ **ABSTRACT :** Tribal people, scheduled tribes and castes constitute the weakest section of India's population. Madhya Pradesh is one of the largest states of our country having 22.7 per cent of tribal people.The present study was conducted in Narsinghgarh block of Rajgarh district of Madhya Pradesh covering 90 Bhil tribal men. Eighty four per cent men had low level of knowledge in Agriculture. The variables like education, land holding, socio-economic status, improved agriculture technology, economic motivation and scientific orientation were found to be significant with the knowledge of farm men. It was found that majority of the respondents had expressed their low level of knowledge with respect to all agriculture activities. The constraints expressed were less contact with extension workers, problem of irrigation, lack of proper guidance, economic problem and non availability of inputs at time.

■ **KEY WORDS :** Training, Need, Agriculture, Tribal

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India has the second largest concentrations of tribal population in the world after the African continent. According to 2001 census, the tribal population was about 22.51 per cent of the total population and in Madhya Pradesh this was 22.27 per cent of the total population. The average yield of crops in Madhya Pradesh may increase through rigorous training in the improved agricultural technology. But, the majority of the tribal farmers are not imparted with these technologies. Since most of the recent technological developments could not reach these people due to inadequate communication facilities. Lack of information is causing a wide gap. There is a paucity of knowledge among the tribal farmers about the improved agricultural technology and its rate of training. The tribal people need to train about scientific farming. One of the base to impart new knowledge and skills to the farmers is to have a training which make the person more informed and abreast of the new technology. Training of farmer has assumed further importance and urgency in the context of the high yielding varieties and improved practices in agriculture and allied fields. Training is effective and purposeful, If it is based on and synchronized with the local needs and requirements (Mahapatra, 1978 , Farooqui *et al.*, 1992 and Gupta *et al.*, 2008). The present study was taken up with view to identify the socio-economic personal characteristics of the tribal men farmer of the area and also the study of the training needs as perceived by the tribal men farmer regarding agricultural technologies and relationship between training needs and selected independent variables.

■ METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted at Narsingarh block of Rajgarh district in Madhya Pradesh during the year 2010 consisting highest population of tribal community. In Narsingarh block, out of 272 villages, six villages were selected with the help of random sampling methods namely Bairasia, Kankrbal, Mabasa, Nandgaon, Pipledhakad, Bhilkhedi.

Selection of the respondents:

A list of farmers (who have owned land) selected from six villages was obtained from the Patwari circle. 15 male farmers were selected from each selected village by simple random sampling method. Thus, 90 respondents were selected for this study.

The data were collected by personal interview method with the help of pre-tested schedule. The knowledge level

pertaining to production technology of agriculture and allied activities was measured to on low and high level score was assigned, respectively. The training needs of each major areas was assessed using two point scale such as high level and low level of knowledge. The training needs of each major subject matter areas and specific areas were assessed using two point scale. The collected data were analyzed by using the statistical tests.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The experimental findings obtained from the present study have been discussed in following heads:

Knowledge level of tribal farmers:

The respondents were categorized into two group's base on the knowledge score about the tribal farm men in agriculture. The data on the practices in each of the crops like soybean, maize, paddy, niger, lentil, wheat and those crops grown by the respondent were identified and included for the present study (Table 1). Data reveal that 84.4 per cent had low level knowledge in agriculture, and 15.6 per cent had high level of knowledge in agriculture. The majority belongs to low level knowledge about agriculture may be due to their level of education and scientific orientation towards production practices. The similar results were also reported by Murugan and Dharmalingam (2005).

Table 1 : Knowledge level of tribal farm men in agriculture (n=90)

Level of knowledge	Number	Per cent
Low	76	84.4
High	14	15.6

Relationship between the knowledge and socio -economic characteristics of tribal men:

The results in Table 2 indicate that out of ten variables nine variable were found significant at 0.05 level of provability. The variables like education, family size, land holding, annual income, social participants, socio economic status, improved Agriculture technology, knowledge level and innovative proneness had significant association with the extent of training needs of tribal men, however age had non significant association with the knowledge level and training needs of tribal (Shivalingaiah and Nagabhushnam, 2010).

Training needs of tribal farm men with respect to their knowledge level:

The data given in Table 3 indicated that, among 90 male respondents. 88.9 per cent respondents showed high training needs while 11.1 per cent showed low training needs in field preparation. Data indicated that out of the total 90 respondents. 77.8 per cent respondents showed high training needs while

Table 2 : Relationship between the knowledge and socio economic characteristics of tribal men

Sr. No.	Characteristics	X^2
1.	Age	1.02 ^{NS}
2.	Education	7.56**
3.	Family size	5.93**
4.	Annual income	6.55**
5.	Land holding	12.29**
6.	Social participants	7.78**
7.	Socio economic status	5.82**
8.	Improved agriculture technology	10.54**
9.	Knowledge level	7.82**
10.	Innovativeness	6.56**

** indicates significance of value at P=0.05

22.2 per cent showed low training needs in sowing techniques and knowledge of improved varieties, 68.9 8 per cent respondents showed high training needs while 30.1 per cent men showed low training needs.

