

RESEARCH PAPER

Computer apprehension among the students of agricultural college

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ABSTRACT

A random sample of total 100 undergraduate students of B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand, Gujarat state studying the B.Sc. (Agri.) was selected for the study. The data collected were then analyzed using coefficient of correlation. The result indicates that the majority of the student had high to medium degree of favourable attitude towards computer fretfulness. Computer nervousness was observed more among those students who had young age means studying in first or second years. The variables such as academic performance, father's education, native place, type of family, wish to migrate abroad, wish to get higher degree, possession of computer at home, possession of E-mail/ID and library exposure found to have non significant relationship with the computer fretfulness/nervousness of the students.

Key Words : Computer fretfulness, Nervousness, Agriculture information technology

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The acquaintance of computer working is an essential, especially for agricultural students. Information technology has become an important part in teaching, research and education. In a golden era of information super highway the knowledge of computer is an essential for all. Without the knowledge of computer, the person will be designated as "outdated". The knowledge of computer and agriculture information technology will be proved as milestone for the future generation of human resource in agriculture. Hence, to know existing sensitivity of the students towards computer in using this smart machine for the development of their career and education, reliable information on the fretfulness or say nervousness of the students towards computer. Systematic study was needed, because in present era of online education and on demand examination, the knowledge of the students regarding computer operation in their daily life is a most urgent need. Present study was under taken with specific objectives to find out level of computer

fretfulness of students studying in the agricultural college and to study the profile of the students and its relationship with their level of computer fretfulness.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Computer fretfulness is a common emotional response to computers characterized by the fear that many people exhibit. Fear and fretfulness toward subject matter are conditions that tend to support negative learner attitudes and repel person's interest. To measure the computer fretfulness/nervousness of agriculture student the scale was developed by Chauhan and Chauhan (2005) was used. A random sample of total 100 undergraduate students of B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand studying the B.Sc. (Ag.) was selected for the study. The data collected were then analyzed using coefficient of correlation.

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RESULTS AND REMONSTRATION

The results of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under following heads:

Profile of the respondents

The results regarding profile of the students indicated that 68.00 per cent of the agricultural students had below 23 year of age, slightly more than half of them (52.00 %) had first class and first class with distinction in their academic performance, more than half (57 %) of their father's education was up to higher secondary and college level. About 54.00 per cent of the student had urban and 46.00 per cent had rural background, majority (68.00 %) of them had nuclear type of family, aspiration to migrate aboard either for study or for permanent settlement (77.00 %), wish to get higher degree (78.00 %). Majority of the student did not possess computer at home (60.00 %), 60.00 per cent of them had e-mail ID and 29.00 per cent of them had everyday exposure of library, Anonymous (2004).

Level of computer fretfulness:

The data presented in Table 1 shows that Majority (81.00 per cent) of the student had high to medium degree of favourable attitude towards computer fretfulness/nervousness. Therefore, extension agencies and teaching institutes should motivate the students and educate them for the importance and potentialities of computer in present world and its application in the field of agriculture and allied fields. The probable reason for that might be the computer science is recently emerging science. It is affected by many characteristics of the students and their problem also. India is rural based economic country, in rural area the computer experience and exposure is poor as compared to urban areas. In addition to this students from rural area were not having own computer at home. Thus, due to lack of possession of computer by some of the urban and majority of the rural students at their own home, medium to high level of computer fretfulness/nervousness was observed among majority of the students. The finding is also supported by the Hakkinen, (1994).

Relationship between profile of the students and their computer nervousness:

The result indicates that the computer nervousness was observed more among those students who had young age

means studying in first or second years. The other variables such as academic performance, father's education, native place, type of family, wish to migrate abroad, wish to get higher degree, possession of computer at home, possession of E-mail/ID and library exposure did not have significant relationship with the computer fretfulness/nervousness of the students (Table 2). The findings are similar with the findings of Pam Dupin-Bryant (2002).

Age and computer fretfulness/nervousness:

The data presented in Table 2 revealed that age was observed positively significant with computer fretfulness. Thus it can be said from the results shown in table that students having more age had high score means low level of computer nervousness. It is understood that students having more age will have more degree of exposure and experience of computer. Thus they will have less nervousness of computer. This might be the reason to have less computer nervousness among those students who had more age.

Academic performance and computer fretfulness:

The negative correlation ship between academic performance of the students and their level of computer nervousness means that person having low level of academic performance had high score of nervousness, which according to methodology of scoring indicates that he had low level of computer nervousness. Result says that academically less active students were more active in computer and had less computer nervousness. But this trend was not observed up to the level of significance.

