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Constraints faced by paddy growers in adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation

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Abstract

The study was carried out in Davangere district of Karnataka state to find out the constraints faced by paddy growers in adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation. The result reported that majority of the respondents (99.17%) expressed the chemical fertilizers are very expensive. Whereas, 98.33 per cent of them faced the problem of unavailability of storage facilities. The problem of non-availability of chemical fertilizers at appropriate time and lack of knowledge of proper use of chemical fertilizers were faced by 97.50 per cent of the respondents. Whereas, 93.33 per cent of the respondents were faced the problems of expensive seeds and 91.67 per cent of them were faced the problems of lack of knowledge about the recommended varieties of paddy. The constraints faced by the paddy growers are non-availability of labours at the appropriate time (90.00%), inadequate supply of electricity (89.17%), lack of knowledge about scientific plant protection (88.33%), unavailability of improved and hybrid varieties at the appropriate time (85.00%). The suggestions of paddy growers to overcome the constraints faced in adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation are the government should provide fertilizers and chemicals at low cost, information regarding pest and disease control methods should be timely sent through SMS service by the state department of agriculture or agricultural university, timely available of quality seeds at a low cost, and to increase the MSP of paddy.

Keywords: Constraints, suggestions, paddy cultivation, recommended practices

Introduction

Paddy is the world's most important human food crop, feeding more people directly than any other crop. Nearly half of the world's population more than 3 billion people relied on rice on a daily basis. It's also a staple food in Asia, where half of the world's poorest people live, and it's gaining popularity in Africa and Latin America. (ricepedia.org). After China, India is the world's second-largest producer of rice. Rice is the basic food crop that feeds more than 60 per cent of India's population, and because it is a tropical plant, it thrives in hot and humid climates. As a result, it is an important Kharif crop in India. Despite being an agricultural nation, India has very low crop productivity when compared to developed nations. It is very challenging to feed a population that is rapidly expanding due to low agricultural productivity. Even though India is now completely self-sufficient in the production of food grains, our basic dietary needs are still not met. It is necessary to strengthen the transfer of technological know-how in order to increase production and productivity, which in turn opens the door for sustainable paddy production in the irrigated ecosystem. The agricultural university recommended the package of practices for the cultivation of paddy, but the farmers have not fully adopted the recommended cultivation practices due to number of reasons. Therefore, the study was conducted to find out the constraints faced by the paddy growers in the adoption of recommended paddy cultivation practices and invite their suggestions to overcome these constraints.

Materials and Methods

The study was carried out in Davangere district of Karnataka state during 2021-22. Davangere district was selected on the basis of the maximum area, under paddy cultivation. Three talukas viz., Chennagiri, Honnali, and Davangere talukas were purposefully throughout the Davangere district because they had a considerable area under cultivation. Two villages from each taluka were selected purposively based on the sizeable area of paddy cultivation. A total six villages from three talukas were selected randomly for the study. Twenty paddy growers from each village with cultivated paddy cropland were chosen at random by the lottery sample method. A total of 120 respondents were chosen as sample respondents for the study.

The "Ex-post-facto" research approach was used for the study. Data was gathered using a well-structured interview schedule created with the study's objectives in mind. The collected data was analysed, classified, and tabulated. Statistical tools frequency and percentage were used to interpret findings and draw conclusions.

Results and Discussion

1. Constraints faced by the respondents in the adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation

The constraints faced by the respondents in the adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation are presented in Table 1. The data from Table 1 reported that majority of the respondents (99.17%) expressed the chemical fertilizers are very expensive. Whereas, 98.33 per cent of them faced the problem of unavailability of storage facilities. The problem of non-availability of chemical fertilizers at appropriate time and lack of knowledge of proper use of chemical fertilizers were faced by 97.50 per cent of the respondents. Whereas, 93.33 per cent of the respondents were faced the problems of

expensive seeds and 91.67 per cent of them were faced the problems of lack of knowledge about the recommended varieties of paddy.

