

SOURCES OF INFORMATION UTILIZED BY TRIBAL FARMERS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF ADOPTION IN NAGLI CULTIVATION

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ABSTRACT

India has largest concentrations of tribal population in the world after Africa. Gujarat ranks fourth in the schedule tribal population with 37.34 lakhs. Dharampur taluka of Valsad district, has dominated under nagli cultivation with an average production of about 1000 kg / ha. Dharampur taluka purposively selected for present study and out of them ten villages were selected at random. Twenty respondents from each selected village were chosen at random which makes 200 sample size. The data of this study were collected by arranging personal interview and were analyzed by simple percentage, mean, standard, division and chi - square in light of objectives. In all the practices, and in all the stages of adoption, mostly personal localities source like neighbours, friends, relatives were mostly utilized by the nagli cultivators followed by the VLW, Extension officers, Radio etc.

INTRODUCTION

India has largest concentrations of tribal population in the world after Africa. Gujarat ranks fourth in the size of schedule tribes' and among all the states were first three are Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar. According to 1981 census Gujarat State has 37.34 lakhs tribal population out of 13.99 per cent of the total. It means one out of ten tribal in the country lives in Gujarat. The tribal population of Gujarat state is mainly concentrated in eastern parts of the Gujarat state from Valsad in South to Banaskantha district in North.

Agriculture is a mainstay of tribal people of Dharampur taluka. Their main agriculture consists of raising coarse food grains such as, rice and millets with the use of traditional low yielding varieties and poor or no application of manures and fertilizers. Moreover, traditional cultivation practices are also prevailing. It involves cleaning of forest slopes, burning the fallen trees and bushes and dibbling or broadcasting the seed in the ash covered soil. The rest is left to nature. Dharampur taluka has 54, 074 cultivated hectares, 10, 025 hectares are cultivated under Nagli cultivation

with an average production of about 1000 kg / ha.

Agricultural researches have obviously reached the stage where none could possibly overlook the immense potentiality that the science processes and exploitation of the research for progress. Hence, as is stated above, effective communication is the essence of progress in different sources of information through which farmers become aware about the agriculture techniques and the sources used at every stage of adoption after being aware of the innovation. Question arises as to why the cultivators do or do not use a particular information source therefore, it becomes necessary to know which source they accord maximum authenticity and trustworthiness.

METHODOLOGY

Dharampur taluka of Valsad district which was purposively selected. Ten villages from Dharampur taluka were selected at random. Twenty respondents from each selected village were chosen at random. The sample consisted of 200 respondents. The data of this study were collected by arranging personal interview by using a pretested interview schedule with 200

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respondents. The data were analyzed by simple percentage, mean, standard, division and chi - square in light of objectives. Four selected improved practices of Nagli cultivation were taken to know the adoption level and were calculated by using the adoption index.

$$\text{Adoption index} = \frac{\text{Actual adoption of practices}}{\text{Recommended practices}} \times 100$$

For quantifying the data, one score was given to each practice adopted either fully or in part and adoption index was calculated for each respondent. Moreover, frequency and percentage of practices were calculated for extent of adoption. Later on for grouping the respondents into different categories of adoption, the following statistical procedure was adopted.

FINDINGS

This part dealt with the sources of information utilized by the nagli cultivators at different stages of adoption for different practices. We had seen that none of the respondent followed the improved varieties and storage facilities for nagli crop.

Above table clearly indicated that for obtaining information for seed treatment of nagli cultivation, the nagli cultivators used friends (21.00 per cent), neighbours (15.00 per cent), radio (14.50 per cent) and relatives (13.00 per cent) at awareness stage of adoption. They utilized neighbours (19.00 per cent), local leader (15.50 per cent), relatives (15.00 per cent) and friends (13.00 per cent) at interest storage of adoption. They were also used the sources like local leader (24.00 per cent), VLW (15.00 per cent), friends (14.00 per cent) and extension officers (12.50 per cent) at evaluation stage of adoption. The respondents used local leader (20.00 per cent), VLW (18.50 per cent) radio (14.00 per cent) and extension officers (12.50 per cent) sources of information of trial stage of adoption. The respondents used VLW (22.00 per cent), local leader (20.00 per cent), extension officer (16.00 per cent) and radio (14.00 per cent) sources of information at adoption stage of adoption stage

of adoption process.

Now, in case of manure and fertilizers, farmers used the source of information, neighbors (43.50 per cent), demonstration (40.00 per cent), VLW (36.50 per cent) and radio (35.00 per cent) at the awareness stage of adoption process. They were utilized demonstration (16.00 per cent), radio (41.50 per cent), local leaders (38.00 per cent) and neighbors (35.00 per cent) at interest stage of adoption. At the evaluation stage they utilized local leaders (44.50 per cent), VLW (42.50 per cent), extension officer (4.50 per cent) and friends (36.00 per cent) as a source of information. At the trial stage they utilized local leaders (41.50 per cent), extension officer (4.00 per cent) as a source of information. The respondents utilized the source like VLW (41.00 per cent), local leaders (38.50 per cent), extension officers (36.50 per cent) and radio (34.50 per cent) of adoption stage of adoption process.

