



TRAINING NEEDS OF FARMER'S TOWARDS IMPROVED PRODUCTION PRACTICES OF MUSTARD IN KARAULI DISTRICT OF RAJASTHAN

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ABSTRACT: Oil seed crops generally are one of the most important crops in the world. Their role in human diet and industrial application cannot be underestimated. The by-products (hull, meal and oil) of oil seed crops had been integrated in to human and animal diets due to its nutrients compositions. Mustard is the main cash crop of the farmers in Karauli district. The farmers having irrigation facility available by tube well and farm ponds. The most of farmers growing Mustard and Sesame as oil seed crops, Pearl millet & Wheat as grain crops, and Chickpea as pulse crops. White rust and frost is the serious problem in this area and soil productivity is medium. So many farmers adopted Line sowing for mustard cultivation. Irrigation generally mad by flood. The most of farmers done the main entrepreneur of animal production with the agriculture. For transfer of new agricultural practices to the farmers, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Scientist playing major role and trained to farmers continuously. In this connection the present study was conducted in the Karauli district to know training needs of farmers and different level of training needs between beneficiaries and non beneficiary respondents towards improved production practices of Mustard. In the result of study show that the highest training needs was expressed about "Intercultural operations and weed management" "selection of seed and seed rate" and "Plant protection measures" is the most needed by the overall categories of the farmers.



INTRODUCTION:

Training of farmers essentially contributes to human recourse development in agriculture. Training is an integral of any development activity. Training plays a vital role in making the farmers more receptive and equips them with new technology. Knowledge and skills of the farmers in agricultural technologies are important factors for increase agricultural production.

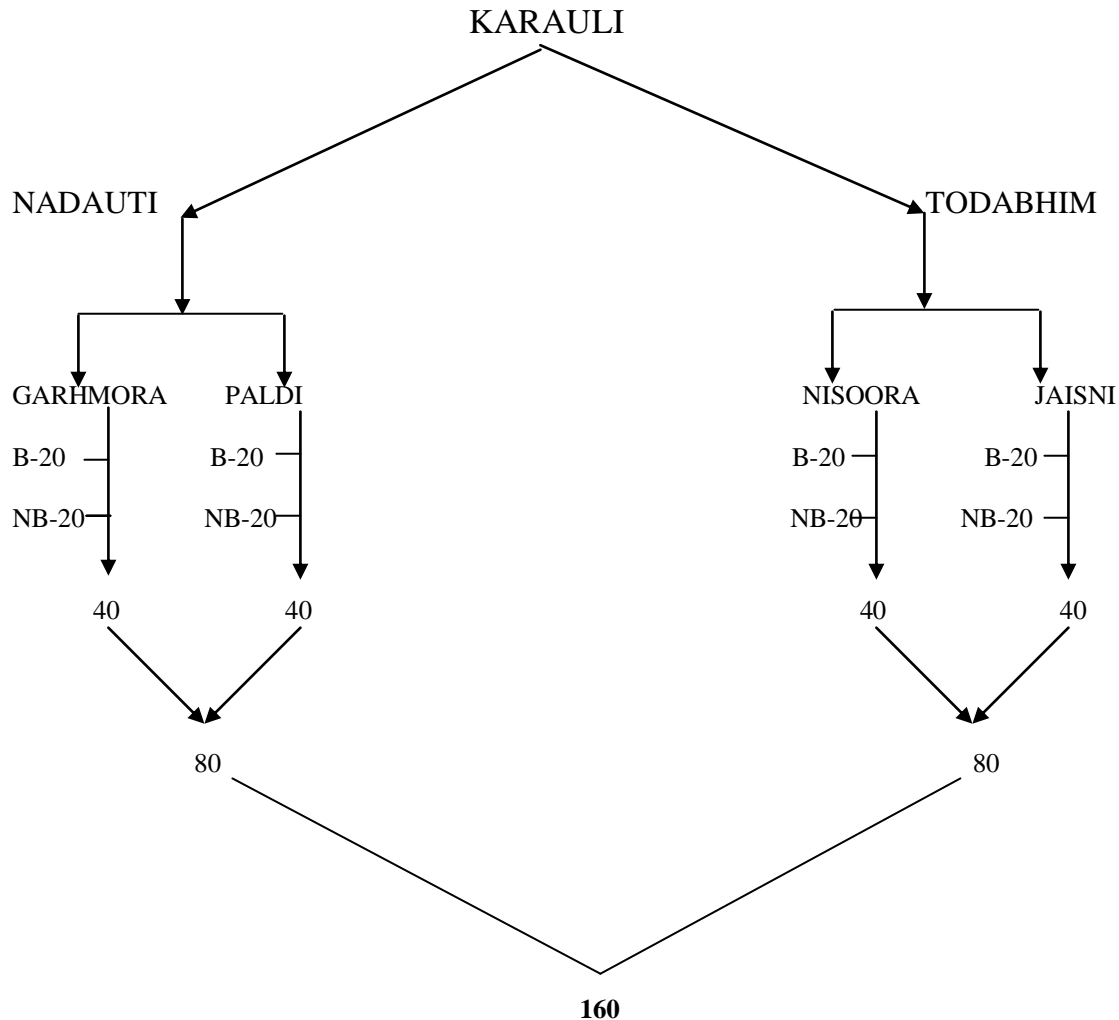
But training can become effective only when it is in consonance with the needs of the clients. In the present study an attempt has been made to assess training needs of beneficiary and non beneficiary farmers about improved production practices of Mustard. To keep pace with the development in agriculture technology, it is imperative to stream line the transfer of technology system so that the benefit of innovations can reach the farming community in the quickest possible time. For speedy transfer of improved agricultural technologies, role of research and training for farmers has been recognized according to their requirements.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

