

## **FARMER'S OPINION ABOUT KVK TRAININGS**

**M.S. Chandawat<sup>1</sup>, B.S. Bhimawat<sup>2</sup>, G.S. Jaitawat<sup>3</sup>**

Over the years, substantial investment has been made on creation of training infrastructure for man-power development in the country. It has helped in educating and motivating for adoption of new technologies for increased production productivity and improving well being of the farmers. Multiplicity of technology transfer; narrow focus on agricultural extension, lack of farmers driven and farmers accountable system, globalization and Shrinkage of aerable land due to urbanization, and growing population have drawn more attention on training.

We have often been influenced with the jargons and attracted towards them ignoring the ground realities of the socio-economic situation of the farmers. Any system has its merits and demerits. While looking into the advancement, the ground realities have to be kept in mind.

The ultimate goal of training in the form of counselling and coaching to the farmers for increased productivity has to be achieved through policy intervention on training and HRD. It will not only give agricultural but economical growth of the country.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) at Borwat, district Banswara (Rajasthan) was established on 12th Feb. 1983. And the KVK at Faloj, district Dungarpur was established in 1992 under the administrative control of Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur. About 90 per cent of the total population in both the district engaged in agricultural and allied occupation.

They are cut off from the national stream and are unaware of improved farm practices. Main aim of establishing these KVKs was to bring about improvement in their living conditions and economy so that tribal population may join the main stream of the nation. This possible by improving agricultural production and productivity of crops as well as milch animals. In order to achieve this objective KVK Borwat and KVK Faloj carried out number of training programmes on crop production Horticulture, fruits preservation, sericulture, nursery raising, orchards plantation etc. for supplementary incomes to the farm families were offered.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Banswara and Dungarpur districts are engaged in promoting scientific agriculture in their area for more than a decade. It is therefore important to know as to how far KVK has been able to promote knowledge level and adoption of improved cultivation practices of maize and wheat crops production technologies in respective areas. Maize and wheat being major crop in kharif and rabi season in Banswara and Dungarpur district, adoption of improved practices of maize and wheat crop production technology will give sufficient evidence of success achieved by the KVKs.

While going through the available literature by the researcher it has been found that so far whatever studies have been conducted by different researchers, they were slightly related to the mandates and objectives of KVKs. This is high time to look into the important of training programmes of KVKs in line with the objectives.

1. Ph.D. Scholar, 2. Asst. Prof., (Ext. Edu.), Rajasthan College of Agriculture, MPUAT, Udaipur
3. Research Associate, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sirohi, MPUAT, Udaipur.



The particular study is an attempt to study the impact of the training programmes conducted by the KVKs in relation to level of knowledge of improved agricultural practices and constraints in adoption in Bagidora and Ghatol panchayat samities of Banswara and Sagwada and Dungarpur panchayat samities of Dungarpur districts of Rajasthan. Keeping this in view the specific objective of the study is-

To study the opinion of the respondents towards training programmes organised by KVKs on improved cultivation practices of maize and wheat crops.

## METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out in tribal area of Southern Rajasthan. The tribals in Rajasthan with a population of 54.74 lakh constitutes 12.47 per cent of the total population of the state. The major concentration of tribal group is in southern part of Rajasthan comprising Banswara and Dungarpur districts, 7 blocks of Udaipur district 2 blocks of Chittorgarh district and one block of Sirohi district.

Out of above mentioned districts of tribal area two districts Banswara and Dunagrpur were selected. Banswara district comprises of 8 panchayat samities and Dungarpur district comprises of 5 panchayat samities, respectively. Out of these 13 panchayat samities, 2 panchayat samities from each district namely Bagidora and Ghatol from Banswara and Dungarpur and Sagwara from Dungarpur district were selected on the basis of maximum number of training of the KVK's were from these panchayat samities (according to the KVK's Officials). For selectio of villages, the staff of KVK's of Banswara and dungarpur were contacted and a list of villages was prepared, where KVK's have conducted various traiing programmes. Two villages from each panchayat samiti were selected on the basis of maximum training

programmes conducted and farmers benefited. Thus, in all eight vilalges were finally selcted for present study. For the selection of respondents a list of those beneficiaries who had participated in any training programme related to improved practices of maize and wheat production technology by KVK's was prepared. Out of the list prepared, 15 beneficiaries were randomly selected from each village as respondents for the present study. Similarly, 15 non-beneficiaries were selected form each village as control group for comparision. Thus, in all 30 respondents from each village wee randomly selected. So the sample for the present study from eight villages was 120 beneficiaries and 120 non-beneficiaries. Thus, the sample of the study was constituted of 240 farmers. Maize and wheat crops were selected because of maximum area and production in kharif and rabi seasons, respectively.

The personal interview technique was used to collect the data for the present investigation. The tool used for data collection was a structured schedule. The personal interview technique was preferred over other methods because of the fact that the study sample respondents are belonging to tribal area which have very low literacy and exposure to the modern world, thus the personal interview can only generate the precise and correct information.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The objectives of study is the seek opinion from the respondents regarding duration, timeliness, and course contents, etc. Table 1 indicates that 54.167 per cent of the participating farmers have expressed that the duration of the training course was adequate, whereas 35 per cent have expressed to be partly adequate and 10.333 per cent of the participating farmers were of the opinion that the duration of the training course was inadequate.



**Table 1. Opinion of the beneficiary respondents about duration of the training**

Opinion	No. of respondents	(%)
Adequate	65	54.167
Partly adequate	42	35.000
Inadequate	13	10.333
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The main objective to gather this information was to find out whether the time allotted for such training to cover the subject matter was sufficient or not. Although, as per the policy, the duration can not be increased but in view of the knowledge to be imported if the duration is increased it might prove more beneficial. Suggestions were also sought to know by what duration it was to be extended. Some of the farmers (10.33%) were of the opinion that it should be made 5 days training instead of 2-3 days only.