Regarding training needs in seed treatment and use of biofertilizer as perceived by male respondents, 91.1 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 8.9 per cent male showed low training needs. 71.1 per cent respondents showed high training needs while 28.9 per cent showed low training needs for the use of chemical fertilizers. 97.8 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 2.2 per cent male showed low training needs for the use of micro nutrients.

Among all the 90 male respondents. 84.4 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 15.6 per cent male showed low training needs for the manure application, respectively and 77.8 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 22.2 per cent male showed low training needs for the mechanical weed control practices. Training needs in chemical weed control measures as perceived by the male respondents, it is clear from the data that 98.9 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 1.1 per cent male showed low training needs for the chemical weed control measures. 87.8 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 12.2 per cent male showed low training needs for the plant protection measures. 88.9 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 11.1 per cent male showed low training needs for the soil and water management techniques, fisheries and improved agriculture implements, respectively. 90 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 10 per cent male showed low training needs for the method of storage and post harvest technologies, respectively. 86.7 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 13.3 per cent male showed low training needs for the marketing. Out of the total 90 male respondents. 91.1 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 8.9 per cent male showed low training

Table 3 : Training needs of tribal farm men with respect to their knowledge level

Sr. No.	Agriculture activities	Level of knowledge high		Level of knowledge low	
		No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
1.	Field preparation	80	88.9	10	11.1
2.	Sowing techniques	70	77.8	20	22.2
3.	Use of improved varieties	62	68.9	28	30.1
4.	Seed treatment	82	91.1	8	8.9
5.	Use of chemical fertilizer	64	71.1	26	28.9
6.	Use of Bio fertilizer	82	91.1	8	8.9
7.	Application of manure	76	84.4	14	15.6
8.	Use of micronutrient	88	97.8	02	2.2
9.	Mechanical weed control	70	77.8	20	22.2
10.	Chemical weed control	89	98.9	01	1.1
11.	Plant protection	79	87.8	11	12.2
12.	Soil and water management	80	88.9	10	11.1
13.	Improved agriculture implements	80	88.9	10	11.1
14.	Method of storage	81	90	09	10
15.	Post harvest technologies	81	90	09	10
16.	Marketing of products	78	86.7	12	13.3
17.	Animal husbandry and dairy production technology	82	91.1	08	8.9
18.	Fisheries	80	88.9	10	11.1
19.	Horticulture, vegetable and floriculture technology	82	91.1	08	8.9
20.	Poultry production	83	92.2	07	7.8
21.	Bee keeping and sericulture	83	92.2	07	7.8
22.	Goat rearing	83	92.2	07	7.8

Table 4 : Constraints faced by farm men in various farm management operations

Sr. No.	Problem	No.	Per cent
1.	Never received any type of training.	88	95
2.	Less contact with extension workers	81	90
3.	Lack of proper guidance	65	70
4.	Non Availability of inputs	74	80
5.	Problems of irrigation	84	93.3
6.	Economic problem	84	93.3

needs for the animal husbandry and dairy production and horticulture, vegetable and floriculture, respectively. 92.2 per cent male respondents showed high training needs while 7.8 per cent male showed low training needs for the poultry production, Beekeeping and sericulture, respectively .

Constraints faced by farm men in various farm management operations:

Table 4 shows that 95 per cent of the tribal respondents never received any training on any aspects including improved cultivation technologies .Less contact with extension workers, problem of irrigation, lack of proper guidance, economic problem and non availability of inputs were major problem as perceived by 90 per cent, 93.3 per cent, 70 per cent, 93.3 per cent 80 per cent, respectively.

Thus, it can be concluded that the problems mentioned above needs to be tackle as the above aspects have a direct impact on the post training activities and final adoption.

Conclusion:

A majority of tribal men have low level of knowledge in the agriculture and the variables like education, farming experience, level of aspiration, cosmopolitans, economic motivation and innovative proneness were found to have relation with the knowledge level of tribal men. The constraints expressed were non availability of input in time, lack of irrigation facilities, lack of training etc. as major problem in farming. There is need for reaching the tribal men with

different extension and training programmes effectively and necessary steps to be taken to increase gender specific research work to improve the content of extension message that are appropriate for farmers.

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