



## Study of knowledge level and relationship between socio-economic profile and situational attributes of the cotton growers

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### ABSTRACT

Cotton (*Goyssipium* sp.) is the most important cash crop in the Maharashtra state. The study was conducted in Dhule, Shirpur, Shindkheda and Sakari Tahasils of Dhule district. Twelve villages from each tahasil and 10 farmers from each village were selected randomly. In all 120 cotton growers were interviewed with the help of structured interview schedule. The findings of the study revealed that majority of the cotton growers had complete knowledge level of post harvest technology, harvesting of cotton, sowing period, selection of proper soil type, and seed treatment. The findings regarding plant protection measures, harvesting of cotton, seed rate spacing and fertilizers management had partial level of knowledge. The majority of cotton growers had no knowledge about use of recommended varieties of cotton. The knowledge level, education, experience in cotton cultivation, cosmopolitaness of the cotton growers were highly and negatively significant with knowledge level.

### INTRODUCTION

Cotton (*Goyssipium* sp.) is an the second most important cash crop in the Maharashtra state. Over the last 3 years, cotton yield in India increased nearly 50 per cent. With the new technologies on cotton growers field, it is possible to increase the average productivity beyond 600 kg. lint/ ha.

Therefore, in order to understand the extent of knowledge level of cotton growers about recommended cotton cultivation practices present, the study was undertaken with the specific objectives : to study the socio-economic profile and situational attributes of the cotton growers, to study the extent of knowledge level possessed by cotton growers about recommended cotton cultivation practices and to study the relationship between selected socio-economic profile and situational attributes of the cotton growers.

### METHODS

The study was conducted in Dhule, Shirpur, Shindkheda and Sakari Tahasils of Dhule district. Twelve villages from each tahasils and 10 farmers from each village were selected randomly. In all 120 cotton growers were interviewed with the help of structured interview schedule. The statistical tools like Arithmetic mean, frequency, percentage, standard deviation, coefficient of correlation, and score method were used for analysis.

### OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

It is observed from Table 1 that majority of cotton growers (90.00 per cent) belonged to medium risk orientation category and only 5.00 per cent of cotton growers belonged to high risk