

## Impact Of The Training Programmes Conducted To Farmers In The Command Area Of The Srisailam Right Branch Canal (SRBC)

B. Sahadeva Reddy\*<sup>1</sup> and T. S. Prasad Reddy <sup>2</sup>

III AP Irrigation Project, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University, Nandyal-518502.

### ABSTARCT

III AP Irrigation Project is funded by World Bank and implemented by Regional Agricultural Research Station, Nandyal, which is part of Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. As a part of funding I&CADA Department, Govt of AP, World Bank has asked Agricultural University to provide Agricultural Support Services in three reaches (Upper, Middle & Lower) of SRBC command which consisted of Training Programmes for farmers of Rythu Mithra Groups from the three reaches of command in the Research Station. Results have clearly indicated that there is substantial increase in knowledge of farmers on improved production practices as a result of Training Programmes that were conducted.

### INTRODUCTION

The Agricultural development depends on Research, Competent Extension Functionaries and their Services. However, the quality of Extension services depends upon the quality of Extension personnel. The purpose of Training is to inculcate positive changes in Knowledge, Skills, Understanding and Attitude of the Trainees. Hence, by taking into consideration the above Positive Connotations, the present Training programme was meticulously planned and executed by selecting suitable Curriculum and Training Methods, as the Curriculum is the heart of the Training programme and Training Methods constitute the blood vessels of the Training System through which training messages reach the Trainees and Trainers receive concurrent feed back on the Training programme from the Trainees Rhoades (1987).

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The command area was divided into 16 blocks covering five mandals viz., Panyam, Banaganapalli, Koilakuntla, Owk and Sanjamala. From these mandals all the villages covering under SRBC ayacut were selected. From the selected villages, farmers from Rythu Mitra groups were selected and given intensive training programmes at RARS, Nandyal on different topics relating to adoption pattern of technology on major crops and water management practices. Totally 960 farmers attended from 50 villages of the command area. All the trained farmers were subjected to knowledge test at the end of the training programme. For this purpose a knowledge test was developed comprising of 26 test questions covering all the topics of training programmes (entire cognitive domain). The possible

minimum and maximum scores are 0 and 26 respectively. The questions were framed in a fixed alternative manner as majority of the trainee farmers were can read only category. The results were coded, tabulated and statistically analyzed for interpretation of the findings. To draw the meaningful conclusions, the farmer trainees were divided into three categories viz., Low knowledge, Medium knowledge, High knowledge based on mean and standard deviation in the following manner.

Category	Criteria
• Low knowledge	< Mean - SD
• Medium knowledge	Mean -SD to Mean + SD
• High knowledge	> Mean +SD

#### *Training Programmes conducted under III AP Irrigation Project*

- Suitable crops and cropping systems for SRBC command area.
- Importance of Soil testing and Integrated Nutrient Management.
- Improved package of practices for all major crops.
- Integrated Pest Management.
- Integrated Disease Management.
- Water management for I.D. Crops.
- Water management for horticultural crops.
- Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation.
- Rice cultivation with special reference to SRI Cultivation.

\*Author for correspondence