

Yield gap analysis and impact assessment of Turmeric in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh, India

Abstract

The north eastern region of India having good area under spices viz. turmeric, ginger etc. But the productivity is too low due to adoption of old varieties, as well as non-recommended practices followed by farmers. In this context, Megha Turmeric-1 variety of turmeric was demonstrated under front line demonstration (FLD) programme during 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Tirap, Arunachal Pradesh. The average FLD yield was 218 & 224 q/ha was recorded as compared to 164 & 179 q/ha under farmers practices. The Technology gap was 32 & 26 q/ha, extension gap was 54 & 45 q/ha and technology index was 13 & 10 respectively. The net income under FLD plot was higher over farmers practice during both years of study (Rs, 290000 & 300000 vs. 210000 & 214000). Similarly, the B:C ratio was also better than farmers practice (2.45 & 2.02 vs. 1.77 & 1.76). Being a very low technology index, it assumes that turmeric production can be enhanced by dissemination of improved technologies at farmer's field.

Keywords: Improved technology, Frontline demonstration, Megha turmeric 1, Yield gap.

Introduction

Turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) is popular as the king of spices grown by the farmers of Arunachal Pradesh in their kitchen garden. The crop has the good potentiality to enhance the farm income as well as farmer's livelihoodness in Arunachal state as well country.

It thrives in warm, humid climates with temperatures between 20 and 30 degrees Celsius with an ideal annual rainfall of 1500 millimetres. Many soil types, including rich loamy soils with natural drainage and irrigation capabilities, red soils, light black loams, clay loams, and rich loamy soils, are suitable for growing turmeric (Kaur et al., 2017).

Although the rhizomes are composed of 69.4% carbohydrates, 5.1% fat, 6.3% protein, 3.5% minerals, 5.0% volatile oil, and 7.9–10.4% oleoresin, curcumin or diferuloylmethane (2.5–6.0%), which is composed of curcumin I, or curcumin (94%), curcumin II, or demethoxycurcumin (6%) and curcumin III, or bis-demethoxycurcumin (0.3%), is what gives the rhizomes their yellow color (Raghuraja, 2016).

Turmeric has a wide range of culinary, medicinal, and cosmetic applications. According to Kaur et al. (2019), it has antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, blood-purifying, stomachic tonic, and anti-parasitic properties (Soibam et al. 2021).

It is also utilized in the production of anti-cancer drugs and as an antiseptic. Rhizome juice in its raw form is anti-parasitic and used to treat a variety of skin conditions (Reddy, 2010).

The tribal farmers in the Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh, who grow turmeric traditionally without access to improved scientific knowledge on the variety, agronomic practices, optimal nutrient management module, and quality planting material free of insect, pest, and disease infestation, could benefit greatly economically from this crop.

Turmeric's average production in this region is poor (160–170 q/ha, Table 1) due to a number of biotic and abiotic factors, two of which are the inadequate application of plant protection methods against pests and diseases and the cultivation of indigenous, inferior varieties. As a result, an effort was made to raise the region's low productivity by using site-specific technologies on turmeric, providing training, and holding demonstrations.

Through clonal selection, the high-yielding variety Megha Turmeric-1 was produced at the ICAR (Research Complex) for the NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya. It is also suitable to the conditions of Arunachal Pradesh, with a crop length of 300–315 and an average production potential of 268 q/ha. 16.37% dry matter, 6.8% curcumin, and 5.5% essential oil are present in this cultivar. According to Chandra et al. (2005), it has a good tolerance to the diseases leaf spot (*Colletotrichum capsici*) and leaf blotch (*Taphrina maculans*).

Consequently, there is a lot of room to grow turmeric's productivity. According to Manan et al (2019), farmers must apply 25% more phosphatic fertilizer than is recommended and employ mulching material at a rate of 6 t/ha in sandy soils with low NPK levels in order to maximize the rhizome yield of turmeric.

Thus, a frontlinedemonstrationonnutrientmanagementinturmeric(MeghaTurmeric-1 variety)wasdemonstrated in various pockets of Tirap's districtof Arunachal Pradeshforthetwoyears.

MATERIALSANDMETHODS

Before conducting of demonstration, KVK Tirap conducted a field Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Tirap conducted a field level survey to know the reality, farmer's practice's, local yield, insect- pest attack problems etc. in turmeric crop. As per the survey results, yield of farmer's practices was low due to non - adopting of scientific know-how.

The Front line demonstrations (FLDs) were carried out on 2 ha & 3 ha during 2021 and 2022 respectively. The demonstration plot size of farmers was 0.20 ha. The total 10 & 15 numbers (during both years) of demonstration carried out during the study.

The Chasa, Noksa, Dadam, Noitang and Makat villages under different circles of Tirap district was selected under FLD programme.

