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EFFECT OF TRAINING PROGRAMME ON FARMERS IN ADILABAD DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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ABSTRACT

There was significant difference between the trainees and non-trainees regarding the knowledge and adoption of soil fertility management practices. The knowledge and adoption behaviour had positively and highly significant correlation with education and training.

Key words: KVK, Adilabad, soil fertility management, knowledge, adoption behaviour

Introduction

Present study was undertaken to analyse impact of training program on the level of knowledge and extent of adoption of soil fertility management practices at Adilabad District of Andhra Pradesh (A. P.).

Material and Methods

Training programme on soil fertility management was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adilabad during the year 2008- 2009. In order to measure the impact of the training programme on knowledge and adoption behaviour of the farmers the study was conducted by following Ex post facto research design (Dubey et al. 2008). The total sample size was 50, out of which 25 were trainees and 25 were non trainee farmers from four villages namely Pataguda, Toyaguda, Dubbaguda and Pittabongaram. The data were collected using well structured pre- tested interview schedule (Dubey and Srivastava, 2007) and descriptive statistics such as percentages and means were used to summarize the data. Simple correlation test was used to find out the nature of relationship between trainees and non-trainees.

Results and Discussion

Majority of the trainee farmers (60%) showed higher level of knowledge, whereas majority (84%) non trainee farmers were found to possess lower level of knowledge. There was significant difference between trainees and non trainees with respect to the knowledge levels. The findings are in conformity with those of Ratna Sree (1992), Dubey and Srivastava (2007).

All of the trainees had adopted soil test based application of balanced nutrients (100%) spot application (92%), spilt application (88%), timely nutrient application (72%), crop selection (80%), pulse based cropping (84%). More than half of the trainees (60%) used additional application of organic manure and bio-fertilizer. Whereas 36 % non-trainees adopted soil testing, 56 % split dose of fertilizer application, 24 % spot application, 16 % broadcasting, 60 % timely nutrient application, 52 % crop selection based on soil properties and fertility, and 68% pulse based cropping system. Regarding the soil fertility management practice 56 % of the trainees used heavy machinery for farm operation, whereas 84 % of the non trainees used heavy machinery Overall, 74.8% trainees adopted

the soil fertility management practices, whereas only 38 per cent of non-trainees adopted the same practices.

Majority (48%) of the trainees showed higher levels of adoption, 36 % medium level, while 4 % low level of adoption, whereas only 16% of the non-trainees represented higher level of adoption, 20 % medium level of adoption and 64 % lower level of adoption. There was significant difference between trainees and non trainees with respect to the extent of adoption of soil fertility management practices. Similar findings were reported by Reddy et al. (1991), Singh and Singh (1991), and Troung et al. (1999). Education had positive correlation with knowledge and training (R^2 = 0.65 and 0.47 respectively). Regarding adoption behaviour of farmers, significant positive correlation was observed with education and training (R^2 = 0.44 and 0.40 respectively).

It can thus be concluded that, trained farmers had more knowledge and better adoption practices and behaviour about soil fertility management. Hence, KVK training programmes play an important role in technology transfer and implementation.

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