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IMPACT OF KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA ON PADDY CULTIVATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TOTENKASIAREA

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Abstract

The study was carried out in Keonjhar district of Odisha, India in 2019 to study the impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) on the adoption of rice production technologies by the farmers. A sample of 120 farmers cultivating rice was selected on a multistage
random sampling technique to select from the study area. The study reveals that the majority (60 percent) of the farmers had a
medium level of adoption of rice production technologies. Land preparation and nursery bed raising were most adopted by the
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Rice is one of the most important food crops of India. Major share of rice is cultivated during Kharif Season. The KVK is an innovative institution for disseminating new agricultural technologies and imparting many short days and long days vocational training programmes to rural youth and farmers. The farmers trained at KVK become more alert and fully aware citizen of the community. The impact of training programmes of KVK, that consists of trained and untrained respondents of paddy growers. The trained respondents were having higher knowledge about improved rice cultivation technologies and high level of adoption in respect of seed rate, sowing time and sowing method, fertilizer application and plant protection measures of rice crop than untrained respondents. Investment pattern of trained respondents was more as compared to untrained respondents. The

availability of inputs like seed, fertilizer, and plant protection measures enhanced the productivity and the employment in rice crop on farmers' field. The study was conducted under KVK, Tenkasi area. The data were collected through personal interview method using structured schedule
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Keywords: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Training, Knowledge.

Introductions

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy which provides food and nutritional securities as well as employment and livelihoods to rural masses. Agriculture plays a vital role in employmentgeneration in the Indian economy, with nearly half of the Indian population being dependent on agriculture and allied activities for their livelihood. Rice is one of the most important food crops of India. Major share of rice is cultivated during Kharif season. A small share of rice is grown in rabi /summer season with assured irrigation. In India, rice production largely depends on monsoon rains and only 60.10 per cent rice area has assured irrigation.The productivity of rice in the district is low as compared to the average yield of state level. In Tenkasi district majority of the farmers are having small and medium land holding size. For the purpose of increasing rice production KVK scientist give various training on recommendations to the farmers to increase their yield and productivity. KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK) is an innovative science based institution which undertakes vocational training of farmers, farm women and rural youth, conducts on farm research for technology refinement and frontline demonstrations to promptly demonstrate the latest agricultural technologies to the farmers as well as the extension worker.Therefore, the present studywas designed toanalyse the Impact of KVK on Paddy Cultivation inTenkasi area.The present investigation included 150farmersfromTenkasiareaofTamilnadu.

Objectives

- To study the socio-economic profile of the Paddy farmers in Tenkasi area.
- To analyse the impact of KVK on paddy cultivation in Tenkasi area.
- To offer Valuable Suggestions.

Statement oftheProblem

Farmers are facing various problems as their crops did not fetch the reasonable price all overthe country. The fall in the price, increase in cost of cultivation especially increase in the price offertilizer, severely affect the farmers. There are many defects like forced sale of products, largenumber of middlemen, unregulated markets, malpractices in mandies, lack of proper grading andstandardization,lackofproperstoragefacilities,lackoffinancialfacilitiesandtransportationproblems in the present system of agricultural marketing. Because of these defects, the farmer doesnotgetafairandreasonablepriceforhis production.Thefarminghastobesustainableandprofitablein different resource environment in order to bring financial and livelihood security for ruralhouseholds. To address issues related to technology dissemination in agriculture, the KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK), known also as Agriculture Science Centre, a grass root level scheme has beendesigned and nurtured by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for the past four decades. Hence the researcher has made an attempt to know the impact of KrishiVigiyan Kendra on paddy cultivation.

Methodology

The Present study is based on the field survey conducted with the help of a well – structuredquestionnaire andinterviews with farmers. The study is confined toTenkasi area and the 150farmershavebeenselectedbysimplerandomsamplingtechnique from the probabilitysamplingmethod. The collected data was analysed with proper statistical tools like Percentage analysis and Paired T test.