For conducting FLDs, selection of farmers, layout of demonstration, farmers' participation etc. were followed as suggested by Choudhary (1999). The required inputs were supplied and regular visits to the demonstration fields by the KVK scientists ensured with proper guidance to the farmers. The recommended practices included treatment of rhizomes with Ridomil (2.5 g/l) for 40 min before sowing as prophylactic measure for rhizome rot disease, seed (rhizome) @ 2500 kg/ha were sown @ 60 cm x 25 cm. Application of FYM @ 20t, N:P:K @ 30:50:60 kg/ha (Rinku *et al.* 2020), intercultural operations and application of 1% Bordeaux mixture at 15 days interval against leaf spot disease. Field days and group meetings were also conducted to provide the opportunities for other farmers of the same village as well as neighboring villages witness the benefits of demonstrated technologies. The data output was collected from both FLD plots as well as control plots and cost of cultivation, net income and benefit.

Table 1: Improved practices vs farmer's practices of Turmeric

Particular	Technological intervention	Existing practices	Gap
Variety	Megha Turmeric 1	Very Old variety	Full gap
Seed rate	2500 kg/ha	3500 kg /ha	Full gap
Rhizome treatment	Treated	Not treated	Full gap
Sowing method	Line sowing	Line sowing	Partial gap
Spacing	60 x 25 cm with 6 cm depth of sowing	45 x 20 cm with 8 cm depth of sowing	Partial gap
Application of recommended dose of manure	20 t/ha	Nil/without recommendation	Full gap
Application of Bio fertilizer	Soil application of Azospirillum & PSB @ 2 kg/ha mix with FYM	No application	Full gap
Drenching	drenching of <i>Trichoderma viride</i> at 5 g/liter	Not applied	Full gap

Weed management	Done at 30, 60 and 90 days after planting	Not common	Full gap
Spraying of Biopesticide	Neem oil @ 5ml/litre of water	Not sprayed	Full gap
Harvesting	Manual	Manual	No Gap

Table 2 :Production and other extension parameters of Turmeric

Year	Area	Variety	No of Demos.	Potential Yield	Average Yield (q/ha)		% increase over Check	Technology gap (q/ha)	Extension gap (q/ha)	Technology index (%)
					D	C				
2021-22	2	Megha Turmeric 1	10	250	218	164	32	32	54	13
2022-23	3	Megha Turmeric 1	15	250	224	179	25	26	45	10

Where D stands for Demonstration and C stands for Check

Table 3 : Economics of Turmeric cultivation

Year	Yield(q/ha)		Cost of Cultivation (Rs/ha)		Gross Return (Rs/ha)		Net Return (Rs/ha)		Benefit Cost ratio B:CRatio	
	D	F	D	F	D	F	D	F	D	F
2021-22	218	164	146000	118000	436000	328000	290000	210000	2.45	1.77
2022-23	224	179	148000	121000	448000	358000	300000	214000	2.02	1.76

Where D stands for Demonstration and C stands for Check

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is clear from table 2 that demonstration plots of Megha turmeric 1 was performed better than check. The average yield of demo. Plots was 218 q/ha and 224 q/ha as compared to 164 & 179 q/ha from farmers practice. The demo yield was 32 % & 25 % & higher over farmers practices which proved that demonstrated technology was economic viable. This is the combined effect of use of high yielding variety,

timely sowing, use of manure and fertilizers, application of biofertilizers, biopesticides etc. (Chandra et al., 2005, Kaur *et al.* 2019, Barua, 2015).

The gap between potential yield and demonstration yield is known as technology gap (Mishra *et al.*, 2014). Here this gap was very minimum (32 q/ha & 25 q/ha respectively, Table 2). During the second-year technology gap was lesser than first year; which means the technology was impacted very positively at farmer's field. Though; there was full gap between variety used by farmers as well as FLD.

There was also full gap for seed treatment, weed management, nutrient management etc. which caused lower yield under farmers practices. two systems (Raghuraja, 2016). The variation in technology gap may be attributed to dissimilarity in the soil fertility status, agricultural practices and local climatic situation (Reddy, 2010).

The gap between demonstration plot and farmers practices is called extension gap (Mishra *et al.*, 2014). The first year's extension gap was 54 q/ha which was minimized during second's year of demonstration as 45 q/ha. This proved that Improved variety of turmeric- Megha turmeric-1 was viable at farmer's field (Rajhansa *et al.* 2019).

It is the worth mentioning that targeted and precise extension methodologies can serve in better way for the welfare of farming community which can teach them, encourage them for better farm out. The new technologies will eventually lead to the farmers to discontinue the old technology and to adopt new technology (Rao, 2017 and Manan *et al.* 2019).

The average technology index during first year was 13 while 10 during second's year of study. The lower technology index mean technology is more feasible at farmer's field. This was only due to application of improved variety with full package of practices. This finding is also in confirmation of Rao *et al.* 2017 and Ahuja, 2020.

