



KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF RECOMMENDED PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF CABBAGE GROWERS IN ARAZILINE BLOCK OF VARANASI DISTRICT OF UTTAR PRADESH

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Abstract

The study was conducted in purposively selected araziline block of Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh covering 6 villages and 120 respondents. The data were collected through personal interview method by the researcher himself with the help of pre-structured schedule specially. The analysis was reported based on the opinion survey of the cabbage growers. Thus, the generalizations of the results are the feedback through farmers engaged in cabbage production in the study area. The table revealed most of the respondents (50.00%) had medium level of knowledge followed by (33.16%) had low level of knowledge and (16.66%) had high level of knowledge. Most of the respondents (47.50%) had medium adoption followed by (29.16%) had low adoption and (18.33%) had high adoption level.

Keywords: knowledge level, cabbage growers.

Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian Economy, about 65 per cent of Indian population depends directly on agriculture and it accounted for 14.2 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2010-11, followed by 14.6 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2009-10, and 10.23 per cent (provisional) of the total exports. Furthermore, the sector provided employment to 58.2 per cent of the work force. Agriculture derives its importance from the fact that it has vital supply and demand links with the manufacturing sector. During the past five years agriculture sector has witnessed spectacular advances in the production and productivity of food grains, oilseeds, commercial crops, fruits, vegetables, poultry and dairy. India has emerged as the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world in addition to being the largest overseas exporter of cashews and spices. India grows the largest number of vegetables from temperate to humid tropics and from sealevel to snow-line. The total geographical area of India is 328.7 million hectares of which 140.3 million hectares is net sown area, while 193.7 million hectares is the gross cropped. Vegetables are being grown in India in 79, 85,000 ha with production of about 13,37,38,000 MT. and productivity of 16.7 MT/ha. This is second highest in the world, next only to China (Anonymous 2010). Cabbage (*Brassica Oleracea* Lvarcapitata) family of cruciferous originated over 15,00 years ago in the Mediterranean and Asia Minor region. It was consumed throughout Western Europe around 16th century. China and India are the top producers of cabbage and broccoli. About half of all cabbage is raised in China and one second in India. Cabbage was introduced to France and then from there to other areas of Europe. It was not grown in North America until the 1600s and today it is largely grown in California. Its name from French word "caboche" means "cabbage". It is a cool season vegetable that is considered a delicacy, it is an annual plant that is grown in fields and its plant reproduces by seed. Typically only the head of aborted floral meristems is eaten, while the stalk and surrounding thick green leaves are used in vegetable broth or discarded (*Brassica oleracea* L. Var. capitata.) is another popular cruciferous vegetable as cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, kale, and collard greens though they are different cultivar groups grown mainly in cooler areas, that crop thrives in a moist atmosphere. It is available year-round, although especially plentiful in the spring and fall Cabbage normally produces only leafy greens for eating. It is highly modified plant, and the plant is extremely sensitive to unfavorable conditions, such as unusually hot weather, drought or too low temperature. Worldwide production of cabbage was 68.84 MT. in 2011, 5.3 per cent up on the previous year. The top cabbage producer in 2011 was China, followed by India. These two countries, together account for 60 per cent of worldwide production.

Material and Method

There are 75 districts in Uttar Pradesh state out of these Varanasi District of Uttar Pradesh has been selected for purposely the present study, as cabbage cultivation is prevalent there in. There are 8 block in Varanasi district. Out of these Arajiline block is selected purposively as maximum number of cabbage growers are available there. And respondent is well acquiriated with the area and local related. The data will be collected personally by the researcher through himself personal interview discussion method and secondary data will be collected through available reports. The researcher will personally meet to the respondents and explain them about the purpose of the study.

