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Personnel correlates of beneficiaries farmers about CROPSAP

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Abstract

The present study entitled “Impact of CROPSAP on Agricultural production” was conducted in Latur, Ausa and Udgir tehsils which were randomly selected from Latur district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra State with a study sample of 60 beneficiaries and 60 non-beneficiaries. Profile of CROPSAP beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries revealed that, majority (65.00%) of the beneficiaries and (61.67%) of the non-beneficiaries had medium age category, majority (35.00 %) of the beneficiaries and 35.00 percent of the non- beneficiaries were educated up to secondary level, majority (70.00%) beneficiaries were having medium size of land holding and half (50.00%) of the non-beneficiaries were having small size of land holding, majority (71.67%) of the beneficiaries and majority (78.30%) of non-beneficiaries were in medium annual income category, about one third (36.67%) of beneficiaries and nearly half (48.33%) of non-beneficiary farmers belonged to seasonal cropping pattern, 41.66 percent of beneficiaries receive one training and nearly half (48.33%) of non-beneficiaries not received signal training, nearly three fourth (71.67%) of the beneficiaries and 68.30 percent of the non-beneficiaries had medium level of sources of information, majority (61.67%) of the beneficiaries and 63.33 percent of non-beneficiaries were having to medium level of extension contact, more than half (55.00%) of beneficiaries and 51.67 percent of non-beneficiaries found medium level of knowledge about CROPSAP, nearly three fourth (78.33%) of the beneficiaries and 63.33 percent of non-beneficiaries were having to medium level of risk orientation, majority (70.00%) of the beneficiaries and , 66.67 percent had medium level of scientific orientation, majority (78.33%) of the beneficiaries and 73.33 percent of non-beneficiaries had medium level of economic motivation.

Keywords: CROPSAP, impact, beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries

Introduction

In Maharashtra, the major crops growing in the Kharif season are soybeans, cotton, rice, Pigeon pea, sorghum, and bajra; in the Rabi season, the major crops grown are sorghum, wheat, and Chick pea. The main crop system used in the state is soybean, cotton, Pigeon pea - Chick pea. Over the past few years, farmers have been moving towards cotton and soybean crops because of their high production per hectare and ability to desirable market prices. Managing pest and diseases is crucial in crop productivity. Generally, pests and disease cause 20–30% of yield losses. The development of pests and diseases is facilitated by rainfall vulnerability and variations in weather. Farmers suffer significant financial losses if pest and disease are not managed timely.

In the cotton-soybean cropping system, there was a severe pest outbreak in 2008–2009 caused by *Spodoptera litura* (Fabricius), *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hubner), and other *leaf-eating caterpillars.* An area of 14.56 lakh ha of soybean was affected, and losses totalling Rs. 1392 crores were sustained. Rs. 450 crores in financial aid were given by Govt. to the farmers. In 2008, there was an increase in the area planted to soybean, but the main cause of pest epidemics was the lack of supervision during the early phases of the pests' incidence. Because so many different elements can contribute to an infestation's beginning and spread, it's critical to keep watch for insects in order to prevent outbreaks.

Such a preventive action required a strong pest monitoring and advisory mechanism to be put in place. A series of meetings were held between March and May 2009 amongst the team of scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) crop based institutes and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) of Maharashtra with State Agriculture Department of Maharashtra to develop the modalities of the programme including the area of operation, roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders, and preparation of project document for funding under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) by the Commissionerate of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra. Since 2011, the surveillance-based pest control advisory program has also included rice and maize as a *kharif* crop. Farmers in Maharashtra are being continuously educated about all target crops that are under pest surveillance and how to use ICT tools to issue real-time pest control advises. The State Agriculture Department, Maharashtra, is in authority of implementing the CROPSAP. It received funding from the Central Government through the RKVY till 2012, and then from the Maharashtra Government from 2013 until the present.

The major objective of the CROPSAP is Implementation of scientific pest surveillance approach for pest management, use of ICT for real time monitoring and management of target pests on chosen crops, mass awareness creation among field functionaries and farmers on IPM, pest status based hot-spot identification and issue of timely advisories, guidance for management of pests of selected crops by issuing appropriate advisories (village boards/short message services (SMS)/print media) to the farmers, ensuring timely availability of critical inputs with subsidy for pest management to keep the pest populations below economic threshold levels (ETL).

Objective

1. To study the profile of beneficiaries' farmer and non-beneficiaries' farmers.
2. To study the relationship between profile of beneficiaries' farmer and impact of CROPSAP on agricultural production.

Methodology

The present study was conducted in Marathwada region of Maharashtra state. Form this region, Latur district was randomly selected for the research purpose. From Latur district, three tehsils were selected randomly *viz*. Latur, Ausa and Udgir. Four villages' form each tehsil were selected randomly for the selection of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. Thus, a total of 12 villages were selected for the study, form each selected village, 5 beneficiaries and 5 non beneficiaries were selected randomly. In this way, 60 beneficiaries and 60 non-beneficiaries were considered as respondent for the present study. These selections were done by using a simple random sampling method. The ex-post-facto research design used for present study. An investigate or collected the data personally from beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries by using the pre tested interview schedules at their home or farms. The collected data was organized, tabulated and analyzed with the help of statistical tools like frequency, mean, percentage, standard deviation, correlation of coefficient (r), multiple regression and 'Z' test.

