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The knowledge level of farmers about recommended cultivation practices of Taramira

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Abstract
The present study was conducted purposely in selected Jaipur district of Rajasthan. There are total sixteen tehsils in Jaipur district of Rajasthan, out of which, two tehsils namely Maujamabad and Chomu have been selected purposively on the basis of maximum area and Production of Taramira. Further, a comprehensive list of all the Taramira growing villages was prepared with the help of revenue patwari and agriculture personnel from the selected tehsils. Six villages from each selected tehsil were taken on the basis of maximum area under Taramira cultivation. Thus, total twelve villages were selected for the present investigation.10 farmers were selected from each selected village on the basis of random sampling technique. Thus, total 120 farmers were selected for present study. The study clearly showed that majority of respondents i.e. 64.17 per cent (77) fell in medium knowledge level group.

Keywords: knowledge level, farmers, Taramira

Introduction
Taramira (*Eruca sativa* Mill.), is an important winter season oil seed crop of the family *Brassicaceae*. It is believed to have originated in the Mediterranean region and introduced to India, South Europe and North Africa. Taramira has desirable traits particularly resistance to powdery mildew that can be transferred to *Brassica compestris* and *Brassica juncea* both of which are important crops. In India, it is known by many names such as Tara, Trara, Schwan, Seoha, Duan, Turra, Tirwa, Merha, Merkai, Chara, Ushan and Sondha. The average productivity of Taramira is very low and unstable. The low productivity of the crop can be attributed to the growing of the crop on marginal and sub marginal lands of poor fertility with very low level of input. Taramira oil is used for non-edible purposes like in the manufacture of grease, soap, plastics, lubricants etc. The cake is used as a nutritious feed for animals. Further cake is also used to improve physical condition and soil fertility of the soil.

Taramira oil is highly pungent. The pungency differs from that of mustard oil, although Taramira oil can be used to make a sort of mustard. In India, the oil is used for pickling, after aging to reduce the acridity, asa salad or cooking oil. Taramira is an important seed crop of dry regions of north-western India. The oil is not directly eaten, although It is mixed with mustard oil to Increase the pungency of the later. The low productivity of Taramira is due to, lack of improved package of practices, use of locally available varieties and lack of varieties having diversified characteristics. The lack of variability for different morpho - physological traits, seed yield and oil content and a limited Knowledge about these traits in this crop has restricted the development of high yielding varieties.

Taramira is a low growing, annual oilseed crop with dull green, deeply cut, compound leaves. The leaves are characterized by a distinctive spicy, pungent flavour resembling horseradish. The plant was considered by early writers asa good salad herb, but not to be eaten alone. The oil cake is used as a feed for cattle. Cattle fed on Taramira cake are reported to be free from ticks. Administration of Taramira oil has reduced the effects of diabetes mellitus in rats. Unani system of medicine has preparations made from Taramira during normal rainfall mustard is preferred over Taramira which contributes to the wide fluctuation in the area and production over years because of the planting which depends mainly on rains.In India, Taramira is mainly grown in the states like Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. In Rajasthan major Taramira growing districts are, Jaipur, Tonk, Sawai Madhopur, Sri Ganganagar, Bhilwara and Dausa. In Rajasthan, it is grown in the area of 54315 hectares with an annual production of 37877 tonnes and productivity of 697 kg per hectare.

In Rajasthan, district Jaipur occupied the first position in area (15670 hectares) and production (10032 metric tonnes).

Research Methodology

The present study was conducted in purposely selected Jaipur district of Rajasthan. There are total sixteen tehsils in Jaipur district of Rajasthan, out of which, two tehsils namely Maujamabad and Chomu tehsils have been selected purposively on the basis of maximum area and production of Taramira (1752 ha. 1342 metric tonnes and 1581 ha. Further, a comprehensive list of all the Taramira growing villages was prepared with the help of revenue patwari and agriculture personnel from the selected tehsils. From this list so prepared, 6 villages from each selected tehsil were selected on the basis of maximum production under Taramira cultivation. Thus, in all 12 villages were taken for present investigation for selection of respondents, comprehensive list of Taramira growers was prepared with the help of village patwari and agriculture supervisor of respective selected village. From this prepared list, 10 farmers were selected from each selected village on the basis of random sampling technique. Thus, total 120 farmers were selected for present study. The statistical measures used were percentage, mean score, rank, MPS, standard deviation, Coefficient of correlation (r) etc.

