

Factors affecting occupational aspiration of post graduate agricultural students

S. SAWANT BHOSALE RAJWARDHAN*, R.C. PATEL AND D.K. BADHE

Department of Extension Education, B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University,
ANAND (GUJARAT) INDIA

Email: dhirajbadhe@rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted in the Bansilal Amrutlal College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University to find out the occupational aspiration of post graduate agriculture students. For that, total 150 post graduate students were selected. And findings of the study states that independent variables like academic performance, family educational status, family income and attitude towards agriculture education had positive and highly significant correlation with level of occupational aspiration of agricultural students. The variables like caste, participation in extra curricular activities and family occupational status showed positive and non-significant relationship with level of occupational aspiration of agriculture students and birth order, family background and size of family showed negative and non-significant relationship with level of occupational aspiration of agricultural students.

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Key Words : Occupational aspiration, Post graduate agriculture students, Factor affecting

INTRODUCTION

Education occupies an important place in the intellectual and social development of human being. It is through education that the all round development of personality is possible. Education is a life long process since; it starts from birth and ends with death. The aim of education is to develop the persons. Its aim is to perfect the individual in all his powers. It is education that determines the level of prosperity welfare and security of the people.

Occupation plays an important role in the life of an individual. Thus those in the education process develop awareness towards the type of education imparted and the courses in which they are enrolled. It helps them in judging their future prospectus and scope for employment.

Quite a number of studies have been conducted in India and abroad in the areas of socio-psychological, educational, personal, and economical factors influencing the occupational aspiration of agriculture students. Number of studies have been conducted by researchers in the field of education psychology, sociology and other sciences on occupational choice behavior *viz.*, occupational aspiration, preference and choice of the adolescent and attitude of students towards different psychological objects like school, science, scientist etc.,

but are very limited with respect to faculties of agricultural sciences.

Keeping this in view, it is thought to plan study on factors affecting occupational aspiration of post graduate agricultural students of Anand Agricultural University was undertaken.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was conducted in the Bansilal Amrutlal College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand. Total 150 post graduate students were selected as a sample for study. They were interviewed with a structural pre-tested English version interview schedule with an aim to study the level of occupational aspiration. Measurement of factors affecting occupational aspiration of post graduate agricultural students was done by measuring co-efficient of correlation given by Pearson (1978). The data were collected with the help of structural interview schedule. The collected data were classified, tabulated and analyzed in order to make the findings meaningful.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

In order to determine the relationship between the

* Author for correspondence.

personal, social and economic characteristics of the post graduate agriculture students with level of occupational aspiration, a correlation coefficient was computed and presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Relationship between characteristics of the post graduate agriculture students and their level of occupational aspiration (n=150)

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Correlation coefficient
1.	Caste	0.1135 NS
2.	Birth order	-0.1343 NS
3.	Academic performance	0.2355 **
4.	Participation in extra curricular activities	0.0234 NS
5.	Family background	-0.2437NS
6.	Size of family	-0.0990 NS
7.	Family educational status	0.1642 *
8.	Family occupational status	0.0433 NS
9.	Family income	0.1816 *
10.	Attitude towards agriculture education	0.2498 **

NS= Non-significant,

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

Caste and occupational aspiration:

Caste of the post graduate agriculture students had positive and non significant correlation ($r = 0.1135$) with their level of occupational aspiration. Thus, it can be said that caste had no influence on level of occupational aspiration. Irrespective of any caste, the level of occupational aspiration was same.

Birth order and occupational aspiration:

Birth order of the post graduate agriculture students was found to be negative and non-significantly correlated ($r = -0.1343$) with their occupational aspiration. Thus, it is inferred that birth order of the post graduate agriculture students failed to show any association with their occupational aspiration. Irrespective of birth order the level of occupational aspiration was same.

Academic performance and occupational aspiration:

Academic performance had highly-significant ($r = 0.2355$) relationship with occupational aspiration of post graduate agricultural students. Hence, it can be said that respondents whose academic performance at different level of education is high had self confidence to gain highest position in any government organization as compared to students whose level of academic performance was poor.

Participation in extracurricular activities and occupational aspiration:

Participation of post graduate agriculture students in extracurricular activities had positive and non-significant correlation ($r = 0.0234$) with their occupational aspiration. It can be said from above findings that the participation of post graduate agricultural students in extracurricular activities had non-significant relationship with the level of occupational aspiration. The respondents with high level of participation in extracurricular activities, medium level of participation and low level of participation had same level of occupational aspiration.

Family background and occupational aspiration:

Family background of post graduate agriculture students had negative and non-significant ($r = -0.2437$) relationship with their occupational aspiration. Thus, it can be said that irrespective of family background the level of occupation aspiration was uniform.

Size of family and occupational aspiration:

Size of family the post graduate agriculture students had negative and non-significant correlation ($r = -0.0990$) with their level of occupational aspiration. Thus, it can be said that size of family had no influence on occupational aspiration.

Family educational status and occupational aspiration:

Family educational status of post graduate agriculture students had significant correlation ($r = 0.1642$) with their occupational aspiration. The students belonging to family having high education status are exposed to different occupations and get proper guideline for their development as their parents are highly educated. So, students belonging to family having high education status had high level of occupation aspiration as compared to students belonging to family having low education status.

Family occupational status and occupational aspiration:

Family occupational status of post graduate agriculture students had positive and non-significant correlation ($r = 0.0433$) with their occupational aspiration. Irrespective of any occupational status of family of students, the level of occupation aspiration was same.

Family income and occupational aspiration:

Family income of post graduate agriculture students had positive and significant relationship ($r = 0.1816^*$) with their occupational aspiration. The students having optimum

family income had high level of occupational aspiration as compared to students having low family income.

Attitude towards agriculture education and occupational aspiration:

Attitude of post graduate agriculture students towards agriculture education had positive and highly-significant ($r = 0.2498$) relationship with their occupational aspiration.

Conclusion:

It can be concluded from above finding that variables like academic performance, family educational status,

family income and attitude towards agriculture education had positive and highly significant correlation with level of occupational aspiration of agricultural students. For increasing occupational aspiration above factors should be considered.

REFERENCES

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