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ASSOCIATION BETWEEN INDEPENDENT VARIABLES AND TRAINING NEEDS OF FARMERS ABOUT IMPROVED PEA PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Jaipur district of Rajasthan. Out of total, three panchayat samities namely Dudu, Jhotwara and Sambhar Lake were selected purposively. One gram panchayat from each panchayat samiti was selected by simple random sampling technique. Two villages from these three gram panchayat were selected. Thus, six villages were selected for the study purpose. From each selected village, total sample of 120 pea growers were selected through proportionate simple random sampling technique. From the above study it may be concluded that "use of manures and fertilizers" and "preparation of land and soil testing" were perceived by the pea growers as the most needed training areas responsible for improved pea production technology whereas, "harvesting" was perceived as the least needed training area by the pea growers. The study further indicated that education, size of land holding, annual income, social participation, extension and significantly correlated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is playing major role in Indian economy. About two third of it's population is dependent on agriculture which contributes over 18.5 per cent to the gross national product. Vegetables play a vital role in the maintenance of human health. These make diet nutritive and balanced. A balanced diet requires a proper quota of fresh vegetables. Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.) is one of the important vegetable crop grown all over the world. It occupies an area of 287.40 thousand hectares with the production 2370.20 million tonnes in India. (National Horticulture Board Data Base 2006-07). Pea is the major vegetable crop of *rabi* season in Rajasthan. The total area as well as production of pea crop in Rajasthan is about 11.5 (thousand hectares) and 23.9 (million tonnes) respectively in the year 2006-07.

Training today is not a cosmetic item but has become an essential component in order to keep a competitive edge in the changing economic environment characterized by globalization. Today, almost every organization, particularly the government development departments faces the problem of financial crunch and under this circumstance there is a need to improve the overall relevance and management of training so that it can attract people who will pay for the programme and meet the cost of training. The role of Krishii Vigyan Kendra, training institutes and farmers training centre is crucial for rapid transfer of improved pea production technology but it would be more effective when these institutes and organizations conduct the training programme by considering the felt training needs of the farmers. Thus, the gaps identified through assessment of training needs would be of great help in designing future training programmes.

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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Jaipur district of Rajasthan which was selected purposely. The Jaipur district consists of 13 panchayat samities, out of which three panchayat samities namely, Dudu, Jhotwara and Sambhar Lake were selected purposively on the basis of cultivable area, production and appropriate sample size. Dudu, Jhotwara and Sambhar Lake panchayat samities consists of 56 gram panchayats, 16 gram panchayats and 44 gram panchayats, respectively. Among these, only 15 gram panchayats were pea growing (5 in Dudu, 7 in Jhotwara and 3 in Sambhar Lake). Out of which one gram panchayat from each panchayat samiti was selected randomly. Six villages were selected from the selected gram panchayats by using simple random sampling technique and a sample of 120 pea growers was selected from these villages by using simple random sampling with proportion to the size of sample in the selected villages. Data were collected using personal interview schedule.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The association between selected independent variables namely age, education, size of land holding, size of family, annual income, social participation, extension participation, market distance and source of information utilized by the pea growers were measured by computing correlation coefficients and results depicted in Table 1.

A critical examination of the data presented in Table 2 reveals that pea growers, "education, size of land holding, annual income, social participation, extension participation and source of information utilized" were positively and significantly correlated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology at 1 per cent level of significance. Whereas, the correlation of "age", "size of family" and "market distance" with their training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology was non significant at 1 per cent level of significance.

A critical examination of the data presented in Table 1 reveals that education, size of land holding, annual income, social participation, extension participation and source of information utilized by the growers were positively and significantly correlated with the training needs about improved pea production technology at 1 per cent level of significance. Whereas, the correlation of "age", "size of family" and "market distance" with their training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology was non significant at 1 per cent level of significance. Indicidual variable wise discussion is given in subsequent headings.

Table 1. Association between selected independent variables and training needs

(n=120)

S. No.	Independent variables	Correlation value
1	Age	-0.0372 NS
2	Education	0.5732**
3	Size of land holding	0.5420**
4	Size of family	-0.0411 NS
5	Annual income	0.3437**
6	Social participation	0.4356**
7	Extension participation	0.4708**
8	Market distance	-0.0282 NS
9	Source of information utilized	0.3412**

* Significant at the 0.01 level of probability

NS Non Significant

1. Age: The data presented in Table 1 show that age was non-significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. Hence, there is no association between age and training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the age did not exert significant effect on pea production technology of training needs. The findings of the study are in conforming with the findings of Raut *et al.* (1995) and Choudhary (1999).

2. Education: The data presented in Table 1 show that education was positively and significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the education exerted highly significant effect on the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. This might be due to the fact that the pea growers are more literate and educated. The pea growers might have certainly learned more and understood the pea production technology due to

their higher perception level and more participation in extension activities.

The findings of the study are in conformity with the findings of Agarwal (2000), Naruka (2000) and Singh (2004).

3. Size of land holding: As per data shows in the Table 1 the size of land holding was found positively and significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. Hence the null hypothesis "there is no association between size of land holding and training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology" was therefore rejected.

The findings of the study are conformity with the findings of Agarwal (2000), Naruka (2000) and Singh (2004).

4. Size of family: The data presented in Table 1 show that size of family was non- significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the size of family did not exert significant influence on the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. This might be due to the fact that size of family didn't play a significant role in formulation training needs of pea growers with regards to improved pea production technology.

The findings of the study are in corroborates with the findings of Choudhary (1999), Naruka (2000) and Jaitawat (2006).

5. Annual income: The data in Table 1 shows the annual income was positively and significantly associated with the training need of pea growers about improved pea production technology. This might be due to the fact that those pea growers who were economically sound can purchase literatures, news papers, radio, television and critical inputs which will lead to the adoption of improved technologies. It also helped them shaping in formatting the positive attitudes of pea growers towards the pea production technology.

The findings of the study are in conformity with the findings of Dangi and Intodia (1992), Chouhan *et al.* (1994) and Raut *et al.* (1995).

6. Social participation: Table 1 reveals that the social participation was positively and significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the social participation of pea growers exerts highly significant influence on the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology.

The findings of the study are in conformity with the findings of Agarwal (2000), Singh (2004) and Neeta (2007).

7. Extension participation: The data in Table 1 show the extension participation was positively and significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the extension participation of pea growers exerts highly significantly influence on their training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology.

This might be due to the fact that the greater participation of pea growers in different extension activities, thereby helped in gaining better knowledge about different training programmes and takes proper guidance for participation, resulting in higher improved pea production technology.

The findings is in accordance with influence drawan by Dangi (1983) and Sani (2005).

8. Market distance: The data in Table 1 show the market distance was non-significantly associated with the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the market distance did not exerts significant influence on the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology, Jangid (2001).

9. Source of information utilized: It was found that the sources of information utilized was positively and significantly associated with the training need of pea growers about improved pea production technology. It means that the variable had exerted a highly significantly influence on the training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology.

The findings are quite natural which might be due to the fact that majority of the pea growers were exposed to VLWs, AAOs, Salesman, relative, friends, news papers etc as well as the majority of pea growers were having radio and television due

to which their training needs might have increased.

CONCLUSION

Positive and significant association was observed between training needs of pea growers about improved pea production technology with their education, size of land holding, annual income, social participation, extension participation and sources of information utilized, while their age, size of family and market distance were found non-significant association.

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