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Research Article

Relationship of personal characteristics of youth with their training needs regarding farm activities

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SUMMARY : The present study was conducted in College of Agriculture, Latur under Marathwada Krushi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani (M.S.) in 2011-13. The study was conducted in Latur district. For the purpose of the study, four villages from each selected tahsil were selected randomly. Total 12 villages spread over 3 tahsil were selected for the study.Ten respondents from each villages were selected to comprise a sample of 120 respondents. The respondents were personally interviewed and the data collected were processed and statistically analyzed by using statistical techniques like frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, co-efficient of correlation. It has been observed that 71.67 per cent respondents were belonged to medium category while, 15.00 per cent of them were in with and then lastly 13.33 per cent which belonged low category of training needs on farm activities.

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Youth have been playing quite a significant role in almost every country of the world as they possess the zeal and vigour necessary to create opportunities for national development. Youth shoulder responsibility for the future development of the country. Therefore, the development and harnessing of the talents and energies of youth towards constructive channels has always engaged the attention of a country's planners and policy makers. One of the most effective ways of development and channeling the potentials of youth towards creative purpose is through the youth clubs. They help young people to develop themselves physically, mentally, socially and economically and prepare them to meet effectively the future challenges of life.

India both before and after independence witness the emergence of youth as potential force to reckon involvement of youth in national developmental activities is felt significantly relevant because of their boundless energy and innate idealism, which could give a positive direction in improving the quality of life. The government of India has been organizing planned and systematic programmes for the development of Indian youth for their participation in national development.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The study was conducted during the year of 2011-13 in the Latur district of Maharashtra state. Three tahsils and four villages from each tahsil were selected randomly. Ten respondents from each village were selected to comprise a sample of 120 respondents. Collected data were classified, tabulated and analyzed by using statistical methods like frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, correlation co-efficient.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

Table 1 shows that personal characteristics of youth.

Table 1: Personal characteristics of the respondents (n=120)

Sr. No.	Variables	Frequency	Percentage
1.	**Education**		
	Illiterate	02	01.67
	Can read only	03	02.50
	Can read and write	06	05.00
	Primary school (I to IV)	08	06.67
	Middle school (V to VII)	25	20.83
	Secondary school (VIII to X)	21	17.50
	Higher secondary school (XI to XII)	28	23.33
	Graduate (Above XII)	18	15.00
	Post graduate (Above Graduation)	08	06.67
	Ph. D. (Above PG)	01	00.83
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	5.175	
	S.D.	1.872	
2.	**Family size**		
	Small	21	17.50
	Medium	83	69.17
	Large	16	13.33
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	4.85	
	S.D.	1.43	
3.	**Family type**		
	Nuclear	87	72.50
	Joint	33	27.50
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	1.275	
	S.D.	0.448	
4.	**Annual income**		
	Low	11	09.16
	Medium	86	71.67
	High	23	19.17
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	107608	
	S.D.	56036.8	
5.	**Occupation**		
	Farming	56	46.67
	Farming + Service	08	06.67
	Farming + Business	44	36.67
	Farming + Daily wages	07	05.83
	Farming + Business + Daily wages	05	04.16
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	1.57	
	S.D.	0.57	

Table 1: Contd.……..

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6.	**Land holding**		
	Small (< 1.42ha)	19	15.84
	Medium (1.43ha-3.13ha)	88	73.33
	Big (>3.14ha)	13	10.83
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	2.27	
	S.D.	0.85	
7.	**Social participation**		
	Low	26	21.67
	Medium	86	71.66
	High	08	06.67
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	1.808	
	S.D.	1.23	
8.	**Use of source of information**		
	Informal sources		
	Low	34	28.33
	Medium	62	51.67
	High	24	20.00
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	8.75	
	S.D.	2.73	
	Formal sources		
	Low	27	22.50
	Medium	72	60.00
	High	21	17.50
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	2.35	
	S.D.	1.77	
	Mass media		
	Low	19	15.83
	Medium	80	66.67
	High	21	17.50
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	6.97	
	S.D.	3.55	
9.	**Extension contact**		
	Low	25	20.83
	Medium	77	64.17
	High	18	15.00
	Total	120	100.00
	Mean	2.908	
	S.D.	1.566	

Education:

The data presented in Table 1 revealed that, majority of the youth had education up to higher secondary school level (23.33%) followed by respondents with their education up to middle school level (20.83%) and 17.50 per cent of the respondents had their education up to secondary level, 15.00 per cent and 6.67 per cent of the respondents had their education up to graduate and higher education, respectively, while 6.67 per cent of the respondents had their education up to primary school, 5.00 per cent and 2.50 per cent respondent were who can read and write and only read category, respectively and 1.67 per cent of them were illiterate. Only (0.83%) respondents were up to Ph.D.

