

**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

## Determinants of farm diversification in dryland ecosystem

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**ARTICLE CHRONICLE :**

**Received :**

11.07.2017;

**Accepted :**

25.08.2017

**SUMMARY :** Dryland farming is marked by risk of uncertainty in rainfall, income and employment generation. Diversification of agriculture is advocated as one of the important strategies to stabilize and enhance farm income, increase employment opportunities and conserve natural resources. Identifying the determinants associated with diversification of small and big farmers was the main objective of the study. The study was conducted among 100 small and big farmers each in Namakkal district of Tamil Nadu. Totally 24 determinants of diversification have been revealed by small and big farmers. While motive to save money (41.00 %) and overcoming risk (39.00 %), were the major determinants of diversification for small farmers, Capital availability (45.00 %), motive to save money (41.00 %) were the major determinants expressed by the big farmers.

**KEY WORDS :**

Diversification,  
Dryland farming,  
Determinants

**How to cite this article :** Lavanya, P. and Anamica, M. (2017). Determinants of farm diversification in dryland ecosystem. *Agric. Update*, 12 (TECHSEAR-10) : 2954-2959.

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