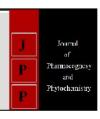


Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry

Available online at www.phytojournal.com



E-ISSN: 2278-4136 **P-ISSN:** 2349-8234 JPP 2018; SP2: 290-292

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Relationship of socioeconomic and psycological carecteristics of rural youths with their attitude level while choosing agriculture as a profession

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Abstract

The study was carried out in Amravati district of Maharashtra state. Data from 120 respondent's from 10 villages were collected and the interpretation and analysis was done. The findings of the study revealed that, the majority of the rural youths were with low social participation. Majority of the rural youths had medium economic motivation, extension contact and medium risk taking ability. From the correlation analysis the significant was tested at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance and revealed that, Social participation, Economic motivation, Extension contact and Risk taking ability of rural youths have significant relationship with their attitude level.

Keywords: Plant height, Zinnia, Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Plant spread, Branches.

Introduction

Youths are the most potent segment of the population of a country. The youth of today are the hopes of tomorrow. They are the back bone of the 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. They reflect the national potentiality and represent the life blood of a nation. India is said to be a land of youth and villages. Indian agriculture is a backbone in the development of our country and traditional farming in India has to undergo revolutionary technological changes so as to achieve a comparable status like developed countries of the world. This revolution can be brought about more successfully with the help of growing youth, if they are trained and cared properly. It is really encouraging that leaders, administrators, planners and extension workers are giving high priority to rural youth in the village development programmes. To derive maximum benefits from agricultural profession youth's co-operation and participation is necessary. They have to learn and adopt better techniques in different fields of development. New agricultural strategy aims at exploiting the extra yield potential of exotic and hybrid varieties of seeds of major crops. Rural youths are the precious human assets who can play an important role in the development activities, agriculture and other allied activities.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Amravati taluka of Amravati district of Maharashtra state. Rural youths in 10 villages were contacted at their places of residence and data were collected by personal interview. From 10 villages 120 rural youths were selected randomly. The interview schedule was constructed by formulating relevant questions in accordance with objectives of the study. The schedule included questions pertaining to social participation, economic motivation, extension contact and risk taking ability of rural youths while choosing agriculture as a profession.

The information from respondents was collected by personal interview methods and their responses were considered for the purpose of the present study. Categorization of respondents done by equal interval on the basis of range. Correlation and 't' test methods were used for analysis of the data.

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Results and Discussion

1. Social Participation

Table1: Distribution of rural youths according to their social participation and relationship of social participation with attitude level.

Sr. No.	Social participation	Attitude level			Total
		Unfavorable	Favorable	Highly favorable	Total
1	Low	27	57	13	97
1		(27.84)	(58.76)	(13.40)	(80.83)
2	Medium	0	16	5	21
4	Medium	(0.00)	(76.19)	(23.81)	(17.5)
3	High	0	1	1	2
3		(0.00)	(50.00)	(50.00)	(1.67)
	Total	27	74	19	120
		(22.5)	(61.67)	(15.83)	(100.00)

r=0.4147

 $t_{cal} = 4.9443**$

From the above table 1, it is clear that, the great majority (80.83 per cent) of the respondents had low level of social participation and 17.5 per cent of the respondents had medium level of social participation. While only 1.67 per cent of the respondents had high level of social participation.

It was also observed from the above table that respondent's social participation had positive and significant relationship with attitude level.

These findings are in agreement with the finding of by Mohsee & Ommani (2011) and Mousai & Arayesh (2011) found positive and significant relationship of social

participation with attitude in their respective study.

2. Economic Motivation

From the above table it is seeing that, majority (59.16 per cent) of the respondents had medium level of economic motivation followed by 26.67 per cent of the respondents had high level of economic motivation and 14.27 per cent of the respondents had low level of economic motivation.

It also indicates from the above table that respondent's economic motivation had positive and significant relationship with attitude level.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their economic motivation and relationship of economic motivation with attitude level.

