

RESEARCH NOTE

Knowledge of Kharif Rice Growers regarding Weedicide Practices

K.M. Padhi¹, G.M. Patel² and J.C. Trivedi³

INTRODUCTION

In a country like India where agriculture predominates, weeds play a key role in its economy, because, weed infection causes considerable reduction in yield of rice. Although the farmers are aware of the benefits of weed control in rice lands. In most cases proper attention is not given towards controlling the weeds due to lack of knowledge. Hence, the present study entitled "A study on knowledge of kharif rice growers regarding weedicide practices in Anand Taluka of Kheda district" was carried out with following objectives :

1. To find out the level of knowledge of kharif rice growers regarding weedicide practices.
2. To ascertain the relationship between personal, socio-economic characteristics with knowledge level of kharif rice growers regarding use of weedicide practices.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out in Anand Taluka of Kheda district of Gujarat State. Two stage random sampling design was used to select a sample for study. Thus, 50 respondents were selected from 5 randomly selected villages of the said Taluka were weedicide

application in kharif rice was being done by the farmers. Keeping in view the objectives of the study the interview schedule was prepared. The data were collected with the help of personal interview schedule.

To know the socio-economic status of the respondents, a scale developed by Pareek and Trivedi (1965) was used with some modification. Measurement of knowledge of respondents in respect of weedicide practices in kharif rice was done by using a teacher made test based on the scale developed by Jha and Singh (1970). Correlation coefficient (r) was used for testing the relationships.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study are presented as under.

Knowledge level of kharif rice growers about weedicide practices

On the basis of measurement of knowledge, the respondents were categorised into three groups and the data are presented in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 indicate that out of 50 respondents, 47 (94.00 per cent) were having medium level of knowledge. So, it is obvious that almost all of the respondents were in medium level of knowledge regarding weedicide prac-

1 Ex. P.G. Student, B.A.C.A., Anand and at present working as Jr. Agril. Officer.

2 Assistant Extension Educationist, E.E.I., G.A.U., Anand.

3 Extension Educationist, E.E.I., G.A.U., Anand.

Table 1. Distribution of the respondents according to their level of knowledge regarding recommended weedicide practices.

N = 50		
Category	Number	Per cent
Low (upto 14.58 score)	1	2.00
Medium (14.58 to 20.42 score)	47	94.00
High (above 20.42 score)	2	4.00
Total	50	100.00

tices in kharif rice. The finding is coincide with the findings of Mehta *et al.* (1984) and Patel (1990).

Relationship between personal, socio-economic characteristics with knowledge level of rice growers regarding use of weedicide practices.

The study of the relationship between personal, socio-economic characteristics with knowledge is of immense importance because they play important role in deciding the adoption or rejection of an innovation. Their relationship is given in Table 2.

The data presented in Table 2 indicate that out of nine independent variables i.e. age and education were found significant in relation to knowledge of the farmers relating to weedicide practices in kharif rice. Age is negatively and significantly correlated with knowledge of farmers whereas education was positively and significantly correlated with knowledge of farmers.

As the age of farmers increases, their farming experience increase. Old farmers were having conditional mind. They were not ready to accept new technology as

Table 2. Relationship between personal, socio-economic characteristics with knowledge level of rice growers regarding use of weedicide practices.

Sr.No.	Personal, socio-economic characteristics	'r' value
1.	Age	- 0.33029 *
2.	Education	0.53168 *
3.	Caste	0.12345 NS
4.	Land holding	00760 NS
5.	Type of family	02767 NS
6.	Size of family	24042 NS
7.	Occupation	20243 NS
8.	Annual income	06983 NS
9.	Social participation	04333 NS

* = Significant at 5% level of probability. NS = Non-significant.

compared to young one. This might be probable reason for (-ve) correlation of age in relation to knowledge.

As the age and education has significant correlation with knowledge of rice growers regarding use of weedicide practices.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, it may be concluded that almost all (94.00 per cent) of the respondents were having medium level

of knowledge regarding weedicide practices. While looking to the relationship between personal, and socio-economic characteristics with knowledge level of rice growers, the age was found negatively and significantly correlated with knowledge of farmers whereas education was positively and significantly correlated with knowledge of farmers relating weedicides practices in kharif rice.

*A drop of practice is more than an ocean
of knowledge...*

— *The Mother*