

Good Agricultural Practices in Mango: Knowledge and Perception of Women Farmers

Sahu Ankita, Srivastava S. K., Jeeva J. C. and Mhatre C.S.

ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture
Bhubaneswar 751003, Odisha
E-mail: sahuankita29@gmail.com

Abstract—Mango is a highly profitable fruit crop. It has good prospects and scope in Eastern regions of India, however poor management practices renders the growers with lower profit from the orchards. With the implementation of Govt. schemes like Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture and MGNREGA, a no. of wastelands have been converted into mango plantation in Odisha. These plantation are mostly maintained by the women farmers, who play an active role in raising the saplings. However they lack technical knowledge and competency in following Good Agricultural Practices in mango. The study was conducted in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, where knowledge level of farmers and farm women (n= 55, respectively) on improved production technologies of mango crop was assessed with the help of semi-structured interview schedule. It was observed that knowledge index of men was better than female on each cultivation aspect. However in few areas such as water management (85.40), assessing the fruit maturity (94.00), method of harvesting (87.40) and grading of harvested fruits (80.67), women farmers scored good knowledge index. Such differential level of knowledge level can be attributed to the fact that male members of the household had better participation in formal capacity building programmes. Empowering women farmers with advanced crop production technologies can play a significant role in maintaining the productive life of the orchards. Thus ensuring enhanced profitability from plantation and reduced vulnerability in becoming old and senile.

Knowledge index of farmers and farm women in mango farming

S. No.	Management Practices	Women (n=55)	Men(n=55)
1	Planting density and Orchard layout	43.67	78.34
2	Improved mango cultivars	40.00	79.34
3	Training of young mango trees	37.67	57.00
4	Pruning of mango tress	34.00	77.67
5	Application of recommended dose of fertilizers	35.67	80.00
6	Micronutrient application	35.67	69.00
7	Use of flower inducing hormone	33.34	58.67
8	Water management	85.40	93.34
9	Pest and disease management	43.70	72.67
10	Intercropping	51.70	55.67
11	Fruit maturity	94.00	92.00
11	Method of harvesting	87.40	85.34
12	Desapping	40.67	54.00
13	Hot water treatment	33.34	44.34
14	Grading	80.67	78.34
15	Modern ripening technique	43.00	48.34
	Mean	51.24	70.25
	SD	21.90	15.36