

ASPIRATIONS OF FARMERS ABOUT SCIENTIFIC POST HARVEST TECHNIQUES OF GROUNDNUT CROP

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in the South Saurashtra Agro-climatic Zone of Gujarat State. Out of 25 talukas, 10 talukas were selected based on total groundnut area and productivity. Total 100 farmers from 10 villages of each taluka were selected by random sampling method. The results of the research revealed that majority of the groundnut growers expressed their aspiration to increase their groundnut production, purchase of pod plucking machine, reducing the losses of production during grading of pods, marketing place for better price, storage method, drying method of plant and cleaning and winnowing of pods. Majority of the respondents had medium level of aspiration about post harvest techniques. The variable namely education, yield index, farm mechanization and extension participation were having positive and significant relationship with aspiration about post harvest techniques of groundnut.

INTRODUCTION

India produces 8-10 million tonnes of groundnut with an average yield of 1200 kg/ha. About 80 per cent of total production is used for oil extraction, 11 per cent as seed, 8 per cent direct food uses and 1 per cent for export as HPS Kernel. Gujarat cultivates about 18.51 lakh hectare which is almost 40.21 per cent of the total groundnut area in India. Saurashtra region contributes to 85 per cent and 81 per cent of area and production respectively.

In the sphere of post harvest operations, considerable progress has been made in threshing, drying, cleaning, storage, transportation and marketing of foodgrains. There is considerable loss of groundnut in post harvest operations. There is no information available on aspirations of farmers toward scientific post harvest techniques of groundnut crop. Therefore, the present study was undertaken with the following specific objectives:

1. to identify the aspirations of the farmers for scientific post harvest techniques in groundnut crop.
2. to ascertain the relationship between selected characteristics of the farmers on their aspiration of scientific post harvest techniques in groundnut crop.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Out of 25 taluka of the South Saurashtra Agro -Climatic Zone, 6 taluka from Junagadh district, 1 taluka each from Porbander, Rajkot, Amreli and Bhavnagar district were selected based on higher total groundnut area & productivity. Thus total 10 taluka were included in the study. One village from each Taluka i.e. 10 villages and 10 farmers from each village i.e. 100 farmers were randomly selected for the study. The scale of aspiration was used with slight modification developed by Muthayya (1971). The respondents were personally interviewed with the help of interview schedule. The data were tabulated and analyzed in the light of objectives.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1) Aspiration of Groundnut Growers:

It was evident from Table 1 that majority of the respondents aspired regarding aspiration to the post harvest techniques of groundnut crop aspired to increase their production of groundnut in the next three years (I rank) and to increase their land in the next three years (I rank).

In case of purchasing post harvesting implement machinery in the next three year was they aspired to purchase pod plucking machine.

Majority of the respondents expected to reduce losses of groundnut production during the post harvest practices in the next three year grading of

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Pods (103) ranked first, followed by marketing place for better price (97), storage method (89), drying method of plants (85), cleaning and winnowing of

Pods (69), repairing or construction of store room (60) ranking second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

Table 1. Distribution of groundnut growers according to their aspiration to the post harvest techniques of groundnut crop

Aspiration Statement Score	None 0%	Less Upto33% 1	Medium 34 to 67% 2	High Above 67% 3	Total score	Rank
1) Increasing land in the next three year	41	57	4	0	61	II
2) Increasing production of the groundnut in the next three year	2	94	8	0	102	I
3) Purchase of following post harvest machines in the next three year?						
a) Pod plucking machine	43	55	4	0	59	I
b) Mechanical dryer	93	7	0	0	7	IV
c) Solar dryer	97	3	0	0	3	VI
d) Thresher	80	20	0	0	20	II
e) Winnowing fan	96	4	0	0	4	V
f) Pod grader	79	19	4	0	23	III
g) Decorticator	100	0	0	0	0	VII
4) Following losses of post harvest practices of groundnut in the next three year						
a) Drying methods of plant	15	85	0	0	85	IV
b) Separation of pods from plants	83	17	0	0	17	VII
c) Cleaning and winnowing of pods	31	69	0	0	69	V
d) Grading of pods	7	83	20	0	103	I
e) Packaging process of pods	95	5	0	0	5	IX
f) Repairing or construction of store room	43	54	6	0	60	VI
g) Storage method	24	63	26	0	89	III
h) Good transportation facilities	90	10	0	0	10	VIII
i) Marketing place for better price	9	85	12	0	97	II

2) Level of Aspiration:

It was observed from the data presented in Table 2 that majority of the respondents (66.00 per cent) were in the category of medium level of aspiration to the post harvest techniques of the groundnut crop, followed by high level of (20.00 per cent) aspiration. Only 14.00 percent of the respondents were found in low level of aspiration.

Table 2. Distribution of respondents according to their level of aspiration

S.No.	Category	Percentage
1.	Low (Below 5.63 score)	14
2.	Middle (5.63to 10.75 score)	66
3.	High(above 10.75 score)	20
Mean 8.19		S. D. 2.56

3) Relationship Between Characteristics of Respondents and Aspiration:

Table 3. Relationship between Characteristics of the respondents and their aspiration of post harvest techniques of groundnut crop (n=100)

S.No.	Characteristics	r value
1.	Age	-0.1377 NS
2.	Education	0.2559 **
3.	Yield index	0.2003 **
4.	Farm mechanization	0.2476 * *
5.	Social participation	0.1810 *
6.	Extension Participation	0.2331 **

* Significant at 0.05 percent level of probability, Table value \pm 0.1655

** Significant at 0.01 percent level of probability, Table value \pm 0.1965 NS- Non significant.

It is evident from the data presented in Table 3 that the calculated correlation co-efficient was non-significant at 0.5 level of probability in case of Age. While, education, yield index, farm mechanization, extension participation and social participation were significant at 0.01 as well as 0.05 level of probability with their aspiration to the post harvest techniques of groundnut crop.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the majority of the groundnut growers had aspiration to increase their production and to increase their land in next three year. Majority of the groundnut growers were expected to purchase of pod plucking machine and to reducing the losses of groundnut production during the post harvest practices of grading of pods,

marketing place for better price, storage method, drying method of plant, cleaning and winnowing of pod. Majority of the respondents were medium level of aspiration to the post harvest techniques of groundnut crop.

Further, there were significantly positive relationship between groundnut grower's education, income, farm mechanization, social participation, extension participation with their aspiration to the post harvest techniques of groundnut crop.

REFERENCES

Muthayya, B.G. 1971. Farmers and their aspirations influence of socio-economic status and work aspiration. National Institute of Community, Development, Hyderabad.

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