Family size:

The results in Table 1 revealed that, majority 69.17 per cent youth had medium family size while 17.50 per cent youth had small family size. 13.33 per cent youth had large family size. This might be due to forward outlook of the farmers about the family planning thereby keeping medium family size (Kingaonkar, 1989).

Family type:

The results in Table 1 revealed that, majority (72.50%) of respondents had nuclear family and remaining (27.50%) respondents had joint family type. The present trend is towards nuclear family to live separately with wife and children. More over because of urbanization, people would prefer to live in nuclear families for the sake of privacy, close contacts and better harmony and for better satisfaction of their basic needs. Due to these reasons more than half of the respondents (72.50%) belonged to category of nuclear family.

Annual income:

It is clear from Table 1 that majority of the respondents (71.67%) had medium category of annual income. The reason might be that majority of the respondents were landless and poor.

Occupation:

The results depicted in Table 1 revealed that, majority of (46.67%) of the respondents were doing farming as a profession, 36.67 per cent respondents were doing farming with business as their profession, 6.67 per cent respondents were doing service along with farming, 5.83 per cent respondents were doing both farming and daily wages as their profession and (4.16%) were doing all the activities (farming, business and daily wages). This may be due to the continuation of ancestral traditional occupation of agriculture.

Land holding:

It was clear from Table 1 that the significant numbers of the respondents (73.33%) were having medium land holding, followed by 15.84 per cent were having small holding and 10.83 were high farmers. The probable reason might be that the land holding is being reduced continuously due to fragmentation.

Social participation:

It is observed from Table 1 that most of the youth (71.66 %) had medium social participation, while 21.67 per cent of the youth had low social participation and 6.67 per cent of them were found in high social participation category. The probable reason might be that the respondents are always engaged in farming and they find comparatively less time to participate in different formal and informal organizations. (Khandare, 2002).

Sources of information:

In case of informal contacts, Table 1 highlighted that 28.33 per cent of the respondents were having low category of informal contacts whereas, 51.67 per cent of the respondents were having medium level of informal contacts and 20.00 per cent of the respondents had categorized under high category of source of information related to informal contacts. In relation to formal contacts of the respondents, Table 1 indicates that 22.50 per cent and 17.50 per cent of the respondents are categorized under low level and high level of formal contact category, respectively. Whereas, majority of the respondents (60.00 %) were categorized under medium category of formal contact. While, data from Table 1 relating to mass contacts indicates that, more than half of the respondents *i.e.*, 66.67 per cent had medium level of mass contacts whereas, 17.50 per cent of the respondents were under high category of sources of information in case of mass contact and only 15.83 per cent of the respondents were under low level category mass contacts.

Extension contact:

It is observed that from Table 1 that 64.17 per cent of youth had medium level of extension contact followed by 20.83 and 15.00 per cent had low and high extension contact, respectively. The probable reason for majority of youth belong to medium category because of their eagerness in solving their problems with gram sevak and better exposure with various private companies officials and also their interest and good contact with extension workers.

Table 2 shows that relationship between personal characteristics of youth with their training needs of the respondents. The Pearson's correlation was calculated to find out the relationship between demographic characteristics variables and training needs of youth, the independent

variables like education, annual income, source of information and extension contact had significant association with training need at 5 per cent level of probability whereas variables like family size, family type, occupation, land holding, social participation had non significant association with training need.

Table 2: Distribution of the youth according to their relationship between personal characteristics and training need (n=120)

Independent variables	Training need
Education	0.219*
Family size	0.079NS
Family type	0.048NS
Annual income	0.211*
Occupation	0.129NS
Land holding	0.113NS
Social participation	0.147NS
Sources of information	0.199*
Extension contact	0.203*

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

Conclusion:

Youth are the most potent segment of the population of a country. The socio-economic development and prosperity of rural areas depends, to a considerable extent, on the type of youth living in rural areas, because the rural youth have abilities to orient themselves to go along the main stream of the development process. Training plays very important role in developing the youth in the agriculture and allied sciences and it helps for the development in the life style of the youth and farming community.

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