RESEARCH ARTICLE

Training needs of cotton growers about plant protection measures

A.D.KHANDARE, A.P. KALASKAR AND R.B. SARODE

See end of the article for
authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :
A.D. KHANDARE
Shri Shanishwar Jr.
College, Sonai,
AHMEDNAGAR
(M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Parbhaini district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra state to asses training needs of cotton growers about plant protection of cotton, due to various reasons, It has been observed that many cotton growers use plant protection measures but neither follow correct procedure nor they prepare recommended spray solutions and thus fail to get desired results. This study revealed that most important training need perceived by the respondents were observed to be ETL count, use of integrated pest management, use of crysopa, preparation and use of neem kernel extract and use of pheromone traps.

INTRODUCTION

It has been observed that many cotton growers use plant protection measures but neither follow correct procedure nor they prepare recommended spray solutions and thus fail to get desired results. This is due to lack of knowledge and skill. Pest and diseases cause considerable loss hence plant protection measures occupy crucial place in crop husbandry (Dhurdeo, 1998).

It is being often widely recognized that if agriculture production is to be increased, the most important step that need to be taken is the training of the farmers in improved method of farming. Thus, it is oblivious that if increased production has to be ensured, the farmers must be trained

Hence, this study was undertaken to identity various areas of trainings needs of cotton growers about plant protection measures with the specific objective (Khandare, 2002).

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Parphani taluka of Parbhaini district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra state in the back drop of maximum area under cotton cultivation in the whole Parbhani district. From Parbhani taluka eight villages having highest area under cotton were selected for the study and from each village 15 respondents were selected by nth method of random sampling.

The data were collected with the help of structured schedule, simple statistical tools like frequency and percentage were used for analysis of data to assign training needs of respondents. Three point quantinum in the need inventory were quantified by assigning the scores as 3, 2 and1 for most important, important and less important training needs, respectively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is manifested from Table 1 that various technological aspects like ETL count and information on beneficial insects were perceived as most important by 70.84 per cent and 48.33 per cent of the respondents, respectively while selection of appropriate time for control of diseases and pests, 41.66 per cent of the respondents reported as important area of training and for measurement of solutions and chemicals, most of the respondents (61.67 per cent) expressed as less important area of training.

Regarding use of integrated pest management, two fifth of the respondents 43.33 per cent and 48.33 per cent were perceived most important and important training area of plant protection, respectively

The data regarding cultural control revealed that field sanitation, deep ploughing and crop rotation were considered as most important training areas as reported by 10.00, 10.00 and 05.00 per cent of the respondents, respectively. Field sanitation, deep ploughing and crop rotation were considered as less important areas of training needs as expressed by majority of the respondents (70.00, 65.00,