The nagli cultivators used the different information sources for plant protection measures in nagli crop at different stage of adoption process. It is evidently clear from the table that respondents used radio (12.50 per cent), neighbors (11.00 per cent), friends (10.00 per cent) and demonstration (09.00 per cent) at awareness stage of adoption process. At the interest stage the respondents' utilized demonstration (12.00 per cent), radio (10.50 per cent), local leaders (09.50 per cent), and friends (08.00 per cent) as source of information. At the evaluation stage, they used local leaders (12.50 per cent), extension officer (11.50 per cent), friends (11.00 per cent) and VLW (10.00 per cent) as a source of information. The farmers utilized extension officer (11.50 per cent), local leaders (10.00 per cent), neighbors (08.50 per cent) and friends (07.00 per cent) as a source of information at trial stage of adoption process. At the adoption stage, they used radio (10.50 per cent), demonstration (10.00 per cent), extension officer (08.00 per cent) and friends (06.00 per cent) as a source of information in adoption process.

Table 1 : Sources of information utilized by the farmers during adoption stage

n-200

Practice	Adoption Stage		Sources of information		No. of respondents	%
1 Seed Treatment	I	Awareness	a.	Friends	42	21.00
			b.	Neighbours	30	15.00
	II		c.	Radio	29	14.50
			d.	Relatives	26	13.00
			a.	Neighbors	38	19.00
			b.	Local Leader	31	15.50
	II	Interest	c.	Relatives	30	15.00
			d.	Friends	26	13.00
			a.	Local Leader	48	24.00
			b.	VLW	30	15.00
	III	Evaluation	c.	Friends	28	14.00
			d.	Extension officer	25	12.50
			a.	Local Leader	40	20.00
			b.	VLW	37	18.50
	IV	Trial	c.	Radio	28	14.00
			d.	Extension officer	25	12.50
a.			VLM	44	22.00	
b.			Local Leader	40	20.00	
V.	Adoption	c.	Extension Officer	32	16.00	
		d.	Radio	28	14.00	
		a.	Neighbours	87	43.50	
		b.	Demonstrator	80	40.00	
2 Manures and Fertilizers	II		c.	VLW	73	36.50
			d.	Radio	70	35.00
			a.	Demonstrator	92	46.00
			b.	Radio	83	41.50
	II	Interest	c.	Local Leader	76	38.00
			d.	Neighbors	70	35.00
			a.	Local Leader	89	44.50
			b.	VLW	85	42.50
	III	Evaluation	c.	Extension officer	81	40.50
			d.	Friends	72	36.00
			a.	Local Leader	83	41.50
			b.	Extension officer	80	40.00
	IV	Trial	c.	Neighbors	74	37.00
			d.	Realtives	71	35.50
			a.	VLM	82	41.00
			b.	Local Leader	77	38.50
V	Adoption	c.	Extension Officer	73	36.50	
		d.	Radio	69	34.50	

Practice	Adoption Stage		Sources of information		No. of respondents	%
3 Plant protection measures	I	Awareness	a	Radio	25	12.50
			b	Neighbours	22	11.00
			c	Friends	20	10.00
			d.	Demonstrator	18	09.00
	II	Interest	a	Demonstrator	24	12.00
			b	Radio	21	10.50
			c	Local Leader	19	09.50
			d	Friends	16	08.00
	III	Evaluation	a	Local Leader	25	12.50
			b	Extension officer	23	11.50
			c	Friends	22	11.00
			d	VLW	20	10.00
	IV	Trial	a	Extension officer	23	11.50
			b	Local Leader	20	10.00
			c	Neighbors	17	08.50
			d	Friends	14	07.00
V.	Adoption	a	Radio	21	10.50	
		b	Demonstrator	20	10.00	
		c	Extension Officer	16	08.00	
		d	Friends	12	06.00	
4 Weeding and inter-culturing	I	Awareness	a	Radio	105	52.50
			b	Neighbours	97	48.50
			c	Friends	90	45.00
			d	Relatives	83	41.50
	II	Interest	a	Local Leader	107	53.50
			b	Friends	103	51.50
			c	Relatives	92	46.00
			d	Neighbours	87	43.50
	III	Evaluation	a	Local Leader	103	51.50
			b	Extension officer	98	49.00
			c	Friends	89	44.50
			d	VLW	76	38.00
	IV	Trial	a	Relatives	97	48.50
			b	Neighbors	93	46.50
			c	Friends	91	45.50
			d.	Radio	81	40.50
V.	Adoption	a.	VLW	109	54.50	
		b	Local Leader	96	48.00	
		c.	Radio	93	46.50	
		d.	Friends	88	44.00	

In case of weeding and inter-culturing practices neighbors (48.50 per cent) friends (45.00 per cent) and relatives (41.50 per cent) as a source of nagli, the farmers used radio (52.50 per cent),

of information at awareness stage of adoption process. At interest stage, they utilized local leaders (53.50 per cent), friends (51.50 per cent) relatives (46.00 per cent), and neighbours (43.50 per cent) as a source of information. At the evaluation stage, respondents were utilized local leaders (51.50 per cent), extension officers (49.00 per cent), friends (44.50 per cent) and VLW 38.00 per cent), as a source of information. At the trial stage, relatives (48.50 per cent), neighbors (46.50 per cent), friends (45.50 per cent) and radio (40.50 per cent) were utilized as a source of information by the farmers. At the adoption stage, the farmers used VLW (54.50 per cent), local leaders (48.00 per cent), radio (46.50 per cent) and friends (44.00 per cent) as a source of information in the adoption process.

CONCLUSION

In all the practices, and in all the stages of adoption, mostly personal localite source like neighbours, friends, relatives were mostly utilized by the nagli cultivators, which are followed by the VLW, Extension officers, Radio etc. The probable reason might be that the tribal farmers have more confidence and faith in their localite resources.

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To become an able and successful man in any profession, three things are necessary, nature, study and practice.

- H.W..Beacher.