Original Research Article

CONSTRAINTS FACED BY BANANA GROWERS IN ADOPTION OF IPM

ABSTRACT

Integrated pest management (IPM), also known as Integrated Pest Control (IPC) is a broad-based approach that integrates practices for economic control of pests. Constraints mean hindrances or obstructions in the way of banana growers in adoption of integrated pest management practices. Keeping this in view, an attempt has been made to study constraints faced by banana growers of in adoption of IPM. The present study was conducted in Anand district of the Gujarat state. Total sample size for this research study was 100 banana growers adopting integrated pest management practices. Major constraints faced by farmers in adopting IPM were; lack of quality inputs for IPM in time, lack of training to the banana growers about IPM, high cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM and un-availability of technical guidance for IPM in time. The major suggestions given by the banana growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in the adoption of IPM were; training should be given to the farmers regarding IPM practices, timely supply of quality IPM inputs and proper technical guidance for IPM.

Key words : Constraints, IPM (Integrated Pest Management), banana growers

INTRODUCTION

Insect pests of banana can cause significant damage to fruits. Integrated pest management is a system approach to pest control which combines biological, cultural and other novel approaches with the judicious use of pesticides. Integrated pest management (IPM), also known as Integrated Pest Control (IPC) is a broad-based approach that integrates practices for economic control of pests.

Constraints means hindrances or obstructions in the way of banana growers in adoption of integrated pest management practices. Keeping this in view, an attempt has been made to study constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM.

OBJECTIVE

1. To study the constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM
2. To seek the suggestions to overcome the constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in Anand district of Gujarat state. The level of knowledge of banana growers about IPM was studied with the help of the developed test. Five villages having fairly good number of banana growers adopting integrated pest management practices were selected from each of the Anand and

Petlad taluka purposively. 10 banana growers adopting integrated pest management practices were randomly selected from each village. Thus, total sample size was 100 banana growers adopting integrated pest management practices.

Measurement of Constraints Faced by Banana Growers in Adoption of IPM

Based on discussion with farmers, extensional personnel and review of literature, a list of constraints was made. Moreover, open end questions were also included in the list for getting response regarding the constraints faced by the banana growers. The constraints faced in adopting IPM in banana cultivation were obtained from each respondent. To find out their degree of importance, respondents were asked to give their responses in three point continuum i.e. very important, important and not important. The score assigned was two, one and zero for very important, important and not important responses, respectively. Then, the mean score for each constraint was calculated for ranking them in terms of its importance.

Suggestions to Overcome the Constraints faced by the Banana Growers in Adoption of IPM

Based on discussion with farmers, extensional personnel and review of literature, a list of suggestions was made. Moreover, open end questions were also included in the list for getting response regarding the suggestions faced by the banana growers. Considering the constraints faced by the banana growers in adopting IPM in banana cultivation, they were asked to give their valuable suggestions. To know their degree of importance, respondents were asked to give their response in three point continuum viz., very important, important and not important, the scores assigned were two, one and zero, respectively. Then, the mean score for each suggestion was calculated for ranking them in terms of its importance.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CONSTRAINTS FACED BY BANANA GROWERS IN ADOPTION OF IPM

In the present study, some constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM in banana cultivation were also studied. The data in this regard are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM

n=100

No.	Constraints	Mean	Rank
1	Un-availability of technical guidance for IPM in time	0.80	IV
2	Lack of quality inputs for IPM in time	0.89	I
3	Lack of training to the banana growers about IPM	0.85	II
4	High cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM	0.84	III

5	High cost of tissue culture seedlings of resistant variety of banana	0.77	VI
6	Lack of financial support for adopting IPM practices in banana crop	0.73	VII
7	Inadequacy and high wage rate of skilled labours for IPM practices	0.78	V

It can be seen from the Table 1 that major constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM in descending order of rank were; lack of quality inputs for IPM in time (I), lack of training to the banana growers about IPM (II), high cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM (III), un-availability of technical guidance for IPM in time (IV), inadequacy and high wage rate of skilled labours for IPM practices (V), high cost of tissue culture seedlings of resistant variety of banana (VI), lack of financial support for adopting IPM practices (VII).

SUGGESTIONS TO OVERCOME THE CONSTRAINTS FACED BY BANANA GROWERS IN ADOPTION OF IPM

The Table 2 shows major suggestions given by the banana growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in the adoption of IPM in banana cultivation.

Table 2: Suggestions to overcome the constraints faced by banana growers in adoption of IPM

n=100

No.	Suggestions	Mean	Rank
1	Proper technical guidance for IPM should be given to farmers in time	0.86	III
2	Timely supply of quality IPM inputs	0.89	II
3	Training should be given to the farmers regarding IPM practices	0.91	I
4	Cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM should be minimized	0.84	IV
5	Tissue culture banana seedlings of resistant variety should be made available at low cost	0.82	V
6	Incentives should be provided to the farmers for adopting IPM practices in banana crop	0.81	VI

The result indicated that major suggestions given by the banana growers in descending order of rank were; training should be given to the farmers regarding IPM practices (I), timely supply of quality IPM inputs (II), proper technical guidance for IPM should be given to farmers in time (III), cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM should be minimized (IV), tissue culture banana

seedlings of resistant variety should be made available at low cost (V), incentives should be provided to the farmers for adopting IPM practices in banana crop (VI).

CONCLUSION

Results of the above study revealed that major constraints faced by banana growers in adopting IPM were lack of quality inputs for IPM in time, lack of training to the banana growers about IPM, high cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM, un-availability of technical guidance for IPM in time, inadequacy and high wage rate of skilled labours for IPM practices. Major suggestions given by the banana growers to overcome the constraints faced by them in adopting IPM were training regarding IPM practices, timely supply of quality IPM inputs, proper technical guidance for IPM in time and the reduction in cost of chemicals and spraying equipments for IPM.

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