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Attitude of farmers towards Integrated Farming System in Agro Climatic Zone IVa of Rajasthan, India

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ABSTRACT

Integrated farming system is playing a vital role to enhance the farmers welfare as well as the gross income of the farmer and optimum utilization of available resources. The present study was conducted in agroclimatic zone IVa of Rajasthan. It comprises of four districts Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand and Udaipur. Among these four districts selected 240 farmers were selected randomly. The data were collected through well-structured and pre-tested interview schedule. The findings revealed that the (56.25 %) of the respondents had favourable of attitude towards IFS, followed by most favourable (25.41 %) and least favourable (18.34 percent) of attitude towards integrated farming system. It was also concluded that farmers of selected districts of Zone IVa of Rajasthan had more or less similar attitude towards Integrated Farming System.

Key words: Attitude, Integrated farming system and respondents

Introduction

Food security, livelihood security, water security, natural resource conservation and environmental preservation have all emerged as key global challenges in the recent years. Developing countries are having a difficult time dealing with these major issues. Sustainable development is the only approach to encourage rational resource usage and environmental conservation without impeding economic progress throughout the world. In this context, the Integrated Farming Approach holds special importance. None of the by-products are wasted in the IFS system. In comparison to the traditional monoculture techniques, the by-products of MPUAT, Udaipur one system become inputs for other crops under an integrated farming strategy.

The Integrated Farming System strategy is regarded as a valuable tool for increasing agriculture

productivity and profitability for small and marginal farmers.

Research Methodology

An ex – post facto research design was used in the present study. The present study was conducted in Rajasthan which literally means “Land of kings”. The State of Rajasthan was purposively selected for the present study. The Integrated Farming System (IFS) approach was implemented in all agro climatic zones of Rajasthan under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture. Out of ten agro climatic zones in which sub humid southern plain and aravalli (IVa) zone was selected purposively for the study. It comprises of four district Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand and Udaipur. Thus, all four districts were selected for the study. Two cluster from each district were selected for present study on the basis

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of maximum number of farmers benefitted about different farming systems. Therefore, a total of eight clusters were taken for the study. An equal number 30 farmers were selected randomly from each identified cluster. Thus, a total of 240 farmers were selected for the present investigation. The data were collected through well-structured and pre-tested interview schedule. The collected data were coded, classified and tabulated with the help of appropriate statistical tools to draw meaningful conclusion.

Results and Discussion

Classification of farmers according to their level of attitude towards Integrated Farming Systems

Attitude refers to the degree of favourable or unfavourable towards different integrated farming systems. The outcome of this objective provides ample spheres to produce suitable extension strategies for different farming systems to make more applicable. The feeling of the respondents of different farming systems were collected and grouped into three categories with the help of mean and standard deviation viz., (i) least favourable, (ii) favourable and (iii) most favourable. The data in this respect are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Level of attitude of respondents towards Integrated Farming Systems

S. No.	Level of attitude	Frequency	Percent
1.	Least favourable	44	18.34
2.	Favorable	135	56.25
3.	Most favourable	61	25.41
	Total	240	100

The data presented in the Table 1 reveal that majority of the respondents (56.25 %) had the favourable attitude towards different farming systems, followed by 25.41 and 18.34 per cent of the respondents had highly favourable and less favourable attitude towards different farming systems, respectively.

In general, the majority of the respondents (81.66%) had the favourable attitude towards different farming systems. This might be due to the fact that integrated farming systems are only the option for farmers to get the regular income for their livelihood in the study area.

The present findings supported the views expressed by Bhoir *et al.* (2020) indicating that more than three fourth (76.67 %) of respondents had medium level of attitude towards IFS, followed by high level (18.00 %) and low level (5.33 %) of attitude towards IFS. The findings are in line with the findings of Rajanna *et al.* (2009), Dhaka *et al.* (2017), Saini and Chauhan (2018) and Parmar and Patel (2013).

Comparison of attitude of farmers of selected districts towards Integrated Farming Systems

To find out the variation or similarity in the attitude of the farmers towards integrated farming system, analysis of variance- one way test was carried out and results are presented in the Table 2.

Hypotheses

NH₀₁: There is no significant difference among the farmers of selected districts with respect to their attitude towards Integrated Farming System.

RH₁: There is significant difference among the farmers of selected districts with respect to their attitude towards Integrated Farming System.

Data reported in Table 2 show that calculated F value 2.38 was found to be less than the tabulated value which is statically non-significant. So, the null hypothesis (NH₀₁) "there is no significant difference among the farmers of selected districts with respect to their attitude towards Integrated Farming System" was accepted and research hypothesis (RH₁) was rejected.

It means that there was no significant difference in attitude of farmers of selected districts of Zone IVa of Rajasthan towards Integrated Farming System. From the above discussion it can be concluded that farmers of selected districts of Zone IVa of

Table 2. Comparison of farmers of selected districts according to their attitude towards IFS

Source of variation	SS	df	MS	F value	F critical value
Between Group	432.1792	3	144.06	2.38 ^{NS}	2.64
Within Group	14239.48333	236	60.34		
Total	14671.66	239			

NS: Non-Significant at 5% level of significance

Rajasthan had more or less similar nature of Integrated Farming System.

Conclusion

The results revealed that majority of the respondents were in favourable attitude towards Integrated farming system. It can be concluded that there is a need of conducting trainings/workshop for integrated farming System from line department and more help should be provided from the Govt.

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