

Personal co-relation of indigenous agricultural practices

U.U. RAJPUT AND A.G. DIGHE

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

U.U. RAJPUT

Agro Product
Development Research
Centre, Dr. Panjabrao
Deshmukh Krishi
Vidapeeth, AKOLA
(M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Magrulpir Panchayat Samiti of Washim district in Maharashtra State. A sample 150 farmers was drawn randomly with an object to study the personal, socio-economic, communication and psychological characteristics of farmers and to study relationship with knowledge of indigenous agricultural practices. Data were collected personally interviewing the farmers and analyzed statistically. The finding revealed that majority of farmers were of middle age, educated upto Primary School, medium level of socio-economic status, low social participation, medium level of sources of information, extension contact and value orientation. The variables like age, farming experience, land holding and value had orientation had positive and significant correlation with knowledge. Education and sources of information were having negative and significant correlation with knowledge of indigenous agricultural practices.

INTRODUCTION

Indigenous knowledge of any society presents a unique view, which is based on their sound beliefs, norms and culture of the society to which they belong. Indigenous knowledge is built upon their day to day observation transferred from old generation to younger one by word of mouth. Keeping this in view, the present investigation was carried out with specific objectives to study the Personal, Socio-economic, Communicational and Psychological characteristics with knowledge of indigenous agriculture practices.

METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was carried out in Mangrulpir Panchayat Samiti of Washim district in Maharashtra State. A sample of 150 farmers was drawn by using probability proportionate random sampling method from fifteen villages of selected area.

An exploratory design of social research was used. Data were collected personally interviewing the farmers and analyzed statistically.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been presented below:

Personal characteristics of farmers:

It is observed from Table 1 that over half

of the farmers (53.33%) were middle age followed by 42.00 per cent educated upto Primary School. Relatively higher proportion of farmers (36.00 %) were possessing land between 1.01 to 2.00 ha. Over two third of farmers (41.33 %) and 26.00 % had farming experience between 21 to 30 years and 11 to 20 years. Relatively higher proportion of the farmers (49.33 %) had annual income between Rs.15001 to 30000. Majority of the farmers (50.66%) had medium level of socio-economic status, low level of social participation (48.67%). Nearly three fourth of the farmers (74.00 %) had medium level of extension contact. Over two third of the farmers (67.33 %) had medium level of sources of information and 68.67 per cent had medium level of value orientation.

Correlation analysis:

It is apparent from Table 2, that variable namely, age and farming experience had a positive and highly significant correlation with knowledge of farmer about indigenous agricultural practices. The variable such as education had negative but highly significant and sources of information negative and significant correlation with knowledge of indigenous agricultural practices. The variable such as land holding and value orientation had positive and significant correlation with knowledge of farmer about indigenous agricultural practices. All other variable were

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Table 1: Profile characteristics of farmers

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency (n=150)	Percentage
Personal			
Age			
1.	Young	39	26.00
2.	Middle	80	53.33
3.	Old	31	20.67
Education			
1.	Illiterate	35	23.33
2.	Primary school	63	42.00
3.	Middle school	23	15.34
4.	High school	17	11.33
5.	College	12	8.00
Land holding (ha)			
1.	Marginal	29	19.33
2.	Small	54	36.00
3.	Semi medium	48	32.00
4.	Medium	15	10.00
5.	Large	4	2.67
Farming experience (years)			
1.	Upto 10	21	14.00
2.	11 – 20	39	26.00
3.	21 – 30	62	41.33
4.	31 – 40	24	16.00
5.	41 and above	4	2.67
Annual income (Rs.)			
1.	Upto 15000	55	36.67
2.	15001 – 30000	74	49.33
3.	30001 – 45000	15	10.00
4.	45001 – 60000	3	2.00
5.	60001 and above	3	2.00
Socio-economical			
Socio-economic status			
1.	Lower	3	2.00
2.	Lower middle	58	38.67
3.	Middle	76	50.66
4.	Upper middle	12	8.00
5.	Upper	1	0.67
Social participation			
1.	No participation	16	10.67
2.	Low	73	48.67
3.	Medium	48	32.00
4.	High	13	8.66
Communicational			
Extension contact			
1.	Low	22	14.67
2.	Medium	111	74.00
3.	High	17	11.33
Sources of information			
1.	Low	27	18.00
2.	Medium	101	67.33
3.	High	22	14.67
Psychological			
Value orientation			
1.	Low	33	22.00
2.	Medium	103	68.67
3.	High	14	9.33

Table 2: Relationship between independent variables and knowledge

Variable	'r' value
Age	0.4769**
Education	-0.3636**
Land holding	0.1834*
Farming experience	0.4828**
Annual income	0.0623 ^{NS}
Socio-economic status	0.1263 ^{NS}
Social participation	-0.1119 ^{NS}
Extension contact	-0.1171 ^{NS}
Source of information	-0.1592*
Value orientation	0.1879*

**and *indicate significance of values at P=0.01 and P=0.05, respectively
NS Non-significant

non-significant. The observations of the present study is in line with finding reported by Shinde *et al.* (2000).

Conclusion:

Logical reasoning behind this may be that the farmers with more age, less education, higher farming experiences, greater land holding, low social participation. medium sources of information tend to believe more on indigenous agricultural practices because less potentially of sustaining and spending for new technology and the indigenous agricultural practices are cost free, very effective and does not cause any harm, so that knowledge of indigenous agricultural practices to a great extent.

Authors' affiliations

A.G. DIGHE, Department of Agricultural Extension, M.V.Ps College of Agriculture, NASHIK (M.S.) INDIA

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