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Impact of model training course on value addition and postharvest management of horticultural crops

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SUMMARY: Model training courses are organized with the objective to update knowledge and skills of extension personnel working in the field all over the country. Directorate of Extension Education, Maharana Pratap Univeristy of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur had organized two Model Training Courses (MTCs) on "value addition and post-harvest management of horticulture produce for extension functionaries of agriculture/horticulture department of different states of India. Data were collected on different aspects of the training programme using structured interview schedule and a questionnaire before and after conducting the training programmes. Learning Index was used to measure the gain in knowledge of participant trainees. Results of the study revealed that training was very useful in its objective as it had significant impact on enhancing the knowledge level of participants. Average enhancement in knowledge and learning index was estimated to be 25.01 and 53.7 per cent with standard deviation of 5.58. Aspect wise gain in knowledge was studied and the maximum gain in knowledge was observed in the area of basic knowledge about value addition and post harvest management of horticulture crops (33.40%), followed by value addition and processing (30.67%), physiology of crops and post harvest management 23.53 and 23.33 per cent, respectively. Majority of the respondents were satisfied with the course contents and training delivery methods.

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