



ISSN (E): 2277-7695
ISSN (P): 2349-8242
NAAS Rating: 5.23
TPI 2022; SP-11(6): 2789-2791
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www.thepharmajournal.com
Received: 09-03-2022
Accepted: 13-04-2022

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Expectations of the mango growers on refinement of mango production technologies

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Abstract

The present study was conducted in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts of Konkan region of Maharashtra state with the major objective to know the expectations of the mango growers on refinement of mango production technologies developed by the DBSKKV. The sample was comprised of randomly selected 240 mango growers from 48 villages in six tahsils from two districts, which was personally interviewed with the help of specially designed interview schedule. The statistical tools like frequency and percentage were used for analysis. The expectations of the mango growers on refinement of mango production technologies were 'fertilizer dose for mango should be restanderdized', paclobutrazol dose should be restandardized as the present dose in having adverse effect on plant growth and health, 'improvement in Amar Loranthus cutter should be made as more strength is required due to its heavy weight', and 'height of the tree for rejuvenation purpose should be restandardized.

Keywords: Expectation, refinement and mango production technologies

Introduction

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is one of the most ancient fruits of India and deserves to be the national fruit. It is the favourite fruit of almost every Indian and has been repeatedly acclaimed as the "King of Fruits". Mango is believed to be originated to South East Asia, Indo-Burma region, in foot hills of the Himalayas (Mukherjee, 1951) [5]. Due to its good qualities and high medicinal values, it is enjoyed by masses and classes from each corner of the world. It has an intimate association with cultural, religious, aesthetic and economical life of Indians since time immemorial. It occupies the same position in India as is occupied by apple in temperate and grapes in sub-tropical areas. Its common name 'Aam' means common. Mango is grown in about 87 countries but it is greatly valued in India. In India, about 1,500 varieties of mangos are grown, including 1000 commercial varieties. Among these, Dashehari, Langra and Chausa are the popular varieties of the northern regions of the country, while Alphonso and Pairi are popular in Deccan Plateau and Western regions. Totapuri, Neelam and Benishan are the important varieties of South India (Ravikumar *et al.* 2013).

In Maharashtra, mango is occupying an area of 157131 ha with annual production of 564240 M.T. with productivity of 3.59 M.T./ha (Source: Directorate of Horticulture, Govt. of Maharashtra 2018.) [1]. Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Thane, Raigad, Mumbai, Aurangabad, Beed, Hingoli, Jalna, Latur, Nanded, Osmanabad, Parbhani these districts are major mango producing belt of Maharashtra. Alphonso, Kesar, Ratna, Mankurad, Pairi and Sindhu are the major cultivars of Maharashtra.

Konkan region on the west coast of Maharashtra is one of the largest mango growing belt which contributes nearly 10 per cent of total mango area in the country, occupying 1,02,820.00 ha area under mango cultivation, out of which almost 90 per cent area is covered by the single cultivar only i.e. Alphonso, which is locally called as 'Hapus'. This variety has major export share to the tune of over 35 per cent of total mango export.

In Konkan, 1,02,820.00 ha area is under mango cultivation having annual production of 3,08,480 M.T. The productivity of mango in Konkan is about 2.83 M.T./ha, which is three to four times less than the average productivity of the country (Source: Directorate of Horticulture, Govt. of Maharashtra 2018.) [1]. The warm and humid climate throughout the year and rain free season from November to May prevalent in Konkan region is ideal for mango in general and Alphonso in particular (Pawar, 2013) [6]. Quality Alphonso fruits are produced in the Konkan region, the best quality however comes from the southern districts of Ratnagiri and south-northern parts of Sindhudurg, including regions around Devgad Taluka. Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Raigad, Palghar and Thane are the major Alphonso producing districts of Konkan

region of Maharashtra states.

Due to diverse soil and climatic conditions, availability of huge cultivable waste land and number of schemes initiated by the Government and Semi-Government organizations as well as, extension efforts made by the University and State Department of Agriculture, the area under mango crop is increasing remarkably. A considerable portion (25 -30 %) of the total produce is lost during harvesting stage, packaging, transportation, storage and marketing due to faulty postharvest practices. Time of harvesting, method of harvesting, packaging, grading, use of chemical substances for controlling fungal and bacterial diseases during storage etc. are very important in commercial mango production technology.

Keeping above fact in view, the present study was designed to analyse assessment and refinement of mango production technologies generated by the DBSKKV in the South Konkan Region of Maharashtra State with the following specific objective

1. To know the expectations of the mango growers on refinement of mango production technologies developed by the DBSKKV.

Methodology

The study was conducted in South Konkan region of Maharashtra state i.e. Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri district. The

ex-post-facto research design was adopted for the present study. A multistage sampling technique was used for the selection of districts, tahsils and villages. The tahsils having maximum number of mango growers were selected. Accordingly, the tahsils namely Ratnagiri, Lanja and Rajapur from Ratnagiri district and Vengurla, Malvan and Deogad from Sindhudurg district were selected. Total numbers of 48 villages were selected for the study. The farmers having minimum 40 mango trees on commercial basis were considered respondents for this study. Five respondents from each selected village were selected randomly. Thus, total 240 respondents were selected for this study. The statistical tools like frequency and percentage were used for analysis.

Results and Discussion

The findings of the present study as well as relevant the discussion has been summarized under the following heads:

Expectations of the mango growers on refinement of mango production technologies developed by the DBSKKV

An attempt was made in the present study to understand the expectations of the mango growers regarding recommended mango production technology. The data gathered in this regard are presented in Table 1

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their expectations of the mango growers on refinement of mango production technologies

Sl. No.	Statements	N	Number	Percentage
1.	Fertilizer dose for mango should be restandardized.	233	203	87.12
2.	Paclobutrazol dose should be restandardized as the present dose in having adverse effect on plant growth and health.	163	131	80.37
3.	Improvement in Amar Loranthus cutter should be made as more strength is required due to its heavy weight.	115	101	87.82
4.	Height of the tree for rejuvenation purpose should be restandardized.	31	23	74.20

The result presented in the Table 1 showed that the of the mango growers expect that, 'improvement in Amar Loranthus cutter should be made as more strength is required due to its heavy weight' (87.82 per cent) followed by 'fertilizer dose for mango should be restandardized' (87.12 per cent), 'paclobutrazol should be restandardized as the present dose in having adverse effect on plant growth and health (80.37 per cent), and 'height of the tree for rejuvenation purpose should be restandardized (74.20 per cent).

The results of the above discussion led to the conclude that expectation of mango growers are there on refinement of mango production technologies. These expectations were especially about fertilizer dose, paclobutrazol dose, improvement in amar loranthus cutter and height of the tree for rejuvenation. As per the expectations of mango growers some changes and modifications are necessary in the technologies. While adopting these technologies some difficulties might have experienced by the mango the mango growers hence the respondents would have expected the refinement in technologies.

Conclusion

Improvement in Amar Loranthus cutter should be made as more strength is required due to its heavy weight, refinement expected by the very huge of the mango growers. Large majority of the mango growers refinement expected that fertilizer dose for mango should be restandardized.

Paclobutrazol should be restandardized as the present dose in having adverse effect on plant growth and health. Height of the tree for rejuvenation purpose should be restandardized.

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