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Constraints faced by potato growers in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra

KV Chaudhary, SP Pandya and RJ Patel

Abstract

The progress in agriculture depends to a large extent on the quick and effective dissemination of new agricultural practices among the farmers and the reciprocal receiving of farmers problems at the research stations for their solutions. Looking into these facts, it is necessary to undertake impact assessment study of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The present study was undertaken in KVK at Deesa of Banaskantha district. Out of 14 talukas of Banaskantha District seven talukas falls under the jurisdiction of KVK, Banaskantha-I (Deesa). Among the seven talukas four taluka and from each selected talukas three villages were selected purposively. From the list of KVK beneficiary, ten beneficiary potato growers from each village were selected randomly. To know the impact of KVK, the same numbers of non beneficiary potato growers were selected randomly from same villages. Thus, altogether 120 beneficiary and 120 non beneficiary potato growers were selected for the study. Thus, total 240 potato growers were selected. The findings of the study revealed that constraints faced by the beneficiary potato growers in getting benefits from KVK were; shortage of time to visit KVK and attend its activities frequently followed by the place of training organized by the KVK is so far, unavailability of the improved tubers from KVK, training period of KVK is not sufficient to cover all the aspects of potato production technology in details. The most important suggestions offered by the beneficiary potato growers for getting benefits from KVK were: the time of training organized by the KVK should be suitable according to conveniency of farmers followed by the place of training organized by the KVK should be suitable, provide improved tubers with subsidized rate in required quantity and at appropriate time.

Keywords: Constraints, suggestions, KVK, potato production technology

Introduction

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, an innovative science-based institution, was consequently established mainly to impart vocational training to the farmers and field level extension workers. The concept of vocational training in agriculture through KVK grows substantially due to greater demand for improved agricultural technology by the farmers. They act as the training centers for the transfer of technology with an aim to reduce the time lag between technology generation and their transfer. The KVK was of national importance which would help in accelerating the agriculture production as also in improving the socio-economic conditions of the farming community and for providing self employment opportunities to the growing rural population. To achieve this objective the KVK arrange a number of training programs and activities on crop production and allied activities. The achievements of KVKs are measured in terms of impact of these trainings on the farming community. Therefore, it is necessary to examine the impact of KVK on level of knowledge, adoption and attitude towards various activities of KVK. With this task in view a study entitled, "Impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banaskantha-I on potato production technology" was be conducted with following specific objectives:

Objective

- To know the constraints faced by potato growers in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra
- 2. To seek the suggestions from potato growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Methodology

The present study was undertaken in KVK at Deesa of Banaskantha district. Gujarat state has 33 districts, out of which Banaskantha district was selected for this study as Krishi Vigyan

Corresponding Author: KV Chaudhary Assistant Professor, KIASRC, UKA Tarsadia University, Bardoli, Surat, Gujarat, India Kendra, Banaskantha-I (Deesa) is situated in this district. Banaskantha-I (Deesa), was first KVK in Gujarat state is established in 22nd February, 1976 in the 5th five years plan of the ICAR. This KVK was under SardarKrishinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University Jurisdiction. The study was confirmed to Ex-Post Facto research design. The multistage sampling technique was used for select a representative sample of respondents investigation. Out of 14 talukas of Banaskantha District Deesa, Dantiwada, Vadgam and Palanpur taluka was purposively selected on the basis of maximum numbers of activities carried out by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banaskantha-I (Deesa). From each selected talukas three villages were selected purposively on the basis of maximum numbers of beneficiary and more number of activities carried out by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banaskantha-I (Deesa). Thus, total twelve villages were selected. From this list, ten beneficiary potato growers from each village were selected randomly for the study. Thus, 120 beneficiary potato growers were selected for the study. To know the impact of KVK, the same numbers of non beneficiary potato growers were selected randomly from same villages. Thus, altogether 120 beneficiary and 120 non beneficiary potato growers were selected for the study. Thus, total 240 potato growers were selected. The data were collected by personal contact method with the help of structured interview schedule and collected data were coded, classified, tabulated and analyzed in light of objective and in order to make the findings meaningful for drawing meaningful interpretation.

