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Assessment of Krishi Vigyan Kendra's training programme in upgrading farmers' understanding in Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract

The Farmers seek training to enhance their abilities and knowledge. Training is to enhance employees' job performance and conduct. Different kinds of training can help enhance the agricultural community's economic status. The present study was done in Madhya Pradesh's Barwani districts. The total number of participants for the research was 240 farmers. The results of this study demonstrates that the majority of the 50.00 percent respondents have increased their medium level understanding of agricultural technology through the program and activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The coefficient of collaboration of age, caste, and family size showed no significant link with improved understanding as a result of KVK-organized activities/programmes. Farmers' feedback indicate that the majority.

Keywords: Assessment, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, understanding, training, farmers etc.

Introduction

Growth in agriculture has nothing to do with the use of science and technology in the field. As a result, the amount to which farmers adopt new technology determines the rise in agricultural productivity as well as its social and economic advantages. Technology transfer through training, demonstration, and extension operations has been identified as the most essential crucial component in enhancing productivity in agriculture. Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) is an innovative science - based organization providing vocational training to farmers, farm women, and rural youths, as well as in-service training for extension workers. It also executes on-farm research to enhance technology and performs frontline demonstrations. One of their main goals is to train farmers through the Farm Science Center or Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Krishi Vigyan Kendra delivers long-term vocational and skill-oriented training.

The concept of training is an essential part of human resource development. It compacts with teaching and practicing a skill to a specific level through education and practice. Effective training is one in which training is imparted involving various methods and methods. Appropriate ways to conduct technical know-how are mostly interactive lectures and demonstration groups, discussion role-plays, etc. In such a situation, trainees get a good opportunity to discuss adequately for clarification. Apart from this the ideal location, appropriate material as per the requirement, proper design, and right timing are

other considerations to carry out the training programs effectively. Therefore, in this study, an attempt has been made to study the impact of training on farmers through Krishi Vigyan Kendra training. Most of the programmes are interlinked with the demonstration and trail that are conducted to extend the solution to location-specific problems and to improve production. Similarly, some aimed at increasing the net income and proper management of natural resources by reducing the cost of production. The some programmes are aimed at diversifying agriculture based on market demand for available local resources.

Training is an essential and continuous requirement for the continued development of the agricultural sector. Krishi Vigyan Kendra emphasizes vocational training as one of its most significant initiatives. PRA addresses the designated emphasize village's needs and concerns. This is why need-based training courses for extension workers and practicing farmers are created, as well as there are systematic chances for rural youth and participants to get the essential understanding and skills throughout the training. The KVK not only provides training in agriculture and related businesses, but also in other income-generating industries that may quadruple rural communities' income. Training methods can be formal, informal, or a hybrid of both. The training program should be conducted as a plan. The present study was carried out with the following objectives.

1. To study the impact of KVK in terms of gain in knowledge of agriculture technology and allied

- activities of farmers.
- To explore the relationship between socio-personal traits of the farmers with their level of knowledge about agricultural technology and allied activities of farmers.
 - To record the opinion of the farmers as feedback for effective conducting of different activities.

Materials and Methods

The study was done in Madhya Pradesh's West Nimar area, particularly the Barwani districts. The Barwani district comprises seven blocks. Among the seven blocks of the Barwani district, Barwani, Sendhwa, Pati, and Rajpur were purposefully chosen for the study since these areas had the highest number of farmers participating in different KVK activities, followed by the other blocks. A list of villages where Krishi Vigyan Kendra performed different activities/programmes was established and three villages from each selected block were chosen at random for the study. Krishak Mitra, AFO, and RAO collaborated to develop a village-by-village farmer list. From this list, twenty farmers were selected at random from each the village to produce a sample size of 240 farmers. The primary data was collected from the respondents by using a pretested interview schedule. The respondents were interviewed individually by the investigator.

Results and Discussion

Impact of KVK in terms of gain in knowledge of agriculture technology and allied activities of farmers

Knowledge is familiarity with someone or something, which might include facts, information, descriptions, or skills acquired via experience or research. It can relate to educational or practical knowledge about a subject gained via KVK activities. It relates to information regarding multiple vocational programmes offered by Krishi Vigyan Kendra with the goal to improve farmers' understanding of agricultural technology. The farmers were divided based on their obtained score of knowledge.

