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A STUDY ON SOCIAL PARTICIPATION AMONG THE TRAINED AND UNTRAINED PADDY FARMERS IN INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES

V. Balamurugan
Department of Agricultural Extension, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram, Tamilnadu

Abstract:

Integrated pest management is a component of sustainable agriculture with a sound ecological foundation. Although the concept of integrated pest management has its origins nearly three decades back, the close of pesticides has not declined appreciably. The essence of the integrated pest management concept lies in the harmonious integration of compatible multiple methods, used singly or in combination against pest including insects, pathogens and weeds. It ensures economic benefits to the farmers and the society at large. The use of economic injury level (EHL) and population have been the main criteria of integrated pest management. Paddy is an important food grain crop in India and is having a prime role in our agriculture. Green revaluation is associated not only with higher productivity through enhanced productivity, but also with several negative ecological and social consequences.

Serious problem have developed where indiscriminate use of pesticide in excess with consequent failure to produce expected yield resulted in economic loss. A sample size of One twenty farmers was selected, which comprised of sixty trained farmers and sixty farmers trained farmers. Data were personally collected through structured interview schedule and the result were analysed using simple percentage analysis, zero order correlation, 't' test and critical ratio. The result may be observed that there was a significant difference between the trained and untrained farmers with respect to extension agency contact.

Review of Literature:

According to Rathinasabapathi (1997) there was a positive and significant relationship between social participation and adoption. Santha (1992) found a non-significant relationship between social participation and adoption in the case of integrated pest management farmers of paddy crop. Raji et al., (1996) observed that a positive and significant relationship between social participation and adoption of trained farmers of new delta ion.

Introduction:

Paddy is an important food grain crop in India and is having a prime role in our agriculture. Green revaluation is associated not only with higher productivity through enhanced productivity, but also with several negative ecological and social consequences. Serious problem have developed where indiscriminate use of pesticide in excess with consequent failure to produce expected yield resulted in economic loss. A sample size of One twenty farmers was selected, which comprised of sixty trained farmers and sixty farmers trained farmers. Data were personally collected through structured interview schedule and the result were analysed using simple percentage analysis, zero order correlation, 't' test and critical ratio. The result may be observed that there was a significant difference between the trained and untrained farmers with respect to extension agency contact.

Research Methodologies:

In the Nagapattinam district, the Central Integrated Pest Management Centre has organized training on integrated pest management only in three blocks namely, Nagapattinam, Sirumarugal and Kollidam. Of the three blocks, Kollidam block was selected by simple random sampling. The list of villages of Kollidam block, where training was offered by central integrated pest management center was considered for the selection of the trained farmers. From that list, four villages, namely Arsur, Mudhalaimedu, Mathiravelur and Perampur were selected by simple random sampling. The remaining thirty three villages of kollidam block where no training was given by central integrated pest management center on integrated pest management were considered for the selection of untrained farmers. Of the thirty three villages, four villages, namely, Kunnam, Thillainathan, Uppangadu and Velangudi were selected by simple random sampling

Finding and Discussion:

Table 1: Distribution of respondents accordingly to their social participation

S.No	Category	Trained farmers (n=60)		Untrained farmers (n=60)	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1.	Low	15	25.00	39	65.00
2.	Medium	41	68.33	11	18.33
3.	High	4	6..67	10	16.67
	Total	**60**	**100.00**	**60**	**100.00**

Mean Score 2.75, Mean Difference 1.85
t-value 5.32**
**significant at 1 per cent level of probability

The table 1 reveals that 68.33 per cent of the trained farmers possessed medium level of social participation, followed by low (25.00 per cent) and high (6.67 per cent) levels. Among the trained farmers, 26.66 per cent belonged to low extension agency contact category. It may also be observed that there was a significant difference between the trained untrained farmers with respect to extension agency contact

Among the untrained farmers, almost a similar percentage (65.00 per cent) of them had low level of social participation, followed by medium (18.33 per cent) and high (16.67 per cent) levels. The 't' test for social participation exhibited a significant difference between trained and untrained farmers.

Their contact with extension personnel over the short term training program would have enhanced the trained farmers to obtain medium score under extension agency contact. This could be the likely reason for majority of trained farmers were with medium to high level of social participation. This finding is in accordance with the findings of Jayakumar (1994) and Jeyan (1995).

Conclusion:

The result may be observed that there was a significant difference between the trained and untrained farmers with respect to social participation. Hence it is recommended to the extension workers to consider the result demonstration as a suitable mean to reach greater mass effectively and it should be conducted locally in farmers holdings so as to enhance their knowledge and adoption in all aspects of integrated pest management practices for paddy.

References:

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