The Cost of cultivation during the first year of study was Rs. 146,000 per ha and Rs. 148,000 per ha during second years of study under FLD while Rs. 118000 per & 121000 per ha under farmer's practice. The cost of cultivation includes cost of field preparation, seeds, labor, fertilizers, biopesticides etc. Yashashwini (2013). The gross return was Rs. 436000 & 448000 per ha under FLD as compared Rs 328000 & 358000 under farmer's field. The net return was higher under FLD plots as compared farmers practices (Rs. 290000 & 300000 as compared 210000 & 214000). The benefit cost ratio is the pivotal point in any farming. The FLD proved its economic viability over farmers practices. The new variety with full package of practices again proved its superiority over check (2.45 &

2.02 as compared 1.77 & 1.76). Similar finding also reported by Mishra *et al.*(2014).

The increased grain production observed under better technology as compared to farmers' practices may be the cause of the higher B:C ratio in improved intervention technology. Similar financial gains from the use of better technological interventions were also noted by Thakur *et al.* (2019) and Kaur *et al.* (2017).

CONCLUSION

The improved variety of turmeric- Megha turmeric 1 performed well with full package of practices; under supervision of KVK experts as compared to farmer's practice. It was concluded that FLDs on improved variety of turmeric coupled with other practices and need based plant protection measures significantly increased the yield. Higher net return and benefit cost ratio were noticed in demonstration plots compared to farmer's practice. The technology is suitable for enhancing the productivity of turmeric crop and expansion of area under this crop. The use of new production technologies will substantially augment the income as well as the livelihood of local population.

Disclaimer (Artificial intelligence)

Option 1:

Author(s) hereby declare that NO generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, COPILOT, etc) and text-to-image generators have been used during writing or editing of manuscripts.

Option 2:

Author(s) hereby declare that generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models, etc have been used during writing or editing of manuscripts. This explanation will include the name, version, model, and source of the generative AI technology and as well as all input prompts provided to the generative AI technology

Details of the AI usage are given below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

REFERENCES

- Ahuja, S., Singh, O. and Makkar, G.S. 2020. Frontline Demonstrations of Capsicum, Turmeric, Garlic and Chilli in District Rupnagar in Sub-mountainous Zone of Punjab. *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences*, **9**(7):3690- 3696.
- Baruah U and Tripathy A.K (2015). Impact of frontline demonstration on yield enhancement of turmeric. *Int J Farm Sci* **4**(4) : 235-239.
- Chandra R, Yadav D S, Rai N and Sarma P (2005). Megha Turmeric 1: A new turmeric for Meghalaya. *Indian Hort* **50**(2): 18.
- Kaur, J., Singh, V., Aulakh, G.S. and Raina, D. 2019. Assessment of frontline demonstrations on chickpea in Ferozepur district of Punjab. *Journal of Food Legumes*, **32**(1):49-52.
- Kaur, S., Kaur, T. and Bhullar, M.S. 2017. Control of mixed weed flora in wheat with sequential application of pre and post-emergence herbicides. *Indian Journal of Weed Science*, **49**(1):29-32.
- Manan Jatinder, Sharma Mand Kaur Amandeep (2019). Outcome of mulching and phosphatic fertilizer on germination and yield of turmeric. *JKrishi Vigyan* **7**(2) : 273-275.
- Misra, P.K., Singh, P.N., Singh, S.N. and Pradeep, K. 2014. Adoption extent and horizontal spread of tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.) cultivation through frontline demonstration in eastern Uttar Pradesh of India. *European Journal of Biotechnology and Bioscience*, **1**(6):40-44.
- Rajhansa, K.C., Rajpoot, R.S., Harishankar, Kumar, V., Singh, K. and Tekam, D.S. 2019. Impact of front-line demonstration on yield enhancement of turmeric through drip and fertigation in tribal belt of Koradistrict, Chhattisgarh. *International Journal of Agriculture Sciences*, **11**(18):9096-9097.
- Rao, V.G., Srinivas, A., Rao, B.B. and Reddy, R.V.S.K. 2017. Impact of frontline demonstration on yield enhancement of turmeric variety selam. *Trends in Biosciences*, **10**(46):9353-9354.
- Samui SK, Mitra S, Roy DK, Mandal AK and Saha D (2000). Evaluation of front line demonstration on groundnut. *J Indian Soc Coastal Agric Res* **18**: 180-183.

Yashashwini, M.A. 2013. Effectiveness of
frontlinedemonstrationsofkrishivigyanakendraonfldfarmersofmandyadistrict.M.Sc.(Agricul
ture)ThesisinAgriculturalExtension to the University of
AgriculturalSciences,Bengaluru,Karnatak.

UNDER PEER REVIEW