

Original Research Article

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Constraints Faced by Betel-Vine Growers in Nawada District of Bihar

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

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The present study was carried out during the year of 2019-20 in six selected villages at Pakaribarwan and Hisua block in Nawada district of Bihar. 15 respondents were selected from each village by using simple random sample technique, thus total 90 respondents were considered for the study. Information relating to various problems faced by the Betel vine growers was enlisted in pretested interview schedule. Oral interview was schedule was to collect data from ninety (90) respondents who were randomly selected. The data were analyzed statistical percent and mean score analysis. The result of study revealed that 30% respondents are strongly agree in lack of credible source of knowledge & information with weighted mean score of (20.73) and least important only (11.1%) respondents are strongly agree in lack of time with weighted mean score of (14.33).

Introduction

India is an agricultural country. The country produces various types of crops such as cereal crops, legume crops, cash crops, beverage crops, medicinal crops, narcotic crops, etc. The crop use pattern or many varieties from country to country.

Among all narcotic crops, Betel leaf is one of the most important narcotic crops. Betel leaf (*Piper betel* L.) is one of the most important narcotic crops and has medicinal property. It is belonging to the piperaceae family (Gunther,

1952). Betel is the leaf of vine or vine is classified as a plant that climbs or grows along the ground so it is called creeper climber, which is known as "Paan" in India. The betel vine is widely cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions of India, Burma, Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Srilanka, Papua-New Guinea, etc. Betel leaf is cultivated all over India but its cultivation is more prevalent in the eastern and northern Indian states. The Native place of Paan (Betel leaf) is Malaysia (Chattopadhyay and Maity, 1967). In India, Betel leaves have been grown under two conditions such as

controlled condition and natural condition but in case of Bihar betel leaves cultivated under controlled condition popularly known as Baretha or Bareja. It is a type of small hut i.e. 2-3 m in height and size is often 50-30 m. Magahi paan is differ in the characteristics of shape-size, colour, taste, texture, and aroma.

Magahi is grown mainly Magadha region of Bihar so its name is Magahi Paan. Nawada, Gaya, Aurangabad, Nalanda comes under Magadha region and agro-climatic Zone IIIB of Bihar state. Betel vine crop occupied an area about 4000 ha in 23 districts of Bihar out of which 464 ha area covered by Magahi Pan (Jha and Kumar, 2014). Magahi paan is growing in a wide range of soil such as clay loam which is found only in Magadha region of Bihar.

The present study focused on problems and constraints faced by betel vine growers during cultivation of betel vine. The major constraints reported by the betel vine growers is Lack of Credible source of knowledge & information and second were lack of Suitable and own land of farmers.

The pronouncement of present study would be massive helpful to agriculture planner and extension personnel engaged in promoting the betel vine cultivation through the appropriate training programmes.

Materials and Methods

Descriptive research design was used for this study during year 2019-20 in Nawada district. Out of 14 blocks of Nawada district, two blocked named Pakaribarwan and Hisua were selected purposively based on the area under the Betel vine (Magahi Paan) cultivation. Three villages were selected from each of the selected blocks, based on the highest area

under betel vine production. The villages selected were Dola, Chhatarwar, Dhewadha from Pakaribarwan block and Majhwe, Tungi, Dhewari from Hisua block.

Thus, totally six villages were selected for the study. Fifteen betel vine growers were randomly selected from each of the six selected villages.

Therefore a total of ninety (90) betel vine growers were samples for the study. Data was collected from the betel vine growers through structure schedule on their houses or farms.

The intention of this research study was also explained to the respondents. IBM SPSS software was used for the tabulation and analysis of data after completion of the data collection.

Results and Discussion

The results of the present study as well as relevant information have been presented after discussion with the betel vine growers.

From table 1 shows the Constraints faced by the betel vine growers during cultivation of betel vine.

It could be seen from table 1 that betel vine growers faced problems related to constraint as first important 30% respondents are strongly agree in lack of credible source of knowledge & information with weighted mean score of (20.73) and least important only (11.1%) respondents are strongly agree in lack of time with weighted mean score of (14.33) most of betel vine growers were using their own traditional knowledge, skill and their past experiences. They have little knowledge about technologies and its uses.