Change in knowledge about agricultural technology and allied activities among the farmers due to activities of KVK

Table 1 assesses and summarizes the increase in farmers' knowledge of agricultural technology and related activities. In the case of enhanced variety, the majority of respondents (54.17) had a medium level of knowledge, followed by 33.33 and 12.50 percent who had a high and low degree of knowledge of agricultural technology, respectively. In terms of land preparation, the majority of respondents (51.67%) had a medium level of knowledge, followed by 35.83 percent with a high level of knowledge and just 12.50 percent with a poor degree of understanding of agricultural technology.

While in terms of sowing time and method, the majority of

respondents (52.50%) had a high level of knowledge, 37.50% had a medium level of knowledge, and 10% had a poor level of understanding of agricultural technology. In terms of manure and fertilizer, the majority of respondents (46.25%) had high level knowledge, followed by 39.17% who had medium level knowledge, and 14.58% who had low level knowledge of agricultural production technology. In terms of irrigation and drainage, the majority of respondents (55.33%) had medium level knowledge, 28.33% had high level knowledge, and just 15.83% had low level understanding of agricultural technology.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their knowledge increased about agricultural technology due to activities of KVK

S. N.	Name of technology	Extent of Knowledge					
		Low		Medium		High	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1.	Improved variety	30	12.50	130	54.17	80	33.33
2.	Seed Treatment	41	17.08	120	50.00	79	32.92
3.	Sowing time and method	24	10.00	90	37.50	126	52.50
4.	Manure and fertilizer	35	14.58	94	39.17	111	46.25
5.	Irrigation and drainage	38	15.83	134	55.83	68	28.33
6.	Weed control	44	18.33	144	60.00	52	21.67
7.	Plant protection measures	68	28.33	128	53.34	44	18.33

In terms of weed management, the majority of respondents (60.00%) had a medium level of expertise, 21.67 percent had a high level of knowledge, and 18.33 percent had a poor level of understanding of agricultural technology. In terms of plant protection measures, 53.34% of respondents had a medium level of knowledge, 28.33% had a poor level of knowledge, and just 18.33% had a high level of knowledge of agricultural technology. The findings are consistent with those of Deshmukh *et al.* (2021) [7] and Christopher *et al.* (2020) [8].

Table 2: Allocation of the respondents according to increasing their overall knowledge about agricultural technology

S. N.	Category	Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (< 33%)	40	16.67
2.	Medium (33%-66%)	120	50.00
3.	High (> 66%)	80	33.33
Total		240	100
Mean (μ)		2.17	
Standard Deviation (σ)		0.70	

According to the data in table 2, the majority of the 240 farmers (50.00%) increased their overall knowledge of agricultural technology to a medium level, followed by 33.33 percent who increased their overall knowledge to a high level, and only 16.67 percent who increased their overall knowledge to a low level. Similar findings were reported by Badodiya *et al.* (2021) [1], Khare *et al.* (1996) [5], and Medhi *et al.* (2017) [6].

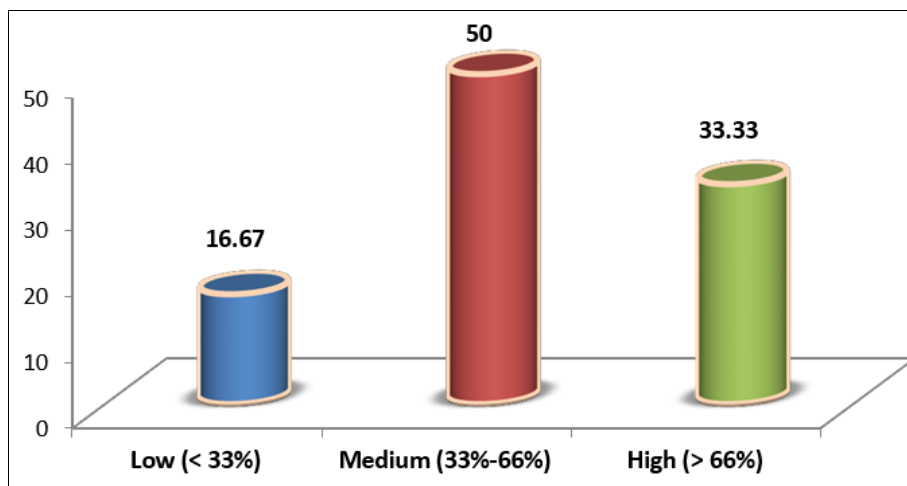


Fig 1: Allocation of the respondents according to increasing their overall knowledge about agricultural technology

Relationship between socio-personal traits of the farmers with their level of knowledge about agricultural technology and allied activities of farmers

The zero order correlation coefficient of selected socio-personnel traits was determined with knowledge of farmers and presented in table 3. The zero order correlation coefficient of each of the variables with their dependent variable annual income increased due to training programme organized by KVK has been furnished.

