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Identification of problems in mustard production technology and suggestions to overcome

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Abstract

The study was conducted in Shankargarh, Rajpur and Ramchandrapur blocks in Balrampur district of Chhattisgarh. One hundred twenty farmers were selected randomly from 12 villages from these blocks to collect the required information about the knowledge, adoption cost of cultivation, marketing and other aspects for the present study. The major problems faced by the mustard grower of tribal areas on adoption of various mustard production technologies were the problem of unavailability of proper marketing facility in tribal areas. Various suggestions had put forward by the respondents to overcome the problems and to enhance the productivity of mustard. The suggestion which was put-forth by most of them was proper marketing facilities should be increased in tribal areas for the selling of their produce.

Keywords: Mustard growers, production technology, productivity, problem and suggestion

Introduction

Mustard (*Brassica spp.*) is the world's third most important oilseed crop, followed by soybean and palm (*Elaeis guineensis* Jacq.) oil. In 2021 the countries with the highest amount of mustard seed production were Nepal (164000 tones), Russia (143000 tones) and Canada (99000 tones), together comprising 64% of global output. From 2012 to 2021, the biggest gainer was Russia (42%), while mustard seed production for the other global leaders experienced more modest paces of growth. Of the seven edible oilseeds farmed in India, mustard (*Brassica spp.*) accounts for 28.6% of total oilseed production. It is the second most significant edible oilseed in India after groundnut, accounting for 27.8% of the Indian oilseed economy. Mustard is India's second most important and well-known winter oilseed crop. It is primarily grown in India's northern plains, with some farm areas in the country's eastern topography. This crop is a member of the Cruciferae family, and various relative species have been grown. Toria, Yellow Sarson, Brown Sarson, Gobhi Sarson or Canola, and Black Mustard or Banarasi Rai are among the other crops in the 'Rapeseed & Mustard' group. The oil content of the little brown or yellow seeds can reach 45 percent. Animal feed is made from the de-oiled cake. Mustard seeds and their oil are used in cooking. Vegetables are made from newly made leaves. The oil cake is used as a feed to livestock.

Total area under cultivation of mustard is 47542 ha. Whereas Chhattisgarh's production is 26999 metric tonnes. Bastar is the most prominent producer in Chhattisgarh. The area under rapeseed-mustard in Bastar plateau is 4858 ha. (10.22%) and production is 2906 metric tons (10.76%) of total area and production in the state. In Bastar district, rapeseed-mustard crops were grown in 1630 ha. (33.55%) and production was 1135 metric tons (39.06%) of total oilseeds area and production in Bastar plateau. Bastar comes 9th position in area and 6th position in production of rapeseed- mustard in the Chhattisgarh (Anonymous, 2014b) [2s].

In Balrampur district mustard is being grown in an area of about 1008 hectares and has a production of about 6.34 metric tons with productivity of 629 kg/hectare. (Anonymous, 2013) [1]. In Balrampur district farmers are mainly grown mustard varieties for cultivation are Krishna Kranti, VNR 502, Sonalika and Super Sona.

Material and Methods

The study was carried out in Balarampur district of Chhattisgarh state. Balarampur district has 6 blocks out of which 3 blocks namely Shankargarh, Rajpur and Ramchandrapuram were selected purposively because large area covered in mustard crop in these blocks. 12 villages were selected randomly from each selected block. In this way 12(3x4) villages were taken for this study.

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Also, 10 respondents were selected from each village and thus a total of 120 (10x12) farmers were selected as respondents for this study.

The data were tabulated and processed by using appropriate statistical tools and methods.

Results and Discussion

Multiple responses were ascertained to encounter the major problems faced by the mustard grower of tribal areas on adoption of various mustard production technologies. Various problems are presented in Table 1 which indicates that majority of them were faced the problem about lack of proper marketing channels in tribal areas (96.66%) followed by lack of training and demonstrations facilities in tribal areas (91.66%), lack of knowledge about pesticides and its accurate quantity of application (85.00%), lack of skilled labor (55.83%), lack of knowledge about seed treatment (53.33%), and non-availability of improved variety seed in proper time (42.50%). These all are the problems which are faced by the mustard growers.

Table 1: Problems faced by mustard growers in adoption of mustard production technology.

SL. No.	Problems	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1.	Lack of skilled labor	67	55.83	IV
2.	Lack of knowledge about seed treatment	64	53.33	V
3.	Lack of knowledge about pesticides and its accurate quantity of application	102	85.00	III
4.	Training and demonstrations are not organized at tribal areas.	110	91.66	II
5.	Lack of proper marketing facilities in tribal areas	116	96.66	I
6.	Non availability of improved variety seed in proper time.	51	42.50	VI

Various suggestions were suggested by the respondents to overcome the problems and to enhance the productivity of mustard crop. Table 2 reveals that most of the mustard growers were suggested that proper marketing channels should be available (79.33%) followed department of agriculture should be imparted training about seed treatment (81.66%), proper knowledge about insecticides and pesticides must be provided by the experts (79.16%), training and Demonstrations should be conducted on farmer's field (45.33%), and fencing facilities should be provided by the government at low cost (37.50%). These were the suggestions which were suggested by the respondents to enhance the productivity of mustard crops.

Table 2: Suggestions given by mustard growers in adoption of mustard technology

SL. No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Proper technology information about insecticides and pesticides must be provided by the experts.	95	79.16	III
2	Government should impart training about seed treatment	98	81.66	II
3	Proper marketing facilities should be increased by the government.	112	79.33	I
4	Training and Demonstrations should be conducted on farmer's fields.	85	45.33	IV
5	Fencing facilities should be provided by the government at low cost.	45	37.50	V

Conclusion

It is concluded that the major problems faced by the mustard was the unavailability of proper marketing facility in tribal areas i.e. 96.66%. Various suggestions were put forward by the respondents to overcome the problems and to enhance the productivity of mustard. The suggestion which was put forth by most of the mustard growers was proper marketing facilities should be increased by the government i.e., 79.33%.

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