The constraints faced by the paddy growers are non-availability of labours at the appropriate time (90.00%), inadequate supply of electricity (89.17%), lack of knowledge about scientific plant protection (88.33%), unavailability of improved and hybrid varieties at the appropriate time (85.00%). It was further observed that 80.83 per cent of the respondents expressed the problem of the high price of ploughing, followed by problem of changes in climate (77.50%), expensive protection measures (72.50%), unavailability of sprayers and dusters (71.67%). Whereas 70.83 per cent of them faced the problem of water lodging.

It was reported that 65.83 percent of the respondents faced the problem of lack of FYM/Compost, while lack of knowledge about marketing systems expressed by 35.00 per cent of the respondents. Similar findings were supported by Yamgar (2015) [6] and Mutteppa (2018) [3].

Table 1: Constraints faced by the respondents in the adoption of recommended paddy cultivation technology. (N=120)

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Percentage
(A)	Preparatory tillage adoption		
1	Non-availability of FYM/Compost	79	65.83
2	Lack of labour at the appropriate time	108	90.00
3	High price of ploughing	97	80.83
(B)	Use of improved and hybrid variety		
4	Lack of knowledge about recommended varieties of paddy	110	91.67
5	Expensive seeds	112	93.33
6	Improved and hybrid varieties are unavailable at the appropriate time.	102	85.00
(C)	Chemical fertilizer		
7	Chemical fertilizers are very expensive.	119	99.17
8	Non-availability of chemical fertilizers at the appropriate time	117	97.50
9	Lack of knowledge about proper use of chemical fertilizer	117	97.50
(D)	Plant protection measures		
10	The expense of protecting plants is high.	87	72.50
11	Lack of scientific knowledge of plant protection	106	88.33
12	Unavailability of sprayers and dusters	86	71.67
(E)	Irrigation Management		
13	Inadequate supply of electricity	107	89.17
14	Problem of water lodging	85	70.83
(F)	Other problems		
15	Unavailability of storage facilities	118	98.33
16	Changes in climate	93	77.50
17	Lack of knowledge about various marketing systems	42	35.00

2. Suggestions of the respondents to overcome the constraints in paddy cultivation

The suggestions of paddy growers to overcome the constraints faced in adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation are given in Table 2. The Table 2 indicated that the majority of respondents (98.33%) suggested that the government should provide fertilizers and chemicals at low cost, while information regarding pest and disease control methods should be timely sent through SMS service by the state department of agriculture or agricultural university (96.67%). While 89.17 per cent of respondents suggested the timely available of quality seeds at a low cost, and 93.33 per

cent of respondents suggested to increase the MSP of paddy. Establishment of paddy processing units and storage structures in rural areas were suggested by 85.83 per cent of respondents.

Table 2 further revealed that 78.33 per cent of respondents expressed that extension agencies should organize a training session on paddy cultivation technologies. While 60.00 per cent of the respondents suggested the provision of a harvester machine by the government, and 77.50 per cent of them suggested that regular supply of electricity for irrigation. These finding are in line with the finding of Sasane (2010) [5], Godale (2013) [1] and Kapse *et al.* (2018) [2].

Table 2: Suggestions of paddy growers to overcome the constraints in adoption of recommended practices of paddy cultivation technology (N=120)

Sr. No	Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage
1	Government should provide fertilizers and chemicals at low cost.	118	98.33
2	Extension agencies should organize training programmes about paddy cultivation technologies.	94	78.33
3	Provision of harvester machine should made by the government.	72	60.00
4	MSP of paddy should be increased	112	93.33
5	Quality seeds should be made available in time at a low cost.	107	89.17
6	Government should establish paddy processing units and storage structures in rural areas.	103	85.83
7	Information about control measures of pests and diseases should be provided through SMS service in time by state dept. of agriculture or agricultural university.	116	96.67
8	Electricity should be supplied for adequate time for irrigating.	93	77.50

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