

# Research Article TRAINING NEEDS OF POTATO GROWERS IN GWALIOR DISTRICT OF MADHYA PRADESH

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Abstract- The productivity level of potato is observed to be low in Madhya Pradesh due to various reasons among these are climate and a doptability of technologies. In order to narrow down the gap in the productivity, potato growers need to adopt the recommended technology package in their situation. With this back ground the status of adoption of production technologies and productivity of potato crop are to be essential to be assessed and training needs are the other important issue to be looked into for the policy makers in general and the farmers in particular. There is an urgent need in this direction to channelize our efforts to increase the yield by identifying the training needs and the extent of adoption of improved practices. It is in this background this study was taken up with an objective to know the extent of adoption of scientific practices and their training needs.

Training is essential to induce motivation, create confidence and inculcate efficiency in an individual. Training is also inevitable for imparting new knowledge and updating the skills of the farmers. Training of farmers had assumed further importance and need in the context of the high yielding varieties and improved practices in agriculture and allied fields.

Keywords- Training need, Potato growers, Motivation, Production technology

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### Introduction

Madhya Pradesh is the sixth largest potato producing State accounting for 2 per cent of total production of potato in the country. State produces 0.74 million tones of potato from an area of 0.06 million hectares with the productivity of 12.0 tones/ha. It is cultivated mainly in Indore, Jabalpur, Rewa, Sagar, Gwalior and Bhopal districts. Looking to the present increasing production scenario of the country, it can be predicted that potato will be important crop to satisfy the vegetable requirement of the country in coming day. The productivity level of potato is observed to be low in Madhya Pradesh due to various reasons among these are climate and adoptability of technologies [1,2]. In order to narrow down the gap in the productivity, potato growers need to adopt the recommended technology package in their situation. With this back ground the status of adoption of production technologies and productivity of potato crop are to be essential to be assessed and training needs are the other important issue to be looked into for the policy makers in general and the farmers in particular. There is an urgent need in this direction to channelize our efforts to increase the yield by identifying the training needs and the extent of adoption of improved practices. It is in this background this study was taken up with an objective to determine training needs of potato growers about potato production technology [3,4].

### **Materials and Methods**

The study on training needs of potato growers was conducted during 2013-14. In this study, descriptive research design was used. The present study was conducted in Murar Block of Gwalior District. Murar block comprises of 169 villages. Out of which 31 villages are potato growing villages. A list of these villages was prepared. Out of which 10 villages namely Bhadroli, Kuvarpur,

Syawari, Sausha, Ekahra, Raura, Methana, Bastari, Akbarpur and Dangiyapura were selected randomly by using the simple random sampling method. After the selection of the villages, a village wise list of potato growers was prepared and 12 potato growers from each village were selected randomly. Thus, the total sample was consisted of 120 potato growers. In the present study, training need of potato growers was taken as dependent variable. The data was collected through personal interview method with the help of pre-tested interview schedule, which was prepared on the basis of objectives of investigation and variables. The collected data were classified, tabulated and analyzed with the help of statistical tools like- percentage, simple mean, SD and correlation.

### **Result and Discussion**

Data indicated in [Table-1] explains the training needs of the potato growers. From the [Table-12] revealed that first preference of training need was given to seed rate followed by insect management, seed treatment, disease management, weed management, selection of improved varieties, time of sowing, fertilizer management, irrigation, and selection of land and method of sowing. Selection of land, majority (59.1%) of the potato growers expressed the need of training. One fourth of potato growers expressed no need of training while, only 15.83 per cent expresses much need of training regarding selection of land. As regards selection of improved varieties, maximum number of potato growers (44.16%) expressed much need of training while, 37.5 per cent of them expressed need of training and only 18.33 per cent expressed no need of training in selection of improved varieties. Concerning seed rate, majority (70%) of potato growers perceived much need of training where as 30 per cent of them perceived need of training. In case

of seed treatment, majority (56.67%) of potato growers required much need of training while, 43.33 per cent of them required need of training. About time of sowing, maximum number of potato growers (41.66%) uttered need of training, while 30.63 per cent required more need of training and 27.5 per cent expressed no need of training.

In relation to method of sowing, majority (69.16%) of respondents articulated need of training. One fourth (25%) of respondents expressed no need of training, while, very few (5.84%) expressed much need of training in the area. With reference to Irrigation, half of the respondents (50%) stated need of training on irrigation method. About one fourth, (26.67%) of respondents stated no need of training whereas 23.33 per cent of the respondents articulated much needed of training on irrigation method. In case of weed management, about half (50.83%) of potato growers stated much need of training, while 49.17 per cent of them stated need of training. As regards fertilizer management, maximum number of potato growers

(36.67%) expressed need of training, while 34.16 per cent expressed no needed of training and 29.17 per cent expressed much needed of training on fertilizer management. Regarding insect management, majority (66.67%) of the respondents articulated much need of training. About one fourth (26.67%) of potato growers uttered need of training while, very few (6.67%) of them expressed no need of training.

As regards disease management, majority (56.67%) of potato growers expressed much need of training, while, 40.83 per cent of them expressed need of training. Very few (2.5%) of them articulated no need of training. Thus, it can be concluded that majority of the potato growers required training on recommended seed rate, insect management, seed treatment, disease management, weed management, selection of improved varieties, and time of sowing. This findings was supported by the work of Srivastava *et al.* (2012), Rajput*et al.* (2005), Piparde (2012), Singh *et al.* (2005) [1-4].

Table-1         Training needs of potato Growers									
S.N.	Area	Most needed		Needed		Not needed		Total	Rank
		f	%	F	%	f	%	score	
1.	Selection of land	19	15.83	71	59.17	30	25.00	109	XI
2.	Selection of improved varieties	53	44.16	45	37.5	22	18.33	151	VI
3.	Seed rate	84	70.00	36	30.00	00	0.00	204	-
4.	Seed treatment	68	56.67	52	43.33	0	0.00	188	=
5.	Time of sowing	37	30.83	50	41.66	33	27.5	124	VIII
6.	Method of sowing	07	5.84	83	69.16	30	25.00	97	XII
7.	Irrigation	28	23.33	60	50.00	32	26.67	116	IX
8.	Weed management	61	50.83	59	49.17	00	0.00	181	V
9.	Fertilizer management	35	29.17	44	36.67	41	34.16	114	Х
10.	Insect management	80	66.67	32	26.67	8	6.67	192	
11.	Diseases management	68	56.67	49	40.83	3	205	185	IV



Fig-1 Training needs of potato growers

### Conclusion

The results of the study may be useful to the extension workers, who are involved in the process of planning the training programme and then disseminating the technologies through these programmes to the farmers, so that the specific learning could be made on the basis of the needs. The effective training strategies of potato production will improve the skills of growers to increase their income through production. Thus, it can be concluded that majority of the potato growers required training on recommended seed rate, insect management, seed treatment, disease management, weed management, selection of improved varieties, and time of sowing. One fourth (25%) of respondents expressed no need of training, while, very few (5.84%) expressed much need of training in the area. With reference to Irrigation, half of the respondents (50%) stated need of training on irrigation method. About one fourth, (26.67%) of respondents stated no need of training whereas 23.33 per cent of the respondents articulated much needed of training on irrigation method. In case of weed management, about half (50.83%) of potato growers stated much need of training, while 49.17 per cent of them stated need of training.

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### Abbreviations:

RVSKVV- Rajmata Vijya Raje Scindhia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya M.P- Madhya Pradesh; Ext. Edu- Extension Education

### Conflict of Interest: None declared

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