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A study on knowledge level of trainees of recommended technologies given by PKKV, Pondicherry

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Abstract

The study was aimed to access the knowledge level of trainees about the recommended technologies organised by Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pondicherry. The study was conducted in four villages where more number of trainees were participated. Sample sizes of 120 respondents were selected using proportionate random sampling method. An ex-post facto research design was adopted for the study. The data were collected by using a well-structured interview schedule. The data were analysed by cumulative frequency method and percentage analysis. The result of the study revealed that around forty per cent of the trainees possessed medium to high knowledge. Around seventy per cent of the trainees acquired knowledge on recommended varieties, seed treatment with fungicide, seed treatment with bio fertilizer and irrigation management.

Keywords: technologies, trainees, irrigation management

Introduction

Training of human resource is crucial for speedy socio economic development of any nation. The best way to make use of the potential capabilities of farmers is to provide them with opportunities for improving the existing knowledge and skill through training. Krishi Vigyan Kendra will impart training to practising farmers. KVK act as the training centres for transfer of the technology with an aim to reduce the time lag between technologies. Evaluation of training programme organised for farmers, farm women and rural youth would provide an understanding of their effectiveness so as to improve them. Agricultural technologies and practices are constantly changing hence training plays a crucial role in keeping the farmers abreast with these advancement in the agricultural sector. Training must have positive impact on knowledge and skill of the trainees that subsequently results in adoption. Present study attempted to study the impact of training in terms of knowledge gain by the trainees after undergoing training programme from Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pondicherry.

Methodology

The present study was taken up in Union Territory of Pondicherry where the KVK was located. The respondents selected are KVK trainees. The crop production discipline was purposively selected as the study focussed on Agriculture. A list of trainees who attended training on various topics as pest management, weed control, crop production was obtained. A sample size of 120 respondents was selected purposively for the study. The numbers of respondents from each village were selected using proportional random sampling technique.

Findings and discussion

Knowledge about an idea or practice helps an individual to go for adoption. Hence, as a step towards assessing the extent of adoption of recommended technologies by the respondents with regard to twenty practices, knowledge level was studied and the salient findings are presented in table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their knowledge level n=120

S. No	Category	Per cent
1	Low	13.33
2	Medium	41.67
3	High	45.00
	Total	100.00

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It could be observed from the table 1, that 45.00 per cent of the respondents had high level of knowledge followed by 41.67 per cent of the respondents with medium level of Knowledge. It could also be observed that 13.33 per cent of the respondents had low knowledge level. The medium to high level knowledge of the respondents might be due to the training programme organised by KVK made a significant impact among the trainees to gain knowledge on various practices for paddy crop. Further mass media exposure and extension agency contact might also responsible for the more knowledge of the respondents. This finding is on line with the findings of Sathiyamoorthi (2016) [4].

Practice wise knowledge level of trainees about the recommended technologies

Twenty practices were selected for assessing the knowledge level of the respondents. Results regarding the practice wise knowledge level of trainees are furnished in the table 2

Table 2: Practice wise knowledge level of trainees about the recommended technologies n=120

S. No	Knowledge items	Per cent
A	Varieties	
1	Varieties recommended	66.67
2	Quantity of seeds recommended	73.33
	Mean	70.00
B	Seed treatment with fungicide	
3	Recommended fungicide	73.33
4	Quantity of fungicide recommended	66.67
	Mean	70.00
C	Seed treatment with bio fertilizer	
5	Recommended bio fertilizer	76.67
6	Bio fertilizer packet requirement	65.00
	Mean	70.83
D	Nutrient Management	
7	FYM recommended	81.66
8	Recommended fertilizers	66.67
9	Split doses recommended	41.67
	Mean	60.41
E	Irrigation management	
10	Irrigation time	70.00
11	Interval of irrigation	71.60
	Mean	70.80
F	Weed management	
12	First weeding	93.33
13	Interval of weeding	76.76
14	Recommended weedicide	12.50
15	Quantity of weedicide	6.67
	Mean	47.31
G	Plant protection measures	
16	Reason for summer ploughing	81.66
17	Recommended pest resistant variety	41.67
18	Biological agent present in the field	66.67
19	Recommended pesticide	41.67
20	Recommended quantity of pesticide	37.50
	Mean	53.83

It may be seen from the table 2 that seven major categories and 20 practices were selected for assessing the knowledge level of the trainees.

Varieties

It could be seen from the table that 66.67 per cent of the respondents had knowledge on recommended varieties. As the variety selection is more important for the production the trainees had taken more steps in collecting information about

the varieties. The extension agency contact was more and they obtained information. Around seventy five percent of trainees had knowledge on the Quantity of seeds recommended.

Seed treatment with fungicide

It could be seen from the table that 73.33 per cent of the respondents had knowledge on recommended fungicide. Trainees reveal that they learnt more about the fungicide treatment as it is the prime step to avoid the occurrence of diseases.

Seed treatment with bio fertilizer

More than three-fourths 76.67 percent of the trainees had more knowledge on bio fertilizer for seed treatment followed by 65.00 percent of the trainees had knowledge on bio fertilizer packet requirement. The trainees might have aware about the importance of bio fertilizer in increasing the production and productivity. This finding is on line with the findings of Mooventhan (2006) [2].

Nutrient Management

More than 80.00 percent of the trainees had knowledge about Farm Yard Manure recommendation. This may be due to the more experience of the trainees in farming activity. Two-third of the trainees had knowledge on recommended fertilizer. Around forty per cent of the trainees had knowledge about recommended split doses of fertilizer. The fertilizer calculations were difficult to understand and it leads to less knowledge.

Irrigation Management

Around 70.00 percent of the trainees had knowledge about the irrigation management. This might be due to the fact that farmers believe that recommended irrigation practice would influence the yield level and increase in the production. This finding is on line with the findings of Manikandan (2010) [1].

Weed Management

Less than 20.00 percent of the trainees possessed knowledge on recommended weedicide and quantity of weedicide. The farmers were not interested to go for weedicide as it affect the soil and few farmers were also reported that the name of the weedicide was not able to remember and it leads to poor knowledge.

Plant protection

More than 80.00 percent of the trainees had knowledge about the reason for summer ploughing, this may be due to the more experience of the farmers in farming activities. Less than 50.00 percent of the trainees had knowledge about recommended pest resistant variety, recommended pesticide and recommended quantity of pesticide. The trainees were not possessed knowledge may require proper attention and repetition of information during the training programme will helps in acquiring better knowledge. This finding is on line with the findings of Parthasarathi *et al.* [3]

Conclusion

In a nutshell, the training had a positive impact on trainees. Training will be gained successful only when the trainees acquired knowledge and applied in the field. The productivity and profitability in agriculture in this region can be enhanced by disseminating improved production, technology among farming community. KVK should give more training on different topic so as to increase the agricultural production.

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