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Constraints faced by potato growers in adoption of recommended potato production technology

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Abstract : The present study was conducted in 12 villages of Anand district having more area under potato cultivation. Total 120 respondents from these 12 villages were selected by using proporsnate random sampling technique and data were collected by means of personal interview. Finding of this study states that high cost of inputs and fluctuating price behaviour is the major constraints faced by the potato growers. Price of the inputs should be minimized and timely technical guidance should be made available were the major suggestions offered by the potato growers to boost adoption rate of potato production technology.

Key Words : Constraints, Potato, Potato growers, Suggestions, Adoption

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INTRODUCTION

Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L) is native of the high Andes in South America and it was first introduced in India at the end of the sixteenth or the beginning of the seventeenth century.It is short duration crop with the life span of 110-120 days; it is fertilizer responsive crop and successfully grown to a wide variety of agro climatic conditions. It has a good self-storage life, which can be extended over a long period by converting in to dry products *viz.*, wafers, flakes, finger chips, potato powder and papads.

Potato is an economical food and provides a source of low cost energy to human diet. It is as balanced vegetable food as any other cereal like wheat, rice and maize, with a high quality protein contents (2.7 per cent), vitamin B and vitamin C. It contains riboflavin, niacin with large quantity of lysine and amino acids, the constituents, which makes potato nutritionally superior to cereal proteins. It also contains important minerals like calcium, phosphorus, potassium, iron and magnesium.

The production of potato in India was 32,411 MT. In Gujarat production of potato was 1493.90 MT and the production of potato in Anand district was 1,88,940 tones. So

production scenario of the country, it can be foretold that potato will be the important vegetable crop to satisfy the vegetable requirement of the country in coming days. However, many of the potato growers could not adopt the recommended potato production technology in view of large number of constraints in doing so. This study tries to understand the constrains faced by the potato growers in adoption of recommended potato production technology and find out the ways to overcome such constraints with the following specific objectives:To identify the problems faced by the farmers in adoption of recommended production technology of potato and to seek the suggestions from the farmers to overcome the problems faced by them in adoption of recommended production technology of potato.

far Gujarat is concerned it ranked fourth with 4.33 per cent

contribution having with total (1,493.90 MT) production

(Anonymous, 2007). Looking to the present increasing

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Anand district was chosen by researcher for the study. Anand, Borsad, Anklav and Umreth talukas of Anand district