

## FARMERS OPINION ABOUT IPM INTERVENTIONS IN WHEAT CROP UNDER NAIP

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### ABSTRACT

The National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) was launched by the ICAR on 6th July, 2006. NAIP focuses on innovations in agricultural technology so that it can support poverty alleviation and income generation. The present study was conducted in Talwara panchayat samiti of Banswara District of Rajasthan state. Total 76 beneficiaries of NAIP from four selected villages were interviewed for information. Findings reveal that out of 76 respondents, 56 (73.68 per cent) possessed highly favourable to moderately favourable opinion towards the IPM interventions introduced under NAIP for wheat crop. Beneficiaries were of the strong opinion that "use of chemicals can be reduced", "IPM practices are comparatively economic" and "IPM interventions are not input intensive". However respondents expressed that IPM does not play significant role in controlling the diseases in wheat and do not reduce the environmental and human health hazards. On the whole, NAIP was perceived as effective with regards to IPM interventions for wheat crop.

### INTRODUCTION

Shri Sharad Pawar, Union Agriculture Minister, on July 2006, launched an ambitious project, named for 6 year duration, National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP), which focuses on innovations in agricultural technology. The assumption was that it would facilitate an accelerated and sustainable transformation of the Indian Agriculture to support poverty alleviation and income generation. The recently concluded National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) led by the ICAR, aimed to implement the shared understanding of the Government of India and the World Bank on technology-led - pro - poor growth, and it facilitated the public sector reform process for accelerating the flow of agricultural technologies.

Various Agricultural Universities in India have been provided with sufficient fund by the ICAR to implement different programmes for increasing

livelihood and nutritional security through adoption of economically viable integrated farming system. Under component 3 of NAIP, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur was also sanctioned a consortia project entitled "Livelihood and nutritional security of Tribal dominated areas through integrated farming system and technology modules". Good efforts under the project were made to replace local seeds of wheat with High Yielding Varieties, along with important interventions, such as Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Water Management (IWM). With this background, present study was conducted with the objective to determine the opinion of NAIP beneficiaries towards the wheat interventions in the study area.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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The present investigation was carried out in Talwara Panchayat Samiti of Banswara district of southern Rajasthan with the specific objective to determine the opinion of beneficiaries under NAIP with reference to IPM interventions in Wheat cultivation. Out of total 52 Gram Panchayats in Talwara Panchayat Samiti, four Gram Panchayats viz. Masotiya, Devlia, Sageta and Jhalo ka Gada (Nokla) were covered under NAIP. Therefore, as such, these four Gram Panchayats were included in the present investigation. Headquarters (villages) of Gram Panchayats were treated as selected villages for the study. Hence, Masotiya, Devlia, Sageta and Jhalo ka Gada (Nokla) were the villages from where required samples was drawn. Only beneficiary farmers were interviewed. Seventy six beneficiaries (19 from each village) were selected for the present study. Thus total size of sample was of 76 respondents. Relevant data were collected from

the selected respondents with the help of constructed interview schedule. Face -to -face interview technique was employed for collecting the data from the respondents. Thereafter, data were analyzed and results were interpreted in the light of the objective of study.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Distribution of the beneficiaries according to their level of opinion regarding Integrated Pest Management (IPM) intervention of wheat

To get the overview of the farmers regarding their opinion towards integrated pest management practices in wheat, they were classified into three categories i.e., less favourable, moderately favourable and highly favourable on the basis of calculated mean per cent score about opinion obtained by them.

**Table 1. Distribution of the beneficiaries according to their level of opinion regarding Integrated Pest Management (IPM) interventions of wheat**

n=76			
S. No.	Level of opinion	Beneficiaries (f)	Total
1	Less favourable (MPS upto-33)	20 (26.31)	20 (26.31)
2	Moderately favourable (MPS 34-66)	30 (39.48)	30 (39.48)
3	Highly favourable (MPS above 66)	26 (34.21)	26 (34.21)
<b>Total</b>		<b>76 (100)</b>	<b>76 (100)</b>

f=Frequency, MPS=Mean per cent score, figures within the parentheses are percentage to the total, n=Size of sample for beneficiaries

Data presented in Table 1 reveal that 30 (39.48 per cent) beneficiaries had moderately favourable opinion followed by 26 (34.21 per cent) beneficiaries with highly favourable opinion and 20 (26.31 per cent) had less favourable opinion about integrated pest management practices of wheat. Thus, from the above, it was being concluded that respondents showed moderately favourable to high opinion towards use of IPM interventions in wheat.

According to data, IPM intervention advocated under NAIP must be continued in the study area with desired modifications/addition/deletion because beneficiaries had moderately to high opinion regarding IPM interventions. It can also be recommended that the IPM interventions, in other places too should be replicated for same crop.

The present findings are in conformity with

the findings of Dangi and Saini (2008).

### Aspect wise opinion of beneficiaries regarding IPM interventions of wheat

To know the opinion of wheat growers towards different aspects of integrated pest management, in all 9 statements were formulated. MPS for each statement was calculated and ranked accordingly

Results of Table 2 showed that by the beneficiaries "less use of chemical pesticides" was ranked first with MPS 90.00, followed by "more economic" ranked second with MPS 89.45 and "less labour intensive" ranked third with MPS 88.50.

Further analysis of Table 2 indicated that "Reduces environmental and human health hazards" ranked eight with MPS 75.75 and "less spread of diseases" found with ninth rank and (MPS 70.35).

**Table 2. Aspect wise opinion of the beneficiaries regarding IPM interventions of wheat**

n =76			
S.No	Aspect	MPS	Rank
1	Less use of chemical pesticides	90.00	I
2	Less labour input intensive	88.50	III
3	More economic	89.45	II
4	Less infestation in wheat	87.00	IV
5	Field sanitation is possible	86.15	V
6	Less spread of diseases	70.35	IX
7	Reduces environmental and human health hazards	75.75	VIII
8	Requires less cultural practices	77.67	VII
9	Good quality food grain	85.25	VI

MPS=Mean percent score, n=Size of sample for beneficiaries

### CONCLUSION

On the whole, it is summarized that NAIP exerted definite and positive impact with regards to IPM interventions in wheat crop. It is recommended that the project must be extended further for more period. Must be replicated elsewhere for the betterment of the farmers.

### REFERENCES

Dangi. K. L. and Saini, H. 2008. Attitude of farmers toward jojoba cultivation. *Rajasthan Journal of Extension Education*. 16 :139-142.

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