# Review on the Response of Wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) Grain Yield to Different Planting Methods in Ethiopia

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# ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

DBS	Drilled Beds
ВСВ	Broadcasting Bed
BC	Broadcasted
DS	Drill Sowing
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
HI	Harvest Index
BC	Before Christ

#### Abstract

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is the grass family Poaceae (Gramineae) and it is the most significant source of carbohydrate. It is one of the first crops among cereals known to have been domesticated, and it is not only an important crop today; it also influenced human history. Wheat is the main factor enabling the emergence of citybased societies at the start of development because it was one of the first crops that could be easily cultivated on large scale, and had the additional advantage of yielding a harvest that provides long term storage of food. For increase wheat production management practices used by farmers vary greatly between locations and are influenced by a wide range of agro-climatic factors (temperature, rainfall, day length, soil type, and topography), biotic factors (pest and disease), and socioeconomic factors (cropping patterns, technology, and institutions. Wheat is grown in different types of farming systems and on many various scales. From those systems extensive farming system which mean that cultivation of wheat under rain-fed areas and on large scale of land and intensive farming system indicate that cultivation wheat crop by using a different technology (by irrigation method) on small scale plot of land (less than one hector). From the above challenges, planting methods have a countless role in reducing wheat production. Planting methods being one of the most important agronomic factors plays an essential role in seed placement at an appropriate depth, ensure enhance seed emergence and succeeding crop growth. Thus, it is better to review the effects of different methods of wheat planting on production and productivity.

Keywords: Wheat, planting method and Grain yield of wheat

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Wheat is one of the most important cereal crops of the world and is a staple food for about one-third of the world's population (Hussain *et al.*, 2002; Awoke *et al.*, 2017). It is primarily used as a staple food providing more protein than any other cereal crop (Iqtidar *et al.*, 2006; Bekele *et al.*, 2014). In sub-Saharan Africa, Ethiopia ranks second to South Africa in terms of total wheat area and production (Awoke *et al.*, 2017). In Ethiopia, wheat ranks fourth in total cultivated area and production (Tekle and Awoke, 2015).

According to Ephrem *et al.*, (2000) and Awoke *et al.*, (2017), Ethiopia is the largest wheat producer in SSA with the cultivated land of 1.1 million hectares. Area coverage of wheat increased from 600,000 to 760,000 ha between 1979/80 and 1994/95 CSA, (1989, 1995), Awoke *et al.*, 2017). Despite the important area coverage of wheat production and productivity in the country, the average national yield 1.3 t/ha is 24% below the mean yield for Africa and 48% below the global mean yield Bekele *et al.*, (2000). Likewise, Hailu *et al.*, (1992) reported that the national average yield of wheat is less than 1.5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>. Wheat is one of the world's three most important cereal crops (the other two are maize and rice) and it has the widest distribution of any cereal (Hassan, 2010). Among the food crops, wheat is one of the most abundant sources of energy and proteins for the world population and its increased production is Essential for food security (Chhokar *et al.*, 2006). Ethiopia is second next to Egypt in Africa in wheat production which is 4.54 million tons in 2016 (CSA, 2017).

The selection of suitable sowing method plays an important role in the placement of seed at the proper depth, which ensures better emergence and subsequent crop growth (Sikander *et al.*, 2003). Wheat is planted with different sowing methods depending upon the available soil water, time of planting, amount of residue in the field and availability of planting machine. Broadcasting not only requires a higher seed rate but also results in a lower plant population. Drill sowing is the recommended method because of its uniform seed distribution at the desired depth, which usually results in higher germination and uniform stands. Due to better crop stand establishment,

wheat grain yield was significantly affected by the different sowing methods including broadcast and line sowing methods reported by (Sikander *et al.*, 2003; Chhokar *et al.*, 2017). According to Fenech and Pappy (1977), planting with the drill is superior to broadcasting if the seedbed is finely prepared. Therefore, the main objective of this paper is to review the effects of planting methods on yield and yield components of wheat.

