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To Analyse the Knowledge Level of the Jute Growers of Odisha

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A B S T R A C T

The present study attempts to know the knowledge level of jute growers. This investigation was conducted in four villages of two blocks of Kendrapara district of Odisha. The study was explorative in nature and the data was collected from 120 respondents by a pre structured interview schedule through personal interview. The result of the study revealed that majority of the farmers have partial knowledge about land preparation and fertilizer management practices and full knowledge about weed management practices.

Introduction

Jute is a long, soft, shiny vegetable fiber that can be spun into coarse, strong threads.

This fiber has great utility in both domestic and industrial uses.

Jute is also known as the Golden fiber, a plant that produces a fiber mainly used for sacking and cordage. This raw material is used for sacks globally which is the most versatile fiber of nature.

India and Bangladesh are biggest Jute producer in the world.

Jute textile industry is one of the major industries in Eastern India, particularly in West Bengal and Odisha.

Jute supports around 40 lakh farm families and provides direct employment to 2.6 lakh industries workers and 1.4 lakh in the tertiary sector.

Raw Jute is an important cash crop to the farmers. Cultivation of raw Jute crop provides not only fibre which has industrial use, but jute stick which is used as fuel and building material by the farming community.

The fibers are also woven into curtains, chair coverings, carpets, area rugs, hessian cloth and backing for linoleum jute has an appeal of its own.

The best styles in jute are the ones like wallets, folders, money purse, hampers for confectionary as well as satchels. Handy purses and folders are interesting too.

Objectives

To analyze the knowledge level of jute farmers towards land preparation practices, fertilizer management and weed management practices.

Materials and Methods

The present study entitled "Analyze the knowledge level of jute growers of Odisha'' was conducted in Dihabalarampur, Raghunathpur, Shyamsundarpur and Dwitiyalaya villages of Marsaghai and Kendrapara blocks of Kendrapara district of Odisha state. The study was explorative in nature having data collected through personal interview with 120 number of randomly selected sample respondents, via structured interview schedule prepared after pilot study and pretesting. Appropriate statistical analysis wherever required were suitably employed for analysis of data & interpretation of results.

Results and Discussion

Practices during land preparation

The table 2 shows that knowledge of farmers in preparing clod free fields with good drainage is 66.6% full knowledge and 33.3% partial knowledge, making good drainage facilities was 16.6%% fully knowledge and 68.33% were partially knowledgeable. The farmers having full knowledge on making channels after 2m distance is 16.6% and those with partial knowledge were 63.33%. The knowledge of farmers for marking at 25*25 cm distance is 10% with full knowledge and of partial knowledge were 61.6%. The knowledge of farmers on ploughing, cross ploughing and planking is 66.6% with full knowledge and that with partial knowledge were 30% and 1.31% having no knowledge. Hence rank I is given to knowledge of farmers on preparation of clod free fields and rank II is given to knowledge of farmers in ploughing and planking followed by leveling of lands and making channels at 2m distance and marking at 25*25 cm distance respectively.

Fertilizer management practices

As it is observed from the table 2, most of the farmers were having proper knowledge on proper amount of use of manures and fertilizers and its application method and time. Knowledge for preparing well leveled and well drainage in fields was 81.8% full knowledge. 85.5% of the farmers were having full knowledge on green/brown manuring in the jute field. Majority of farmers having partial knowledge on green manuring, use of vermicompost and split application of fertilizers. Therefore Ist rank is given to knowledge on application of 4-5 tonnes of FYM followed by applying 60:30:30 kg NPK fertilizers. i.e. rank II and application of these before ploughing and incorporating it in soil is given rank III respectively.

