RESEARCH ARTICLE

Extent of adoption of recommended sugarcane-technologies by the different categories of sugarcane growers

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to study the extent of adoption of recommended sugarcane technologies by the different categories of sugarcane growers in selected six blocks of Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu. The selected six blocks were Keerapalayam, Kammapuram, Kattumannar Koil, Annagramam, Kurinjipadi and Mangaloore. The respondents were pre-stratified into marginal, small and big farmers consisting of 80 respondents in each categories. Altogether, 240 respondents were selected from six villages proportionately using simple random sampling. Thirty six per cent of marginal farmers had low level of adoption on sugarcane technology, whereas only 47.50 per cent of small farmers had medium level of adoption. In case of big farmers, 58.75 per cent of them had high level of adoption. Out of ten technologies of sugarcane cultivation, the difference could be observed between the marginal, small and big farmers for adoption of four technologies *viz.*, sett treatment, herbicide application, bio-fertilizer application and use of bio-control agents.

INTRODUCTION

The growth and development of Agriculturally pre-dominant nation like India mainly depends on the progress in sciences and technology. In the developing world today, it is not the lack of technology that worries, but is the rate of transfer of technology from the points of production to the units of its utilization. So, there is an increasing gap between innovations in the laboratories and their adoption in the field. The adoption of technology is a complex pattern of mental and physical activities. Several personal, psychological, economic and social factors largely determine the extent of adoption and also continuance of the technology (Yadav *et al.*, 2005).

Keeping these points in mind, the present study was attempted to study the extent of adoption of different categories of sugarcane growers and to study the relationship of socio-economic and psychological characteristics with extent of adoption of marginal, small and big sugarcane growers.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in selected six blocks of Cuddalore district. The selected blocks were Keerapalayam, Kattumannar koil, Annagramam, Kammapuram, Kurinjipadi and Mangalore. The respondents were pre-stratified into marginal, small and big farmers consisting of 80 respondents in each categories. Altogether, 240 respondents were selected from six villages proportionately using simple random sampling. Fourtteen personal, socioeconomic and psychological variables were selected for determining their relationship with the extent of adoption of sugarcane growers. A well-structured and pre-tested interview schedule was used to collect the data from the selected respondents. The collected data were analysed by using the percentage analysis, cumulative frequency method, zero order correlation and chi-square test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From Table 1 it could be concluded that more than one third of the respondents were found under low (35.83 per cent) and medium (35.00 per cent) categories. The remaining 29.17 per cent of the respondents were found to be high in their extent of adoption.

The calculated chi-square value indicated that there was significant difference between the different categories of sugarcane growers regarding their extent of adoption. In case of marginal and small farmers, the extent of adoption was comparatively lesser than big farmers. Larger farm size of big farmers might have enhanced them to increase the number of farm activities, whereas this could not be