

Research Note

Knowledge of seed growers about seed production technologies

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ARTICLE CHRONICLE :

Received :

19.06.2013;

Accepted :

28.10.2013

SUMMARY : The study was conducted in Amravati district during academic year 2012-13. Total 120 respondents were selected from 11 villages of Amravati district. For this, primary data were collected by using random sampling method. The respondents selected for survey were having minimum 1 acre area. It was observed that the characteristics namely, age, education, land holding, annual income, extension contact, economic motivation had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the respondents at 0.01 per cent level of significance, while social participation, experience in farming with knowledge level and family type had negative and non-significant with knowledge level of the respondents. It was observed that with regarding to problem faced majority 91.66 per cent respondents had faced problem with lack of timely availability of skilled laboures and high cost of labour charges. 79.16 per cent respondent had faced problem with high cost of fertilizer. 66.66 per cent respondent had faced problem with high cost of plant protection chemicals. 46.66 per cent respondent had faced problem with lack of timely availability irrigation.

How to cite this article : Shinde, B.N., Gohad, V.V. and Shedge, V.R. (2013). Knowledge of seed growers about seed production technologies. *Agric. Update*, 8(4): 687-688.

KEY WORDS :

Knowledge, Seed growers, Seed production

Seed is a vital input and a dynamic component for increasing agricultural production. Quality seed has been acknowledged as one of the basic agricultural input essential for continued development of Indian agricultural. Use of improved and quality seed is one of the ways of increasing agricultural production. Improved seed gives better returns to the farmers. Improved seed possess disease and pest resistance, shorter duration and tolerance against unfavorable climatic conditions.

The development of seed enterprise is absolutely necessary in the context of modern agriculture. Much of our success in increasing food production has been due to the development of seed enterprise over the past decade. Demand at present is strong and expected to continue expanding. India is now embarked on the development of first class seed industry which the country needs. Scientific research would be a little value unless farmer get seeds which are

genetically pure and possess other desired qualities namely high germination percentage and high vigour, high purity and sound health. When the farmers do not get seed possessing these qualities and values the yields they obtain may not be as expected. Seed with assured quality can be expected to respond to fertilizers and other input in the expected manner. Otherwise as has been aptly said, what are known as the seeds of hope may turn into seeds of frustration?

It has been noticed that among the input used by farmers, cost of seed remains the lowest. It is a basic input and forms only a small part of the total expenses yet, without good seeds the investment on other input will not pay the desired returns.

Amravati district was purposively selected for study as number of seed growers were available in the district and it was convenient to the researcher to conduct the study. The list of the seed growers of soybean crops in Amravati district were obtained from Mahabej office.

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Thus, the following 11 villages were selected as sample villages.

The information from the respondent was collected by personal interview methods and their responses were considered for the purpose of present study. Data related to the knowledge of seed grower about seed production technologies and constraints faced by farmers while knowledge of seed growers about seed production technologies were analysed by the mean, S.D., correlation and t-test methods.

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

Relational analysis :

In order to find out the relationship of the selected characteristics of the respondents with their knowledge and adoption, correlation co-efficient was worked out. The results obtained from the relational analysis have been presented below.

The correlation co-efficient of knowledge with profile characteristics of respondents has been furnished in Table 1.

Table 1 : Correlation between personal, socio-economic and psychological characteristics of respondents and their knowledge level

Sr. No.	Variables	Knowledge	
		r' values	t t l values
1.	Age	0.2504	2.8089**
2.	Education	0.2199	2.4480**
3.	Experience in farming	0.0231	0.2452 (NS)
4.	Family type	-0.0456	0.4740 (NS)
5.	Land holding	0.6036	8.2214
6.	Annual income	0.2558	2.8735**
7.	Extension contact	0.3388	3.910**
8.	Social participation	0.0842	0.9177 (NS)
9.	Economic motivation	0.2270	2.5312**

NS = Non-significant, ** Indicate significance of value at P=0.01

Knowledge and their independent variables :

It was observed that the characteristics namely, age, education, land holding, annual income, extension contact, economic motivation had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the respondents at 0.01 per cent level significance (Table 1). However, social participation, experience in farming had positive and non-significant relationship with knowledge level. Family type had negative and non-significant with knowledge level of the respondents. This finding is supported by the findings made by Sasane *et al.* (2010) and Jadhav (2006).

From the Table 2 it was observed that 91.66 per cent

respondents had faced problem with lack of timely availability of skilled labourers and high cost of labour charges. 79.16 per cent respondent had faced problem with high cost of fertilizer. 66.66 per cent respondent had faced problem with High cost of plant protection chemicals . 46.66 per cent respondent had faced problem with lack of timely availability irrigation.

Table 2 : Problem faced by the respondents in knowledge and adoption of seed production technology

Sr. No.	Problems	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Lack of timely availability of skilled labourers and high labour cost	110	91.66
2.	High cost of plant protection chemicals	80	66.66
3.	High cost of fertilizer	95	79.16
4.	Lack of timely availability irrigation	56	46.66

This finding is supported by the findings made by Wavare (2006) and Jagtap (2003).

Conclusion:

It was observed that the characteristics namely, age, education, land holding, annual income, extension contact, economic motivation had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the respondents at 0.01 per cent level significance.

However, social participation, experience in farming had positive and non-significant relationship with knowledge level. Family type had negative and non-significant with knowledge level of the respondents.

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