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IMPACT OF FARMER'S EDUCATION ON ADOPTION OF DRIP IRRIGATION IN MALSHIRAS TAHSIL OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Education is the crux of social, economic, cultural and political development of human society. It is the vehicle of holistic development of man. Education may boost the aptitude to acquire the information about new technology. In the present day drip irrigation is most essential technological factor due to shortage of water resources. Drip method helps in achieving saving in irrigation water, increased water-use efficiency, decreased tillage requirement, higher quality products, increased crop yields and higher fertilizer-use efficiency. Both primary and secondary information was collected from different sources. Data regarded to educational level of farmers and adoptions of drip irrigation by farmers are based on the Primary sources used for the year of 2014. Study shows that out of the total farmers of Malshiras tahsil only 53 per cent farmers have adopted drip method of irrigation. It is also found that the positive effects of educational level of farmers on adoption of drip irrigation.

KEYWORDS :Educational level, Drip irrigation, Farmers, Correlation.

INTRODUCTION

"Education is a humanizing activity as it makes man more man". Education is the crux of social, economic, cultural and political development of human society. It is the vehicle of holistic development of man. The production of space into cultural landscape is an outcome of a more articulate man only because of education. Education may boost the aptitude to acquire the information about new technology. In the present day drip irrigation is most essential technological factor due to shortage of water resources. Drip method helps in achieving saving in irrigation water, increased water-use

efficiency, decreased tillage requirement, higher quality products, increased crop yields and higher fertilizer-use efficiency. It is clear that use of advanced, technique like drip irrigation has become a vital aspect of development programmed in irrigation water management. Today it is urgent need to find out problem related to adoption of drip irrigation method. Therefore attempt is made here to "Impact of farmer's Education on adoption of drip irrigation in Malshiras tahsil of Solapur district".

STUDY REGION:

For present study Malshiras tahsil of Solapur district is selected purposively. Malshiras tahsil is extends from 17º 36' North latitudes to 18º 01' North latitudes and 74º 42' East longitude to 75º 13' East longitudes. The total geographical area of Malshiras tahsil is 160801 km2 , Which is 11% of total geography area of Solapur district. The Population of Malshiras tahsil is 485645 (Censes 2011). There is 98260 hectare area under cropping in Malshiras tahsil. Out of which 28606 hectare (29.11%) area is irrigated. The principal source of irrigation in Malshiras tahsil is Bhatghar right bank canal and ujjani right bank canal. Temperature is high in summer season. The tahsil has hot and dry climate, with an average annual rainfall of 463.4 mm.

OBJECTIVE:

The main objectives of this paper are as following.
1)To study the educational level of farmers in Malshiras tahsil.
2)To examine the Impact of education of farmers on adoption of drip irrigation.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The study was conducted in the Malshiras tahsil of Solapur district in Maharashtra state. For the purpose of the study, both primary and secondary information was collected from different sources. Data regarded to educational level of farmers and adoptions of drip irrigation by farmers are based on the Primary sources used for the year of 2015. For which special questionnaires were designed and field survey has been made to obtain primary data. During the field survey, 10 villages were selected randomly. 10 farmers were selected from each village. The secondary data like cropped area, irrigated area and geographical information collected through Agriculture Department, District statistical Department of Solapur and socio-economic abstract of Solapur district in 2012-13. Educational levels are divided into six categories, like Uneducated, Primary, Middle, High Schooling, Higher Secondary and Higher Education.

To examine the impact of education on adoption of drip irrigation the Pearson's Coefficient of Correlation technique has been utilized. The degree of relationship by considering educational level of farmers as an independent variable 'X' and per cent of drip adopted farmers as dependent variable 'Y' is measured.

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF FARMERS

For the present investigation educational level of farmers is divided into six categories, like Uneducated, Primary (1st to 5thstd.), Middle (6th to 8th std.), High schooling (9th and 10th std.), Higher secondary (11th and 12th std.), Higher Education (UG and PG). Following table shows that educational level of farmers in Malshiras tahsil

Table No. 01

Educational level of farmers in Malshiras tahsil- 2015

Sr. No.	Educational Levels	Farmers (%)
1	Uneducated (1)	14
2	Primary (2)	15
3	Middle (3)	33
4	High Schooling (4)	19
5	Higher Secondary (5)	14
6	Higher Education. (6)	05
Total		100