### 2. Origin and Distribution of Wheat

The name wheat is used to describe several related wild and cultivated tritium species of which modern bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L), is the most widely cultivated today, followed by durum wheat, durum the center of origin of wheat is situated in an area of the near and middle east known as the fertile crescent, covering southern turkey, northern Iraq and adjacent regions of Iran and Syria (Emamu, 2018). Wild wheat still grows in the region today. Bread neither wheat nor durum wheat, both resulting from natural hybridizations among ancestral types, are found in the wild state (Emamu, 2018). Domestication of wheat, which directed to large-seeded and free threshing and winnowing wheat, took place between 17,000 and 12,000 BC. Wheat spread rapidly to North Africa, Asia, and Europe in prehistoric times, leavened bread originated in ancient Egypt (Emamu, 2018). The Spaniards introduced wheat into Mexico early in the 16<sup>th</sup> century by the 19<sup>th</sup> century it had spread all over North America. Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, wheat was introduced into Kenya and eastern Congo-Kinshasa but was severely attacked by rust diseases. Eventually, it spread to other countries in eastern and southern Africa and was introduced into drier reigns of western Africa. Borlaug, (1970) the Nobel peace prize was awarded to a founder of the international maize and wheat improvement center in Mexico (Centro International de major amiento de maize Trigo, CIMMYT), for the development of high yielding semi-dwarf wheat for tropical regions, which resulted in dramatic yield increases, especially on the Indian sub-content(green revolution) (Raemackers, 2002; Imamu, 2018).

#### 2.1. Wheat Production in Ethiopia

Ethiopia is the second-largest producer of wheat in Sub-Saharan Africa (Netsanet *et al.*, 2017). Wheat is one of the major cereal crops in Ethiopia, which grows between 6 and 16° N latitudes; and between 35 and 42°E longitude ranging in altitude from 1500 m to 3000m (CSA, 2010). It is largely grown in the highlands of the country and constitutes roughly 10% of the annual cereal production and plays an appreciable role in supplying the population with carbohydrate, protein, and mineral (Schulthess *et al.*, 1997; Netsanet *et al.*, 2017).

The major wheat-producing areas in Ethiopia are located in Arsi, Bale, Shewa, Ilubabor, Western Hareghe, Sidamo, Tigray, Northern Gonder and Gojam zones (Teklu and Hailemariam, 2009). Of the present total wheat production area, 75.5% is found in Arsi, Bale, and Shewa regions. Forty-six percent of the 13 million ha classified as highly suitable for wheat production is found in Arsi and Shewa. Altitude plays a crucial role within the distribution of wheat production through its influence on rainfall, temperature, and diseases. In Arsi, Bale, and Shewa regions, the soil, moisture, and disease conditions within the 1900-2300m altitude zone are favorable for the assembly of early and intermediate maturing varieties of bread wheat. This is estimated to comprise 25% of the total wheat area, while the remaining 75% falls in the 2300-2700m altitude zone (Teklu and Hailemariam, 2009).

The main wheat-growing areas of Ethiopia are the high lands of the central, South Eastern and Northwest parts of the country. In terms of the regional contribution, the assembly of wheat originates from Oromia (57.4%), Amhara (27%), SNNP (8.7%) and Tigray (6.2%) and quite 41% of the annual wheat production comes from only three-zone in Oromia and one in Amara regions (CSA, 2015-2016).

# 2.2. Importance of Wheat

Wheat contributes more calories and protein to the world diet than any other cereal crops (Shewry, 2009; Hyacinthe *et al.*, 2018). According to Kandel *et al.*, and Hyacinthe *et al.*, (2018) reported that it is nutritious, easy to store and transport and can be processed into various types of food. Wheat is taken into account an honest source of protein, minerals, B- group vitamins and dietary fiber (Simmonds, 1989; Shewry, 2007; Yahia, 2015), although environmental conditions can affect the nutritional composition of wheat grains with its essential coating of bran, vitamins, and minerals; it's excellent health-building food. Wheat is also used as animal feed, for ethanol production, wheat-based raw material cosmetics, wheat protein in a meat substitute and to make wheat straw composites. Wheat germ and wheat bran can be a good source of dietary fiber helps in the prevention and treatment of some digestive disorders (Simmonds, 1989; Yahia, 2015). Wheat contains carbohydrate 78.1%, and protein 14.7%, fat 2.1% minerals 2.1% and considerable of vitamins (thiamine and vitamin B) (Yahia, 2015). Most commercially cultivated wheat comes in two basic types that vary in genetic complexity, adaptation, and importance (Lantican *et al.*, 2005); durum and bread wheat. Durum wheat derived from the fusion of to grasses species the same 10000 years ago, while bread wheat was derived from a cross between durum wheat and third grass species about 800 years ago (Yahia, 2015).