Results and Discussion

It was observed from the Table 1 that, majority (65.00%) of the beneficiaries had medium category of age, majority (35.00%) of the beneficiaries were secondary education, three fourth (70.00%) of beneficiaries were having medium size of land holding, majority (71.67%) of the beneficiaries had medium annual income, majority (36.67%) of beneficiaries' farmers were seasonal cropping pattern, majority (41.66%) of beneficiaries receive one training, Nearly three fourth (71.67%) of the beneficiaries were medium category of sources of information, majority (61.67%) of the beneficiaries were having medium level of extension contact, more than half (55.00%) of beneficiaries' farmers found to have medium knowledge level, majority (70.00%) of the beneficiaries of had medium level of scientific orientation, more than three fourth (78.33%) of the beneficiaries of had medium level of economic motivation.

It is comprehended from Table 4 that, the results of correlation coefficient showed that, variable like land holding, annual income, cropping pattern, economic motivation had positive and highly significant relationship with impact of CROPSAP on its beneficiaries at 0.01 percent of probability. Factor like education, sources of information, training received, extension contact, knowledge, risk orientation and scientific orientation had positive and significant relationship with impact of CROPSAP on its beneficiaries.

Table 1: Distribution of the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of CROPSAP according to their profile

SL. No.	Category	Beneficiaries (N=60)		Non-beneficiaries (N=60)		'Z' Test
		(F)	(%)	(F)	(%)	
A.	**Age**					
1.	Low	9	15.00	12	20.00	-0.37^{NS}
2.	Medium	39	65.00	37	61.67	
3.	High	12	20.00	11	18.33	
B.	**Education**					
1.	Illiterate	5	8.33	8	13.33	3.01**
2.	primary education	13	21.67	20	33.33	
3.	Secondary education	21	35.00	21	35.00	
4.	Higher education	10	16.67	11	18.33	
5.	Graduation	7	11.67	0	0.00	
6.	Post-graduation	4	6.66	0	0.00	
D.	**Land holding**					
1.	Marginal (up to 1.00 ha)	1	1.67	8	13.33	2.62*
2.	Small (1.01 to 2.00 ha)	25	41.67	30	50.00	
3.	Medium (2.01 to 4.00 ha)	42	70.00	22	36.67	
4.	Semi medium (4.01 to 10.00 ha)	0	0.00	0	0.00	
5.	Big (above 10.00 ha)	0	0.00	0	0.00	
E.	**Annual income**					

1.	Low	15	25.00	6	10.00	4.03**
2.	Medium	43	71.67	47	78.3	
3.	High	2	3.33	7	11.7	
F.	**Cropping pattern**					
1.	Seasonal	22	36.66	29	48.33	2.97*
2.	Biseasonal	6	10.00	11	18.33	
3.	Annual	19	31.66	20	33.33	
4.	Biannual	8	13.33	0	0.00	
5.	Perennial	5	8.33	0	0.00	
G.	**Training received**					
1.	No training received	0	0.00	29	48.33	4.45**
2.	One training received	25	41.67	26	43.33	
3.	Two training received	23	38.33	5	8.33	
4.	three and more training received	12	20.00	0	0.00	
H.	**Sources of information**					
1.	Low	9	15.00	13	21.70	18.9**
2.	Medium	43	71.67	41	68.30	
3.	High	8	13.33	6	10.0	
I.	**Extension contact**					
1.	Low	14	23.33	15	25.00	9.17**
2.	Medium	37	61.67	38	63.33	
3.	High	9	15.00	7	11.67	
J.	**Knowledge**					
1.	Low	14	23.33	29	48.33	8.39**
2.	Medium	33	55.00	31	51.67	
3.	High	13	21.67	0	0.00	
K.	**Risk orientation**					
1.	Low	9	15.00	16	26.67	16.08**
2.	Medium	47	78.33	38	63.33	
3.	High	5	8.33	6	10.00	
L	**Scientific orientation**					
1.	Low	15	25.00	13	21.67	12.42**
2.	Medium	42	70.00	40	66.67	
3.	High	5	8.33	7	11.67	
M	**Economic motivation**					
1.	Low	9	15.00	11	18.33	22.12**
2.	Medium	47	78.33	44	73.33	
3.	High	4	6.67	5	8.33	

Table 2: Coefficient of correlation between profile and impact of beneficiaries regarding CROPSAP

Sr. No.	Independent Variable	Correlation coefficient (r)
1.	Age	0.187^{NS}
2.	Education	0.205*
3.	Land holding	0.519**
4.	Annual income	0.353**
5.	Cropping pattern	0.463**
6.	Training received	0.228*
7.	Sources of information	0.251*
8.	Extension contact	0.226*
9.	Knowledge	0.268**
10.	Risk orientation	0.200*
11.	Scientific orientation	0.224*
12.	Economic motivation	0.280**

*Significant at 0.05 level of probability
** Significant at 0.01 level of probability
NS: Non-Significant

Conclusions

It is concluded that majority of CROPSAP beneficiaries under the study were found to be medium level age category, educated up to secondary education, medium size land holding, medium annual income, seasonal cropping pattern, majority farmers receive one training, medium level sources of information, medium level of extension contact, medium level of knowledge, medium level risk orientation, medium level of scientific orientation, medium level of economic motivation. It concluded from the above table variable like land holding, annual income, cropping pattern, economic motivation had positive and highly significant relationship with impact of CROPSAP on its beneficiar Fies at 0.01 percent of probability. Factor like education, sources of information, training received, extension contact, knowledge, risk orientation and scientific orientation had positive and significant relationship with impact of CROPSAP on its beneficiaries.

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