

## Seeds of hope

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### Introduction

In Siddharthnagar chickpea area is increasing day by day. To meet the increasing demand of pulses, chickpea seed production programme was taken up by KVK Sohna, Siddharthnagar during 2010-11 with the help of Seed production Programme of NDUAT Kumarganj, Faizabad. Chickpea variety PG-186 grown at KVK farm in 2 ha area under late sown condition and produced 29 quintal breeder seed. Farmers visited the chickpea field and got impressed with the performance of crop in late sown condition. They have requested for seed. KVK conducted frontline demonstration on chickpea during 2011-12 in 5-hectare area using Var. Pant G-186 under late sown condition. Farmers achieved average yield of 14.9, 16.4, 16.68 q/ha seed yield during 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively. Major achievement was that area under chickpea variety PG-186 had increased from 5 hectare to 224 ha within 3 years.

Rice – wheat is the dominant cropping system of Siddharthnagar district occupying about 90 percent area of the total sown area producing ---q/ha rice and 35 q/ha wheat yield but pulse production in the district is very low resulted low availability of protein in the diet of common men. Major reason of low production and productivity is most of the cultivated area affected by flood during rainy season hence there is less scope of kharif pulses and farmers generally like to grow long duration rice variety BPT-5204 or MTU-7029 which delayed the sowing of rabi pulses. Farmers of block Bhanvapour, Etwa, Mithval and Badhni came at KVK and told that their late sown wheat suffers due to terminal heat stress resulted poor wheat yield as well as very low net return. KVK Incharge Dr. D.P. Singh and Dr. S.K. Mishra advised them to visit KVK farm and see the late sown chickpea crop. Farmers were very impressed with the performance of chickpea late sown variety Pant G-186 grown at KVK farm. Farmers decided to grow chickpea instead of wheat in next season and they have demanded the seed

of variety PG-186. KVK Sohna had conducted a FLD in hectare area with 18 farmers on chickpea during 2011-12 and a training programme on improved production technique of chickpea. KVK gave them seed of PG-186 under FLD with the condition that they will produce seed (T/L) and provide to the needy farmers in next year.

Farmers harvested an average yield of 14.9 q/ha with a net return of Rs. 29300/ha which was higher than the late sown wheat. Seeing the performance of chickpea variety sown in November last nearby farmers were very impressed and adopted the variety, resulted during 2012-13 area under this variety increased upto 71 hectare and number of farmers increased from 18 to 539. This year average yield of farmers was 16.4 q/ha. Area under this variety in the 4 blocks of Siddharthnagar increasing rapidly and recorded 224 hectares during 2013-14 with an average yield of 16.68q/ha.