Now a day, bread and durum are accustomed to making a variety of widely consumed food products. Shewry (2007) also reported that it is nutritious, easy to store and transport and can be processed into various types of food.

In Ethiopia, wheat grain is used in the preparation range of traditional food products such as injera, fermented bread, porridge ("genfo"), roasted grain ("kolo"), local fermented beer ("tella"), distilled local sprit ("areki") and other local food items (Najafi *et al.*, 2014). Wheat is a primary source of carolers and protein for 4.5 billion peoples is more than 100 countries (Sanjaya, 2014).

# 2.3. Wheat Sowing Methods

The most outdated method of sowing wheat is just walking an organized field throwing out seed as you go. In fact, it is an extremely skilled job to get even coverage and even when done well usually much seed is lost to birds and if weeds become a problem, they cannot be hoed out. For broadcast sowing, very poor establishment percentage is common, often falling below 50 percent (Emanu, 2018). For germination to occur in seeds there is the need for row seedbed to be in perfect contact with the soil to facilitate water uptake (Oyewole *et al*, 2010; Emanu, 2018). The broadcasting system with poor quality of seed, poor soil fertility and seed rate, which is 125-175 kg/ha, which makes the mature plant lodge *i.e.* fall over. This whole thing influenced the population of wheat. Another consideration of higher plant stand is a thicker canopy which may lead to higher disease pressure, scouting was important during the season to monitor disease pressure in case fungicide applications are warranted (Oyewoleet, 2010).

As applied in convocational horizontal farming or gardening is a system of growing crops in drilling (row) pattern in at least one direction rather than sowing without any distinction and arrangement. It is practiced in most crops whether direct seedbed, transplanted or grown from vegetative planting material both in mono-cropping and multiple cropping (Bareja, 2011). Crops are planted in drilling mostly to increase yields and for convincing. The restriction to drill sowing wheat by hand in Ethiopia is that the high labor and time requirement. Dibbling was used historically when the seed of wheat was scarce or when a farmer wanted to bulk up a limited or new but small seed supply as fast as possible. The appropriate depth and spaced holes were made by the farmer with a dibbler and therefore the farmers put two or three seeds in each hole. The method lends itself to a school situation as individual children either singly or in groups can take responsibility for sowing in individual holes. However, manual drilling and dibbling seeding are extremely labored intensive and unacceptable to peasant farmers in Ethiopia (Assefa *et al.*, 2005; Emamu, 2018).

#### 2.4. Germination and Seedling Growth

Environmental factors play a great role in seed germination and seedling growth in plants. During the planting of wheat to germinate, the seed requires an adequate condition like temperature and moisture. Wheat seeds germinate at temperatures of 39°F or higher; temperatures between 54° and 77°F are considered optimum for rapid germination and growth (Emamu, 2018). Germination starts when the seed absorbs water from the soil and reaches 35 to 45 % moisture on a dry weight basis. During germination, the seedling (seminal) roots, include primary root (radical), emerge from the seed along with the coleoptiles (leaf-like structure), which encloses the primary leaves and protects the first true leaf during emergence from the soil (Bareja, 2011). Under promising conditions, the emergence of seedling happens within a week. Until the first leaf becomes functional, the seedling depends on energy and nutrients stored in the seed. Seedling growth begins with the emergence of the first leaf above the soil surface and continues until the next stage, tillering (Biranu, 1986).

Normally three or more leaves develop in the seedling stage before tillering was initiated (Abdus *et al.*, 2016). Each new leaf can be counted when it is over one-half of the length of the older leaf below it. During this stage, the fibrous root system grows more entirely, serving Crops/plant establishment. The crown (a region of lower nodes whose internodes do not elongate) is located between the seed and the soil surface (Emanu, 2018). It tends to develop at an equivalent level, about one-half to at least one inch below the soil surface, regardless of planting depth. Leaves, tillers, and roots (including the main root system) develop from the crown nodes (Abbas *et al.*, 2009).

# 2.5. Tillering

Tillers are lateral branches or shoots that arise from buds in the axils of the leaves at the base of the main stem (Abdus Subdan *et al.*, 2016). Primary tillers are produced from the leaves of the most stem and may form their own secondary tillers. The tillering stage begins with the emergence of lateral shoots (tillers) from the axils of truth leaves at the bottom of the most stem of the plant (Oyewole, 2010). The number of tillers produced from the secondary buds positioned at each crown node. Primary tillers form in the axils of the first four or more true leaves of the main stem (Emamu, 2018). Secondary tillers may develop from the bottom of primary tillers if conditions favor tiller development. A tiller may also develop from the coleoptile node (coleoptile tiller), but this occurs sporadically and its appearance is dependent on genotype, sowing practices, and environmental conditions (Biranu, 1986, Emamu, 2018).