Participation of the farmers in training course depends upon the pre-occupation of the farmers. Usually the training is conducted before the beginning of cropping season and during the slack season when farmers are comparatively free and in a position to leave their homes to attend training. Here the purpose was to know whether the training were conducted at time when they could attend without any difficulty.

A persual of Table-2 show that 65.84 per cent of the respondents were fully satisfied with the timeliness of these training where as 30.83 per cent of them were partly satisfied and 3.33 per cent of the participating farmers were of not satisfied with the timeliness of the training course. Further suggestions with respect to the timeliness were sought. Some of the farmers (3.33%) suggested that the timing of the training was not proper because they were busy in farming/inter culture operations. This was probably due to fact that during the short slack season it was not possible to conduct these training at one time/

same time. Keeping this in mind KVK should have planing to organise the training programmes in such a way so that training can be conducted during the slack season and before the beginning of cropping season. So that every participants can participate in these training programmes without changing his farming operations programme and it will result in successful training programme.

**Table 2. Opinion of the respondents regarding timeliness of the training**

Opinion	No. of respondents	(%)
Fully satisfied	79	65.84
Partly satisfied	37	30.83
Not satisfied	4	3.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Efforts were also made to know whether the course covered during the training was adequate or not. Table-3 reveals that 75.83 per cent were satisfied and said that the course was adequate, whereas 19.17 per cent of the respondents felt it to be partly adequate and 5 per cent of the respondents were of the opinion that the course content of the training was inadequate.

**Table 3. Opinion of respondents regarding contents of the training course**

Opinion	No. of respondents	(%)
Adequate	91	75.83
Partly adequate	23	19.17
Inadequate	6	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

When the participating farmers were asked to give suggestions for the topics to be included or dropped from the training, various suggestions came up which could not be statistically analysed but are incorporated here. As per their opinion of new additions to the course contents, diseases of cattle and their control, safe grain storage technology, horticultural aspects with respect to vegetable cultivation and low cost technologies be included in the training.



Physical facilities for class room as well as out side the class room with respect to boarding and lodging is an important aspect of training. With a view to know whether the farmer were satisfied with arrangement, they were asked to give their opinion.

The data in Table-4 gives the reading that 56.67 per cent were of opinion that arrangement were excellent, 43.33 per cent expressed it to be very good boarding and lodging arrangements.

**Table 4. Opinion of the respondents regarding Boarding and lodging arrangements**

Opinion	No. of respondents	(%)
Excellent	68	56.67
Very good	52	43.33
Poor	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Selection and use of teaching methods depends on many factors but the sale objective should be to have the most appropriate teaching method through which the desired objective can be achieved. Here also with this view in mind suggestions were sought to know whether proper teaching methods were used while imparting training to the participating farmers. Intensive efforts were not made to assess the teaching methods. However, care was taken just to know as to how the trainees felt. A personal of the data in Table-5 shows the opinion of the respondents about teaching methods 52.50 per cent of the participant farmers were satisfied and said that the teaching methods used was appropriate 43.33 per cent felt it most appropriate and 4.17 per cent of the respondents were of the opinion that the teaching method used was not appropriate.

When they were asked to give suggestion in this respect they were of the opinion that slides and films used for teaching should be prepared keeping in view the local conditions

and situation, climatic and geographical conditions and culture of that particular areas. They further suggested that the instructors should be able to speak the local language to the area. They are justified in making this suggestions to some extent. The slides should be locally prepared, and the local language of that particular areas be used to advantage.

**Table 5. Opinion of the farmers about teaching method used during the training period**

Opinion	No. of respondents	(%)
Most appropriate	63	52.50
Appropriate	52	43.33
Not appropriate	5	4.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Learning is not the end as far as the farmer or the objectives of the training are concerned but it only a means to the end. Learning is prerequisite for adoption but does not necessarily ensure the adopting of the practice. The decision to use a particular practice depends upon various other factors, such as profitability applicability and others. A point needs worth mentioning that one can not sit back and feel satisfied by assessing the gain in knowledge due to training but should go one step further to follow it and try to know at the farmer's level in actual life situation whether the practice is put to use or not.

## CONCLUSION

It was suggested that the duration of training should be extended to 5 days instead of 2-3 days. This shows a clear interest on the part of farmers to know more about the subjects covered during the training. It was also suggested that training should be conducted before the commencement of the cropping season rather than during the cropping season to have adequate participation and application of knowledge in the ensuing season. With respect to the subject matter it



was suggested by the farmers to incorporate some of topics related to diseases of cattles and their control, safe grain storage, horticultural aspect with respect to vegetable cultivation and low cost technology related topics. Farmers were generally satisfied with

the physical arrangements inside the class as well as out of it, specifically with respect to boarding and lodging. They were also of the opinion that the trainers made effective use of important teaching methods appropriate for the transfer of technology.

### REFERENCES

1. Chaturvedi, Deepak (2000). Impact of Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana in the adoption of improved technology for cotton production in Bikaner district of Rajasthan". Ph.D. Thesis, MPUAT, Udaipur.
2. Mahawer, S.K. (1998). "Transformation of tribals through Jakham irrigation project in Southern Rajasthan". Ph.D.(Ag.) Thesis (Unpublished), Deptt. of Extn. Edu., RCA, Udaipur.
3. Patil, S.O. and Kale, J.V. (1972). Vocational training needs of farmers with special reference to the contents and type of training. Indian J. of Ext. Edu. Vol. VII No. 3&4, Sept.-Dec. pp 18-24.

• • •