

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJAEES_128555
Title of the Manuscript:	Impact assessment of the KVK cluster frontline demonstrations on productivity of Mustard crop: A Study in Jammu Region of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K).
Type of the Article	

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PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript offers valuable insights into the impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) cluster frontline demonstrations (FLDs) on the productivity of mustard crops in the Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir. By evaluating the adoption of advanced agricultural practices among farmers and their resulting increase in mustard yields, the study contributes to the understanding of how extension services can enhance agricultural productivity in resource-limited areas. The findings are significant for policymakers, agricultural agencies, and researchers working on agricultural innovation adoption, as they highlight the practical benefits of integrating modern farming technologies with traditional practices. This research can also serve as a model for similar interventions in other regions, promoting sustainable farming practices and improving farmer livelihoods.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The title of the article, "Impact assessment of the KVK cluster frontline demonstrations on productivity of Mustard crop: A Study in Jammu Region of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)," is generally suitable as it clearly indicates the focus of the study on assessing the impact of KVK frontline demonstrations on mustard crop productivity in the Jammu region. However, to make the title more concise and engaging, an alternative suggestion could be: "Impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Frontline Demonstrations on Mustard Productivity in Jammu Region, J&K" This revised title maintains the essential elements of the original while being more direct and streamlined.	

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<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>The abstract of the article is generally comprehensive as it provides an overview of the study's objectives, methods, results, and key findings. However, a few improvements can be made to enhance its clarity and conciseness:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity in Key Findings: The abstract mentions a significant increase in productivity but does not specify the percentage increase. Including this detail could make the impact more tangible for readers. Suggested revision: "The average productivity for beneficiaries increased by approximately 40% from 8.76 quintals to 12.25 quintals after FLDs." Further Detail on Changes: The abstract highlights changes in practices, such as reduced thinning, lower fertilizer use, and increased seed rates. It would be helpful to briefly mention the reasons for these changes or how they impacted the results, as these factors are central to the study. Suggested revision: "Key changes included reduced thinning, optimized fertilizer application, and improved seed management, contributing to higher yields and enhanced crop management." Minor Repetitions: Some points in the abstract, such as "improved cultivation methods," "superior seed varieties," and "better resource management," are slightly repetitive. You could condense these to avoid redundancy. Suggested revision: "The study reveals a significant increase in mustard yields among participants due to the adoption of improved cultivation methods, better seed varieties, and efficient resource management." 	
<p>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</p>	<p>Based on the content of the manuscript, it appears to be scientifically correct, with clear methodology, appropriate data analysis, and logical conclusions. The study employs an ex-post facto research design and a multistage random sampling technique, which are standard and valid approaches for this type of agricultural research. The use of statistical tests (such as t-tests and z-tests) to determine the significance of the results is appropriate, and the data analysis seems robust in comparing the productivity and adoption rates between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.</p> <p>Additionally, the manuscript appropriately discusses the role of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in promoting agricultural innovations and how these efforts translate into increased mustard productivity. The adoption of improved varieties, crop management practices, and resource utilization by beneficiaries are well-explained, aligning with agricultural extension literature.</p> <p>However, a few points could be more explicitly discussed to strengthen the scientific rigor:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Data Interpretation: The manuscript mentions changes in practices, such as reduced thinning, lower fertilizer use, and increased seed rates. While these are important findings, the reasons behind these changes could be explained in more detail, providing a deeper understanding of the mechanisms at play. Statistical Significance of Sale Prices: The manuscript mentions that there was no significant difference in average sale prices between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. It could be helpful to provide further discussion on why the increase in sale prices was not statistically significant, even though it showed an upward trend. Impact of External Factors: While the study attributes productivity improvements to the FLDs, other external factors like weather conditions, market accessibility, or government policies could be acknowledged or briefly discussed, as they might have influenced the results. <p>Overall, the manuscript is scientifically sound, but some additional explanations could enhance the depth of the analysis.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>The references in the manuscript appear to be sufficient in terms of providing a historical and foundational context for the study, particularly in relation to oilseed production, the role of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and agricultural extension practices. The inclusion of studies on the impact of frontline demonstrations (FLDs) and adoption of improved agricultural practices in mustard cultivation is also appropriate.</p>	

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	<p>However, a few points could be considered for improving the references section:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recentness: While several references are relatively recent (e.g., from 2015 to 2021), some are dated (e.g., from 2003 or 2012). It would be beneficial to include more recent studies from the last 3-5 years, particularly regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern agronomic practices in mustard cultivation. Latest studies on the impact of agricultural extension services and FLDs in different regions. Recent policy or market changes in Jammu and Kashmir that may influence mustard cultivation. Regional Focus: The study focuses on the Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir. Including more region-specific references could enhance the relevance of the manuscript. Research conducted specifically in the Jammu and Kashmir region or similar temperate and subtropical climates might offer valuable insights into regional agricultural practices, challenges, and innovations. Studies on Extension Services: There could be a greater emphasis on more recent studies evaluating the effectiveness of KVKs and FLD programs, particularly in terms of sustainability, long-term adoption rates, and socio-economic impacts on farmers. This would help contextualize the impact of FLDs within the broader landscape of agricultural extension. Comparative Studies: References comparing the impact of FLDs in mustard cultivation with other crops could help provide a broader understanding of the effectiveness of these demonstrations in different contexts. <p>Suggestions for Additional References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Studies on the socio-economic impact of FLD programs on farmers' livelihoods in similar regions (e.g., Punjab, Haryana, or Uttar Pradesh). Recent research on the adoption of mustard production technologies in India. Recent government reports or policy documents on mustard cultivation and oilseed production in Jammu and Kashmir. By incorporating more recent and region-specific references, the manuscript can provide a more current and comprehensive perspective on the impact of FLDs on mustard cultivation. 	
<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The overall language quality of the manuscript is fairly good, but there are a few areas that could be improved for clarity and precision in scholarly communication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sentence Structure: Some sentences are overly long and could be broken into shorter, clearer statements. For example, the sentence "The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) cluster frontline demonstrations (FLDs) are essential in encouraging farmers to adopt advanced agricultural practices by showcasing proven technologies in real field conditions" could be simplified to improve readability. Consistency in Terminology: Terms like "FLDs" and "beneficiaries" are used frequently. Ensure consistency in their usage and provide clear definitions early on in the manuscript. For instance, "Frontline Demonstration (FLD)" could be introduced fully in the first mention, and then consistently abbreviated thereafter. Use of Tenses: Ensure consistent use of past and present tenses throughout the manuscript. For instance, in some sections, the present tense is used to describe past events, which may cause confusion. Clarity in Results: Some of the results sections could benefit from clearer explanations, particularly when discussing statistical significance. The use of simpler language to describe the results would enhance understanding for readers from diverse backgrounds. <p>Overall, the manuscript is understandable, but revising the sentence structure, improving consistency, and ensuring clarity would enhance its suitability for scholarly communication.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>The manuscript presents a valuable study on the impact of Krishi Vigyan Kendra's frontline demonstrations on mustard crop productivity. The research methodology is sound, and the results provide useful insights for improving agricultural practices in Jammu and Kashmir. However, some sections could benefit from clearer language and better organization. Overall, the manuscript is a good contribution to the field of agricultural extension and crop productivity.</p>	

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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

Reviewer Details:

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