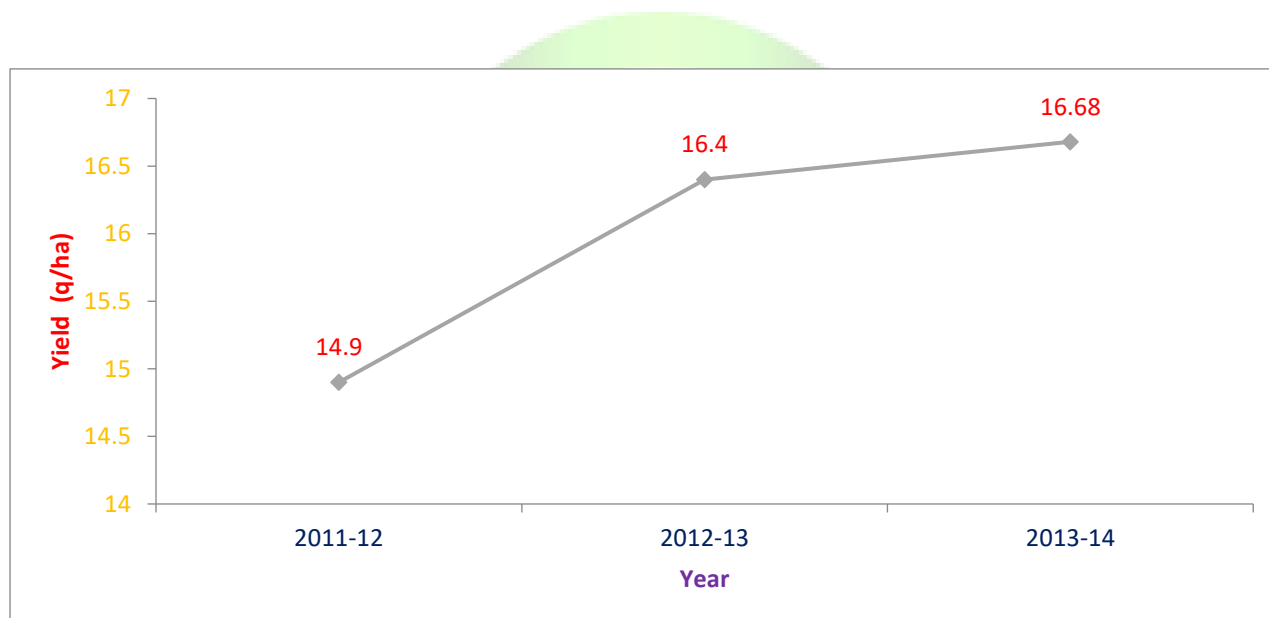


Fig-1 Trend of increase in yield of Var. PG-186

Jukhai Prasad Maurya of village Manoharpur block growing chickpea var.PG-186 told that he had left the cultivation gram during 2006-7 due to low yield and heavy infestation of pod borer. KVK gave me seed of this variety during 2011-12 under FLD programme I had harvested 14.89 q/ha seed yield with a net return of Rs. 28470/ha. Which was higher than the wheat and pod borer infestation was controlled by the insecticide recommended by KVK scientist. He also told that now a day's field pea,

tomato, potato and mustard is suffering from weather vagaries but chickpea yield is increasing year by year with minimum cost of cultivation

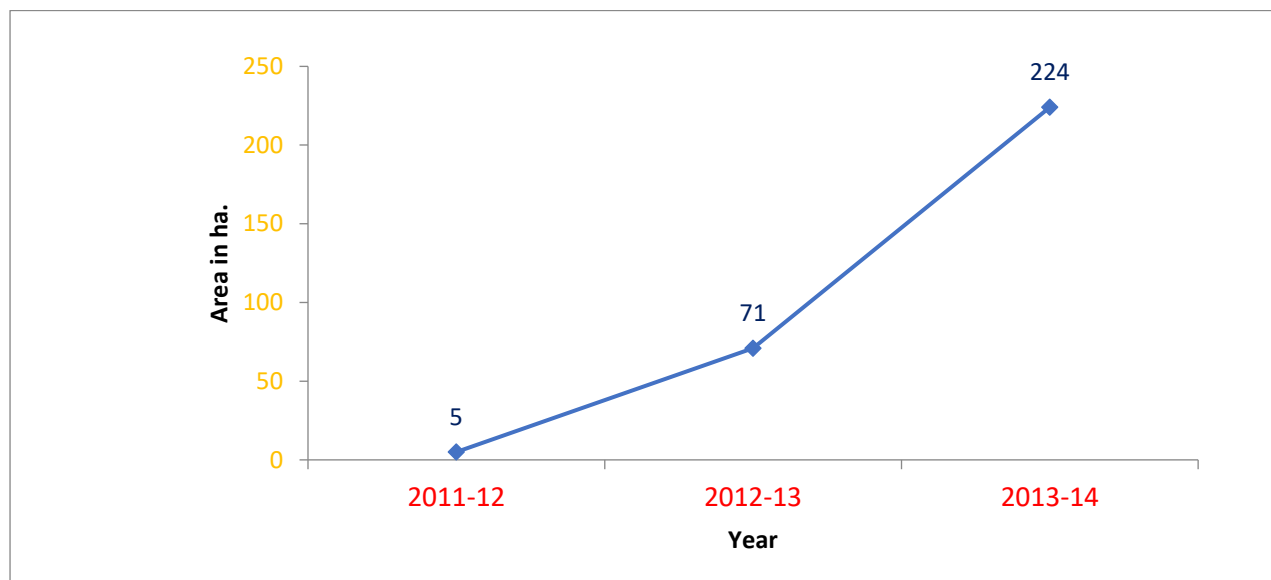


Fig-2 Trend of increase in area of chickpea var. PG-186

Table: Performance of chickpea var. PG-186 at some farmer's field.

