

A Study on Perception and Usefulness of Seed Village Program for Soya Bean Crop among the Beneficiary Farmers of Indore Block of Indore District Madhya Pradesh, India

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Abstract: *The word seed or seeds are used for all propagating materials. The seed is considered as most important input in agriculture. It is cheaper than other inputs like irrigation, fertilizer & plant protection measures. Quality of seed is maintained by including various practices, like proper winnowing, drying, bagging, and storage etc. The quality seed availability at proper time determines the agriculture growth. It is a well known fact that up to 85% of the seeds used by farmer is farm saved seeds i.e. the seed protected and conserved by the farmer from his own harvest for future use. This seed is not of proper quality and does not kept in the proper storage condition. Due to these reasons, the germination of seed is affected adversely which eventually reduces the production and productivity of the crop. It is therefore necessary to improve the quality of farm saved seed. The present study was conducted in Indore block of Indore district, M. P. The random sampling technique was used for this study. Seed village program is running in two villages of Indore block by Department of farmer welfare and Agricultural Development, Govt. of M.P. Therefore, the sample was restricted to these Samlyachau and Khati Piplya villages. Out of these two villages 120 beneficiary farmers were selected randomly. The majority of respondents confronted low usefulness of seed village program followed by high and partial usefulness of seed village program in the area. The majority of respondents confronted partial perception of seed village program followed by low and perfect perception of seed village program in the area.*

Keywords: Perception, Seed Village Program, Soybean crop, production program of seed, Usefulness.

1. Introduction

The word seed or seeds are used for all propagating materials. The seed is considered as most important input in agriculture. It is cheaper than other inputs like irrigation, fertilizer & plant protection measures. Quality of seed is maintained by including various practices, like proper winnowing, drying, bagging, and storage etc. The quality seed availability at proper time determines the agriculture growth. It is a well known fact that up to 85% of the seeds used by farmer is farm saved seeds i.e. the seed protected and conserved by the farmer from his own harvest for future use. This seed is not of proper quality and does not kept in the proper storage condition. Due to these reasons, the germination of seed is effected adversely which eventually reduces the production and productivity of the crop. It is therefore necessary to improve the quality of farm saved seed.

Madhya Pradesh is the main soybean producing state in India. With the onset of monsoon in mid June sowing of soybean starts and fresh arrivals are seen from October. In 2010 total production was nearly 58.16 lac metric tons. During the last year soybean was grown in Madhya Pradesh in an area of about 5.59 million hectare with an average productivity of 9.611 quintal per hectare, which is

low as compared to average productivity of other countries. The major constraints in production include non-availability of adequate amount of quality seed of improved varieties is major cause.

Despite implementation of the organized seed program since the mid 60s, the seed replacement rate has only reached the level of 15 per cent. On the other hand, 85 per cent of the seeds used are farm saved. It is, therefore, necessary to improve the stock of farm saved seeds for enhancing crop production/productivity. For this, seed production, seed distribution and other connected aspects have improved and strengthened at the farmers' level. To upgrade the quality of farmer-saved seed which is about 80-85 per cent of the total seed used for crop production program, it is proposed to provide financial assistance for distribution of foundation/certified seed at 50 per cent cost of the seed of crops for production of certified / quality seeds only and to provide training on seed production and technology to the farmers.

2. Objectives of Study

- To assess the perception & usefulness of seed village program in respect to soybean crop.
- To identify the barriers of crop production program of seed village.

3. Review related to perception and usefulness of seed village program

Singh (1983) studied 300 adopters and 150 non adopter's farmers of Sehore district with the object to find out the impact of modern technology on production employment and income in agriculture. His study revealed that gross income per hectare for the farm business as a whole was 98% more on adopter farms than the non adopters, similarly, the intensity of cropping was higher (164.34%) among adopter farms than the non-adopter farms(132.59%) respectively. Singh (1991) highlighted that Krishi Vigyan Kendra's emphasized more course contents on crop production, horticulture, livestock, home science and lesser on fisheries. Meena et.al. (2003) found that farmers perception regarding IGFARI berseem varieties were more positive as compared to local varieties such as high germination percentage, less seed requirement, faster growth and more fodder availability period. In case of oat, farmers were not satisfied by its performance at their field as it has given less cuttings, after 3rd week of February field remained fallow, less bio-mass production and barley crop serve as a substitute for the purpose of fodder.

