

## Attitude of beneficiary respondents about extension activities and practices of agricultural polyclinics and their development and standardization of scale

S.G. PURI AND S. D. WANGIKAR

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

**S.D. WANGIKAR**  
Department of  
Extension Education,  
Marathawada  
Agricultural University,  
PARBHANI (M.S.)  
INDIA

### ABSTRACT

In the present study, attitude has been operationalised as the degree of positive or negative effect associated with selected object. Likert's Summated rating technique was used to construct the attitude scale. Items collected from relevant literature, information, and interviews with the personnel connected with the implementation of the agricultural polyclinic. The related items were placed in a random sequence against the rating points namely strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree and 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 scores were given to each of the responses, respectively for positive items and scoring was reversed for negative items. The total score of respondents was obtained by summing the weights on all the items. The critical ratio of each statement was calculated for final selection of items. 14 items were selected for the final scale.

### INTRODUCTION

Transfer of technology is a function of many factors. Training is one of the crucial functions. The Agricultural Polyclinic Institutes, of state Government of Maharashtra have been organizing short term training courses for their beneficiary farmers and institutions on allied business as a first line of transfer of technology programme and provide diagnostic services related to farming. Researches have shown that there are a number of factors which influence the effectiveness of beneficiary *i.e.* participated farmers in agricultural polyclinic activities/practices. The beneficiaries have some time negative or indifferent attitude towards the content of message or activities/practices. This creates problem in effective adoption of agricultural polyclinic activities/practices. Training programme plays an important role in increasing knowledge, improving the skills and formation of favourable attitude towards agricultural polyclinic activities/practices. Farmers must have favourable attitude towards agricultural polyclinic activities/practices, as it is stated that favourable attitude is a precursor of action. At present, there is no standardized scale available to know the degree of attitude towards agricultural polyclinic activities/practices. In the present study, attitude has been operationalised as the degree of positive or negative effect

associated with selected object. Therefore, it was felt necessary to develop a scale to measure the attitude of beneficiary farmers towards agricultural polyclinic activities/practices.

### METHODOLOGY

Different techniques are available for the construction of attitude scale. Likert's Summated rating technique is the most commonly employed one. The same technique was used to construct the attitude scale.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### *Collection of items :*

First step in developing the scale was to collect a large number of items (statements) each expressing opinion about the objects under study. The items were collected from relevant literature, information, interviews with the personnel connected with the implementation of the agricultural polyclinic. Expressed opinions of the respondents on the selected items were recorded on a five-point scale like strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree. The judges selected were related with the agricultural polyclinics included Taluka Agricultural Officers, Circle Agricultural Officers, Supervisors and Assistants from the State Agricultural Department.

### Key words :

Scale, Attitude,  
Likert's  
technique,  
Extension activity

Accepted :  
May, 2009