Name of farmer	Yield (q/ha)			Net returns (Rs/ha)		
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Jukhai Prasad Vil. Manoharpur	14.89	15.7	16.9	28470	32540	38660
Ramujagir Dhandhara	14.23	15.5	16.4	26990	32300	36560
Ajijulaha vill.Dhadana	14.92	16.21	16.10	29410	35072	36240
BadreAlam Badhani	13.67	15.8	16.6	25810	33160	38040
Mohd. Jamil Vill.	15.30	15.70	16.45	30300	32740	37630

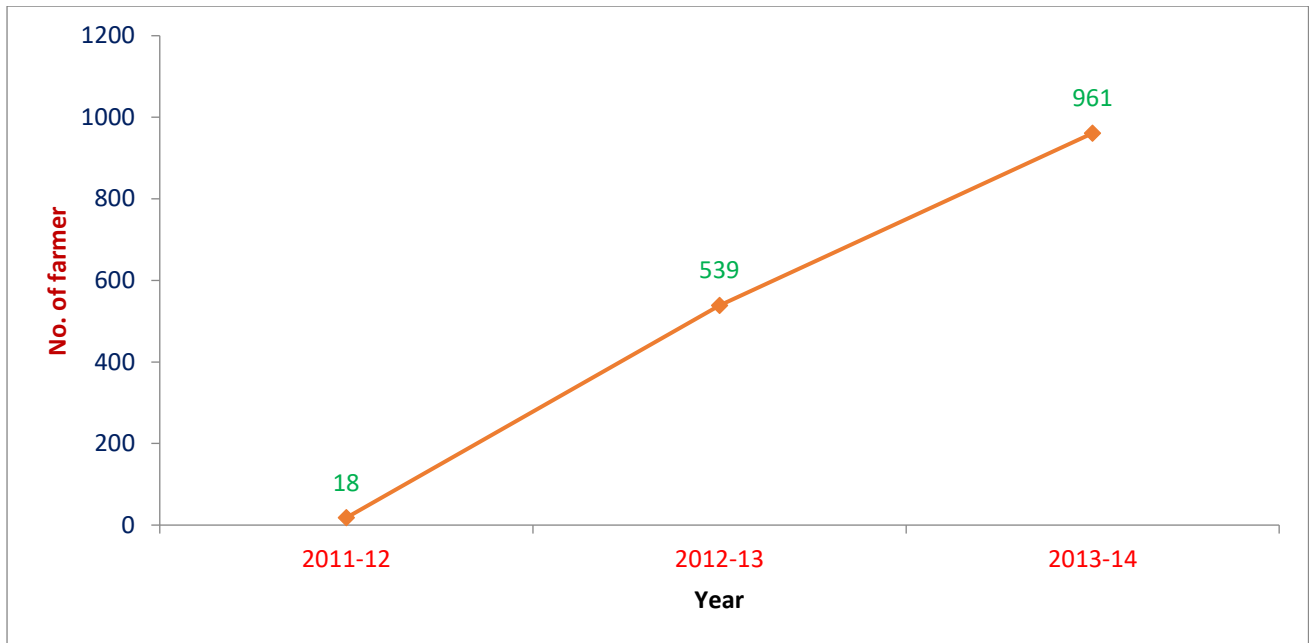


Fig:3 Trend in increase in number of farmers growing Chickpea





Fig-4: Scientist visiting the chickpea field at village Manoharpur Var.PG-186

