



ATTITUDE OF THE TRAINED FARMERS TOWARDS THE TRAININGS CONDUCTED BY KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS OF SHAHDOL DIVISION (M.P.), INDIA

Khusyal Sahare¹, A. K.Gupta², Sanjay Singh³, B. K.Tiwari³ and Dharmendra³

¹Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Umaria (M.P.), India.

²Faculty of Agriculture, Mahatma Gandhi Chitrakoot Gramodaya Vishwavidyalaya Chitrakoot, Satna (M.P.), India.

³Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rewa (M.P.), India.

Abstract

Farmers' training programme has a potential of reaching large number of farmer within a short span of time realizing the importance of farmers' training an innovative science center Krishi Vigyan Kendra established by Indian council of Agricultural Research with the aim to impart need based training to practicing farmers and farm women. Hence, it was felt worthwhile to study the attitude of the trained farmers towards the need based trainings imparted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The present research work was entirely concerned with trainings conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Shahdol division of M.P. (India) during the last three years. The present investigation was conducted in Shahdol division of M.P. with a sample of 150 trained farmers. The study revealed that the farmers had most favorable attitude towards training methodology and least favourable attitude towards the physical facilities provided to trainees during training programmes. However, the majority of the respondents had medium level of favourableness, towards training programmes conducted by Krishi vigyan Kendra. The study suggests to enhance the utility of training programmes, the required technological inputs should be available at local level & good coordination with allied departments. There should be provision of field visit on fields of successful farmers to demonstrate the technology and government should take steps in procuring agricultural products of the farmers at reasonable price etc.

Key words : Trained farmers, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Agricultural technologies.

Introduction

Our nation faces the most challenging task of disseminating the fast emerging agricultural technologies to sustain the increase in farm productivity and economic viability of farming sector. In this context, farmers' training programme has a potential of reaching large number of farmer within a short span of time. Realizing the importance of farmers' training an innovative science center Krishi Vigyan Kendra established by Indian council of Agricultural Research with the aim to impart need based training to practicing farmers, farm women, school drop-outs, rural youth and extension personnel. KVKs have been functioning as Knowledge and Resource Centers of agriculture technology supporting initiatives of public, private and voluntary sector for improving the agricultural economy of the district and are linking the NARS with extension system and farmers. Shahdol Division of M.P. comes under rain fed farming area having undulating topography and light soil with plenty of natural

resources and bio-diversity. There is tremendous possibility to bring changes in the socio-economic level among the farming community by introducing modern technologies. Keeping this in view, Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been established by Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalya in three districts of Sahadol Division *i.e.* Shahdol, Umaria and Dindori. These Kendras have been conducting various training programmes to the different segments of the farming community of the area during the last three years. The favorable attitude of the trainees brings about desirable changes in the knowledge and adoption level of the trainees in relation to technologies disseminated in training programmes. Hence, it is worthwhile to study the attitude of the trained farmers towards the need based trainings imparted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras. It is therefore, the present research study was undertaken with the following objectives:

1. To know the attitude of trainees towards various components of training programmes.

2. To identify the constraints faced by the farmers in relation to adoption of technologies disseminated through farmers training programmes.

Materials and Methods

The present research work was entirely concerned with trainings conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Shahadol division during the last three years. There are three Krishi Vigyan Kendra's one each in Umaria, Shahadol and Dindori district in the division. These Krishi Vigyan Kendra's have been conducting various need based training for farmers. Hence Umaria, Shahadol and Dindori districts of Shahdol division were selected as study area of the present research work. From the selected districts, one block from each district was selected purposively on the basis of highest concentration of farmers attended training programmes of Krishi Vigyan Kendra's. Five villages from each block were selected purposively on the basis of higher number of trainees attended KVK training programmes. Thus, 15 villages were selected under the present research work. As regards the selection of trainee farmers are concerned three common subject matter areas repeated several times by these Krishi Vigyan Kendras during last three years were considered for selection of trainees. It was observed that such training courses conducted by these Krishi Vigyan Kendras on rice crop namely sowing management, integrated nutrient management and insect and pest management. A list of trainee farmers from each selected villages who attended such training courses during the last three years was prepared. From this list, farmer trainees were selected from each village by using equal proportionate random sampling method. Finally, the sample was consisted of 150 trained farmers. The data were collected personally through personal interview technique from each of the respondent. The quantitative data were interpreted in terms of percentage and qualitative data were tabulated on the basis of approved categorization method.

Results

Attitude of trainees towards various components of training programmes

In the present study, attitude is referred as favourableness or unfavourableness of the farmer trainees towards the training programme of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. A scale was developed to know the attitude of farmer trainees towards the training programme of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. This scale was prepared by the researcher in consultation with training experts in the K.V.K.S. The

Table 1 : Attitude scores of selected training components.

Components	N	Mean	Standard Deviation
Training field	150	16.10	1.91
Trainers competency	150	15.6	2.39
Training methodology	150	17.88	2.64
Time and duration	150	16.60	2.31
Utility of trainings	150	14.78	3.01
Physical facilities	150	13.26	1.79

Table 2 : Distribution of the farmer trainees according to their overall attitude towards training programmes.

