

# IMPACT OF SHORT DURATION TRAINING PROGRAMME ON GAIN IN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HORTICULTURAL PRACTICES

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## ABSTRACT

The present investigation was carried out to find out the impact of short duration training programme on gain in knowledge about Horticultural practices in farmers of Banswara district of Rajasthan. A total of 50 respondents were selected. It was found that training was the most useful extension technique for gain in knowledge about Horticulture practices in respondents. It is further observed that the age and existing knowledge have negatively significant effect on gain in knowledge of trainees while the job experience, job satisfaction, training experience, training interest, training utility, training satisfaction and training duration were playing positively significant role in gain in knowledge.

## INTRODUCTION

Training is an integral part of any development activity. Inservice training aims at improving the professional competence of personnel engaged in all spheres of developmental organizations. It is thus, a process by which the desire knowledge, attitude, skills and ideas are inculcated, fostered and reinforced in an organism. It aims at improving the behaviour of the participants which would lead to better organizational efficiency and output (Lynton and Pareek, 1967.)

Knowledge gain is one of the important components of behavior which plays a significant role in the behaviour of an individual. Once knowledge is acquired through training, it produces changes in one's opinion/thinking process which would lead to further changes in attitude of the individual. Knowledge as a function or stage in the innovation decision process was recognized by Rogers and Shoemaker (1971). This exemplifies the importance of knowledge in decision and adoption process.

Training is vital and essential to induce motivation, create confidence and inculcate efficiency in individual. Training only can bridge the enormous gap between the remarkable production achieved by the Scientists that obtained by the foresters. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banswara has been organizing short duration training programme on Horticultural

practices from last several years for Farmers, farm women, rural youths and Govt. personnel, An attempt has been made to evaluate the training course with the following objectives:

1. To assess the gain in knowledge of trainees about horticultural practices.
2. To find out the relationship between independent variables and their gain in knowledge.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in the year 2007-08 at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banswara, The KVK is organizing institutional as well as non-institutional training for farmers, farm women and rural youths and also organizing inservice training for officers of State Department of Agriculture, Horticulture and Forest, Govt. of Rajasthan.

Five training programmes were being organised on "Horticultural aspects like Vegetable, fruits, flowers production technology" at the KVK, Banswara. Out of these training programmes, 10 participants from each training were selected randomly for this investigation. The total 50 participants were selected for collecting information. An interview schedule was devised with the participants who came to attend the training programmes.

Gain in knowledge of Farmer was the dependent variable. For measuring this variable, an index

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was developed. For each of the correct answer by the respondent to the question a score of one was assigned. The independent variables namely – Age (X1), Job Experience (X2), Job Satisfaction (X3), Training Experience (X4), Training Interest (X5), Training Utility (X6), Training Satisfaction (X7), Training Duration (X8) and Existing Knowledge (X9) were included for this study.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Gain in Knowledge with Respect to Horticulture and Extension Teaching Method:

In respect to find out gain in knowledge, knowledge test was administered before and after training programme. The difference between after knowledge score and before knowledge score of respondents, the paired ‘t’ test was applied for gain in knowledge in respect to horticultural training.

It is evident from Table-1 that knowledge before training was 27 per cent in horticultural aspect. Knowledge after training was 63 per cent in horticultural aspects. The actual gain in knowledge was found 36 per cent, which is statistically significant at 1 per cent level of significance. This might be because of the trainees had positive interest towards training. This findings is in line with the findings of Hanuman Lal and Mundra (1990).

**Table 1: Gain in knowledge with respect training on horticulture aspects**

Subject Score	Horticulture	
	Mean	%
Maximum score obtained	50	
Knowledge before training	13.5	27.0
Knowledge gap before training	-	73.0
Knowledge after training	31.5	63.00
Knowledge gap after training	-	37.0
Gap in knowledge	18.0	36
Standard Deviation	5.21	
‘t’ value	9.19**	

\*\* Significant at 1 per cent level of significance.

### Relationship between Personnel Characteristics of the Participants and their Gain in knowledge:

The relationship between the personnel characteristics of participants in the training and their

gain in knowledge was tested with the help of Pearson’s Correlation Coefficient (r). The results in this regard are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2: Relationship between personnel characteristics of the participants and their gain in knowledge**

S. No.	Independent Variables	Correlation ‘t’ values	Coefficient
X1	Age	-0.879	8.944**
X2	Job Experience	+0.778	6.029**
X3	Job Satisfaction	+0.775	6.045**
X4	Training Experience	+0.905	10.549**
X5	Training Interest	+0.734	5.351**
X6	Training Utility	+0.503	2.869**
X7	Training Satisfaction	+0.665	4.427**
X8	Training Duration	+0.551	3.227**
X9	Existing Knowledge	-0.507	2.912**

\*\*Significant at 1 per cent level of significance.

The relationship between the personal characteristics of the participants in the training namely, age (X1), job experience (X2), job satisfaction (X3), training experience (X4), training interest (X5), training utility (X6), training satisfaction (X7), training duration (X8) and existing knowledge (X9).

The relationship between age (X1), existing knowledge (X9) and their gain in knowledge was negatively significant at 1% level of significance which points out that the higher age group participants gained less knowledge. If participants is sound in existing knowledge, trainees will gain minimum knowledge.

The relationship between the other personal characteristics of participants namely – job experience (X2), job satisfaction (X3), training experience (X4), training interest (X5), training utility (X6), training satisfaction (X7) and training duration (X8) and their gain in knowledge was found to be significant positive correlation coefficient at 1 per cent level of significance. Hence, it may be inferred that these variables could be helpful in acquisition of knowledge about horticultural fractions.

## CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the "Training" was the most useful extension technique for transfer of technology for trainees. It was observed that the age and existing knowledge was negatively significant effect on gain in knowledge of trainees. It was further observed that the job experience, job satisfaction, training experience, training interest, training utility, training satisfaction, and training duration play a positive significant role in gain in knowledge.

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