

The knowledge, adoption and the economic analysis of groundnut cultivation practices in Mahabubnagar district

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Abstract: Groundnut is the major cash crop for Mahabubnagar district. It is important to know the present scenario of adoption of improved cultivation practices to get to know the adoption gaps and knowledge gaps resulting in lower yields and higher cost of cultivation. The study indicated that majority of the sample groundnut farmers were in the range of 31 – 60 years from this it could be inferred that the farmers practicing groundnut are middle aged and having small family norm, the average land holding of groundnut farmers was 2-5 acres, and majority of farmers were illiterates followed by the education level upto primary and secondary school level only and in choosing wider spacing had highest adoption gaps and weed management, water management, Organic manure application and pesticide management fertilizer management, and in choosing plant variety had highest knowledge gaps. The economic analysis indicated higher cost of cultivation in using seed rate, pesticides, and harvesting areas. These have to be addressed through awareness creation programmes and proactive policies that enable ease in procurement of necessary inputs and facilitating environment for adoption of improved cultivation practices, and reducing cost of cultivation , thereby increasing profits per unit area resulting in improvised livelihoods of the farmers.

Key words: Knowledge gap, adoption, economic analysis, groundnut cultivation

Introduction

Groundnut cultivation is the major livelihood activity for majority of farmers in Mahabubnagar district. Considering its contribution to the livelihoods, it is necessary to study the present scenario of groundnut cultivation practices, the knowledge and adoption levels of the farmers including the cost of cultivation. The prevalent knowledge gaps and adoption gaps have to be addressed and steps for reducing the cost of cultivation need be practiced to gain higher yields and profits from the unit area. The present study addresses the above.

Methodology

The present study was undertaken in Hanwada mandal of Mahabubnagar (dist.), Andhra Pradesh, as the groundnut cultivation was widely practiced in this mandal. Six villages from Hanwada were selected randomly for the study. From each village, 36 farmers were randomly selected and interviewed on groundnut cultivation. The data pertained to the crop year 2012 – 2013 . were collected by personal interview method with the help of pre-tested schedules.

Findings

Knowledge Gaps

Pesticide management fertilizer management, and in choosing plant variety had highest knowledge gaps.

Adoption gaps

In choosing wider spacing (30×10cms and 22.5×10cms) had highest adoption gaps and weed management, water management, Organic manure application.

Economic analysis

Nursery cost for groundnut was considerably higher. The expenditure made on chemical fertilizer in groundnut was higher. The quantities of seed, human labour, bullock labour, machine labour used was more in groundnut cultivation.

Conclusion

The farmers are not getting quality seed the farmers are not aware of choosing the quality seed, and also the government is not undertaking certain measures in getting the quality seed, fertilizers by this farmers are choosing the seed from private sectors by this the farmers are not getting maximum yield returns by not getting seed in time by this, the farmers are cultivating the field in December instead of October – November by this they are not getting maximum returns in their field the farmers are not getting maximum returns in their field on The investment made on the groundnut crop.

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