Wankhede et.al. (2004) found that perception was observed with Krishi Darshan Program telecasted on Delhi doordarshan. Krishi darshan programme built viewers perception by giving knowledge with using visuals which are useful to farmers with explaining ideas. Pyasi et.al. (2007) observed that more than fifty percent beneficiaries were having good household material. The productivity of major crop, which were low before the program now increased after the program. Gaddi et.al. (2002) observed that with the advent of new technology in agriculture, significant improvement in the crop productivity was noticed. However, proper resource mix and appropriate culture practices became a pre-requisite for the adoption and success of new farm technology, which were often beyond the reach of majority of the farmers.

4. Methods & Material

Depended Variable

1. Extent of usefulness:

Seed village program of soybean plays a very specific role in bringing about change in the availability of seed in the villages. The questions were asked in the schedule to test the extent of usefulness of the program to the farmers. The scale consists of 15 statements. The responses of the respondents were obtained on 3 points continuum namely disagree, partial agree and perfect agree. The scoring was done in the order of 0, 1 and 2 respectively. On the basis of maximum score, the respondents were grouped into following 3 categories based on mean \pm SD: The categorization was made as follows:

S.No.	Category	Score
1	Low useful	Less than mean -SD
2	Partial useful	Between mean \pm SD
3	Highly useful	More than mean +SD

2. Level of perception:

Perception is the process of obtaining knowledge of external objects and events by means of senses. Perception is the immediate apprehension of an object or all of the sense organs by way of sensation. Perception is selective and we perceive what we want to perceive. The scale consists of 15 statements. The responses of the respondents were obtained on 3 points continuum namely disagree, partial agree and completely agree. The scoring was done in the order of 0, 1 and 2 respectively. On the basis of maximum score, the respondents were grouped into following 3 categories based on mean \pm SD: The categorization was made as follows:

S.No	Category	Scores
1	Low Perception	Less than mean -SD
2	Partial Perception	Between mean \pm SD
3	Perfect Perception	More than mean +SD

5. Instruments of data collection

The instrument of data collection was the interview schedule which was prepared on the basis of the objectives of the study. Before the actual collection of data the interview schedule was pre tested for the validity and reliability of the questioner. The interview schedule was prepared in Hindi.

6. Method of data collection

The data was collected through a well structured and pre tested interview schedule. The researcher was personally meet to the respondents and explained to them about the purpose of the study. The data was collected and recorded in free and frank atmosphere where the interviewer and interviewee had a good rapport.

7. Sampling Design

The study was conducted in Indore district of Madhya Pradesh. It was selected purposively due to seed village program of soybean conducted on priority in the district. Random selection method was used to select the respondents.

Seed village program at the block level: The district has 4 community development blocks and 652 villages comprising 335 Gram panchayats. Out of 4 blocks in the Indore district, the Indore block was selected purposively.

Seed village program at village level: Seed village program is running in two villages of Indore block by Department of Farmer's Welfare and Agricultural

Development, Govt. of M.P. Therefore, the sample was restricted to these Samlyachau and Khati Piplya villages.

Selection of respondents: In these two villages 245 beneficiaries farmers are available. Out of them 120 beneficiary farmers were selected randomly and considered as sample.

8. Result & Discussion

Assess the usefulness and perception of seed village program in respect to soybean.

Seed village program of soybean is one of the influencing and vital activities because soybean seed plays a very important role in increasing of yield. This program is playing an major role in bringing about change in the availability of seed in the villages. One of the objectives of study was to test the extent of usefulness of the program to the farmers. The detail study results are presented in table 4.2.

Table 1: Category wise distribution of respondents as usefulness of seed village programme

S.No.	Attributes	Categories	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Extent of Usefulness	Low useful	44	36.67
		Partial useful	36	30.00
		Highly useful	40	33.33

The data in table 4.2 revealed that the most of respondents (36.67%) confronted low usefulness of seed village program followed by high usefulness (33.33%) and partial usefulness of seed village program in the area (30.00%) respectively.

