



Relative contribution of the personal socio-economical and psychological factors in determining the rural youth's participation in paddy farming

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ABSTRACT

Present study was conducted in twelve villages of Anand district. Ten respondents from each village having minimum three years of experience were selected at random, making the sample of 120 respondents. The findings indicated that variables viz., education, farming experience, social participation, land holding, occupation, extension contact, mass media exposure, scientific orientation, economic motivation, risk orientation, knowledge and decision making had positive and highly significant correlation with participation of rural youths. Six variables viz., decision making ability, knowledge, scientific orientation, type of family, occupation and education together contributed 92.90 per cent variation for determining extent of participation.

INTRODUCTION

Undeniably, the youths constitute a vast reservoir of energy especially in under developed countries including India. The participation of rural youth in paddy farming make more important because it solves the problems of unemployment and another is the youth farmers are more innovative and accept new farm technology earlier than old once. Gujarat is mainly industry based state and more employment is provided by industries to youth including agriculture sector. The participation of rural youth in agriculture sector in general and paddy farming in particular leads to increase area, production and productivity of paddy to meet demand of fast growing population as rice is one of the main staple foods of the state and problem of unemployment of rural youth in industrial sector caused by worldwide recession.

Understanding the basic need of a day, a study on functional analysis of rural youth's participation in paddy farming was carried out with the following specific objectives to study the influence of personal socio-economical and psychological traits of rural youth on their extent of participation in paddy farming and to study the relative

contribution of the personal-socio-economical and psychological factors in determining the rural youth's participation in paddy farming.

METHODS

The present study was under taken in Tarapur Taluka of Anand district. Ten paddy growing villages were randomly selected from this Taluka. For this study, 120 rural youth who had minimum 3 years of experience in paddy cultivation were selected randomly. Then the data were collected with the help of well-structured, pre-tested, interview scheduled through personal contact and data were compiled, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted to draw the valid conclusion. The relationship between characteristics of the rural youth and their extent of participation was determined and tested with help of Karl Pearson's (1978) coefficient correlation test. Statistical tools like correlation coefficient, multiple and stepwise regression were used.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

Considering the important characteristics of the