

Constraints as Perceived by the Rural Women in Adoption of Improved Techniques of Kitchen Gardening

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Abstract

The present study was conducted in Two blocks i e Salempur and Bhatparrani of Deoria district, Uttar Pradesh. From each block three villages and from each village 20 farm women were selected randomly. The data were collected through personal interview method. It was observed that input constraint was most important as it was ranked in 1st position in adoption of kitchen gardening. This was followed by technical constraints, socio- cultural constraint and post harvest constraints, which were accorded II, III and IV ranks in rank order by the rural women. whereas, the general constraints were perceived least important with less intensity by rural women.

Key Words: - Constraints, Farm Women, Adoption, Kitchen Gardening.

Introduction

Kitchen gardening is very much common in rural area in India from ancient time. Different vegetables are grown round the year for family need and women have played major role for its productive activities for which they carryout substantial volume of work. They also perform activities for commercial production of vegetable. Kitchen gardening contributes to household food security by providing direct access to food that can be harvested, prepared and fed to family members, often on daily basis, even very poor, landless or near landless people practice gardening or small patches of homestead land, vacant lots, roadsides or edge of a field or in containers. Gardening may be done with virtually no economic resources, using locally available planting materials green manures a live fencing and indigenous methods of pest control. Thus home gardening at some level is a production system that the poor can easily

Material and Methods

The present study was conducted in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh state. Two blocks i e Salempur and Bhatparrani were

enter. Kitchen gardens are indigenous live hood practices, especially among women scientific approach in provision and promotion of these livelihoods through training sessions aims to make these livelihoods sustainable.

Kitchen gardening is not a very successful venture in most of the families. The predominant reason for the poor adoption may be due to lack of technical know-how about awareness and knowledge regarding factors such as seed, water, protection measures, storage, processing and so on^[1,2]. Considering the significance of constrains it was felt necessary to find out the major barricades which hinder the adoption of recommended kitchen gardening in the study area. Therefore the present study was undertaken with the objective to study the constraints in adoption of kitchen gardening faced by the rural women.

selected for this study, from each block Three villages ie. Malhana, Bankatamishra, Laxmanchak, Khampar, Malhani and

Dharamkhorkaran were selected purposively for the study. Among each village 20 farm women were selected randomly. Hence total sample size was 120 women the data were collected through personal interview method.

The interview schedule was prepared by keeping the objectives of the study in mind. The data were collected, tabulated and analyzed to find out the findings and drawing the conclusion.

Results and Discussion

Table 1 Constraints in adoption of improved techniques of Kitchen Gardening

Sl. No.	Particular	MPS	Rank
A	Input Constraints		
1	Unavailability of quality planting materials of fruit and HYVs seeds of vegetables	85.83	I
2	Lack of irrigation facility due to scarcity of water	76.66	II
3	Unavailability of suitable land for kitchen garden near residential area	74.16	III
4	Organic manures are not available as cow dung is used for fuel	67.50	IV
5	Specific pesticides and herbicides are not timely available in the local market overall	55.83	V
B	Technical Constraints		
1	Lack of knowledge about improved varieties and seed rate and sowing time	82.50	I
2	Lack of knowledge about the selection nutritious fruits and vegetables	75.83	II
3	Lack of knowledge about major pests and disease identification and their management	70.83	III
4	Lack of knowledge about critical stage for irrigation	59.16	IV
5	Lack of knowledge about recommended fertilizer and manure application	54.16	V
6	Lack of knowledge regarding seed multiplication	51.66	VI
7	Lack of knowledge regarding seed treatment	47.50	VII
C	Socio- cultural constraints		
1	Fear of theft of them farm produce	75.00	I
2	Farmers tendency of non practice until other farmers in the social system to use the same	68.33	II
3	Continuous adoption of traditional practices adoption	58.33	III
4	Migration of rural youth towards urban areas in search of work	55.83	IV
5	Lack of involvement of household women in cultivation practices	51.66	V
D	Post harvest constraints		
1	Difficulties in selling for small amount of surplus produce	72.50	I
2	Lack of storage facility for surplus small quantity produce	65.83	II
3	Unavailability of local market at village level	60.00	III
4	Difficulties in getting money immediate payment after selling at local level	55.83	IV
5	Lack of knowledge regarding fruits and vegetables preservation techniques of surplus produce	48.33	V
E	General constraints		
1	High popularly and monkey menace	70.00	I
2	Improper protection measures against grazing of cattle and goat	65.83	II
3	Less priority of kitchen gardening as compared with other farm activities	56.66	III
4	Frequent inundation of kitchen gardening during rainy season	44.16	IV

Input Constraints

Unavailability of quality seeds and planting materials of vegetables and fruits (85.83%) was the most important problem faced by the respondents as it ranked of first position (Table 1). Similar results were also reported earlier^[3]. Lack of irrigation facility due to scarcity of water (76.66%) was the IInd important Constraints realized with high intensity by the growers as water sources present in the residential area only for drinking purpose which was not sufficient for gardening. It was observed that residential areas of the villages present very compactly leaving less or farming areas leading to unavailability of suitable land (74.16%) for kitchen garden and it ranked IIIrd. Other constraints. Viz. Scarcity of organic manures (67.50%) and scarcity of specific pesticides in the market (55.83%) were ranked on IVth and Vth position respectively.