Results and Discussion

Socio – economic characteristics of the respondents:

The Socio – Economic, characteristics of the respondents were studied and the data have been given in table 1

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their socio – economic status (n=120)

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age		
	Young age(18-35years)	9	7.50
	Middle (36-50)	63	52.50
	Old (51 years & Above)	48	40.00
2	Education		
	literate(can read & write)	34	28.33
	Primary school	39	32.50
	Middle school	15	12.50
	High school	16	13.33
	Intermediate	7	5.84
	Graduate & above	9	7.50
3	Family size		
	Up to 5 members	34	28.33
	More than 5 members	86	71.67
4	Land Holding		
	Marginal farmers (1 to 2.00 ha)	44	33.66
	Small farmers(2.00 ha)	47	39.16
	Big farmers(>2.00 ha)	29	24.18
5	Annual Income		
	Low income(< Rs 10,0000)	37	30.83
	Medium income(Rs 100,000 to 20,0000)	57	47.50
	High income(>Rs 20,0000)	26	21.66
6	Overall socio – economic status		
	Low (less than 6)	29	24.17
	Medium (7 to 9)	64	53.33
	High (above 10)	27	22.50

Table 2: Knowledge of the respondents about cabbage production practices.

Sl. No.	Level of knowledge STATEMENT	Level of knowledge						Total
		Fully		Partial		None		
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	
1.	Variety of cabbage	30	25.00	70	58.33	20	16.66	100
2.	Nursery sowing time	32	26.67	58	48.33	30	25	100
3.	Planting time	50	41.67	48	40	22	18.33	100
4.	Seed rate	66	55	30	25	24	20	100
5.	Seed Treatment	40	33.33	36	30	44	36.67	100
6.	Sources of seed material	60	50	36	30	24	20	100
7.	Method of sowing	62	51.67	33	27.5	25	20.83	100
8.	Spacing	55	45.84	40	33.33	25	20.83	100
9.	Fertilizer management	61	50.83	36	30	23	19.17	100
10.	Irrigation method	46	38.33	45	37.5	29	24.17	100
11.	Irrigation time	70	58.33	30	25	20	16.67	100
12.	Plant protection measures	61	50.83	35	29.1720	24		100
13.	Harvesting time	45	37.5	58	48.33	17	14.17	100
14.	Yield	58	48.34	37	30.83	25	20.83	100
15.	Information about market price	64	53.34	37	30.83	19	15.83	100

The knowledge of respondent about cabbage production practices, the scores were divided in to three categories viz. low, medium and high.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their overall level of knowledge regarding recommended cabbage production technology

Sl. No.	Level of Knowledge Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (less than 15)	40	33.33
2.	Medium (16 to 21)	60	50.00
3.	High (above 22)	20	16.67
	Total	120	100.00

Mean- 18.47, S.D.-2.85, Min- 11, Max-24

The **table 3** shows that most of the respondent 50.00 % were found in medium level of knowledge regarding improved cabbage production practices followed by low category 33.33 % and high 16.66% level of knowledge.

It was evident from the **table.1** that 52.50 per cent of the respondents were in the middle age group followed by old age group 40.00 per cent and young age group 7.50 per cent respectively. In case of education 32.50 per cent of the respondents were primary school followed by 28.33per cent can read and write only, whereas 39.17per cent respondents were literate in different level. It was found that 71.67 per cent of respondents had more than 5 members in the family whereas 28.33 per cent respondents had up to 5 members, maximum 39.16

per cent respondents having land holding between 1-2 ha regarding the annual income 47.50 per cent had income up to Rs.100000-200000, 30.83 per cent had Rs. 1, 00,000 and 21.86per cent had income above Rs. one lakh. The finding is in the line of Badhe *et al.* (2011) and Chaudhary *et al.* (2009). It was observed that 53.33 per cent of the respondents were having medium socio- economic status 24.17 percent and 22.50 percent respondents had high and low socio economic status respectively.

Conclusion

Based on the major findings it was concluded that majority of the respondents had medium level of socio – economic status and have medium level of knowledge regarding recommended of cabbage production practices. Age, education, participation in extension activities, and knowledge level was positively significant with adoption at 0.05 level of significance.

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