Limitation

- Some farmers were hesitating to give true responses.
- The data was collected within short period.So the researcher was able to collect the data related to Tenkasi area only.

Result and Discussion

Socio Economic profile of paddy Farmers

Gender		**Frequency**	**Percent**
1	Male	114	76
2	Female	36	24
Age			
1	Below25yrs	18	12
2	25-35	38	25.3
3	36-45	24	16
4	Above45	70	46.7
MaritalStatus			
1	Married	132	88
2	Unmarried	18	12
Education			
1	Illiterate	9	6
2	Middle school	78	52
3	HighSchool	51	34
4	DegreeandDiploma	12	8

Gender: The male and female respondents related to KrishiVigyan Kendra is presented in the above table. Among the total number of 150 farmers, 114 Farmers (76%) are male and 36 farmers (24%) are female.The table clearly presents thatmostofthefarmers aremale.

Age: The above table shows that 70(46.7 Percent) of the farmers fall under above 45years, 38 (25.3Percent) are in between 25 -35 years of age, 24 (16 percent) are in age group of 36 – 45 years whereasonly18(12percent)offarmers areinage groupofbelow 25years.

Marital Status: The perception of married and unmarried farmers related to KrishiVigyan Kendrais presented in the above table Among the total number of 150 respondents, 132 farmers(88%) are married and 18 farmers(12%) are unmarried. The table clearly presents that maximum respondents are married farmers.

Education: The results show that a significant number of farmers i.e. 78 (52%) were having Middleschool education and 51 (34%) farmers were having education up to High School. 12 (8%) Farmerswere having education up to bachelor degree and Diploma. 9 (6%) Farmers were illiterate. Due tolack of education, farmers may not be able to learn modern agricultural techniques, methods and they have to depend upon traditional farming practices.

Paddy Cultivation process before and after assessing the KVK training

Variables		**Mean**	**Std. Deviation**	**Std. Error Mean**	**t**	**Sig. (2-tailed)**
Modern cultivation	Before	2.39	1.197	.098		

practices of Kharif paddy crop	After	3.63	1.072	.087	-8.207	0.000
Soil Testing before Cultivation	Before	2.65	1.165	.095	-7.231	0.000
	After	3.47	1.174	.096		
Paddy Seed Production	Before	2.63	1.109	.091	-6.132	0.000
	After	3.46	1.115	.091		
Methods of Paddy Transplantation	Before	2.47	1.085	.089	-8.323	0.000
	After	3.67	1.066	.087		
Entrepreneurship development through Hi-Tech Agricultural Practices	Before	2.42	1.057	.086	-8.313	0.000
	After	3.67	1.224	.100		
Zero Budget Natural Farming.	Before	2.55	1.090	.089	-6.593	0.000
	After	3.36	1.070	.087		
Prevention and control on major Diseases	Before	2.54	1.145	.093	-7.186	0.000
	After	3.60	1.105	.090		
Harvesting and Post Harvesting	Before	2.57	1.143	.093	-6.456	0.000
	After	3.54	1.109	.091		
Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management for paddy.	Before	2.14	.819	.067	-12.452	0.000
	After	3.67	1.034	.084		
Storage of seeds	Before	2.08	.815	.067	-9.896	0.000
	After	2.93	.791	.065		

The table makes it very evident that all of the variables have p values of.000 or less thanIt demonstrates that the null hypothesis is rejected for every variable. Therefore, it indicates that the Training offered by KVK to farmers are effective.

Before using KVK training, farmers' Modern cultivation practices of Kharif paddy crop knowledge had a mean value of 2.39, however this value increased to 3.63 after using KVK Training. The t value of -8.207, which is more than $\pm$1.96, suggests that KVK Training have improved the Modern cultivation practices of Kharif paddy crop understanding of farmers.

