

RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Factor affecting the attitude of the agricultural scientists towards publication

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SUMMARY : The present study was undertaken in Anand Agricultural University of Gujarat State. For this study, 120 respondents were selected randomly. The data reveal that “Favorable attitude towards publication” was the prime motive behind writing the articles. Further, large numbers of agricultural scientist have not published single research paper in state and national level then few per cent agricultural scientists publishing 1 to 10 research paper on state and national level. Agricultural Scientists had half per cent publishing article in state level and less than half per cent publishing national level journals, then few agricultural scientists have written books at state and national level. However, the attitude towards publication was found that all the variables included in the study were positively and significantly correlated with the attitude towards publication. Further, the only awards were found non-significantly co-related with attitude towards publication.

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KEY WORDS :

Agricultural scientists, Publication behaviour, Attitude, Research journal article, Popular article

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Any research activity is said to be complete when its results are published. Publication is an important measuring yard stick of a scientist’s career and his achievement. A list of publication is an evidence of one achievement. A publication gives recognition to the scientists of agriculture universities, various faculties and in various fields. They are involved in publishing the articles of different types. An agricultural scientist towards publication plays a vital role in their professional and career developments. Attitude is a mental and favourable state of influence of behaviour. There are so many

factor influences the attitude of the agricultural scientist towards publication. Keeping this in view in mind, present study was designed to study factors affecting the attitude of agricultural scientists towards publication with the following specific objectives:

- To study the attitudes of agricultural scientists towards publication.
- To ascertain the relationship between profile of the agricultural scientists and their attitude towards publication.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The present study was undertaken in Anand Agricultural university of Gujarat State.

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Out of 442 agricultural scientists, 120 agricultural scientists were selected randomly. All respondents were personally interviewed. For measurement of attitude suitable scale developed by Chandrakandan and Knight (1987) was used with due modification. In the light of objectives the data were subjected to analyze in form of mean, standard deviation and correlation co-efficient.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The results obtained from the present study as well as discussions have been summarized under following heads:

Attitude of the Agricultural Scientists towards publication :

To study the attitudes of the agricultural scientists towards publication, five point attitude scales was used and according to their agreement (positive or negative) the score was given to each statement. The total score for each scientists was then calculated on the basis of standard deviation were stratified into three groups (1) Un-favourable,(2) Favourable and (3) Highly Favourable. It is evident from the data presented in Table 1.

It is evident from the data presented in Table 1 that majority (75.83 %) of the respondents had favourable attitude towards publication followed by unfavourable and favourable with 15.00 per cent and 9.17 per cent, respectively.

Publication behaviour of agricultural scientists :

Writing article based on data evolved from research work and publishing it in research journal is a continuous process in the scientific community. Publication behaviour of the agriculture scientists was divided into two categories like,(a) research journal articles and (b) popular articles like (books, bulletin, handouts) etc. The articles published are classified into state level, national level and international level journals. Moreover individual or joint was also studied and given in Table 2.

The data presented in Table 2 shows that it is a matter of frustration that large numbers (81.67 %) of the agricultural scientists have not published a single research paper in state level journal. Similarly large numbers (70.83 %) of agricultural scientists have not published their articles in national level journals and it shows that they have negative attitude towards

Sr. No.	Attitude	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Un-favourable (< 36.85)	18	15.00
2.	Favourable (36.85 to 44.75)	91	75.83
3.	Highly favourable (> 44.75)	11	9.17
	Total	120	100.00

Mean= 40.80

S.D. 3.95

Sr. No.	Authorship of articles	State level journal		National level journal		International level journal	
		No. of Agri. Scientist	Per cent	No. of Agri. Scientist	Per cent	No. of Agri. Scientist	Per cent
1.	Individual						
	00	98	81.67	85	70.83	104	86.67
	1 to 10	22	18.33	27	22.50	16	13.33
	11 to 20	00	0.00	05	4.17	00	0.00
	21 to 30	00	0.00	03	2.50	00	0.00
	Above 30	00	0.00	00	0.00	00	0.00
	Total	120	100	120	100	120	100
2.	Joint						
	00	51	42.50	16	13.33	53	44.17
	1 to 10	59	49.17	52	43.33	58	48.33
	11 to 20	09	7.50	30	25.00	06	5.00
	21 to 30	01	0.83	11	9.17	02	1.67
	Above 30	00	0.00	11	9.17	01	0.83
	Total	120	100	120	100	120	100

publications. It is a matter of serious concern that 86.67 per cent and 70.83 per cent of scientist have not published their articles in international and national level journals also.

Research excellence of any institute largely governed by the number of research papers published by the faculty of the institution. Unpublished research work means research is not done. These philosophies seen to be not digested or understood by the Scientists of this Agricultural University and must should be the mission. It is a serious concern, which required immediate attention. Only very few (18.33 %) Agricultural Scientists have published their 1-10 articles in state level, 22.50 per cent Scientists have published in national level and 13.33 per cent in international level journals as single author. More than 11 articles are published by few (4.17 %) Agricultural Scientists in National level; following few (2.50 %) articles published by Scientists more than 20 articles in national journals.