Thus, it can be concluded that the most of respondents confronted low usefulness of seed village program followed by high and partial usefulness of seed village program in the area.

There is one of the important objectives of study to assess the perception of seed village program in respect to soybean crop. "Perception is the process of obtaining knowledge of external objects and event by means of senses". It can be say that perception is the immediate apprehension of an object or all of the sense organ by way of sensation process. Perception is selective and we perceive what we want to perceive. The detail study about perception about the seed village program in respect of soybean crop is presented in table 2.

Table 2: Category wise distribution of respondents as perception of seed village program

S.No.	Attributes	Categories	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Level of Perception	Low perception	40	33.33
		Partial perception	45	37.50
		Perfect perception	35	29.17

The data in table 2 revealed that the most of respondents (37.50%) confronted partial perception of seed village program followed by low perception (33.33%) and perfect perception of seed village program in the area (29.17%) respectively. Thus, it can be concluded that the most of respondents confronted partial perception of seed village program followed by low and perfect perception of seed village program in the area.

Assess the usefulness and perception of seed village program in respect to soybean

Seed village program of soybean is one of the important and vital activities because soybean seed plays a very important role in increasing of yield. This program is playing an important role in bringing about change in the availability of seed in the villages. One of the objectives of study was to test the extent of usefulness of the program to the farmers. The study regarding usefulness of seed village program, it is interesting result found that 37% of farmers confronted the low usefulness of the program. The actual facts for this type of result were not as the seed village program is not beneficial for the farmers but there execution was not found to proper.

There is one of the important objectives of study to assess the perception of seed village program in respect to soybean crop. "Perception is the process of obtaining knowledge of external objects and event by means of senses". It can be say that perception is the immediate apprehension of an object or all of the sense organ by way of sensation. Perception is selective and we perceive what we want to perceive. The result about perception of seed village programme, the 37.50% of farmers confronted partial level of perception of the program it was due to initial level of the program in the area.

Constraints experienced by farmers in crop production program of seed village

During investigation, beneficiaries-farmers under seed village program expressed many constraints by which they could not success in crop production program of seed village. These causes were termed as constraints in this study and are presented in table 4.13.

Table 3: Constraints faced by respondents in crop production programme of seed village

S. No.	Constraints	Frequency (N=120)	Percentage	Rank
1	Lack of technical information	45	37.50	VI
2	Lack of knowledge about program	55	45.83	IV
3	Lack of sufficient finance for program	40	33.33	VII
4	Lack of knowledge of improved technology	70	58.33	II
5	Lack of interaction with extension officers	25	20.83	IX
6	Lack of trainings / demonstration	30	25.00	VIII
7	Lack of storage facilities of seed	50	41.67	V
8	Lack of other yield attributing inputs	60	50.00	III
9	Lack of proper market facilities for product	75	62.50	I
10	Small size of operational land holding	22	18.33	X

The constraints analysis was reported based on the opinion survey of the sample farmers. Thus, the generalizations of result are the feedback through farmers' beneficiaries in seed village program in study area. The above table revealed the major constraints as expressed by the respondents.

As per the frequency level of respondents and ranked accordingly, the extent of seriousness of statement were lack of proper market facilities for seed (ranked I) followed by lack of knowledge of improved technology (ranked II), lack of other yield attributing inputs (ranked III), lack of knowledge about program (ranked IV), lack of storage facilities of seed (ranked V), lack of technical information (ranked VI), lack of sufficient finance for program (ranked VII), lack of trainings / demonstration (ranked VIII), lack of interaction with extension officers (ranked IX) and small size of operational land holding (ranked X) respectively.

The attention should be paid on the constraints faced by respondents in crop productions program of seed village. These constraints need to be highlighted and dealt with the concerned authorities and departments so that the constraints can be removed. Further Seed village program is lunched in 2002 but the technical extension and dissemination in to be needed more attention and powerful means of training about the program.

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