Father's education and computer nervousness:

The data presented in Table 2 revealed that there was negative co-relationship between father's education and their computer nervousness. It means that the student having low level of father's education had high score of nervousness, had low level of computer nervousness. Results say that students with lover level education of their father were found more active in computer and had less computer nervousness.

Native place and computer nervousness:

The relationship between native place of the students and computer nervousness was observed negatively non significant (Table 2). It means that as compared to rural students the urban student had higher computer nervousness,

Sr. No.	Level of computer fretfulness/ nervousness	Number	Per cent
1.	Low (Score above 57)	19	19.00
2.	Medium (Score between 47 to 57)	42	42.00
3.	Highly (Score below 47)	39	39.00
Total		100	100.00

Table 2 : Relationship between profile of the students and their computer fretfulness

Sr. No.	Name of variable	'r' value
1.	Age	0.3931* S
2.	Academic performance	- 0.0966 NS
3.	Father's education	- 0.0905 NS
4.	Native place	- 0.1219 NS
5.	Type of family	- 0.0358 NS
6.	Wish to migrate aboard	- 0.0207 NS
7.	Wish to get higher degree	- 0.1661 NS
8.	Possession of computer at home	- 0.0967 NS
9.	Possession of E-mail ID	0.1116 NS
10.	Library exposure	0.1846 NS

NS=Non-significant

but this difference was not up to the level of significance. It is striking to note that the students having rural background were more active in computer exposure and they had low level of computer fretfulness. This might be due to more hunger among rural students to know new system of computer technology.

Type of family and computer nervousness:

Type of family of the students was observed negatively non-significant with their computer nervousness (Table 2). According to methodology adopted in scoring, it can be said that degree of computer nervousness of the students was lower among the student having nuclear family background as compared to the students having joint type of family background.

Wish to migrate abroad and computer fretfulness/nervousness:

The relationship between wish to migrate abroad of students and computer nervousness was found negative (Table 2). It means the student having desire to stay in India had low level of computer nervousness. Here it is fascinating to know that in spite of the wish to stay in India they took more interest in computer thus they had less computer nervousness. In other words students have realized that in Indian condition also they will be requiring knowledge of computer and affiliation with it to make progress.

Wish to get higher degree and computer fretfulness/nervousness:

The relationship between wish to get higher degree of students and their computer fretfulness was negative and non significant (Table 2). It means that computer fretfulness was observed low among those students who had no desire to get higher degree. Here it was remarkable to note that students with no any expectations to get higher degree realized additional knowledge of computer as an additional qualification for their betterment.

Possession of computer at home and computer fretfulness:

It is generally believed that the students having own computer at home will have more exposure of computer operating and less computer nervousness but result shown in this study shows that students without having computer at home had less computer nervousness. There was high score means low computer fretfulness among those students who had no any computer facility at their home (Table 2).

Possession of e-mail ID and computer nervousness/fretfulness:

The relationship between possession of e-mail ID and their computer nervousness was found positive non-significant (Table 2). It may be due that the student having E-mail ID can run and easily operate the computer for receiving and sending the E-mail. Naturally, he had no fear of computer, which leads, towards low level of computer fretfulness.

Library exposure and computer fretfulness/nervousness:

Library exposure makes the students aware of changing scenario of the world through the use of available information technology and computer in library. Generally it is seen that the students having high library exposure have good knowledge of all those components available in the library to collect information. Thus it can be said that students having high library exposure have good connections with computers that may lead them towards low level of computer fretfulness/nervousness. There was negatively non-significant relationship between library exposure and computer nervousness of the students. As per methodology of scoring of computer nervousness, person having high level of library exposure got high score means he had less computer fretfulness/nervousness and person having less library exposure got less score means he had high computer fretfulness/nervousness (Table 2). Thus it can be said that there was low level of computer fretfulness/nervousness among those students who had better exposure of library.

Conclusion:

The result indicates that the majority of the student had high to medium degree of favourable attitude towards computer fretfulness/nervousness. Computer nervousness was observed more among those students who had young age means studying in first or second years. The variables such as academic performance, father's education, native place, type of family, wish to migrate abroad, wish to get higher degree, possession of computer at home, possession of E-mail/ID and library exposure found to have nonsignificant relationship with the computer fretfulness/nervousness of the students.

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