

## GAIN IN KNOWLEDGE OF FERTILIZERS RETAILERS THROUGH FIFTEEN DAYS TRAINING

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*Received-05.12.2020, Revised-26.12.2020*

**Abstract:** In view of recent advancement in the agricultural technologies and more and more involvement of Fertilizer retailers in agriculture, the role of Fertilizer retailers is not just to educate the Fertilizer retailers regarding agriculture technologies but they have to pay equal attention towards dissemination of agro-based technologies for the socio-economic upliftment of the rural families. For this, it is imperative that these functionaries should have through knowledge in agriculture and allied areas. Keeping this in view a 15 days training on agricultural technology for Fertilizer retailers was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barmer-II in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, Barmer Rajasthan.

**Keywords:** Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agriculture Technology, Fertilizers Retailers and Agriculture Department

### INTRODUCTION

The concept of Ministry of Agriculture and farmer welfare New Delhi was introduced in 2018 by providing flexible working environment with objective of integrating research, extension and all other stake holders at the district level to support. Earlier department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare mandated one year diploma of DAESI (Diploma in Agriculture Extension Service for Input Dealers Program) or B.Sc Agriculture degree for fertilizers and seed sellers but now it is not so. According to state Department of agriculture Rajasthan, the degree will not come in the way of people who want to open fertilizer and seeds store. If a person who is just 10th pass want to get a license for a fertilizer store, then they will get it easily. But for this the person will have to do 15 days training in Agriculture Department. According to new rules, like agricultural graduates, 10th pass can also get license to become fertilizer and seed seller. They will get license from the agriculture department but before that they will have to take 15 days training from the office of Krishi vigyan Kendra ,State agriculture department and Agriculture university. After this, they will be given with a certificate of having and on behalf of this certificate that can get licence provided from state as department of district. As the government has amendment these rules, it has also decided a separate course for training. Here proper information will be given about how to sell fertilizer and seed. To get the license of fertilizer and seed seller, it is mandatory for a normal applicant to be between 18 & 45 years old. The 30 - 35 youth will be trained in a batch. Applicants will be given preference on first come, first serve basis for getting training.

The farmer's needs and interest through an Integrated approach of strategic plan. Fertilizers retailers is a society of key stake holders involved in Agricultural activities for sustainable agricultural development in

the district. .Involvement of farmers can be achieved at the village level through farmer's interest group .Fertilizers retailers are the brand Abister of the District Implementation of agriculture development programmes. There is a need of a person who acts as extension worker in a village, so a farmer's Friend from the same village is selected under s for this purpose through the. Fertilizers retailers will serve as a vital link between extension system and farmers at village level . The Fertilizers retailers will be available in the village to advice on agriculture and allied activities. The Fertilizers retailers will mobilize farmers groups and facilitate dissemination of information to such groups, individual farmers and farm women directly through one to one interaction individually or in groups and also by accessing information/services on behalf of farmers as per need through Common service Centres. The responsibility to train these Fertilizers retailers on various aspects of agriculture was given to the Krishi Vigyan Kendra of the District. One of the main tasks of Krishi Vigyan Kendra is to provide and improve the level of knowledge of trainees about the improved farm practices, because knowledge is cognitive of individuals mind and plays an important role in convert as well as overt behaviour and individual with a greater knowledge of technical nature of improved practices would lead to high adoption possibly because knowledge is not inert. Once knowledge is acquired and retained, it undergoes and produces changes in the thinking process and mental alchemy. This study was, therefore, conducted to ascertain the prevailing level of awareness knowledge of Fertilizers retailers training programme.

### METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in the entire Barmer district of Rajasthan. The responded was selected Fertilizers Retailers from three on campus

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training programme 15 days khudra urverk prakeshan karikerm programme at Krishi vigyan Kendra Year 2019. The selection was randomly selected 100 Fertilizers Retailers through the Random sampling methods. The Krishi Vigyan Kendras for getting training on different aspects of seed and fertilizers. These 100 are trained on various aspects of Fertilizer and seeds in training programme at KVK for the period of 15 days. A knowledge test was developed to ascertain the knowledge of

Fertilizers Retailers on various aspects of agriculture. The gain in knowledge was operational zed as difference between the knowledge was operational zed as difference between the knowledge regarding various aspects of agriculture as livelihood before and after the exposure of trainings. Knowledge scores were calculated for both the test separately. The difference between the two scores *i.e.* before the training and after the training was considered as gain in knowledge.

**Table 1.** Percent gain in knowledge of different subject through training n=100

Sr. No.	Subjects	Before training average score	After training average score	Gain in knowledge (y-x)	Per cent gain in Knowledge
1	Essential nutrient deficiency -impact and symptoms.	29.45	56.43	26.98	91.61
2	Impact of FYM green manures.	31.67	52.42	20.75	65.52
3	Methods and preparation of manures and compost.	31.63	51.05	19.42	61.40
4	Handling and preparation of bio-fertilizers.	21.46	41.97	20.51	95.57
5	Micro nutrient fertilizers and their application.	36.23	58.34	22.11	61.03
6	Preparation of fertilizers solution for foliar spray.	29.45	55.76	26.31	89.34
7	soil health card	25.63	48.56	22.93	89.47

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The ultimate objective of training was that each Fertilizers Retailers must gain knowledge of the subjects which were taught to them. Table 1 depicts the average knowledge score of the trainees before and after the training, gain in knowledge and average per cent gain in knowledge. Data in Table 1 show that there was significant impact of the training on the knowledge of the trainees. The difference between the knowledge of the trainees before and after receiving training was markedly high. Which may be supported by value which was significant of probability. While going into the details it was noted that gain in knowledge of the trainees was ranging from 61.03 to 95.57 per cent and average gain was 69.24 per cent. This wider variation in the gain in knowledge shows that most of Fertilizers Retailers gained more knowledge whereas, few gained very little knowledge. One of the obvious reasons for this

difference might be because of lack of homogeneity among the trainees. Almost similar results were reported by Aiswal *et al.* (2008), Bhati *et al.* (2012), Dubey *et al.* (2008), Prakash, De (2008), Pagriya (2015). And Victor. L.D (2019).

## CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above findings it could be concluded that the trainings course was effective in terms of increasing the existing knowledge of the Fertilizers Retailers about different agricultural aspects about seeds and fertilizers which would certainly help them in dissemination of agricultural information among the Farmers community.

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