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Adoption Behaviour of Farmers about Recommended Wheat Production Practices in Prayagrag District of Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract:- The present investigation was conducted in Jasra block of Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh. One hundred twenty respondents were selected randomly from six villages which were selected purposively. The primary data were gathered by the researcher himself through pre structure interview schedule. Appropriate statistical tools were used to interpret the collected data to draw logical conclusion. The finding inferred that majority of farmers were having medium level of adoption of recommended production practices of wheat crop. Age, annual income and Education were observed positive and significant correlation with their adoption level.

Keywords:- *Adoption, Production Practices, Wheat.*

I. INTRODUCTION

India is one of the important wheat producing and consuming countries in the world. The important wheat growing states are Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat in India. Wheat is the most extensively grown cereal crop in the world, covering about 237 million hectares annually, and accounting for a total of 420 million tones.

Uttar Pradesh has registered the highest-ever wheat produce in the year 2017-18, revealed officials in the agriculture department. The wheat production data of agricultural directorate shows that in the year 2017-18 total production was 357.19 lakh MT which indicated 7.50 lakh MT more than the production of previous year. The credit of the record production and productivity goes to continuous Government efforts, balanced monsoon as well as creating awareness and advanced scientific production practices among the farmers with a target to double the income of the farmers by 2022. **(Parashar 2018).**

The present study was conducted to access the socio economic status of the respondents and to find out the adoption behaviour of farmers about recommended wheat production practices.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The present study was purposively undertaken in Jasra block of Prayagraj district in Uttar Pradesh. Six villages were purposively selected on the basis of higher number of farmers practicing wheat cultivation. From each selected village, 20 farmers were selected randomly making a sample of 120 respondents. Pretested interview schedule was used for collection of data. The collected data were classified, tabulated and analyzed in the light of the objectives. Descriptive research design was followed and the variables were measured by using suitable scale and procedure adopted by various researchers in past with few modification. Appropriate statistical tools were used to draw the inferences.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

- *Socio-economical characteristics of the respondents:*

The socio-economic characteristics of the respondents were studied and the data are given below**.**

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Age		
Category	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Young (20- 35 years)	43	35.83
Middle (36 - 55 years)	56	46.67
Old (> 55 years)	21	17.50
Education		
Illiterate	34	28.33
Primary School	31	25.83
Middle School	29	24.17
High School	13	10.84
Intermediate Standard	09	07.50
Under Graduate and above	04	03.33
Land Holding		
Small (up to 1 ha)	67	55.83
Medium (1-2 ha)	48	40.00
Big (above 2ha)	05	04.17
Yearly Income		
Low (up to Rs.60,000)	51	42.50
Medium (Rs. 60,001-1.2 Lakh)	46	38.33
High (above 1.2 Lakh)	23	19.17
Farming Experience (in years)		
Up to 5 years	18	15.00
5-10	22	18.33
10-15	26	21.67
15-20	33	27.50
20-25	15	12.50
Above 25years	06	05.00
Sources of Information (multiple response)		
Co-operatives	41	34.17
Progressive Farmers	69	57.50
Neighbours	81	67.50
Relatives	43	35.83
Radio	37	30.83
Television	59	49.17
Friends	64	53.33

Table 1:- Socio-economic characteristics wise distribution of the respondents (N=120)

Table 1 shows that near about half of the respondents come under middle age group followed by young (35.83%) and old (17.50%). It was observed that greater part (71.67%) of the respondents were literate, 28.33% were illiterate. It was found that maximum (55.83%) respondents having small land holding, annual income was low to medium level, but majority (61.00%) of the respondents have more than 20 years of farm experiences, major source of information was neighbours (67.50%), progressive farmers (57.50%), friends (53.33%), and co-operatives (34.17%). This finding is in the line of the findings of **Ravi (2000).**

Sl. No	Socio-economic level	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (09-12)	32	26.66
2.	Medium (13-16)	67	55.84
3.	High (17-20)	21	17.50
Total		**120**	**100.00**

Table 2:- Overall Socio-economic levels of the respondents

The Table 2 indicated that more than half of the respondents (55.84%) having medium level of socio-economic characteristics where as 26.66 per cent low level and 17.50 per cent respondents belongs to higher level of socio-economic characteristics. Similar result is also reported by **Kumar and Bose (2013).**

Adoption Level			
Category	**Adoption Score**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Low level	22-28	42	35.00
Medium level	29-35	63	52.50
High level	36-42	15	12.50
Total		**120**	**100.00**

Table 3:- Adoption level of recommended wheat production practices of the respondents. (N=120)

The Table 3 shows that the majority (52.50 %) of the respondents comes under medium adoption of recommended wheat production practices, whereas 12.50 and 35.00 per cent had high and low level of adoption of recommended wheat production practices. The probable reason due to their medium level of background and SES. The similar results were also observed by of **Ram (2017) Reddy (2007)** and **Singh (2003).**

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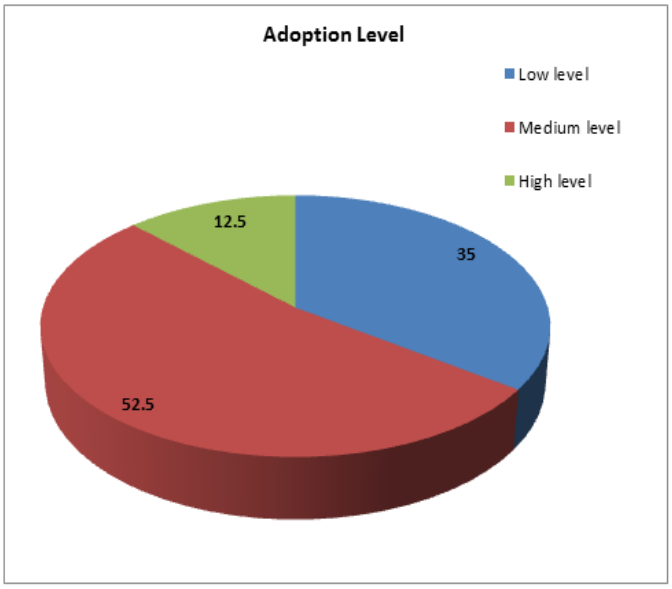

Fig 1

Sr. No.	Variables	Correlation coefficient ('r' value)
1.	Age	0.016004^{NS}
2.	Education	0.189272**
3.	Size of Land holding	0.221417*
4.	Farming Experience	0.294623*
5.	Sources of information	0.062243 (NS)
6.	Annual income	0.242537*
*	=	Significant at 0.05 level of probability.
**	=	Significant at 0.01 level of probability.
NS	=	Non Significant.

Table 4:- Relationship between the selected socio-economic characteristics and adoption of recommended wheat production practices. (N = 120)

Table 4 indicated that out of six independent variables, four variables are i.e education, size of land holding, farming experience and annual income positively significant relationship with the adoption of recommended wheat production practices of the respondents. The variables viz. age of the respondents and sources of information have non-significant relationship with the adoption of recommended wheat production practices. The findings are in support of **Kumar and Bose, (2013).**

IV. CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the socio-economic characteristics of the sample group were medium level. It was evident that the adoptions of improve wheat production practices were found medium level. The factors influencing in the adoption of improve wheat production practices are education, annual income, land holdings and farm experiences. Government should take proper steps, IEC activities and training on advanced wheat production practices should be conducted at village level and proper extension planning to be followed for better adoption of improved production practices in wheat crop.

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