Technical Constraints

The data in table 1 revealed that the needs of farmers about extent of awareness of technical knowhow of improved methods of kitchen gardening. The major constraint faced by the rural women in this category was lack of knowledge about improved varieties, seed rate and sowing time (82.50%) and it was supported by other^[4]. Inadequate knowledge about the selection of nutritious fruits and vegetables (75.83%) ranked IInd as farmers mostly relied upon cucurbitaceous vegetables. The other constraints viz. lack of knowledge of pest and disease identification and management (70.83%), critical stage of irrigation (59.16%) and lack of knowledge of fertilizer and manure recommendation (54.16%) were ranked on IIIrd, IVth and Vth position respectively. On the other hand the constraints viz. lack of knowledge regarding seed multiplication (51.66%) and lack of knowledge regarding seed treatment (47.50%) which ranked VIth and VIIth were minor technological constraints as perceived by the rural women respectively.

Socio-Cultural Constraints

The data presented in table 1 indicated that fear of half of the farm produce (71.53%)

realized as most important socio cultural constraints followed by farmers tendency of non using practice until other farm women in the social system to use the same (68.33%) so these two causes ranked 1st and IInd respectively. Continuous use of traditional package of practice (58.33%) and non-use of improved technology was another factor that set back kitchen gardening and it ranked IIIrd. Two common trends were observed in the study areas first one was drifting of rural youth to urban areas in search of work (55.83%) and another one was decreasing involvement or interest of women of middle class family towards cultivation (51.66%). These two factors were perceived as constraints through with least magnitude by the respondents and ranked at IVth and Vth position respectively.

Post Harvest Constraints

The data in table 1 indicated that the Post harvest constraints faced by the rural women having kitchen gardening. Difficulties are selling for small amount of surplus produce (72.50%) were ranked as most important problem in this category. Lack of storage facility for surplus produce (65.83%) was realized to be the next important problem and ranked in IInd position as there are lack of improved storage facility at household level for subsequent use of the fruits and vegetables. Unavailability of market at village level to sell the surplus produce (60.00%) was ranked in IIIrd position followed by difficulties in getting money immediately after selling the produce (55.83%). Lack of knowledge about preservation and processing techniques of surplus produce (48.33%) was considered as less intensity and ranked as Vth and least important problem by the farmers.

General Constraints

The data presented in the table 1 indicated that high monkey menace, (70.00%) in the kitchen garden was ranked 1st position by the rural women in general category as it was difficult to take any measures against the distraction improper protection measures against grazing of cattle and goat (65.83%) ranked IInd in this category which also cause a major destruction of the garden. The other

important constraints considered by the rural women was kitchen gardening gets less priority than other farm activities (56.66%) which ranked on IIIrd position frequent

inundation of water in kitchen garden (44.16%) during rainy season was perceived as minor constraints by the respondent and depicted on last position of the rank.

Table 2 Major constraints faced by farm women in adoption of improved techniques of kitchen gardening

Sl. No.	Particular	MPS	Rank
1	Input constraints	71.99	I
2	Technical constraints	63.09	II
3	Socio- cultural constraints	61.83	III
4	Post- Harvest constraints	60.49	IV
5	General constraints	59.16	V

MPS-Mean Percent Score

In order to find out the relationship between the ranks accorded by groups of respondents to different category of constraints, rank order correlation was indicated in table 2 it is clear that major category of constraints i.e. input constraints (71.99%) was the top ranked as perceived by the farmers having kitchen garden. Other major category of constraints as perceived by the respondents in kitchen gardening like technical (63.09%), socio-cultural constraints (61.83 %), post harvest constraints (60.49%) and general constraints (59.16%) were accorded II, III and IV ranks in rank order by respondents. whereas, the general constraints (59.16%) were perceived least important and ranked on fifth^[5].

Conclusion

It was observed that input constraint was most important as it was ranked in Ist position. This was followed by technical

constraints, socio- cultural constraint and post harvest constraints which were accorded II, III and IV ranks in rank order by the respondents whereas, the general constraints (59.16%) were perceived least important with less intensity by rural women. These were the major constraints causing serious concern to the growers of kitchen garden needs to be refined. while analyzing overall constraints as perceived by the rural women, it was found that lack of quality seeds, Lack of knowledge regarding sowing time improved varieties and seed rate, scarcity of irrigation water, lack of knowledge regarding improved package and practices, theft of the farm produce, high popularity and monkey menace, grazing by cattle, poor storage facility, poor market facility and drifting of rural youths from village were the major constraints causing serious concern to the growers of kitchen garden.

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