

## **Skill Gap of Recommended Production Technology of Wheat Crop in Hilly Areas**

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### **Abstract**

Technological dissemination and development strategies should focus on the specific package of practices for different situations and intensive extension strategies. Therefore, present study was undertaken to analyze the skill gap of recommended production technology of wheat crop in hilly areas. The maximum gap was found in the area of improved variety, seed treatment and water management on wheat crop. For maximizing the wheat production, training programmes for the farmers and group action for the villages should be introduced. Scattered land holding (2.37), small land holding (2.17), and lack of irrigation facilities, (2.05) were three top most production constraints in Bageshwar district of Uttarakhand.

**Keywords:** Skill gap, technology, rank, constraints

### **Introduction**

Wheat is an important rabi cereal crop of Uttarakhand. It occupies about 374.80 thousand hectare area in Uttarakhand with total production of 721.56 thousand metric tones. The average productivity of wheat is 19.19 q/ha in the state, which is very low as compared to other wheat growing states. Major partition (90%) of the cultivated area is rainfed and rest (10%) is irrigated which is confined mainly to valley to plains. In hills, non-availability of improved variety on time is one of the major gap for raising the agricultural productivity. To increase the per unit area production of wheat crop, enough suitable technologies area being generated in the ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities but only few technologies developed at Research Station are followed by farmers. The system of transfer of technology has played a crucial role in modernizing agriculture. For the last five decades

agricultural extension is continuously contributing in enhancing the food grain production and productivity. In India self-sufficiency in food grain production could be achieved only through strong network of extension in the country along with the great contribution made by the agricultural scientists in developing technologies and new crop varieties. While proper planning, bold agricultural strategy and exemplary adoption of technology by the farmers are some of the factors that help to achieve great stride in agricultural production. Still there is a wide gap between technology generation and technology utilization, which can only be achieved by bridging the gap between technology generation and its utilization. The country's agricultural potential will have to be utilized to its maximum extent for improving the productivity of land as well as status of marginal and small farmers. Thus, keeping in view this fact, a study on skill gap of recommended production technology of wheat

crop in hilly areas was conducted in Bageshwar during 2009-10.

**Methodology**

The present study was conducted in the Bageshwar block of the Bageshwar district of Uttarakhand. Out of three blocks (Bageshwar, Garur, Kapkot) only Bageshwar block was randomly selected. Four villages namely Karala gaon, Okhlisrot, Badibegar and Garigad were randomly selected. The total numbers of farmers were 40, out of these 10 farmers were chosen at random separately from each village. Collection of data was accomplished by supplying the well structured schedule to each farmer. The data was thus collected were subjected to different statistical analysis like percentage and mean.

A three point rating scale containing ‘Agree’ ‘Independent’ and ‘Disagree’ with score 3, 2 and 1, respectively were adopted to assess the constraints responsible for skill gap.

**Results and Discussion**

**A-Skill gap**

Data presented in table-1 shows that the maximum (52.50) skill gap was observed in improved variety followed by 50.00, 47.67, 42.50, 41.25, 39.25, 34.00 and 31.67 per cent skill gap observed in seed treatment, water management, fertilizers management, sowing time and method, seed rate and spacing, plant protection measure and harvesting respectively [2,3,4].

**Table-1 Skill gap of recommended production technology of wheat crop.**

Sl. No.	Numbers of practices	No. of skills	Mean of skill	Skill gap	Skill gap percentage	Rank
1.	Improved variety	4	1.90	2.10	52.50	I
2.	Seed treatment	3	1.50	1.50	50.00	II
3.	Sowing time and method	4	2.35	1.65	41.25	V
4.	Seed rate and spacing	4	2.43	1.57	39.25	VI
5.	Fertilizers management	4	2.30	1.70	42.50	IV
6.	Water management	6	3.14	2.86	47.67	III
7	Plant protection measure	2	1.32	0.68	34.00	VII
8	Harvesting	3	2.05	0.95	31.67	VIII

**B- Constraints**

It is evident from table-2 that, the scattered land holding (2.37 mean) was top most constraints faced by farmers for skill gap followed by small land holding(2.17 mean),

lack of irrigation facilities(2.05 mean),economic problem,(2.02 mean), lack of transportation, (1.97 mean), unawareness about recommended practices,(1.95 mean),

lack of practical and technical knowledge (1.85 mean), complexity of practices (1.80 mean) and training institution away from that region (1.65 mean) were the major constraints which affect the skill gap [1,5].

**Table-2 Constraints responsible for skill gap.**

Sl. No.	Constraints	Agree	Independent	Disagree	Total Score	Mean	Rank
1	Economic problem	14	13	13	80	2.02	IV
2	Scattered land holding	20	15	5	95	2.37	I
3	Small land holding	17	13	10	87	2.17	II
4	Training institution away from that region	9	8	23	66	1.65	IX
5	Unawareness about recommended practices	14	10	16	78	1.95	VI
6	Lack of practical and technical knowledge	12	20	18	74	1.85	VII
7	Complexity of practices	11	9	21	72	1.80	VIII
8	Lack of transportation	13	13	14	79	1.97	V
9	Lack of irrigation facilities	15	12	13	82	2.05	III

**Conclusion**

Proper efforts are needed in selection of improved variety, seed treatment, water management and fertilizers management of wheat production technology. The scattered land

holding was top most constraint faced by the farmers for skill gap followed by small land holding, irrigation facilities and economic problem were the major constraints which affect the skill in descending orders.

**References**

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