

Original Research Article

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Impact Assessment of Improved Technology on Soybean Productivity in South Eastern Rajasthan, India

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

Farmers practices, Frontline demonstration, Improved technology, soybean, sustainability value index, sustainability yield index

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To demonstrate the new production technologies to farmers the front line demonstration is very important tool. The frontline demonstration were conducted during 2011-12 to 2017-18 on farmers' field in the Zone V to show performance of soybean production improved technology recommended by Agriculture University Kota. The results of improved technologies were more remunerative to farmers as compared to farmers' practices. Use of improved technology for soybean production helps to increase the productivity of soybean by 16.64 per cent over farmers practice. In term of monetary returns, 19.22 per cent increase was observed as compare to farmers' practice. Similarly improved technologies exhibited higher value of Sustainable Yield Index and Sustainable Value Index in most of the years.

Introduction

Among the oilseeds crops, soybean is a leading oilseed crop in world as well as in India. Soybean productivity is oscillating between 1.0 to 1.7 t per ha in past few years as compared to major soybean growing other countries (2.7 t/ha). Soybean (*Glycine max*) is an important rainy season crop grown more than 0.92 mha in south eastern parts of Rajasthan mainly in Kota, Bundi, Baran and

Jhalawar districts producing 0.75 mt with average productivity of 811 kg/ha which is very low compared to national productivity of 1153 kg/ha of India (Anon 2017). Soybean belongs to the Leguminaceae family, is recognized as golden or miracle bean as it have high nutritive value and various uses viz., for feed, oil and soy food products. It is also rich in protein (38-42 %) and contains 18-22 per cent edible oil. The crop plays an important role in India oil economy and

foreign earnings among nine major oilseed crops. During 2009-10 it contributed 40 and 23 per cent to total oilseeds and edible oil production of the country and earned valuable foreign worth (4, 258 crores) from exporting soya meal. During 2009-10, the export of soybean meal was reduced as compared to previous year (7, 485 crores) on account of several reasons. In Rajasthan state the average productivity of soybean is very low in comparison to potential realization. Among the different reason for low productivity the research emanated technologies have not yet reached to the farmer's field is very important. The prevailing climatic conditions (precipitation between 500 and 700 mm during last week of June to September) and soil conditions (heavy black with medium nitrogen and phosphorus, and high potassium contents) supports soybean cultivation in humid South East Rajasthan (Zone-V), concerted efforts are needed to take the production technologies to farmers. Keeping this in view, the present front line demonstrations were conducted at farmer's fields under AICRP on Soybean (ICAR) during 2011 to 2017 with financial assistance from Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India to demonstrate improved technologies of soybean production for enhancement of soybean productivity and income generation in South East Rajasthan under farmer's field conditions.

Materials and Methods

A total of 90 frontline demonstrations were carried out in the last seven year (2011-12 to 2017-18) during kharif season at farmer field of Kota, Bundi, Baran and Jhalawar districts. Every demonstration was laid out in an area of 0.4 ha with improved package of practices involving high yielding varieties (JS 95-60, JS 93-05 and RKS 24), seed treatment with Thiram (2.0 g) + Carbendazim (1.0 g) per kg seed, rhizobium culture @ 5 g per kg seed and PSB culture @ 5 g per kg seed, recommended

dose of fertilizers (N:P:K:S 20:40:40:30 kg/ha), weed management (hand weeding, imazethpyr 0.750 kg per ha as post-emergence spray and chlorimuron ethyl 9.37 g per ha as post emergence spray), plant protection (one spray of monocrotophos @ 1000 ml per ha followed by one spray of quinalphos @ 700 ml per ha), crop geometry (30 cm x 10 cm), seed rate (80-100 kg /ha). The results for 90 FLDs carried out from 2011-12 to 2017-18 were analyzed and compared with farmers practice. Farmers were allowed to follow their own production technology which involved traditional practices (use their own seed of local variety, no seed treatments and imbalance NPK application, hand weeding only, no prophylactic control measures for pest and diseases, chemical plant protection after the appearance of insect pest, improper spacing and higher seed rate 120 kg/ha). Data recorded on seed yield and net returns were statistically analyzed for calculation of parameters like standard deviation and coefficient of variation as per standard procedure (Panse and Sukhatme, 1978). Sustainability indices (Sustainability Yield Index, Sustainability Value Index) were worked out using following formula: $SYI / SVI = Y/V-SD / Y \text{ max}$. Where, Y/V is estimated average yield/net return of practice over year (study period), SD is standard deviation and Y max is observed maximum yield/maximum net return during the study period (Singh *et al.*, 1990).

Results and Discussion

The data in table 1 on average yield obtained in demonstration field by using given package of improved technologies of soybean cultivation was 1622 kg per ha, whereas, it was 1394 kg per ha from farmer's practices. This result revealed that adoption of improved production technologies for soybean cultivation enhanced productivity by 16.64 per cent as compare to farmers practice.

