



“Plant Protection Status of IPM-Trained dry Paddy farmers of Maharashtra State”

Key words : Dry Paddy, Plant Protection, Status, Trained.

The Government of India recognized the benefits of “Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme during 1985 and adopted IPM as (10.05) coordinial principle and main Plank of Plant Protection strategy. Also Government of India is signatory to the agenda. 21st United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) 1972 also approved and accepted IPM which reduce the use of Pesticides in Agriculture.

The Programme IPM initially started in selected crops like rice, cotton, vegetables, and other crops. IPM is a tool for monitoring pest incidence and development. The development and strengthening of IPM which was launched in 1994-95 through training cum demonstration . The IPM trainings are conducted through Farmers Field Schools (FFS) in the paddy growing area of Maharashtra. Since there is a greater scope for increasing rice production by promoting and adopting the application of IPM modules from time to time for pest complexes in the given ecosystem. Keeping all the above background, the study was tkaen as “Plant Protection Status of IPM - Trained Dry Paddy Farmers in Maharashtra State” with the following objectctives.

1. To find out plant protection status of IPM - Trained Dry Paddy Farmers.
2. Relationship between the Plant Protection status of the Respondents with independent variable.

The study conducted in Bhandara District of Maharashtra State having highest acerage in paddy cultivation. The Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Nagpur (GOI) conducted IPM Training cum Demonstration Programmes on Rice in collaboration with State Department of Agriculture, Maharshttra. For the study purpose 10 vollriages were selected namely, Arjuni, Betala, Borgaon, Dongaragoan, Gopawada, Lakhani, Mujbi, Murmadi, Ranora, and Sawri. From each village 15 respondents comprising total of 150 respondents, were selected randomly. Data collected with the help of interview scheduled and analysed by using Arithmetic mean, S.D, Frequency and Percentage.

(1) Plant Protection Status of IPM Trained Dry Paddy Farmers:

The study shows that majority (70.00%) of trained dry paddy farmers had medium plant protection status, followed by high (13.33%) and low (11.33%), very meager percentage i.e. 4.00 and 1.33 percent of the respondents had very low and very high plant protection status respectively.

The above results indicate that majority of respondents have medium plant protection status. The selected respondents were the target group for the IPM training to mobilize positive attitude towards technology. Another reason may be lack of visible effect of practices which are preventive in nature to check the occurrence of insect pest and disease attack in future. Due to low rainfall and uncertainty played an important role to adopt the number of plant protection practices. This finding was inconfirmity with findings of Pande (1988) and Doijad (1991).

The table-2 indicate that the age and cropping intensity were not significant due to application of chemicals used only on need based observation. The farmers with more cropping intensity might have involved in other annual food crops such as Jowar, Vegetables, and Pulses, had less attention towards the plant protection, which also shows that the variables like education, land holding, social praticipation, socio-economic status, economic motivation scientific orientation, and media utilization, showed significant relationship with the plant protection status. It is confirm that there is a potentiality of gaining the high plant protection status by conducting more trainings for IPM trained farmers as well as other farmers. Thus the planners, decision makers, extensionists, other agencies and departments to involve in promoting (IPM) strategies lead to higher plant protection status of IPM- training dry paddy farmers.

Table 1. Plant Protection Status of IPM Trained Dry Paddy Farmers

			n = 150
Sl.No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
01.	Very Low (Mean -3 S D to Mean - 2 S D)	6	4.00
02.	Low (Mean - 2 S D to Mean- S D)	17	11.33
03.	Medium (Mean + S D)	105	70.00
04.	High (Mean + S D to Mean + 2 S D)	20	13.33
05.	Very High (Mean+ 2 S D to Mean + 3 S D)	2	1.33
Total		150	100.00

Table 2. Relationship Between the plant protection status of the respondents with independent variables.

		n = 150
Variable No.	Independent Variables	Plant Protection Status "r" Values
A	PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS	
1.	Age	-0.0625 NS
2.	Education	0.5645 **
B	SOCIO ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS	
3.	Land Holding	0.5864 **
4.	Social Participation	0.4885 **
5.	Socio-Economics Status	0.6331 **
C	SITUATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS	
6.	Cropping Intensity	-0.0566 NS
D	PSYCHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS	
7.	Economic Motivation	0.6194 **
8.	Scientific Orientation	0.6271 **
E	COMMUNICATION CHARACTERISTICS	
9.	Media Utilization	0.3355 **

** Significant at 0.01 level of probability.

NS = Non Significant

LITERATURE CITED

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