S. no.	Degree of favourableness	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Low	45	30.00
2.	Medium	76	50.67
3	High	29	19.33
Total		150	100

scale consists of 24 items, which cover the six selected components of the training, namely, training field/subject matter, trainers competency, training methodology, time and duration, physical facilities and utility. For the construction of the scale, initially 100 statements were collected regarding the various components of the training programme. These statements were prepared on the basis of relevant statements in similar studies published in different journals and the opinion of extension experts in the Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur. While preparing the statements care was taken to see that they express opinion about the concerned aspect of training and that the statement is in simple and comprehensible language. After scrutiny some statements were found to be overlapping and were therefore dropped. After this scrutiny 46 statements were retained in the first draft of the scale. Out of which 22 statements were in positive direction and the remaining 24 statements were in the negative direction. Since, the scale to be prepared was a *Likert type* scale, the subject had to respond by selecting one of the five points given against each statement. These points were strongly agree, agree, undecided disagree and strongly disagree. In case of positive statements, the scores allotted to these response categories were 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1, respectively. The negative statements had to be scored in reverse order.

Table 1 indicates that the component methodology had the highest mean score while physical facilities was the component having lowest mean score. It revealed that the farmers had most favorable attitude towards training methodology and least favourable attitude towards

Table 3 : Constraints faced by the farmers in relation to adoption of technologies disseminated through farmers training programme.

S. no.	Constraints	No. of respondents	%	Rank
1.	The training programmes details were not communicated properly.	51	34.00	8
2.	Lack of close contact of the trainees with the trainers/scientists after completion of the training	22	14.66	15
3.	Insufficient use of audio-visual aids and training methods	24	16.00	14
4.	Number of trials and demonstration for learning, by doing were very less.	48	32.00	9
5.	Lack of infrastructural facilities for using the technological skill on occupational basis at the village level.	46	30.66	10
6.	The required technological inputs were not available at local level.	86	57.33	1
7.	Information about resource availability, marketing and credit orientation were not given.	68	45.33	5
8.	Small size of land holding and low socio-economic status.	31	20.66	11
9.	Undulating land topography with poor soil fertility status.	25	16.66	13
10.	Benefits are given to one group of people	29	19.33	12
11.	High cost on hired labour	56	37.33	7
12.	Low market price of agricultural products	70	46.66	4
13.	Lack of coordination with allied departments	80	53.33	2
14.	Lack of incentives and recognition to the scientists and farmers	61	40.66	6
15.	No planning of the outside exposure visit	76	50.66	3

the physical facilities provided to trainees during training programmes. On the basis of the favorableness of the respondents towards selected training components observed in the present research work the components may be arranged in descending order as training methodology, time and duration, training field, trainers competency, utility of trainings and physical facilities provided to trainees during training programmes.

To examine the overall attitude of farmers towards the training the range of maximum and minimum obtained scores in the attitude test were considered. These scores were 112 to 62, respectively. The range between these scores was divided into three segments. The cut off scores, which divided the upper most segments from the middle segment, and the middle segment from the lower segment, were determined. Frequencies of trainees under each segment were determined on the basis of these cut off scores. Finally the frequencies were converted into percentages.

The data in the table 2 show that out of 150 respondents about half of the respondents *i.e.* 50.67 per cent of respondents had medium level of favourableness, 30.00 per cent had low level of favourableness and whereas remaining 19.33 per cent had high favourableness towards training programmes conducted by Krishi vigyan Kendra. The findings of

Patidar (2005), Singh *et al.* (2009), Ghosh *et al.* (2013) are similar to the present finding.

Constraints faced by the farmers in relation to adoption of technologies disseminated through farmers training programmes

With a view to locate the reasons for non adoption of recommended package of practices of rice, the respondents were asked to express the major constraints faced by them in adoption of improved crop production technologies disseminated through farmers training programmes. Out of many constraints faced by them the major constraints on the basis of rank order have been presented in the table 3.

The major constraints experienced by the trained farmers in relation to adoption of technologies disseminated through farmers training programmes were arranged in descending order on the basis of rank order as the required technological inputs were not available at local level (57.33%), lack of coordination with allied departments (53.33), no planning of the outside exposure visit (50.66), low market price of agricultural products (46.66), lack of information about resource availability, marketing and credit orientation, lack of incentives and recognition to the scientists and farmers (40.66) and high cost on hired labour (37.33). Similar results were reported by Singh *et al.* (2013).

Conclusion

It was revealed that the farmers had most favorable attitude towards training methodology and least favourable attitude towards the physical facilities provided to trainees during training programmes. On the basis of the favorableness of the respondents towards selected training components observed in the present research work the components may be arranged in descending order as training methodology, time and duration, training field, trainers competency, utility of trainings and physical facilities provided to trainees during training programmes. The study revealed that majority of the respondents had medium level of favourableness, towards training programmes conducted by Krishi vigyan Kendra. It confirms the acceptance of these programmes from the farmers. However, study suggests that there should be improvement in physical facilities provided in training programmes.

On the basis of constraints perceived by the trainees in adoption of technologies disseminated through training programmes the study offers some worthwhile suggestions to enhance the utility of training programmes i.e. the required technological inputs should be available

at local level & good coordination with allied departments .there should be provision of field visit on fields of successful farmers to demonstrate the technology and government should take steps in procuring agricultural products of the farmers at reasonable price etc.

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