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## **CONSTRAINTS WITH REGARD TO IMPROVED VEGETABLE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The present study on constraints perceived by the farmers with regard to improved vegetable production technologies was conducted in three community development blocks of Kullu district in Himachal Pradesh. The total numbers of constraints selected for the study were twenty-two. Out of these constraints, the major constraints were 'availability of recommended technologies to the farmers' followed by 'availability of the package of practices', 'proper price of the crops', 'proper transportation facilities', 'labour shortage at the time of requirement' and 'availability of insecticides / pesticides'. The some constraints were not effective to the vegetable production, these were 'given the preference to vegetable production than other crop' followed by 'proper methods applied for harvesting of crop', 'availability of herbicides' and 'proper knowledge about herbicides'.

**Key Words:** *Improved Vegetable Production Technology; Himachal Pradesh*

### **INTRODUCTION**

The vegetables are the most important to the human diet for better health, because they possess high nutritive value and are rich source of carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins and minerals. The selection of research area in *Kullu* valley of Himachal Pradesh was due to the very good conditions for temperate vegetable production and seed production of the same. Hence the area was suitable for both that the vegetable production and their breeding for most of the temperate types of vegetables. The summer being mild was suitable for many sub-tropical important vegetables. Before the establishment of Katrain station, there was no vegetable growing in the valley, but there after it has picked up (Suman, 2011). Still in this area the vegetable production is low, because improved vegetable and seed production technologies (IVSPT) are not fully adopted by the farmers at their own field (self reviewed). Even if they produce, the marketing problems are faced by them. Therefore, this research programme is aimed to find out the current adoption level of the IVSPT at the farmers field, technological gap between the farmers and institute, constraints faced by the farmers in adoption of IVSPT and to suggest the solution regarding the constraints (Trivedi *et al.*, 2008).

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The necessary information for the project (number of Blocks in the Kullu Valley for the research and number of villages in each Block) were collected from the Block headquarters and as well district headquarters. After the collection of the information as above, selection of the Blocks, Villages and the Farmers (Large, Medium and Small) based on stratified random sampling would we done. The schedule for the data collection from the selected farmers with regard to the objectives were prepared and also data collected, compiled, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted with statistical methods mean and S.D. were applied.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Improved Vegetable Production Technologies and Seed Production Technologies are not fully adopted by the farmers at their own field (self reviewed). Even if they produce, the some problems were faced by them. It was found that the current adoption level of the farmers with respect to

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Improved Vegetable Production Technologies, Seed Production Technologies were very low, and it was needed for improvement in the vegetable and seed production by the farmers.

**Table 1: Distribution of the farmers with regard to age**

S. No.	Age Groups	No. of respondents	%age
1	< 32	43	14.33
2	32 – 59	202	67.33
3	> 59	55	18.33
Total		300	100.00

It is revealed from the Table-1 that most of the farmers in the valley represented the age group of 32 – 59 years (67.33 %) followed by 18.33 percent belong to above 59 years group.

**Table 2: Distribution of the farmers with regard to land position of the area**

S. No.	Categories	Percentage
1	Cultivable Land	61.16
2	Fallow Land	5.24
3	Un-cultivable Land	2.94
4	Building, Road etc.	30.66
Total		100.00

It was found that the percentage of cultivable land was the highest (61.16 %) followed by under buildings, road etc. (30.66 %). Only 2.94 percent land is uncultivable (Table 2) where as 5.24 per cent of the land has been left fallow.

**Table 3: Analysis of the constraints faced by the farmers in vegetable production**

S. No.	Items	Mean	S.D.	Rank
1.	Availability of recommended technologies	125	8.5557	I
2.	Availability of package of practices	110	8.4617	II
3.	Proper price of the crops	240	7.9246	III
4.	Proper transportation available	186	7.7201	IV
5.	Labour shortage as per needs	219	7.5895	V
6.	Availability of insecticides/pesticides	40	7.3756	VI
7.	Availability of good quality of seeds	236	7.1833	VII
8.	Proper knowledge about disease or insect-pests	60	6.4498	VIII
9.	Proper methods applied for harvesting	300	6.4498	VIII
10.	Fully satisfied by crop production	68	6.3246	X
11.	Proper market for sold the crops	119	5.6921	XI
12.	Crop damaged by diseases or insect-pests	284	5.0596	XII
13.	Proper channel for communication	121	4.6043	XIII
14.	Availability of proper irrigation facilities	55	4.5607	XIV
15.	Seeds did not available at sowing time	29	3.8471	XV
16.	Shortage of money for vegetable production	54	3.5777	XVI
17.	Interference the middleman in the marketing	11	2.6077	XVII
18.	Availability of the seeds	15	2.6067	XVIII
19.	Proper knowledge about insecticides/pesticides	0	0.0000	XIX
20.	Proper knowledge about herbicides	0	0.0000	XIX
21.	Availability of herbicides	0	0.0000	XIX
22.	Give the preference to vegetable production than other crops	0	0.0000	XIX

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It is indicated from the above table that an availability of recommended technologies to the farmers ranked first with 8.5557 S.D. followed by availability of the package of practices, proper price of the crops, proper transportation facilities, labour shortage at the time of requirement and availability of insecticides/pesticides with 8.4617, 7.9246, 7.7201 and 7.58.95 S.D. by ranked second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively. The some constraints were not effective to the vegetable production, these were give the preference to vegetable production than other crop followed by proper methods applied for harvesting the crop, availability of herbicides and proper knowledge about herbicides etc by 0.0000 S.D. with ranked last.

It is revealed from the above table that 'availability of recommended technologies to the farmers' ranked first followed by 'availability of the package of practices', 'proper price of the crops', 'proper transportation facilities', 'labour shortage at the time of requirement' and 'availability of insecticides/pesticides' ranked second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth respectively. Some of the constraints were not effective to the vegetable production, these were 'give the preference to vegetable production than other crop' followed by 'proper methods applied for harvesting the crop', 'availability of herbicides' and 'proper knowledge about herbicides' etc. (Suman, 2012).

### **Conclusion**

In the present study on constraints perceived by the farmers with regard to improved vegetable production technologies was conducted in three community development blocks of Kullu district in Himachal Pradesh. This study, 41 percent farmers applied agronomical practices properly and rest of 59 percent used local practices. Total numbers of constraints selected for the study were twenty-two. Out of these constraints, the major constraints were 'availability of recommended technologies to the farmers' followed by 'availability of the package of practices', 'proper price of the crops', 'proper transportation facilities', 'labour shortage at the time of requirement' and 'availability of insecticides / pesticides'. The some constraints were not effective to the vegetable production, these were 'given the preference to vegetable production than other crop' followed by 'proper methods applied for harvesting of crop', 'availability of herbicides' and 'proper knowledge about herbicides'.

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