

## Profile and level of aspirations of undergraduate students

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in College of Agriculture, Latur under Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani (M.S.) in 2009-10 with specific objectives to study the aspiration of the agriculture college students. All registered student of the third year and final year were selected for the study. In this study it was observed that majority of the students belonged to male sex, were from nuclear families, medium size families, having rural background with medium family education, farming business as their main occupation, with semi-medium land holding, landless area under irrigation with low family annual income. These clearly point out the need of motivating the rural students belonging to farm families to select agriculture course for higher education with medium self image.

**KEY WORDS** : Profile, Level, Aspiration

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### INTRODUCTION

Education is the process of developing capabilities of the individuals so that they can adequately respond to their situation. Human development is the result of many interacting forces and education is one of them. Education is a continuous process. Its aim is to develop the latent capacities in human nature and co-ordinate their expression for the enrichment and process of society by equipping children with spiritual, moral and material knowledge.

Agricultural education today has become highly complex and specialized discipline. The major functions of agricultural universities to impart diploma, under graduate and post graduate, doctorate education in agricultural universities and allied fields.

These students are expected to be well equipped with knowledge and skill required for employment in agriculture, public and private sectors. The College of Agriculture, Latur is the constituent college of Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani originated with the objective to impart agricultural education to the students, especially in the rural areas and there by to provide scientific background to agriculture. The intake capacity of Agriculture College, Latur is 96 students per year.

In this modern age, it is imperative to know the choice

of career of agricultural students and to prepare them for a satisfied living to avoid frustration in their life. Keeping the above view in mind, the study was conducted with following objectives to know the personal characteristics of the undergraduate students, to appraise the levels of aspirations of the undergraduate students and to find out the relationship between personal characteristics of the undergraduate students and their aspirations.

### METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in College of Agriculture, Latur under Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani (M.S.)

In this study, the data were collected by personal interview method with the help of structure interview schedule from third and final year agricultural College students in college of Agriculture, Latur during 2009-10. All the registered students of third year and final year were selected for the study. Simple statistical techniques like frequency, percentages and coefficient of correlation were used for analysis of the data.

### OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

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It is observed from Table 1 that 74.85 per cent of the respondents were boys and remaining 25.15 per cent were girls. In case of type of family, majority *i.e.* 56.61 per cent of the respondents families were under the category of nuclear type where as only 43.39 per cent families came under the joint type, majority (50.31 per cent) of the respondents were from medium size family, 25.79 per cent from small size family where as 23.90 per cent respondents were from large size family. It is also indicated from given Table 1 that 49.68 per cent agricultural college students were from rural areas, 39.62 per cent students were from semi-urban areas and only 10.70 per cent students were having urban background. Where as 64.16 per cent of the families of the respondents had medium family education, followed by 17.61 per cent respondents had low family education and 18.23 per cent of the respondents had high family education.

It is also evident that 54.72 per cent of the respondents had farming as their main occupation followed by 37.74 per cent with service where as 5.03 per cents were with business as parental occupation and only 2.51 per cent of the respondents had labour as their parents main occupation. Most of the respondents 35.22 per cent were having semi-medium land holding followed by 25.78 per cent medicum land holding, 33.33 per cent having landless area under irrigation followed by 16.98 per cent marginal area under irrigation. Most of the respondents (47.80 per cent) had low annual income followed by 28.93 per cent higher annual income.

From Table 1 it is shown that majority of the respondents (67.93 per cent) secured second class while 28.93 per cent of student secured first class and only 3.14 per cent of the respondents had secured distinction. In case of self-image, majority (69.81 per cent) of the respondents had medium self-image followed by 20.13 per cent higher self image.

As regards the overall aspiration, it was observed from Table 2 that 68.56 per cent respondents had medium level of aspirations while 16.35 per cent respondents had high level of aspiration and 15.09 per cent had low level of aspirations.

It is evident from Table 3 that sex, type of family, family education, land holding, family annual income, present status of academic performance were positively related and area under irrigation was negatively related with aspiration of the respondents. All the findings of the present study are similar with the findings of Deshpande and Deshmukh (2004), Chole Fatak (2007) and Hande (2009). the finding of the study are in line with Takalkar (2003), More (2004) and Bothikar (2008).

**Table 1 : Distribution of the respondents according to their personal characteristics (N=159)**

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Sex</b>			
1	Male	119	74.85
2	Female	40	25.15
<b>Type of family</b>			
1.	Nuclear	90	56.61
2.	Joint	69	43.39
<b>Family size</b>			
1.	Small	41	25.79
2.	Medium	80	50.31
3.	Large	38	23.90
<b>Family background</b>			
1.	Rural	79	49.68
2.	Semi-urban	63	39.62
3.	Urban	17	10.70
<b>Family education</b>			
1.	Low	28	17.61
2.	Medium	102	64.16
3.	High	29	18.23
<b>Parents occupation</b>			
1.	Service	60	37.74
2.	Farming	87	54.72
3.	Business	8	5.03
4.	Dairy farming	-	-
5.	Labour	4	2.51
6.	Caste occupation	-	-
<b>Land holding</b>			
1.	Landless	20	12.58
2.	Marginal	11	6.92
3.	Small	22	13.84
4.	Semi-medium	56	35.22
5.	Medium	41	25.78
6.	Big	9	5.66
<b>Area under irrigation</b>			
1.	Landless	53	33.33
2.	Marginal	27	16.98
3.	Small	27	16.98
4.	Semi-medium	23	14.47
5.	Medium	27	16.98
6.	Big	2	1.26
<b>Family annual income</b>			
1.	Low	76	47.80
2.	Medium	37	23.27
3.	High	46	28.93
<b>Present status (Academic performance)</b>			
1.	Distinction	5	3.14
2.	First class	46	28.93
3.	Second class	108	67.93
4.	Pass class	-	-
<b>Self-image</b>			
1.	Low	16	10.06
2.	Medium	111	69.81
3.	High	32	20.13

**Table 2 : Distribution of the respondents according to their level of aspiration**

Sr. No.	Level of aspiration	Number	Percentage
1.	Low	24	15.09
2.	Medium	109	68.56
3.	High	26	16.35
	Total	159	100.00

**Table 3 : Relationship between personal characteristics of the college students and their aspirations**

Sr. No.	Characteristics	'r' value
1.	Sex	0.565**
2.	Type of family	0.256**
3.	Family size	-0.153
4.	Family background	-0.028
5.	Family education	0.532**
6.	Parent's occupation	0.150
7.	Land holding	0.606**
8.	Area under irrigation	-0.197**
9.	Family annual income	0.259**
10.	Present status of academic performance	0.559**
11.	Self image	-0.008

\*\* indicates significance of value at P=0.01

**Conclusion:**

It is concluded from the study that majority of the students are belonged to male sex, were from nuclear families, medium size families, having rural background with medium family education, farming business as their main occupation, semi-medium land holding, landless area under irrigation with low family annual income with medium self-image. While majority (68.56 per cent) of the respondents were having medium level of aspirations followed by high level and low level. The variables such

as sex, type of family, family education, land holding, family annual income, present status of academic performance were positively and area under irrigation was negatively related with the aspirations of the students.

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