Results and Discussion

The data given in Table-1 show that out of 120 respondents, majority of respondents *i.e.* 82 (68.33 per cent) belonged to middle level of knowledge, followed by high level of knowledge 19 (15.83 per cent). Whereas only 15.83 per cent (19) respondents were belonged to the low level of knowledge.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents on the basis of level of knowledge about recommended cultivation practices of Taramira

n=120

S. No.	Knowledge categories	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Low (score <39.51)	19	15.83
2.	Medium (score 39.51 to 45.67)	82	68.33
3.	High (score >45.67)	19	15.83
	Total	120	100.00

$\bar{X}$ = 42.59, σ =3.08

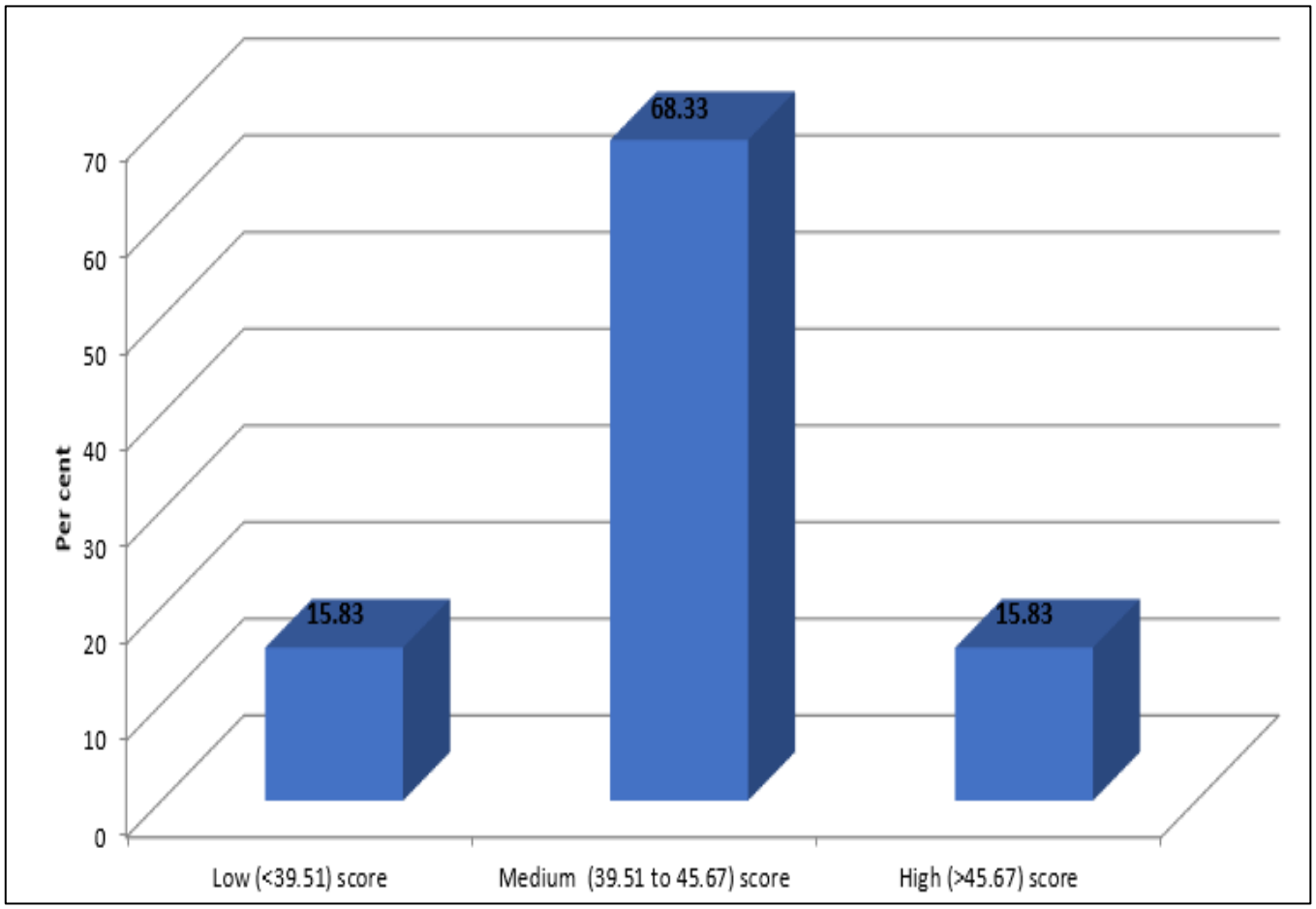

Fig 1: Distribution of respondents on the basis of level of their knowledge of Taramira

Aspect wise knowledge of respondents about recommended cultivation practices of Taramira

To get a clear picture of knowledge possessed by Taramira growers, aspect wise knowledge of Taramira growers was worked out. For this mean per cent scores for each practice was calculated and ranks were accorded. The results of the same have been presented in Table 2.and diagrammatically in fig.2.

Table 2: Aspect wise Knowledge level of farmers about recommended cultivation practices of Taramira

n=120

S. No.	Aspects/ Practices	MPS	Rank
1.	Use of high yielding varieties	74.58	IX
2.	Soil and field preparation	75.33	VII
3.	Soil treatment	75.28	VIII
4.	Time of sowing	94.17	I
5.	Seed rate & recommended method of sowing	77.64	VI
6.	Fertilizer application	87.50	IV
7.	Irrigation management	88.06	II
8.	Weed management	85.17	V
9.	Plant protection measures	74.48	X
10.	Harvesting	87.92	III

MPS = Mean per cent score,

The data regarding different practices of Taramira as recommended through research system were given in table 2 and based MPS, ranks were assigned. Based on over all MPS it was found that first rank was given to "time of sowing" with MPS 94.17, followed by Irrigation management with MPS 88.06, harvesting with MPS 87.92, fertilizer application with MPS 87.50,Weed management with MPS 85.17 and were ranked first, second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively.

