

# KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF TRIBAL FARMERS ABOUT ORGANIC FARMING PRACTICES IN PADDY CULTIVATION

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**Abstract :** This study was carried in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh state. Kanker district has 7 blocks, out of which, 3 blocks namely Kanker, Narharpur and Antagarh, was selected purposively because the majority of tribal farmers are practicing organic farming in these blocks. From each block 40 tribal farmers were randomly selected hence a total 120 respondents were interviewed personally. The study aimed to know the knowledge level of the farmers regarding organic farming in paddy cultivation. The findings revealed that, around 60 per cent of respondents were having medium knowledge about organic farming. Among the selected characteristics nine characteristics viz. education, total number of family members involved in farming, social participation, number of training programme attended, extension contact, sources of information, cosmopolitaness, annual income and risk bearing capacity had positive and significant correlated with their knowledge about organic farming practices. Multiple regression analysis indicated that, the seventeen independent variables put together had contributed to 67.30 per cent ( $R^2=0.673$ ) variation in level of knowledge about organic farming practices in paddy.

**Keywords :** Knowledge level, Organic farming, Paddy cultivation, Tribal farmers

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