The present study was conducted in Karauli district of Rajasthan. The Karauli district was purposively selected for this study due to Krishi Vigyan Kendra Karauli was working since 18 Dec.2004 and Mustard is the main cash crop of farmers. Karauli district consist six panchayat samitties in total and out of them two panchayat samitties Nadauti & Todabhim were selected for study purpose. A comprehensive list prepared of villages and two villages selected from each selected panchyat samitties. Thus in all four villages were selected for investigation purpose. 40 respondents from each of the selected villages were sampled. Out of which 20 from beneficiary and 20 from non beneficiary categories were selected randomly.



Thus the total sample size was 160 respondents. In which 80 respondents from beneficiary group and 80 from non beneficiary groups.



Dig: Selection of respondents for investigation purpose

The schedule so prepared was presented among the small group of non sampled respondents to measure its content validity. The schedule was the revised in the light of suggestions and modifications received from the non sampled



respondents. For collection of data the interview were held personally by investigator, RAWE students and in group of K.V.K scientists at home and farm. Data also collected at the time of scientist visit and Vichar Gosthi in local dialect. Appropriate statistical tests were used to arrive at conclusion. The statistical tests included standard deviation, percentage, mean, mean score, and mean percentage score, were used in this study.

Measurement of Training Needs:

The study determines the training needs of farmers emphasizing nine selected major thematic areas. This schedule content nine major training areas. These major training need areas were further divided in to sub- questions. The maximum possible obtainable score in this case was 108. The responses obtained by the respondents were counted and converted in to mean percent score separately for both beneficiary and non beneficiary Mustard growers. Then rank was assigned as per the preference expressed by the respondents.

Result and Discussion:

Farmers face unique challenges and require education and training to ensure their success. Training helps farmers to incorporate the latest scientific advances and technology tools into their daily operations. Training brings about required change in the individual behavior for improving the job performance. Training helps the new entertainment to acquire occupation work skill and the latest knowledge, makes him familiar with the objectives of the organization to which he belongs and helps to make his potential contribution promoting the goals of his organization.



It need less to mention here that only those major were included in identifying the training needs of farmers which require special skills in reforming the agricultural operations in Mustard cultivation. Efforts were made in the present study to include all possible sub area under each major areas of training needs.

To get an overview of training needs, the respondents were grouped under high, medium and low level training needs. On the basis of calculated mean score and standard deviation of the obtained training need score.

Distribution of Respondents according to their Training Needs:

The range of training need score obtained by the two groups of respondents was found wide spread. In order to here closer look this range of score was divided in to three categories and was reset to find out the frequency and percentage of respondent's falling in each category. The data in table revealed that 40 (25.00%) farmers were high training needed. 90 (56.25%) farmers were medium training needed and 30 (18.75%) farmers were in the category of low training need about improved production practices of mustard in the study sample.