Source: Fieldwork, 2015

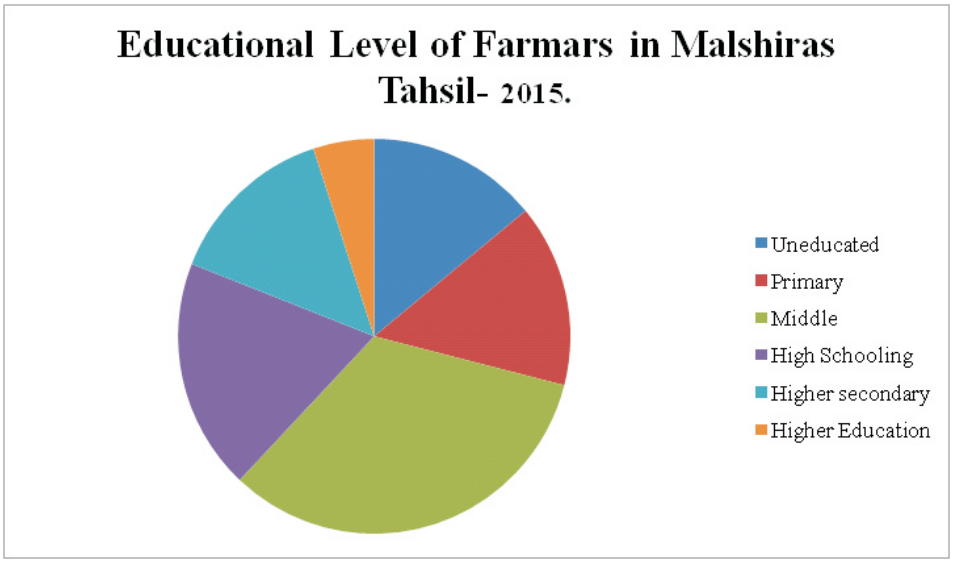

Fig .No. 01

Above table shows that, out of the total numbers of farmers of Malshiras tahsil, 14 per cent farmers are uneducated and 15 per cent farmers are primary level educated. It may be said that below one fifth farmers have just learn alphabets numerical and little simple arithmetic. The large number of farmers has middle level educated. It covers one third (33 Per cent) share of all farmers in Malshiras tahsil. Table also shows that 19 per cent farmers have high schooling level education. It is declines 14 per cent from middle level education. Only 10% farmers are higher secondary level educated. As compared to other level of education, the situation of higher education level educated farmers is very low. Only 5 per cent farmers have higher education level educated.

Educational level of Farmers and Adoption of Drip

Drip is very effective irrigation system in drought prone areas, like Malshiras tahsil. Here, there is an average 53 per cent farmers of Malshiras tahsil have adopted drip irrigation method in their farm. Following table shows that educational level of farmers and adaption of drip irrigation by them.

Table No- 02
Educational level of Farmers and Adoption of Drip Irrigation in Malshiras Tahsil-2015

Sr. No.	Educational Level of Farmers (X)	Drip irrigation Adopted Farmers (Y) (%)
1	Uneducated (1)	28.57
2	Primary (2)	40.00
3	Middle (3)	51.51
4	High Schooling (4)	63.15
5	Higher Secondary (5)	71.42
6	Higher Education (6)	80.00
07	Average	53

Source: Fieldwork, 2015

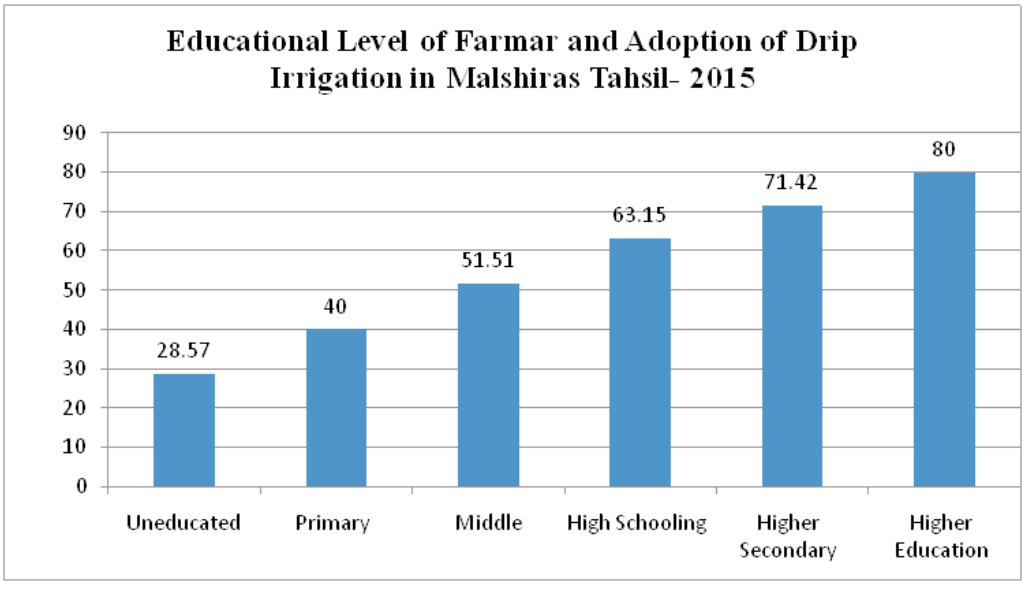

Fig. No. 02

Above table shows that 28.57 per cent uneducated farmers have adopted drip irrigation system. It is very low as compare to educated farmer. Out of the total primary and middle level educated farmers, 40 per cent primary level and 53.12 per cent middle level educated farmers have adopted drip irrigation. An adoption of drip irrigation by high schooling and higher secondary education level farmers are high. It is 63.15 per cent in high schooling and 71.42 per cent in higher secondary level educated farmers. Most of the higher education level educated farmers have adopted

drip irrigation on their farm. It is 80.00 percent. Here we can found that, there is good response to drip irrigation by higher education level educated farmers. Conclusion and suggestion:

From the above observation we can conclude that, the number of middle level educated farmer is high. It is about 32 per cent. The higher educated farmers are very low (5%) in the study region. This is simply because there are exceptionally higher drop-outs from education after middle schooling.

The positive relationship between the educational level of farmers (X) and adoption of drip irrigation by farmers (Y) has been observed in the Malshiras tahsil. The coefficient of Correlation in this regard is at r = + 0 .99. It indicates that there is a high degree positive relationship between the variables 'X' and 'Y'. Means higher educated farmers have great awareness about drip irrigation in the study region. The greater education of the more educated farmer has increased his ability to understand and evaluate the information on new products and processes. The empirical results suggest that, there is an urgent need to improve awareness about use, benefits and effectiveness of drip irrigation system among uneducated and less educated farmers in the study region.

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