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Adoption of recommended package of practices of kagzilime by the growers

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ABSTRACT

About, seventy per cent and eighty five per cent area in India and Maharashtra comes under rainfed farming, respectively. It is an urgent need to exploit the new avenues to increase the production from rainfed areas by adopting modem technology. It is generally observed that only 30 to 40 per cent of modern technology is adopted by fruit growers. There is dearth of research studies on the aspect of adoption level of recommended package of practices of kagzilime. Majority of the respondents (44.16 per cent) adopted the advocated kagzilime cultivation practices to a medium extent. The characteristics like education, social participation, source of information, knowledge, socio-economic status, annul income, were positively and significantly related with adoption of kagzilime production technology.

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Key words : Recommended package adoption, Growers, Kagzilime

INTRODUCTION

The contribution of various citrus fruits amongst all the horticultural crops is dominating on account of their deistic and healthful properties. Citrus fruits are the chief source of calcium, mineral salts, pectin, cellulose, vitamin A, B and excellent source of vitamin C, coupled with certain fruit sugars and salts which constitute important health promoting ingredients. Kagzilime is one of the important citrus species widely grown in India for various purposes. Now days it has gained importance as a common kitchen garden tree increasing rapidly due to successful horticulture development programme of Maharashtra Government.

It is generally observed that only 30 to 40 per cent of modern technology is adopted by fruit growers. As such, there always appears adoption gap between recommended technology by the scientists and its use at farmer's level. A number of studies on adoption of recommended package of practices of fruit crops and other citrus crops are available but there is a dearth of research studies on the aspect of adoption level of recommended practices of kagzilime. Thus, there is a need to analyse the extent of adoption of recommended practices of this crop by the growers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Shrigonda tehasil of Ahmednagar district as there is comparatively large area under kagzilime cultivation. From this tehasil ten villages were selected by random sampling method and from each village 10 farmers were selected randomly. In all 100 respondents constituted the sample for the study. The data were collected with the help of structured schedule by personally interviewing the farmers. Frequency, percentages and coefficient of correlation were worked out for analysing and interpretation of data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The experimental findingsas influenced by different parameters are discussed below :

Adoption of recommended package of practices of kagzilime:

Adoption level:

It is evident from Table 1 that majority of kagzi lime growers about recommended cultivation practices of kagzi lime growers (44.16 per cent) had medium level of Adoption of recommended Kagzi lime cultivation technology. There were 30.84 per cent and 25.00 per cent of the growers having high and low level of adoption, respectively. The present findings corroborate the results of Narkar *et al.* (2004).

Practice wise knowledge level:

Distribution of the respondents according to practice

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Table 1 : Distribution of the respondents according to the level of overall adoption of recommended package of practices of kagzilime

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low adoption	37	30.84
2.	Medium adoption	53	44.16
3.	High adoption	30	25.00

wise adoption of kagzilime production technology (Table 2) revealed that cent per cent of the respondents had completely adopted the recommended practices about selection of soil (100.00%), while majority of them had adopted recommended practices like storage of fruits, (69.17%), irrigation water management (66.67%), planting time (66.67%), care while planting (57.50 %), planting distance (53.33%), preparatory tillage (53.33%), and less than fifty per cent of the respondents were found to be adopted recommended practices about fruit packing (45.00%), fruit harvesting (40.00%), size of pit (35.00%), marketing (32.50%), intercropping (30.00%), However very rare respondents were adopted recommended practices about application of manures and fertilizers (22.50%), pest and its control measures (20.83%), propagation (13.33%), diseases and its control measures (10.83%), climate (10.83%), bahar management (10.00%), grading of fruits (9.17%), special care to prevent dropping of flowers (6.67%), transportation of fruits (5.83%), intercultural operations (3.33%), while no were respondents found to adopted recommended varieties.

Table 2 : Practice wise adoption of recommended cultivation practices by kagzi lime growers

Sr. No.	Recommended cultivation practices	Per cent
1.	Selection of soil	100.00
2.	Climate	10.83
3.	Preparatory tillage	53.33
4.	Planting time	66.67
5.	Planting distance	40.00
6.	Size of pit	64.17
7.	Care while planting	3.33
8.	Recommended varieties	20.83
9.	Propagation	32.50
10.	Inter cropping	30.00
11.	Application of manures and fertilizers	10.00
12.	Bahar management	9.17
13.	Special care to prevent dropping of flowers	5.83
14.	Intercultural operations	69.17
15.	Irrigation water management	22.50
16.	Pest and its control measures	13.33
17.	Diseases and their control measures	45.00
18.	Fruit harvesting	10.00
19.	Grading of fruits	46.67
20.	Fruit packing	85.83
21.	Storage of fruits	6.67
22.	Transportation of fruits	35.00
23.	Marketing	0.00

Relationship of selected characteristic of respondents with adoption of recommended package of practices for kagzilime:

It could be observed from Table 3 that the characteristics like education, social participation, source of information, knowledge, socio-economic status, annul income possessed positive significant relationship with adoption of recommended cultivation practices of kagzilime. These findings are in conformity with the findings of Dighe (1982), Lokhande (1990), Deshmukh (1995), Ahire (1997), Narkar *et al.* (2004).

Age and size of family were found to be having negative and highly significant relationship with adoption of recommended technology of kagzilime and this finding has been supported by Lokhande (1990), Narkar *et al.* (2004). However, size of land holding did not show any relationship with adoption of recommended package of practice of kagzilime. It was observed that majority of respondents (44.16 per cent) adopted the advocated kagzilime cultivation practices to a medium extent. While the remaining growers 30.84 per cent and 25.00 per cent had low and high adoption, respectively.

Table 3 : Relationship of personal, social and psychological characteristics of kagzilime growers with adoption

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Coefficient of correlation 'r' value
1.	Age	-0.572**
2.	Education	0.814**
3.	Family size	-0.328**
4.	Land holding	-0.028^{NS}
5.	Annual income	0.298**
6.	Social participation	0.225*
7.	Knowledge	0.907**
8.	Extension contact	0.234*
9.	Socio economic status	0.229*

* and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01,

For increase in the adoption level there is a need of technical knowledge and skill which should be provided to the kagzilime growers by the concerned extension

agency by organizing training programmes, method and result demonstrations, group discussions and field visits. Mass Media like radio, television and extension literature can also be used in this context. The adoption gap observed in practices like use of good varieties and rootstock, planting and fertilizer use needs to be minimized. Providing subsidies for purchasing fertilizers and pesticides may enhance their proper adoption. Further, the characteristics *viz.*, education, social participation, source of information, knowledge, socio-economic status, annul income were positively and significantly related with adoption of kagzilime production technology and therefore, while imparting technical knowledge to the kagzilime growers through the above mentioned method, the efforts and involvement of concerned extension agency is required in this area to bridge the gap.

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