The situation of publishing articles is better when joint authorship of articles was considered. About half (49.17 %) of the agricultural scientists have published 1 to 10 articles under joint authorship in state level journals while one fourth (43.33 %) of the scientists have published their 1 to 10 articles under joint authorship in national

level journals and nearly half of (48.33 %) the scientist have published in International journals under joint authorship. It shows that authorship act as a favourable factor in publishing results of their research.

Writing books, bulletins, handouts and chapter books :

Writing book or textbook or reference book is an important parameter of academic achievement It requires scholarly career and insight in the subject. The related information in this respect is given in Table 3.

It was identified from Table 3 reveal that about 20.83 per cent agricultural scientists have written books at state level, 6.66 per cent at national level and none of them written book at international level. A significant fact was observed that 17.50 per cent agricultural scientist have written book under joint authorship at State level and 5.83 per cent agricultural scientists at National level.

Further data presented in Table 3 shows that about half of (51.67 %) the agricultural scientists have published bulletins, out of which 39.17 per cent agricultural scientists have published bulletin under joint authorship at state level, whereas 12.50 per cent of them published bulletins at national level and international level. Only 1.67 per cent agricultural scientists have published bulletins under joint

Table 3 : Distribution of agricultural scientist according to their books, handouts, bulletins and chapter in books publish (n=120)

Sr. No.	Publication level and Authorship	Books		Bulletins		Handouts		Chapter in Books	
		No. of Agri. Scientists	Per cent	No. of Argil. Scientists	Per cent	No. of Agri. Scientists	Per cent	No. of Agri. Scientists	Per cent
1.	State level								
	Individual	04	3.33	15	12.50	22	18.33	06	5.0
	Joint	21	17.50	47	39.17	47	39.17	23	19.17
	Total	25	20.83	62	51.67	69	57.5	29	24.17
2.	National level								
	Individual	01	0.83	05	4.17	04	3.33	03	2.50
	Joint	07	5.83	10	8.33	05	4.17	10	8.33
	Total	08	6.66	15	12.50	09	7.5	13	10.83
3.	International level								
	Individual	00	0.00	01	0.83	00	0.00	01	0.83
	Joint	00	0.00	02	1.67	00	0.00	01	0.83
	Total	00	0.00	03	2.50	00	0.00	02	1.67

Table 4 : Distribution of the agricultural scientists according to their level of publication behaviour (n=120)

Sr. No.	Level of publication behaviour	No. of Agricultural Scientist	Per cent
1.	Low level (< 183.55)	82	68.33
2.	High level (> 183.55)	38	31.67
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=183.55

Table 5 : Relationship between profile of the agricultural scientists and their attitude towards publication

Sr. No.	Variables	'r' value
1.	Age	0.2297**
2.	Education	0.2083**
3.	Experience	0.2172**
4.	Cadre	0.2176**
5.	Award	0.13980
6.	Training	0.2660**
7.	Scientific-interaction	0.1528*
8.	Reading behaviour	0.3152**
9.	Motives	0.3254**
10.	Attitude towards publication	0.1677*

* and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively

authorship at national and International level.

It was also observed that more than half (57.50 %) of agricultural scientists have published handouts at State level and 7.50 per cent of them published handouts at national level. Out of this 39.17 per cent and 4.17 per cent published handouts under joint authorship at state and national level.

In case of writing of chapter in the books published at state, national and international level, it was found that 24.17 per cent agricultural scientists have contributed in State level, while 10.83 per cent and 1.66 per cent agricultural scientists had contributed in national and international level of publication, respectively.

Level of publication behaviour :

To measure the level of publication behaviour of agriculture scientists it was categorized into two groups' viz., (1) low level (below 183.55) and (2) high level (above 183.55). The data related to the publication behaviour of the respondents are given in Table 4.

It is clear from the data presented in Table 4 shows that majority (68.33 %) of the respondents were in the categories of low level of publication behaviour, followed by 31.67 per cent of the respondents had high low level of publication behaviour.

Relationship between profile of agricultural scientists and their attitude towards publication :

Co-efficient of correlation was applied to study the relationship between the profile of the agricultural scientists and their publication. The value of correlation co-efficient 'r' was tested for the statically significance. The results are presented in Table 5.

It is clear from the Table 5 that out of 10 variables,

9 variables were found to be positively and significantly correlated with their attitude towards publication. The variable award was non-significantly co-related with attitude towards publication.

Thus, it can be inferred that age, education, experience, cadre, training, scientific interaction, reading behaviour, motives and publication played an important role in influencing attitude of the agricultural scientists towards publication.

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