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FARMER'S ATTENTIVENESS TO IPM TECHNOLOGY IN MAJOR FIELD CROPS

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ABSTRACT: Survey was conducted during 2014 and 2015 to find out consciousness of farmers' about integrated Pest Management technology used in soybean, wheat and chickpea of Vidisha district, Madhya Pradesh. The information was collected on percent consciousness of technology. The interview of farmers was noticed in a proforma specially developed for this study. Farmers have conducted regular surveys of their fields *i.e.* 71% in soybean, 68% in wheat and 72% in chickpea. In soybean 89%, 85% wheat and 18% chickpea growers have cultivated recommended varieties. In case of soybean 24% farmers have identified major insect pest like girdle beetle, semiloopers and whitefly, in wheat 4% farmers have identified major insect pest like termite, root aphid, stem borer and army worm and in chickpea 84% farmers identified major insect pest *i.e.* pod borer, cut worm and aphid. Less than 5% farmers could identify natural enemies of major insect pest of major field crops. Respondents are almost aware about rest of the tool of IPM in soybean, wheat and chickpea.

Keywords: *IPM, aware, unaware, soybean, chickpea, wheat*

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After introduction of chemical insecticides farmers have become dependent on that to control insect pest. Farmers felt that all insect pests are detrimental and insecticides besides being convenient to use effectively control them, the injudicious use of insecticides has lead to problems of insecticides resistance, resurgence and contamination of different component of environment. Integrated pest control, is a pest management system that, in the context of associated environment and population dynamics of the pest species, utilizes all suitable techniques and methods in as compatible a manner as possible and maintain pest population as levels below those causing economic injury (FAO, 1967).

Therefore, there is an urgent need to achieving sustainable food production through the use of eco-friendly sustainable pest management techniques (Dhaliwal and Arora, 2006). Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a decision support system for the section and use of pest control tactics, singly or harmoniously coordinated into a management strategy, based on cost/benefit analysis that take into account the interests of and impacts on producers, society and the environment (Kogan,1998). Wheat, Chickpea and Soybean are the three important crops of Indian and Madhya Pradesh. The losses in yield due to insect pests have been estimated as 26-29 per cent in wheat at global level. In India, the losses due to insect pest are 5 per cent (Dhaliwal et.al. 2010). The world wide crop losses due to biotic stresses are reported to the tune of 26.4% in soybean (Oerke, 2006) and these losses are on increases as the crop area increases with multiple cropping systems that favoures growth of biotic stress throughout the year (Gujar 2014). Yield losses to the tune of 27 per cent can be avoided (Sharma and Shukla 1997).Further it was reconfirmed that the crop losses due to biotic stress amount to 26.4% in Soybean (Oerke 2006) and are on increases as the crop area with multiple cropping systems. In India, Dhaliwal et.al. (2010) reported that losses due to insect pest alone in oilseeds other than rapeseed-mustard and groundnut (which primarily includes soybean) of Rs.35, 851 millions, which is about 2/3rd of soybean oil import during 2013. Although IPM technology promotes ecologically sound, economically viable and socially acceptable strategy as an alternative approach to chemical pest management strategy, the judicious use of insecticides/ pesticides is the most dominant component of IPM (Dhawan, 2000). The adoption of minimal use of pesticides in managing insect pest by farmers may trim down the use of pesticides and their adverse impact. Although success of IPM has been accepted worldwide and has been supported by classical examples of IPM in economically important crops like cotton, citrus,