

Constraints Faced by the Farmers in Getting Agricultural Technology Information under ATMA in Hanumangarh District

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Abstract: The present study was carried out to find constraints faced by farmers in getting agricultural technology information under ATMA. The present study was conducted in Hanumangarh district. 40 farmers from two villages were selected on the basis of the probability proportionate sampling for the study purpose. The findings of the study indicated that significant number of farmers (65%) had medium level of constraints faced by the farmers about ATMA. It was followed by (25%) respondents who possessed low level of constraints faced by the farmers. While (10%) respondents fell under the category of high level of constraints faced by the farmers about ATMA. In the study efforts were made to categorize the major constraints into suitable categories like technological, general, socio and economical constraints as perceived by the farmers. The farmers expressed constraints in promotion of Agriculture and Allied fields. They assigned first rank to 'Marketing constraints' and second rank to 'problem in hierarchy'.

Keywords: Agricultural Technology, ATMA

1. Introduction

The Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) is an autonomous organization registered under the 'Societies Registration Act' of 1867 that has considerable operational flexibility. ATMA is a society of key stakeholders involved in agricultural activities for sustainable agricultural development in the district. It is a focal point for integrating research and extension activities and decentralizing day to day management of the public Agricultural Technology System (ATS). The aims and objectives for which the ATMA is formed are:

To identify location specific needs of farming community for farming system based agricultural development;

- To set up priorities for sustainable agricultural development with Farming Systems Approach;
- To draw plans for production based system activities to be undertaken by farmers/ultimate user;
- To execute plans through line departments, training institutions, NGOs, farmer's organizations and allied institutions;
- To coordinate efforts being made by various line departments, NGOs, farmers organizations and allied

institutions to strengthen research extension-farmers linkages in the district and to promote collaboration and coordination between various state funded technical departments;

- To facilitate the empowerment of farmers/products through assistance for mobilization, organization into associations, cooperatives etc. for their increased participation in planning, marketing, technology dissemination and agro-processing etc;
- To facilitate market interventions for value addition to farm produce.

2. Research and methodology

- The study was conducted in purposively selected Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan because no such study has been conducted in the area earlier.
- There are seven panchayat samities in Hanumangarh district. Out of these two villages were selected randomly by lottery method.
- Selection of villages: Two villages were selected on the basis of random sampling technique. Thus selected total 2 villages.
- Selection of the farmers: 40 farmers from two villages were selected on the basis of the probability proportionate sampling for the study purpose. Face to face interview technique was used to collect data from the selected respondents.
- The data was analyzed tabulated: After collection the data from 40 respondents, they were transferred to coding sheets, analyzed and subjected to statistical analysis.
- Result and Discussion: To get an overview of status of constraints faced by the Farmers in getting Agricultural Technology Information under ATMA among the respondents they were classified into three categories low medium and high constraint level on the basis of calculated mean and rank of the constraints score obtained.

Table 1

Constraints level faced by the farmers about ATMA

S. No.	Constraints level	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low constraints level	10	25.00
2	Medium constraints level	26	65.00
3	High constraints level	4	10.00
	Total	40	100.00

The data contained in table 1 indicate that a considerable number of respondents (65%) had medium level of constraints faced by the farmers about ATMA. It was followed by (25%) respondents who possessed low level of constraints faced by the farmers. While (10%) respondents fell under the category of high level of constraints faced by the farmers about ATMA. In the study efforts were made to categories the major constraints into suitable categories technological and general constraints socio constraint economical constraints as perceived by the farmers. The data related to each category of constraints are presented here under.

Table 1

Overall constraints

S. No.	Categories of Constraints	Overall M.S	Overall Ranks
1.	Constraints in promotion of Agriculture and Allied fields	15.24	I
2	Marketing constraints	14.48	II
3	General constraints	11.80	III
4.	Socio – Political constraints	11.53	IV
5	Ecological constraints	10.23	V
6	Technical constraints	8.90	VI
7	Administrative constraints	8.40	VII
8	Financial constraints	7.68	VIII

The data tabulated in table 2 showed that the farmers expressed constraints in ‘promotion of Agriculture and Allied fields’ and assigned ranks first with 15.24 mean score and ‘Marketing constraints’ was assigned second rank with 14.48 mean score in the problem hierarchy. These were followed by administrative constraints and financial constraints had seventh and eighth rank with 8.40 and 7.68 mean score respectively.

3. Conclusion

The main problem was related to the agriculture and allied sector because farmers were not educated. They do not understand the new technology so they have incomplete information. The other main problem was related to marketing constraints i.e. if their market is situated very far so they do not reach at the time. They do not know about market price and not having storage facility at village level so they sell their product at low price.

References

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