

# **Study on constraints faced by the farmers in utilizing the soil health card and suggestions to overcome these constraints in Odisha**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Soil testing is seen to be a helpful technique for recommending fertilizer for different crops and cropping sequences, as well as for problem soil reclamation. For this, Department of Agriculture & Co-operation under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India initiated Soil Health Card scheme in February 2015. The present study was conducted in four blocks namely Baranga, Salepur, Tangi-choudwar, Cuttack sadar of Cuttack district of Odisha state during the year 2024 to analyze farmers constraints in utilizing soil health card and suggestions to overcome. *Ex-post facto* research design was used for the study. Data was collected using a standardized and pre-tested interview schedule. Unawareness of soil sample collection for different crops, time gap between the soil sample taken and issue of SHC is high, the SHC recommendations are far from the actual field condition, the follow up activities by extension agency is inadequate were being the major constraints experienced by farmers. Important suggestions offered by the farmers for the effective usage of soil health cards are: SHC should be issued prior to crop season, arrangements from government is required for collecting soil samples from every farmers land, mobile soil testing laboratory for on spot delivery of soil health cards, farmer should be trained to take soil sample of his own soil, increasing the number of soil testing laboratories in the district.

**Key words:** *Constraints, Farmers and Soil health card.*