Table 3: Relationship between Socio-personal traits of farmers and their knowledge due to the programme

S. N.	Cursor	Socio-personal traits	Correlation Coefficient “r”
1.	X1	Age	0.102
2.	X2	Education	0.524
3.	X3	Caste	-0.042
4.	X4	Size of family	0.121
5.	X5	Social participation	0.418
6.	X6	Occupation	0.448
7.	X7	Size of land holding	0.526
8.	X8	Irrigation facility	0.401
9.	X9	Source of information	0.437
10.	X10	Migration behavior	0.423
11.	X11	Risk orientation	0.427
12.	X12	Extension contact	0.469
13.	X13	Innovativeness	0.681
14.	X14	Cosmopoliteness	0.551

It was discovered that eleven variables, namely education, social participation, occupation, size of land holding, irrigation facility, source of information, migration behavior, risk orientation, extension contact, innovativeness, and cosmopoliteness, had a positive relationship with knowledge of agricultural technology as a result of KVK activities/programmes at the 0.01 percent level of probability.

The coefficient of correlation of age, caste and family size were showed no significant relationship with knowledge increase due to activities/programme organized by KVK. This findings are in line with the findings of Badodiya *et al.* (2021) [1], Bihare *et al.* (2022) [3], Dixit & Singh (2005) [4], Yadav *et al.* (2012) [9] and Medhi *et al.* (2017) [6].

Opinion of the farmers as feedback for effective conducting of different activities

During the research, farmers provided several ideas and submissions to help develop more effective training programmes. These findings were described as viable techniques for an effective training program.

According to the farmer responses, the majority (73.33 percent) suggested that KVK outreach be increased for remote and village levels, which was ranked first, followed by the use of local language and simple terminology during theory and practical classes, which was said by 62.50 percent of the respondents and ranked second.

According to the data presented in Table 4, 59.17 percent of respondents believe that literature should be prepared in the local language, which is based on the principle of extension education of "seeing by believing." The majority, 50.83 percent, believe that result and method demonstrations should be conducted during training because "learning by doing" is the best principle of extension education and was ranked fourth. Graphical and pictographic models should be employed to improve training effectiveness, according to 42.50 percent of respondents. Training should be structured depending on need and time, as proposed by 31.67 percent of respondents and rated seventh. Table 4 shows that the majority of 33.33 percent of the respondents advocated that Infrastructural facilities should be developed because inputs are the foundation of any enterprise and it's got seventh ranked.

Table 4: Opinion of the farmers as feedback for effective conducting of different activities

S. N.	Feedback	Freq.	%	Rank
1.	Local language and simple terminology should be used during training	150	62.50	II
2.	Outreach of KVK should be increased for remote as well as villages level	176	73.33	I
3.	Literature should be prepared in local language	142	59.17	III
4.	Result and Method demonstration should be conducted during training	122	50.83	V
5.	Graphical and pictographic model should be used for making training more effective	102	42.50	VI

6.	Training should be organized on need and time based	76	31.67	VIII
7.	Infrastructural facilities should be developed	80	33.33	VII
8.	Information communication tools should be used in proper way	70	29.17	X
9.	Practical and exposure visit should be conducted during training programme	130	54.17	IV
10.	Coordination should be made with other department and extensive promotion should be made for training	78	32.50	IX

Out of 240 respondents, 32.50 percent proposed that coordination with other departments be established, as well as broad marketing of training. 29.17% of respondents recommended that information tools or audiovisual aids function properly. The findings are consistent with the results of Badodiya *et al.* (2021)^[1].

Conclusion

This study reveals that the majority of the 50.00 percent respondents have increased their medium level understanding of agricultural technology owing to the program and activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The coefficient of correlation for age, caste, and family size indicated no significant link with knowledge improvement as a result of KVK-organized activities/programmes. According to the farmer responses, the majority (73.33 percent) suggested that KVK outreach be increased for remote and village levels, which was ranked first, followed by the use of local language and simple terminology during theory and practical classes, which was said by 62.50 percent of the respondents and ranked second.

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