

A STUDY ON AWARENESS ABOUT SOIL HEALTH CARD

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ABSTRACT

Gujarat government launched soil health card programme in the year 2003-2004 in order to increase agricultural production and sustain soil health. Since inception of soil health card programme, about 2, 00,000 soil health cards have been given to the farmers. In order to know the awareness of soil health card, present study was carried out. All the beneficiaries were aware about various soil health card aspects like major nutrients (N, P & K), soil PH and Soil Ec, while 74.00 per cent were aware about irrigation water analysis. One-fifth of the farmers had awareness about analysis of Sulphur, while only meagre percent (2.50) of them were aware about analysis of micro nutrient namely Mn.

INTRODUCTION

Sardar Smruti Kendra is conducting the short duration (one to four days) training programmes for the farming community of middle Gujarat (Anand, Amdavad, Kheda, Vadodara, Dahod and Panchmahal). Gujarat government launched soil health card programme in the year 2003-2004 with a view to increasing agricultural production. Since its inception, about 2, 00,000 soil health card have been given to the farmers.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted with farmers of middle Gujarat who came to avail training at Sardar Smruti Kendra during 2005-06. Out of total training programmes conducted during the said year at SSK, fifty trainees who were issued soil health card and fifty without soil health card were

selected randomly making a total sample of 100 farmers. The responses were collected through personnel interview which were then analyzed in light of the objectives.

FINDINGS

In relation to awareness, the data presented in Table 2 reveal that all the beneficiaries were aware about various soil health card aspects like major nutrients (N, P & K), soil pH and Soil EC, while 74.00 per cent were aware about irrigation water analysis, and only 20.00 per cent were aware about analysis of Sulphur. Only meagre percent (2.50) of farmers were aware about analysis of micro nutrient namely Mn. Further, the proportion of respondents who were aware about these aspects was comparatively much less in case of farmers without soil health card.

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TABLE: 2 Awareness about soil health card

n=50

Sr. No.	Item	With soil health card		Without soil health card	
		No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
1	About soil health card	50	100.00	34	68.00
2	Irrigation water analysis	37	74.00	37	74.00
3	Analysis of soil nutrients				
	(A) Major nutrients				
	a Nitrogen (N)/O.C	50	100.00	35	70.00
	b Phosphorus (P, O ₅)	50	100.00	38	76.00
	c Potash(K, O)	50	100.00	22	44.00
	d Sulphur (S)	08	20.00	02	4.00
	(B)Micro nutrients				
	a Zink (Zn)	42	84.00	31	62.00
	b Iron (Fe)	38	73.00	27	54.00
	c Manganese (Mn)	01	2.50	01	2.00
4	Soil pH	45	90.00	15	30.00
5	Soil Ec	35	70.00	10	20.00

CONCLUSION

The farmers who were issued soil health card were comparatively more aware about various soil health card aspects like major nutrients

(N, P & K), soil pH and Soil EC and micronutrients as compared to farmers without soil health card.

The cultivation of earth is the most important labour of man, When tillage begins other arts follow. The Farmers are therefore the founders of civilization.

- Daniel Webster