Table.1 Performance of improved technologies of soybean production through frontline demonstrations

Particulars	Years						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of Demonstration	10	10	10	10	10	20	20
Meen Seed yield (kg/ga) IT	2094	1847	1596	1655	1060	1449	1656
Meen Seed yield (kg/ga) FP	1849	1547	1352	1408	898	1241	1461
Increase in seed yield IT (Rs./ha)	13.27	19.37	18.09	17.74	17.98	16.78	13.28
Mean Gross Return IT (Rs./ha)	46068	60935	52668	54599	34964	40210	45940
Mean Gross Return FP(Rs./ha)	40667	51035	44616	46448	29634	34431	40555
Mean Net Return IT (Rs./ha)	31850	40002	32891	32397	12407	17653	24871
Mean Net Return FP(Rs./ha)	27779	33035	26611	27058	10041	14838	21738
Additional return over FP	5401	9900	8052	8151	5330	5779	5385
ICBR ratio	4.06	3.38	4.54	2.90	1.80	1.95	2.39

IT: Improved technology, FP: Farmers practices, and ICBR: Incremental cost benefit ratio

Table.2 Variability in seed yield and net return in soybean front line demonstration

Particulars	Kharif 2011		Kharif 2012		Kharif 2013		Kharif 2014		Kharif 2015		Kharif 2016		Kharif 2017	
	IT	FP	IT	FP	IT	FP	IT	FP	IT	FP	IT	FP	IT	FP
Seed yield Range (kg/ha)	1750-2420	1560-2175	1600-2080	1350-1750	1400-1820	1175-1550	1450-1850	1220-1570	845-1200	725-1025	1170-1750	1010-1500	1370-1921	1210-1760
Mean	2094	1849	1847	1547	1596	1352	1655	1408	1060	898	1449	1241	1656	1461
Standard Deviation	220.5	190.7	164.5	132.1	154.7	132.2	138.7	142.0	114.2	95.8	163.7	139.9	163.6	147.7
Net Return range (Rs/ha)	24282-39682	21432-34412	31867-47707	26550-39750	26423-40283	20770-33145	25648-37198	20870-32420	5328-17043	4332-14232	9911-26006	8435-22032	16949-32239	14761-30023
Mean	31850	27779	40002	33035	32897	26611	32397	27058	12407	10041	17653	14838	24871	21717
Standard Deviation	4843.28	4194.79	5426.9	4358.60	5106.30	4394.63	4576.88	4685.83	3768.65	3160.66	3221.28	2751.62	2851.47	2968.66
CV %	15.20	15.10	13.56	13.19	15.29	15.10	14.13	17.32	30.38	31.48	18.24	18.55	11.47	13.67
SYI	0.774	0.771	0.809	0.809	0.792	0.786	0.842	0.806	0.788	0.783	0.734	0.698	0.777	0.763
SVI	0.692	0.685	0.725	0.721	0.690	0.670	0.716	0.660	0.593	0.585	0.504	0.549	0.631	0.624

Meena *et al.*, (2011) reported that 23.32 per cent increase in yield under improved technologies was observed over farmers practices, Bhatnagar (2001) reported that the research emanated production technologies were capable of enhancement of productivity of soybean by 32.26 per cent through frontline demonstration. Similarly, Raghuwanshi *et al.*, (2009) also observed a 16.64 per cent enhancement in the productivity of soybean by adoption of improved technology over farmers practices. Similar yield enhancement in frontline demonstrations conducted in other crops has been documented (Kumar *et al.*, 2010; Dhaka *et al.*, 2010). In an economic evaluation, per hectare net return of Rs. 27439 per ha was obtained in demonstration plots, while Rs. 23014 per ha were obtained in farmers practice. The data clearly indicated that additional more net return of Rs 6857 per ha over farmers practice was obtained in FLD. Though the cost of cultivation was more Rs.2433 in demonstrations over farmers practices, but there was an increase in net returns was 19.22 per cent. (Table 2). Similarly Raghuwanshi *et al.*, (2010) also observed 20.01 per cent higher net returns over farmers practice in soybean front line demonstrations. Further, improved technologies exhibited higher value of sustainability indices (SYI and SVI) for all the years except 2016, due to a heavy infestation of the crop with yellow mosaic virus followed by charcoal rot, which ultimately reduced production potential and resulted in lower SVI. However, overall mean of 7 years study period for sustainability parameter was also of higher magnitude with improved technologies as compared to farmer's practices because of higher standard deviation values due to variation in crop conditions, response to inputs and also depended upon varying situation of cultivation. Similar observation was also observed by Dubey and Ali (1999) and

Kumar and Ali (2002) in linseed front line demonstrations. It is concluded that cultivation of soybean with improved technology adopted in frontline demonstrations at farmer field was more profitable compared to the crops grown by using farmer's practices. Sustainability parameter like SYI and SVI were also higher in improved technologies during the study period. Thus, the present investigation proved that improved technology for soybean cultivation offered higher yield and profit as compared to farmers practice. The sustainability parameters like SYI and SVI were higher with improved technologies during most of the years under study. Soybean productivity can be enhanced by adopting improved production technology.

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