

CONSTRAINTS EXPERIENCED BY GROWERS IN ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDED CHILLI TECHNOLOGY

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INTRODUCTION

Chilli crop occupies a large area in Banaskantha District. However, the yield per hectare is low as compared to the yield harvested in other districts of the state. Further, the yield of chilli crop is decreasing since last three to four years. Low yield per unit area can be attributed to the number of yield affecting factors such as low productivity of land, lack of knowledge of technology on the part of chilli growers, low adoption of recommended cultivation technology, etc. An attempt has been made to make a complete analysis of the factors affecting process of adoption of innovations with the following specific objectives:

- (1) To study the extent of adoption of recommended practices of chilli crop.
- (2) To study the constraints experienced by the chilli growers in adoption of recommended practices.
- (3) To acquire the suggestions of chilli growers to overcome the constraints in adoption of recommended practices.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in the Banaskantha district of Gujarat State. The

district consists of eleven talukas from which Kankrej taluka was selected purposively, as it covers more area under chilli crop. Twelve villages from the taluka and ten farmers from each village were selected randomly, that constituted a sample of 120 respondents. An interview schedule was prepared in view of the objectives of the study and data were collected by personal interview of the selected chilli growers.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

EXTENT OF ADOPTION

It is evident from the Tabel 1 that majority of the chilli growers (70.00 per cent) had moderately adopted the recommended chilli cultivation technology. There were 20.83 and 9.17 per cent of the farmers having low and high level of adoption, respectively.

CONSTRAINTS EXPERIENCED BY THE FARMERS

The constraints experienced by the chilli growers in adoption of recommended chilli cultivation practices are presented in Table 2. Almost all the respondents come across constraints in adoption of recommended

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Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their extent of adoption of chilli cultivation practices N = 120

Sr. No.	Extent of adoption	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Low level (up to 7)	25	20.83
2.	Medium level (7.1 to 13)	84	70.00
3.	High level (above 13)	11	9.17
Total		120	100.00

Mean = 9.7917

S.D. = 2.7794

chilli cultivation practices. The lack of knowledge pertaining to recommended variety (94.16 per cent) and recommended fertilizers (85.00 per cent) were the key constraints experienced by chilli growers.

The 'unavailability of fertilizers in time and inadequate quantity' (85.83 per cent); 'erratic and inadequate power supply' (84.16 per cent); 'lack of knowledge regarding plant protection measures' (84.16 per cent) and 'high rates of chemical fertilizers' (84.16 per cent) were also

considered to be important constraints by chilli growers.

SUGGESTIONS EXPRESSED BY CHILLI GROWERS

The chilli growers were also asked to give their constructive suggestions for getting better yield of chilli crop. The data given in Table 3 indicate that for increasing yield of chilli, leaf curl disease resistant variety should be developed and chemical fertilizers should be made available to the

Table 2: Constraints faced by farmers in adoption of recommended chilli cultivation practices

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1.	Lack of knowledge regarding recommended variety	113	94.16	I
2.	Unavailability of fertilizers in time and in adequate quantity	103	85.83	II
3.	Lack of knowledge pertaining to recommended fertilizers	102	85.00	III
4.	Erratic & inadequate power supply	101	84.16	IV
5.	Lack of knowledge regarding plant protection measures	101	84.16	IV
6.	High rates of chemical fertilizers	101	84.16	IV
7.	High rates of pesticides	93	77.5	V
8.	Lack of knowledge about recommended irrigation practices	89	74.16	VI
9.	High rates of electricity	83	69.16	VII
10.	Non availability of seed of recommended variety	76	63.33	VIII
11.	Poor germination of seed	68	56.66	IX

Table 3: Suggestions expressed by chilli growers to overcome the constraints regarding adoption of the recommended chilli cultivation technology

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1.	Resistant variety of chilli crop against leaf curl disease should be developed	97	80.83	I
2.	Chemical fertilizers should be available timely and adequately	82	68.33	II
3.	Seed of recommended variety should be available timely and adequately	72	60.00	IV
4.	Training regarding chilli cultivation technology should be imparted	69	57.50	V
5.	Power supply should be regular and adequate	67	55.83	VI
6.	Pesticides should be available at lower rate	62	51.67	VII

farmers in time and in adequate quantity were the most important suggestions expressed by the farmers.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study it can be concluded that majority of the chilli growers had medium level of adoption of recommended chilli cultivation practices. Lack knowledge about recommended variety of chilli and unavailability of

chemical fertilizers in time and in adequate quantity were the major constraints faced by the farmers in adoption of chilli cultivation practices.

Number of suggestions were expressed by the farmers for getting better yield of chilli crop include developing leaf curl resistant variety, timely supply of chemical fertilizers in adequate quantity and removal of middleman from chilli marketing.