At the base of each tiller is a sheath (small leaf-like structure) called the prophyll, from which the tiller leaves emerge (Bareja, 2011). Identifying the prophyll, which encloses the base of the tiller help differentiate tiller leaves

from the leaves on the main stem and from other tillers. Tillering usually begins when the seedling plant has three or more fully developed leaves. Tillers depend on the main stem for nutrition during their development (Abbas *et al.*, 2009). Once a tiller has developed three or more leaves, it becomes nutritionally independent of the most stem and forms its own rootage. Tillers are a crucial component of wheat yield because they need the potential to develop grain-bearing heads. In Ethiopia, each plant normally develops two or more tillers within the fall when planted at optimum dates. The total number of effective tillers finally developed not altogether produce grain-bearing heads. Under recommended plant populations, usually two or three tillers, in addition to the main shoot, produce grain (Abbas *et al.*, 2001; Emamu, 2018).

# 2.6. Stem Elongation

Growth is the product of the elongation of the internodes. The crown consists of eight to 14 nodes stacked closely above one another, separated by internodes less than 1 mm long (Tesfaye, 2016). Lower internodes remain compressed at the base, with the number depending on the sowing rate and variety (Schulthess, 1999). Internodes begin to elongate when the leaf associated with it reaches full size (Emamu, 2018). When these internodes are half the final length the one above it begins to grow, and this continues until the last internodes (the peduncle, which carries the head) is fully elongated and the stem is at its final length (Reddy and Fageria, 2002; Emamu, 2018). Each internode is longer than the last so that the peduncle is the longest of all. Overhead the node is the distended leaf base, which has a significant role if lodging happens. If the crop is laid flat, the stems turn upwards and, in response to gravity, the side nearest to the ground grows at a faster rate than the side facing upwards. This causes the swollen leaf base to become uneven, turning the stem and head upwards. Nodes are where structures such as leaves, roots, tillers, and spikelets join the stem (Seyfu, 1997; Emamu, 2018). The internodes are the tissue between adjacent nodes that elongates because the stem grows. The stem is wrapped within the sheaths of the encompassing leaves. This structure of stem and leaves gives strength to the shoot, helping to keep the plant upright (Kahn *et al.,* 2007). Because the stem grows, it changes function from providing support for plant leaves to storing carbohydrates and different nutrients for the grain filling stage.

# 2.7. Effects of Planting Method on Growth Parameters of wheat

# 2.7.1. Effects of different sowing methods on leaf area

The area of the leaf of plants was highly influenced by different planting techniques from those in Broadcast, Drilling and Dibbling sowing methods have more a significance difference (Emamu, 2018). Though, the professed difference was similar in drilling and dibbling excluding the last mean at broadcasting sowing methods.

# 2.7.2. Effects of planting method on leaf length

The leaf length was dependent on sowing methods and other factors (Emamu, 2018). Based on the results of the current analysis the length of the leaf under the different planting methods has a more significant difference. Leaf length highly influenced by broadcasting planting methods (Table1). However, the declared difference was lower mean in broadcasting methods and the same except numerical difference under both dibbling and drilling sowing methods (Sinkader, 2003).

# 2.7.3. Effects of planting method on leaf number

The leaf number is a factor of photosynthesis in green plants and it is one of the essential parts of the plant (Abbas *et al.*, 2005). Leaf numbers in different sowing methods were significantly different in broadcasting, drilling and dibbling sowing methods (Table 1). However, the highest mean values were under drilling sowing methods and both sowing methods were statistically the same (Emanu, 2018).