Table.1 Knowledge level of farmers towards practices during land preparation (N=120)

SL. NO.	STATEMENTS	FK		PK		NK		MEAN SCORE	RANK
		F	%	F	%	F	%		
1	Preparing clod free fields with good drainage	80	66.6	40	33.3	0	0	2.66	I
2	Good levelling	20	16.6	82	68.33	18	15	1.00	III
3	Making channels after 2 m distance	20	16.6	76	63.33	24	20	0.98	IV
4	Marking at 25*25 cm distance	12	10	74	61.6	34	28.33	0.91	V
5	Ploughing, crossploughing and planking	80	66.6	36	30	4	3.33	1.31	II

FK- Full Knowledge, PK- Partial Knowledge, NK- No Knowledge

Table.2 Knowledge level of farmers on the basis of their fertiliser management practices (N=120)

SL. NO.	STATEMENTS	FK		PK		NK		MEAN SCORE	RANK
		F	%	F			%		
1	Applying 4-5 tonnes of FYM/compost per Ha	82	68.33	38	31.66	0	0	2.68	I
2	Applying before ploughing and incorporating	74	61.66	46	38.33	0	0	2.61	III
3	Green manuring/brown manuring	30	25	76	63.33	14	11.66	2.13	V
4	Using vermicompost	8	6.66	78	65	34	28.33	1.78	VI
5	Applying 60:30:30 kg NPK	80	66.66	38	31.66	2	1.66	2.65	II
6	Applying nitrogen and potash in two doses	44	36.66	66	55	10	8.33	2.28	IV

FK- Full Knowledge, PK- Partial Knowledge, NK- No Knowledge

Table.3 Knowledge level of farmers towards weed management practices (N=120)

SL. NO.	STATEMENTS	FK		PK		NK		MEAN SCORE	RANK
		F	%	F	%	F	%		
1	Timely intercultural operations	82	68.33	36	30	2	1.66	2.66	II
2	Using cono/mandwaweeder for weeding	34	28.33	63	52.55	24	20	2.1	IV
3	Incorporating weeds into the soil	62	51.66	52	43.33	6	5	1.71	VI
4	Two weeding at 3rd and 5th week after sowing	86	71.66	32	26.66	2	1.66	2.7	1
5	Mulching with paddy straw, soil solarisation with black polythene	10	8.33	80	66.66	30	25	1.83	V
6	Use of herbicides, pre-emergence, preplant, foliar application	56	46.66	64	53.33	0	0	2.46	III

FK- Full Knowledge, PK- Partial Knowledge, NK- No Knowledge

Last two ranks. i.e. V and VI are assigned to knowledge of farmers about green manuring/brown manuring and use of vermi compost respectively.

Weed management practices

As observed from the table 3, the farmers were having good knowledge about the weed management in jute cultivation. The majority of farmers were having full knowledge about timely intercultural operations, i.e. 68.33% fully knowledge, 30% partial knowledge and 1.66% having no knowledge. Using of cono/mandwaweeder for weeding was not well known to the farmers. The farmers having knowledge level on incorporating weeds into the soil were 51.66% full knowledge, 43.33% partial knowledge and 5% was not having any knowledge. The farmers% having knowledge for setting 2 weeding at3rd and 5th week after sowing were fully known 71.66%, partial knowledge 26.66% and 1.66% had no knowledge. Use of herbicides *i.e.* pre emergence, pre plant foliar and foliar application of these to the plant, was partially known to most of the farmers. Mulching practice to control weeds was partially known by the most of the farmers i.e.66.66% followed by fully known to it.i.e.8.33%.Therefore rankings are assigned like this. i.e. rank I to two weeding at 3rd and

5th week after sowing and rank II is given to timely intercultural operations on the basis of the knowledge level of the jute farmers. IIIrd, IVth and Vth rank is given to application of herbicides to control weeds, use of cono/mandwaweede for weeding and mulching with rice straw or polythene to control weed growth respectively. Last rank is given to incorporating weeds into the soil. i.e. rank VI.

Majority of the respondents have highest knowledge about preparing clod free land followed by ploughing of land and planking. They have comparatively less knowledge on leveling of land and marking. Overall the farmers were having good knowledge on the fertilizer management. Majority of the respondents have highest knowledge on application of FYM and amount of N: P: K and lowest knowledge on application of use of vermicompost. In weed management, the farmers were having full (71.66%) knowledge for uprooting weeds at 3rd and 5th week interval and 68.33% were having full knowledge for timely intercultural operations, 51.66 % of farmers were having full knowledge and 46.66 % were having no knowledge of incorporating weeds into the soil and use of herbicides for control of weed. So the knowledge of weed management was good and new techniques are still to be known among farmers.

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