

RESEARCH NOTE

Impact of Tribal Training Centre on Knowledge and Adoption of Participant and Non-Participant Farmers in Dahod District

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INTRODUCTION

Training is an integral part of any development activity. It aims at improving the behaviour of the participant which leads to better organizational efficiency and output. Farmers' training programme can be taken as the most suitably designed programme to meet the present day complex extension requirements of taking the full technology in the shortest possible time to the largest number of farmers.

Tribal training centre, Dahod is one of its kind which was established in 1980-81 by Gujarat Agricultural University with a view to imparting training to the tribal farmers of Panchmahls District in the field of agriculture and its allied subject for improving their socio-economic status and living standard.

The training centre plays a vital role in transfer of farm technology to the farmers for adoption of new innovations. Therefore, the impact of such project requires periodical evaluation so as to make the programme really effective and attractive to the farmers.

It is in line with this requirement that the present study was undertaken in a limited way. The specific objective of this study was to ascertain the impact of Tribal Training Centre on the knowledge and adoption level of participant and non-participant farmers.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Dahod District. The sample for the study covered 100 with 50 participant and 50 non participant farmers.

The data were collected with the help of personal interview schedule.

Kharif maize was selected for the study. Dependent variables included in the study were knowledge level and adoption behavior of farmers. The 't' test was employed to find out significance between the participant and non-participant farmers.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Participant and non-participant farmers by knowledge test score:

It is evident from the Table 1 that there is greater percentage of participant farmers in higher knowledge group (68.00

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percent) compared to non participant farmers (12.00 percent).The medium knowledge group includes 28.00 percent of participant and 78.00 percent of non-participant farmers. Whereas 4.00 percent of participant and 10.00 percent of non-participant farmers are in the low knowledge group.

The differences in percentage between the participant and non-participant farmers were also worked out to find out who among the above respondents dominate in the gain in knowledge of improved maize package of practices. This also reveals that high knowledge group only participant farmers are dominated while in the medium and low knowledge group non-participant farmers are dominated.

This infers that the level of knowledge of participant farmers is higher

as compared to non-participant farmers which can be attributed to the impact of Tribal Training Centre.

Difference in mean scores of knowledge between participant and non-participant farmers.

It is observed from Table 2 that the mean score of knowledge of participant farmers was higher than that of the non-participant farmers and difference was found to be statistically significant at one percent level. This higher score can be attributed to the impact of Tribal Training Centre.

Participant and non-participant farmers by adoption score:

The findings in Table 3 reveal that majority of the participant (76.00 percent) and non-participant (82.00 percent) were

Table 1 : Percentage of participant and non participant farmers by knowledge score

Category	Participant farmers (N=50)	Non-participant farmers (N=50)	Difference
Low knowledge Group	4.00	10.00	-6.00
Medium knowledge Group	28.00	78.00	-50.00
High knowledge group	68.00	12.00	+56.00

Table 2 : Average score of knowledge among participant and non-participant farmers

Category	N	Mean	Standard deviation	't' value
Participant farmers	50	11.38	1.98	
Non-participant farmers	50	5.12	1.93	8.36**

** Significant at 0.01 per cent level.

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in medium adopter group. The high adopters group consisted of 24.00 percent of participant farmers as against 12.00 percent of non-participant farmers whereas 6.00 percent non-participant farmers were in low adopters group.

The difference in percentage between the participant and non-participant farmers of adoption also reveals that in the high adoption group only participant farmers are dominated while in the medium and low adoption group non-participant farmers are dominated.

This indicates that the level of adoption of participant farmers is higher as compared to non-participant farmers evidently due to the impact of training imparted by the centre.

Difference in mean score of adoption between participant and non-participant farmers :

It is observed from the Table 4 that the mean score of adoption of participant farmers was seen to be higher than that of the non-participant farmers and the difference is statistically significant at one percent level. The higher score can be attributed to the impact of Tribal Training Centre.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this study have clearly shown that the Tribal Training Centre played a significant role in enhancing knowledge level and adoption of improved maize cultivation practices by the participant farmers in the operational area.

Table 3 : Percentage of participant and non-participant farmers by adoption score

Category	Participant farmers (N=50)	Non-participant farmers (N=50)	Difference
Low adoption Group	0.00	6.00	-6.00
Medium adoption Group	76.00	82.00	-6.00
High adoption Group	24.00	12.00	+12.00

Table 4 : Average score of adoption among participant and non-participant farmers

Category	N	Mean	Standard deviation	't' value
Participant farmers	50	11.24	2.03	4.97**
Non-participant farmers	50	9.20	2.07	

** Significant at 0.01 per cent level.