<b>Table 1.</b> Effects of different planting methods on lear area, lear length and Numbers of the lear								
Variable	Sowing method	Mean_+SE	P-Value					
	Broadcasting	4.275_+0.056	0.0306					
Leaf area	Drilling	4.47 + 0.056						
	Dibbling	4.15_+0.056						
Leaf length	Broadcasting	12.745_+0.149	0.0002					
	Drilling	14.918 _+ 0.149						
	Dibbling	13.798 _+ 0.149						
N <u>o</u> of leaf	Broadcasting	3.5 + 0.167	0.0004					
	Drilling	5.5 _+0.167						
	Dibbling	4 _+ 0.167						

Table 1. Effects of different planting methods on leaf area, leaf length and Numbers of the leaf

Source: Emamu, 2018

# 2.8. Effects of Planting Method on Yield and Yield Components of Wheat

Planting method has a significant effect on water, nitrogen and phosphorus economy, energy savings and soil compaction (Trodson *et al.*, 1989; Attaullah, *et al.*, 2007). Absorption of photosynthetically active radiations has

also been found to be influenced by planting methods (Lal *et al.*, 1991; Mishra and Tiwari, 1999). Khan *et al.*, (2007) have reported that lower root weight in the broadcast method as compared to non-conventional planting methods. Furthermore, weed density is also higher in conventional planting methods as compared to the nontraditional methods e.g. cross planting. This causes a significant effect on ultimate crop growth and thus on grain yield.

Row planting and placement of fertilizers in rows have shown maximum yield than broadcasting (Mishra and Tiwari, 1999). This may make an important influence on crop growth and thus on grain yield. Hassan and Hassan (1994) have shown that wheat planted in furrows gives maximum 1000- grain weight, straw yield, and grain yield. Sikander *et al.*, (2003) reported that the plant density, ears m<sup>-2</sup>, number of grains per ear, 1000-grain weight and grain yield were higher in drill planted wheat than broadcasted wheat (Table 2). Higher wheat grain yields with drill planting as compared to broadcast (Kipps, 1970). Dawelbeit and Babiker (1997) have reported maximum yield for seed drilling and ridging after broadcasting than broadcasting alone. Row Planting and placement of fertilizers in rows have shown maximum yield than broadcasting (Mishra and Tiwari, 1999). The planting method was recognized significant on yield and yield contributing characters of wheat.

Planting methods had a significant effect on the emergence of wheat (Sikander, 2003). The highest number of wheat plants emerged with the drill sowing method which followed by broadcasted beds. On the other hand, wheat emergence was poor with broadcasting and drilled bed methods. Higher emergence with drill sowing could be due to sowing at optimum sowing depth, whereas the bed formation after broadcasting could have resulted in the placement of seed deeper (Dawinkele 1997; Sikander, 2003). Poor wheat emergence in broadcasting as compared to drill sowing was also reported by Shaalan *et al.*, 1997; Sikander, 2003. At harvesting number of heads, m<sup>-2</sup> was higher with BCB and DSB as compared to broadcasting and drill sowing method (Sinkader, 2003). The biological yield was significantly higher in flat planted wheat (broadcasting and drill sow) (Sikander *et al.*, (2003) (Fig. 1). Despite the reducing number of heads m<sup>2</sup> in broadcasting and drill sowing methods than BCB and DSB planting methods, the upper biological yield in flat planted wheat might be attributed to more infertile tillers and vegetative growth. There were no significant differences in the biological yield of drill sown and broadcasted wheat (Sikander, 2003) (Fig. 1). Although the number of heads m<sup>-2</sup>, spike length and a number of grains per spike were significantly higher in raised bed wheat (broadcasted and drill sown) in comparison with bed planted wheat (BCB and DSB) (Darwinkle, 1977; Sinkander *et al.*, 2003) (Table 2).

Despite the lower number of heads m<sup>-2</sup> in broadcasting and drill sowing methods than BCB and DSB planting methods, the higher biological yield in flat planted wheat could be attributed to more infertile tillers and vegetative growth (Sinkander *et al.*, 2003). Harvest index was significantly higher in wheat planted on raised beds in comparison with the broadcasted and drill sowed wheat, which indicated better water use efficiency in terms of grain production. Because of seed placement at the proper depth, the drill sowing method resulted in better emergence than other planting methods. Better crop establishment in drill sown wheat resulted in a higher grain and biological yield of wheat in comparison with other planting methods. Despite the higher number of heads m<sup>-2</sup>, spike length and the number of grains per spike in raised bed wheat (broadcasted and drilled beds), the wheat grain yields were minimum in raised bed wheat than flat sown wheat (Sikander *et al.*, 2003). Wheat on raised bed met the tricky of emergence, which caused its yield ultimately. The problem of crop stand establishment in raised beds could be overcome with the availability of proper bed planting machines, which should form beds and place the seed at the proper depth. With the establishment of an ideal crop stand, improved yield can be attained with this technique.

