

## RESEARCH NOTES :

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### Influence of Certain Extension Methods on the Adoption of Package of Practices for IR 8 Paddy

Innovations in agriculture are to be diffused to increase agricultural production. Extension workers are using very many methods to educate the farming community about the newer innovations. Previous studies conducted by Wilson (1931), Bhosale (1960), Potti (1960), Tripathi and Tripathi (1969) found extension methods like farm visits (individual contacts) demonstrations and group discussions were effective to make the farm men and women to accept better farm and home practices.

The study was taken up to find out the extension methods responsible to induce farmers to take up IR 8 paddy cultivation in Nedumangad National Extension Service Block of Trivandrum district. The improved practices like correct seed rate, seed treatment, timely transplantation, correct

spacing, use of recommended fertilizer and plant protection schedule were chosen for the study. The sample consisted of 120 farmers selected by adopting probable proportionate sampling technique. Four extension methods viz., individual contact, method demonstration, training camp and group discussion were taken up based on a preliminary study conducted among the extension personnel of the block. The required informations were collected by personal interview with a pretested structured questionnaire and results are given hereunder.

**Influence of extension methods over the adoption of the package of practices for IR 8 paddy:** The influence of the extension methods on the adoption of package of practices by the respondents is quantified in Table 1.

Table 1. Influence of extension methods

Package of practices	Total No. of persons adopted No.	Through individual contact %	Through method Demonstration %	Through training Camp %	Through group discussion %
Correct seed rate	111	94.5	10.8	63.1	49.5
Seed treatment	41	98.1	43.9	73.1	43.9
Timely transplanting	106	28.1	46.2	62.2	41.5
Correct spacing	91	93.4	46.1	56.4	40.6
Application of recommended fertilizers	66	98.4	53.0	75.7	54.5
Recommended plant protection schedule	114	98.2	55.3	66.7	48.2



Individual contact method was found to influence the adoption of all the package of practices to the maximum. Next to this, training camp conducted by the extension workers was found more influential in inducing the farmers to adopt the package of practices for IR 8 paddy. Method demonstration and group discussion methods were found more or less on par in their influence on the adoption of the practices except the adoption of correct seed rate.

**Number of package of practices adopted through different extension methods :** Individual contact was found to influence 50 farmers to adopt almost all the package of practices while training camp, group discussion and method demonstration could influence only 36, 25 and 15 farmers respectively.

Thus among the extension methods used by the extension workers in their action programme to diffuse innova-

Table 2. Number of farmers adopting 5-6 package of practices.

Individual contact	Training camp	Group discussion	Method demonstration
50	36	25	15

tions, individual contact was found to have maximum influence over the adoption of all the package of practices followed by organized training camps, group discussion and method demonstration.

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