Result and Discussion

(1) Constraints faced by potato growers in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Constraint refers to situation or circumstances which impede, restrict, or control the performance of an individual's activity. Constraints hinder in adoption of any innovation or technology and also give the consequences in their sociotechno-economic condition. Constraints in any activity or enterprise cannot be removed, but minimized. Beneficiary potato growers are confronting many constraints in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Considering these facts, constraints experienced by the beneficiary potato growers in adoption of potato production technology were studied. The beneficiary potato growers were asked to express the constraints they faced in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Frequency and per cent of each constraint reported by the beneficiary potato growers were computed and ranked accordingly. The constraints faced by the beneficiary potato growers in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Constraints faced by potato growers in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Sr. No.	Constraints	Beneficiary farmers (n = 120)		
		Frequency	Percent	Rank
1	Shortage of time to visit KVK and attend its activities frequently	62	51.67	I
2	The place of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra is so far	45	37.50	II
3	Unavailability of the improved tubers from KVK	40	33.33	III
4	Training period of KVK is not sufficient to cover all the aspects of potato production technology in details.	27	22.50	IV
5	The time between two trainings is not appropriate.	22	18.33	V
6	Lack of feed-back received from KVK staff	15	12.50	VI

A critical look in the Table 1. indicate that the beneficiary potato growers faced six constraints in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The constraints faced by the beneficiary potato growers in descending order of the importance were; shortage of time to visit KVK and attend its activities frequently (Rank-I – 51.67%) followed by the place of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra is so far (Rank-II – 37.50%), unavailability of the improved tubers from KVK (Rank-III – 33.33%), training period of KVK is not sufficient to cover all the aspects of potato production technology in details (Rank-IV – 22.50%). The time between two trainings is not appropriate (Rank-V – 18.33%) and lack of feed-back received from KVK staff (Rank-VI – 48.33%) were considered the major constraints faced by beneficiary potato growers and ranked first to six, respectively.

This finding is in partial agreement with those findings of

Chaudhary (2018) $^{[1]}$, Chaudhary (2020) $^{[2]}$, Singh *et al.* (2015) $^{[3]}$ and Kumar (2018) $^{[4]}$.

(2) Suggestions from potato growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Beneficiary potato growers were asked to give valuable suggestions to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Frequency, per cent and ranks of suggestions offered by the beneficiary potato growers were computed by the beneficiary potato growers are in accordance with the constraints expressed by them. The suggestions given by the beneficiary potato growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Suggestions from potato growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Beneficiary farmers (n = 120)		
Sr. N		Frequency	Percent	Rank
1	The time of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra should be suitable according to conveniency of farmers	56	46.67	I
2	The place of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra should be suitable	40	33.33	II
3	Provide improved tubers with subsidized rate in required quantity and at appropriate time	38	31.67	III
4	Exposure visit on progressive farmer's field should be arranged	21	17.50	IV
5	Frequent visit of SMS should be made	15	12.50	V

A critical look in the Table 2 indicate that the beneficiary potato growers give five suggestions in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The suggestions given by beneficiary potato growers in descending order of the importance were; the time of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra should be suitable according to conveniency of farmers (Rank-I – 46.67%) followed by the place of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra should be suitable (Rank-II – 33.33%), provide improved tubers with subsidized rate in required quantity and at appropriate time (Rank-III – 31.67%), exposure visit on progressive farmer's field should be arranged (Rank-IV – 17.50%) and frequent visit of SMS should be made (Rank-V – 12.50%) were considered the major suggestions given by beneficiary potato growers and ranked first to fifth, respectively.

Conclusion

The finding of the study indicated that, majority of the constraints faced by potato growers in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra were; shortage of time to visit KVK and attend its activities frequently, the place of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra is so far and unavailability of the improved tubers from KVK were considered the major constraints faced by beneficiary potato growers. The important suggestions endorsed by potato growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra were; the time of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra should be suitable according to conveniency of farmers, the place of training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra should be suitable and provide improved tubers with subsidized rate in required quantity and at appropriate time were considered the major suggestions given by potato growers.

Policy Implication

The constraints and suggestions expressed by the beneficiary potato growers should take into account by planner and various policy makers of concerned departments for better and successful implementation of program to increase the adoption of recommended potato production technology for getting benefits from Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

Conflict of Interest

The authors of the paper declare no conflict of interest

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