Table.1

| SI. NO | Constraints | S.A | A. | Un. | Dis. | S.D | Wt. mean | Rank |
|--------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------|
| 1 | Lack of time | 10 (11.1%) | 9 (10%) | 15 (16.7%) | 28 (31.1%) | 28 (31.1%) | 14.33 | X |
| 2 | Lack of knowledge about irrigation measure | 11 (12.2%) | 18 (20%) | 27 (30%) | 24 (26.7%) | 10 (11.1%) | 17.73 | VI |
| 3 | Lack of plant protection measure | 15 (16.7%) | 29 (32.2%) | 19 (21.1%) | 17 (18.9%) | 10 (11.1%) | 19.46 | III |
| 4 | Inadequate information regarding betel vine production | 13 (14.4%) | 22 (24.4%) | 28 (31.1%) | 19 (21.1%) | 8 (8.9%) | 18.86 | IV |
| 5 | Lack of Credible source of knowledge & information | 27 (30.0%) | 20 (22.2%) | 17 (18.9%) | 19 (21.1%) | 7 (7.8%) | 20.73 | I |
| 6 | Lack of Suitable and own land of farmers | 8 (8.8%) | 27 (30.0%) | 22 (24.2%) | 23 (25.3%) | 10 (11.0%) | 19.53 | II |
| 7 | Lack of storage facilities | 9 (10%) | 16 (17.8%) | 20 (22.2%) | 33 (36.7%) | 12 (13.3%) | 16.46 | VII |
| 8 | Inadequate transport facilities | 7 (7.8%) | 9 (10%) | 29 (32.2%) | 29 (32.2%) | 16 (17.8%) | 15.46 | IX |
| 9 | Lack of knowledge about varieties, seed rate, spacing and date of sowing. | 12 (13.3%) | 12 (13.3%) | 23 (25.6%) | 27 (30%) | 16 (17.8%) | 16.46 | VII |
| 10 | Lack of knowledge about inter-cultural practices | 7 (7.8%) | 17 (18.9%) | 19 (21.1%) | 34 (37.8%) | 13 (14.4%) | 16.06 | VI |
| 11 | High cost for construction of bareja | 17 (18.9%) | 18 (20%) | 20 (22.2%) | 23 (25.6%) | 12 (13.3%) | 18.33 | V |
| 12 | Lack of interest of extension personnel | 13 (14.4%) | 28 (31.1%) | 24 (26.7%) | 18 (20%) | 7 (7.8%) | 19.46 | III |
| 13 | Lack of skilled labour | 5 (5.6%) | 17 (18.9%) | 22 (24.4%) | 32 (35.6%) | 14 (15.6%) | 15.8 | VIII |

Lack of Suitable and own land of farmers (Rank II) with weighted mean score (19.53), (16.7%) and (14.4%) respondents are strongly agree in

lack of plant protection measure and lack of interest of extension personnel (Rank III) with weighted mean score (19.46), inadequate

information regarding betel vine production (Rank IV) with weighted mean (18.86), high cost for construction of bareja (Rank V) with weighted mean (18.33), lack of knowledge about irrigation measure (Rank VI) with weighted mean (17.73), lack of storage facilities & lack of knowledge about varieties, seed rate, spacing and date of sowing (Rank VII) with weighted mean (16.46), lack of knowledge about intercultural practices (Rank VIII) with weighted mean score (16.06), lack of skilled labour (Rank IX) with weighted mean score (15.8), inadequate transport facilities (Rank X) with weighted mean score (15.46) respectively.

Suggestions to overcome the constraints

The suggestions were as following:-

More training on advances methods of betel vine cultivation may be conducted.

New technology on bareja construction should be disseminated among farmers.

As betel vine is perishable in nature, efforts should be made for creating cold storage facilities for it.

Proper marketing facilities should be created for getting remunerative price by the farmers

As betel vine cultivation needed high cash flow, so, should be done for institutional credit for farmers.

Timely availability of agricultural inputs like (Insecticides, pesticides, fungicides and others) at low cost.

Proper harvesting schedule of betel leaf should be followed.

The present study indicated the cent percent betel vine growers using their traditional knowledge in their field. They have little knowledge about recommended technologies in betel vine cultivation.

Major constraint in betel vine cultivation were identified (a) lack of credible source of knowledge & information, (b) lack of Suitable and own land of farmers, (c) lack of plant protection measure & lack of interest of extension personnel, (d) inadequate information regarding betel vine production and (e) lack of storage facilities. Hence, more training on advances methods of betel vine cultivation may be conducted.

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