Prior to utilizing KVK training, farmers' Soil Testing before Cultivation knowledge had a mean value of 2.65; however, after utilizing KVK Training, this value increased to 3.47. The t value of -7.231, which is more than $\pm$1.96, indicating that KVK Training have improved the Soil Testing before Cultivationknowledge of farmers

Before using KVK training, farmers' understanding of Paddy Seed Production had a mean value of 2.63, but this value increased to 3.46 after using KVK Training. The t value of -6.132, which is greater than $\pm$1.96, indicating that KVK Traininghave increased farmers' Paddy Seed Production understanding.

Before utilizing KVK training, farmers'understanding of Methods of Paddy Transplantationknowledge had a mean value of 2.47, but after utilising KVK Training, this value increased to 3.67. The t value of -8.323, which is more than $\pm$1.96, indicating that KVK Training have improved the Methods of Paddy Transplantation knowledge of farmers.

Prior to using KVK training, farmers' understanding of Entrepreneurship development through Hi-Tech Agricultural Practices knowledge had a mean value of 2.42, but after using KVK Training, this value increased to 3.53. The t value of --8.313, which is more than ±1.96, implies that farmers' understanding of Entrepreneurship development through Hi-Tech Agricultural Practices has risen as a result of KVK Training.

Prior to utilising KVK training, farmers' understanding of Zero Budget Natural Farming had a mean value of 2.55; however, after utilising KVK Training, this value increased to 3.36. The t value of -6.593, which is more than ±1.96, demonstrates that KVK Training have enhanced farmers' understandingof Zero Budget Natural Farming.

Prior to utilising KVK training, farmers' understanding of Prevention and control on major Diseases knowledge had a mean value of 2.54, but after gaining access to KVK Training, this value increased to 3.60. The t value of -7.186, which is more than ±1.96, implies that KVK Training have improved thePrevention and control on major Diseases knowledge of farmers.

Prior to utilising KVK training, farmers' understanding ofHarvesting and Post Harvesting knowledge had a mean value of 2.57, but after gaining access to KVK Training, this value increased to 3.54 The t value of --6.456, which is more than ±1.96, implies that KVK Training have enhanced farmers' understanding of Harvesting and Post Harvesting knowledge.

Prior to using KVK training, farmers' understanding ofIntegrated Nutrient and Pest Management for paddy knowledge had a mean value of 2.14, but after using KVK Training, this value increased to 3.67. The t value of -12.452, which is more than ±1.96, indicating that KVK Training have improved the understanding of Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management for paddy.

Prior to utilising KVK training, farmers' understanding ofStorage of seeds knowledge had a mean value of 2.08, but after gaining access to KVK Training, this value increased to 2.93. The t value of -9.896, which is more than ±1.96, demonstrates that KVK Training have boosted farmers' understanding of Storage of seeds knowledge.

Suggestions

- The KVK Should encourage the youngsters to choose Agriculture field as their passion to study.
- Paddy Seed ProductionTraining programme language should be simple to understand
- KVK should arrange more number of training programmes on Harvesting and Post Harvesting
- The farmers are compelled to apply chemical fertilizers to increase crop yield as the availability of organic fertilizers are very rare The chemical fertilizer sold by the government itself is reducing the soil fertility. So the KVK should take proper care on Soil fertility.

Conclusion

It may be concluded that the KrishiVigyan Kendra contributed positively in enhancing the adoption level of Paddy farmers in various aspects of agricultural production technologies. KVK practices created great awareness and motivated the other farmers to adopt appropriate production technologies. Indeed the efforts of the KVK seemed to have a positive effect in enhancing the farmers' technical knowledge on agricultural production technologies. Due to the interventions of KVK scientists in training, demonstrations activities, on farm trials and other extension activities helped in enhancing the knowledge level of farmers which in turn led higher adoption of agricultural production technologies. Findings of the present study that most of the farmers in Tenkasihave high level of knowledge after getting training under KVK than before training. It can be concluded that KVK Training Programmes had influenced in enhancing the level of knowledge and technologies of paddy growers.

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