Table: 1 Distribution of different categories of respondents according to their training needs.

S. No.	Category of training need	Beneficiary N =80		Non Benef. N =80		Over all N = 160	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1	Low (up to 48)	30	(37.50%)	10	(12.50%)	40	(25.00%)
2	Medium (48to55)	40	(50.00%)	50	(62.50%)	90	(56.25%)
3	High (above 55)	10	(12.50%)	20	(25.00%)	30	(18.75%)
Total	Three	80	(100%)	80	(100%)	160	(100%)

F = Frequency % = Percentage



Table show the majority of farmers having medium training in both of the categories beneficiary and non beneficiary but non beneficiary farmers were more in medium and falls less in no for low training need as compared to beneficiary farmers. In the group beneficiary farmers 10 (12.50%) farmers were having high training need 40 (50.00%) farmers were medium training need and 30 (37.50%) were in the category of low training need about improved production technology of Mustard.

On the other hand the group of non beneficiary farmers. Majority i.e. 50 (62.50%) of the respondents belonged to medium training need and 20 (25.00%) fall in the high training need category. Only 10 (12.50%) non beneficiary respondents were found with low level of training need about improved production practices of Mustard.

Table: 2 Training needs as perceived by the beneficiary and non beneficiary farmers about Mustard production technology.

S. No.	Main head of Training needs.	Ben. N= 80		Non Ben N = 80		Overall N = 160	
		MPS	Rank	MPS	Rank	MPS	Rank
1	Use of improved varieties & Methods of Sowing	43.53	VI	65.70	V	54.61	VII
2	Soil and soil preparation	47.10	IV	65.10	VI	56.10	V
3	Selection of seed and seed rate	54.90	III	80.15	II	67.52	II
4	Use of manures and fertilizers	42.69	VII	70.15	IV	56.42	IV
5	Irrigation management	42.00	VIII	63.85	VIII	52.92	VIII
6	Intercultural operation	59.85	I	72.20	III	66.02	III
7	Plant protection measures	57.40	II	81.25	I	69.32	I
8	Harvesting, storage and marketing	38.10	IX	60.92	IX	49.51	IX
9	Crop rotation and soil conservation	44.60	V	65.08	VII	54.84	VI
	Overall	47.79	-	69.37	-	58.58	-



Table - 2 reveals that "Intercultural operations and weed management" and "Plant protection measures" was perceived as an important area of training need by the beneficiary respondents with top priority (59.85) and (57.40) mps. The table further show that "Selection of seed and seed rate" (mps 54.90) "Soil and soil preparation"(mps 47.10) "Crop rotation and soil conservation" (mps 44.60) and "Use of improved varieties & methods of sowing" (mps 43.53) were ranked III, IV, V & VI by beneficiary respondents. When the "Use of manure and fertilizers" (mps 42.69), "Irrigation management" (mps 42.00) and "Harvesting storage and marketing" (mps 38.10) were perceived least important by beneficiary respondents. Table show that "Intercultural operations and weed management" (mps 81.25) and "Selection of seed and seed rate"(mps 80.15) was perceived important area of training need. Further the "Plant protection measures"(mps 72.20) "Use of manure and fertilizers" (mps 70.15) "Use of improved varieties and method of sowing" (mps 65.70) and " Soil and soil preparation" (mps 65.10) were ranked III, IV, V & VI by the non beneficiary respondents and "Crop rotation and soil conservation" (mps 65.08) "irrigation management" (mps 63.85) and " Harvesting storage and Marketing" (mps 60.92) were perceived least important by the non beneficiary respondents regarding improved production Practices of mustard.

Table further revealed that "Plant protection measures "(mps 69.32) and " Selection of seed and seed rate " (mps 67.52) were perceived an important area of training need of overall beneficiary and non beneficiary respondents.

CONCLUSION:

It was observed that the highest training need was expressed about "Intercultural operations and weed management", "Selection of seed and seed rate" and "Plant protection measures" by both of the groups e.g. Beneficiary and non



beneficiary respondents. Finding indicated that the pattern of prioritization about the training needs under the major heads of the mustard cultivation among both the group of farmers was observed the same.

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