It was found that Taramira growers had less knowledge regarding seed rate & recommended method of sowing with MPS 77.64, soil and field preparation with MPS 75.33, soil treatment with MPS 75.28, use of high yielding varieties with MPS 74.58 and plant.

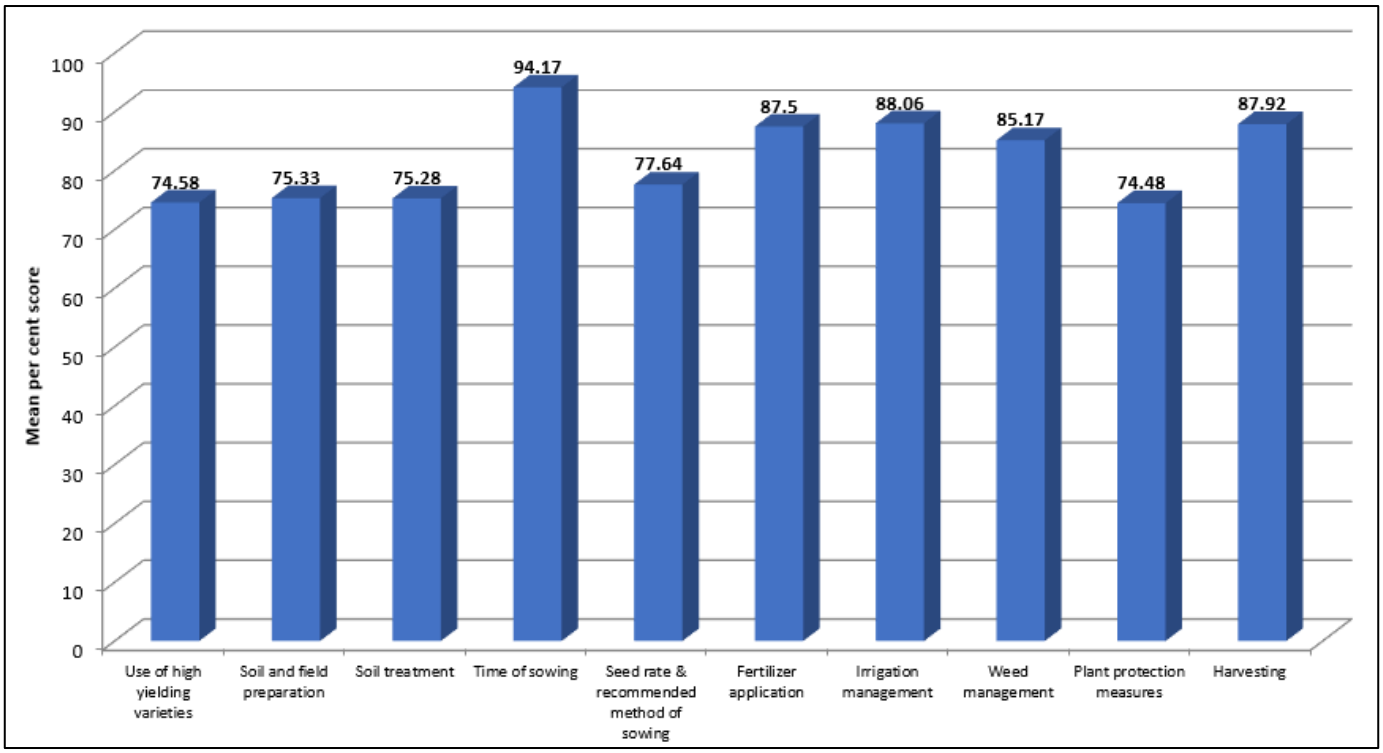

Fig 2: Extent of knowledge of farmers about recommended cultivation practices of Taramira

protection measures with MPS 74.48and they were ranked sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth, respectively.

These findings are in accordance with the findings of research conducted by Singh (2014) [7], Kumawat (2015) [2].

Conclusion

The study clearly show that majority of respondents *i.e.*64.17 percent (77) fell in medium level knowledge group whereas 17.50 per cent (21) Taramira growers were observed in the low level knowledge group and remaining 18.33 per cent (22) respondents possessed high level of knowledge about recommended cultivation practices of Taramira. The study indicated that majority of Taramira growers had adequate knowledge regarding to time of sowing followed by Irrigation management, harvesting and fertilizer application, whereas they had less knowledge regarding seed rate & recommended method of sowing, Soil and field preparation, soil treatment, Use of high yielding varieties and Plant protection measures.

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