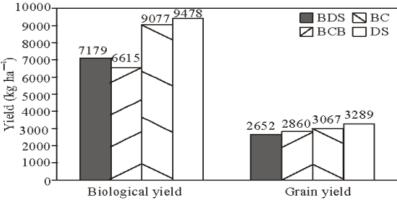


Fig 1. Effects of Different Planting Methods in Grain yield of Wheat

Sowing Method	E (m <sup>-2)</sup>	H (m <sup>-2)</sup>	PH (cm)	SL (cm)	G/S	1000 GW	H.I (%)
						(gm)	
Drilled Beds (DBS)	130°	259ª	86.11 <sup>ab</sup>	9.90ª	55.7ª	43.5 <sup>b</sup>	37.1 <sup>b</sup>
Broadcast Bed (BCB)	146 <sup>b</sup>	278ª	84.11 <sup>b</sup>	9.40 <sup>b</sup>	52.9 <sup>b</sup>	43.5 <sup>b</sup>	43.8 <sup>a</sup>
Broad casting (BC)	129°	200 <sup>b</sup>	85.90 <sup>ab</sup>	9.20 <sup>b</sup>	50.0°	46.3ª	33.8°
Drill Sowing (DS)	182ª	212 <sup>b</sup>	88.78ª	9.30 <sup>b</sup>	50.1°	46.6 <sup>a</sup>	34.7 <sup>b</sup>

Table 2: Wheat performance under different planting methods

E: Emergence, H: Heads, PH: Plant Height, SL: Spike Length, Grain per spike, GW: Grain Weight, HI: Harvest Index

Source: Sikander et al., 2003

# 3. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is the grass family Poaceae (Gramineae) genus of Triticum. It is one of the most important cereal crops which is highly produced throughout the world. Wheat is originated in far east country especially Asian countries. It is an exotic cereal crop for Ethiopia. Its production is more common in the central high land, northeastern and southwestern parts Ethiopian country, however, there are different constraints which are causing the loose of wheat production. Planting methods are able to influence the growth, development and also on yield and component of wheat. If it's not properly applied it has effects on different parts of plants like a seedling of emergence, elongation of the stem, leaf area, leaf number, root elongations, number of spike and grain yields of wheat. Planting methods in broadcasting, drilling, and dibbling sowing methods have a more significant difference in most of the growth parameters. This indicates that the drilling planting method has able a good leaf length. Biological yield is more depends on the planting method because yields and parameters of the wheat crop have direct relationships. If parameters of wheat are damaged, it has effects on yield and yield components of wheat. Thus, the drill method of planting is a better way to maximize the productivity of wheat. Finally, rather than using the traditional (broadcasting) methods of planting, row/drill planting wheat increases production and productivity in Ethiopia.

# 4. KEY GAPS RECOGNIZED RELATED TO THE PRODUCTION OF CROPS AND USES OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Even if there is a good start in the production and uses new technologies of agricultural production in Ethiopia as food for maintaining food security and to alleviate poverty, as a source of income for the foreign currency, a lot remains to be done to exploit the full potential of crop production. In this respect, some important challenges on production and uses of new technologies were identified and listed below:

- Lack of awareness among potential producers about better agronomic practices and technology
- Insufficient work on research and dissemination of information about technology in different agroecologies of the country.
- Inadequate training activities on the better agronomic practices and uses of technology
- Among rural farmers, illiteracy, insufficient extension service, etc were found to be barriers to the adoption of technologies.
- Insufficient linkage and collaboration among stakeholders on technology.

# 5. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Therefore, in order to effectively and efficiently bond these gaps in agricultural production and productivity in Ethiopia for the new technology, the following key points are recommended:

- \* Awareness creation among the producers through various pathways including training, media, and field demonstration, etc on the importance of improved technologies, best agronomic practices as alternative or supplementary means of increasing production and maintaining food security is recommended.
- \* More research work on agronomic practices, crop protection, crop production, and soil fertility is needed.
- \* Intensive training on new technologies to farmers is vital.
- \* Positive reinforcement and incentives are needed to attract more and more private/investors and public sectors to involve in commercial production of new technologies like different fertilizers.
- \* All of the above targets can only be achieved however when all stakeholders (private, Governmental and Non-governmental Organization, public, NGO, Academia, Ministery of Agriculture, etc.) come together and collaborate with each other and contribute to ways and methods of agronomic practices and technologies.

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