Economic motivation	Attitude level			
	Unfavorable	Favorable	Highly favorable	Total
Low	14	2	1	17
	(82.35)	(11.77)	(5.88)	(14.27)
Medium	12	50	9	71
	(16.90)	(71.42)	(12.67)	(59.16)
Uigh	1	22	9	32
nigii	(3.12)	(68.75)	(28.13)	(26.67)
	27	7/	7/	120
Total	(22.5)	(61.67)	(61.67)	(100.00)
	Low Medium High	Low	Conomic motivation Unfavorable Favorable	Company

r=0.5304

 $t_{cal} = 6.7949 **$

3. Extension Contact

Table 3: Distribution of rural youths according to their extension contact and relationship of extension contact with attitude level.

Sr. No.	Category of Type of Family	Attitude level			Total
		Unfavorable	Favorable	Highly favorable	1 Otal
1	Low	18	7	2	27
1.		(66.67)	(25.93)	(7.40)	(22.5)
2.	Medium	7	58	10	75
۷.	Medium	(9.34)	(77.33)	(13.33)	(62.5)
3.	High	2	9	7	18
э.		(11.11)	(50.00)	(38.89)	(15.00)
	Total	27	74	15	120
		(22.5)	(61.67)	(15.83)	(100.00)
0.404.4					

r = 0.5385

 $t_{cal} = 6.9405**$

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages.) (**Significant at 0.01 per cent level significance)

In table 3 given above it indicates that majority (62.5 per cent) of the respondents were situated in medium category of extension contact, while 22.5 and 15.00 per cent of respondents were situated in low and high extension contact category, respectively.

It also indicates that extension contact had positive and significant relationship with attitude level. It is due to

awareness, involvement in extension activities and knowledge received by respondents had helped them to change their attitudes

These findings are supported by the finding of Bite *et al.* (2009) [2] found positive and significant relationship of extension contact with attitude in his respective study.

^{(**}Significant at 0.01 % level of Significance) (Figure in parenthesis indicates percentages.)

^{(**}Significant at 0.01 % level of Significance) (Figure in parenthesis indicates percentages.)

4. Risk Taking Ability

From data in table 4 observed that majority (53.33 per cent) of the respondents had medium level of risk taking ability, while 25.84 and 20.83 per cent of respondents had high and low risk taking ability, respectively. This might be due to innovativeness, high social values, more extension contact and economic motivation had played vital role in changing their attitude.

It also indicates that risk taking ability had positive and significant relationship with attitude level.

Table 4: Distribution of rural youths according to their risk taking ability and relationship of risk taking ability with attitude level.

Sr. No.	Risk Taking Ability	Attitude level			Total
		Unfavorable	Favorable	Highly favorable	Total
1	Low	12	13	0	25
1.		(48.00)	(52.00)	(0.00)	(20.83)
2.	Medium	11	45	8	64
2.		(17.19)	(70.31)	(12.5)	(53.33)
2	High	4	16	11	31
3.		(12.91)	(51.61)	(35.48)	(25.84)
	Total	27	74	15	120
		(22.5)	(61.67)	(15.83)	(100.00)

r=0.4414

 $t_{cal} = 5.3422**$

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages) (**Significant at 0.01 per cent level significance)

From data in table 15 observed that majority (53.33 per cent) of the respondents had medium level of risk taking ability, while 25.84 and 20.83 per cent of respondents had high and low risk taking ability, respectively. Graphically it depicted in figure 20.

Looking to the status of attitude slightly more than half, (52.00 per cent) of respondents from low risk taking ability category show favorable attitude level, while 70.31 per cent of respondents from medium risk taking ability category show favorable attitude level, whereas 51.61 per cent of respondents from high risk taking ability category show favorable attitude level (fig.19). This might be due to innovativeness, high social values, more extension contact and economic motivation had played vital role in changing their attitude.

It also indicates that risk taking ability had positive and significant relationship with attitude level. These findings are supported by the finding of Bite *et al.* (2009) [2] found positive and significant relationship of risk preference with attitude in his respective study.

Conclusion

The study suggested that intensive efforts should be made by extension workers to increase participation of well-educated youths in farming for implementation of the new technologies on the farm for increase in agricultural productivity. More efforts should be taken by the planners to mould the rural youth's aspiration towards different agro-based enterprises and also efforts should be improved by the Government agencies to provide better agricultural projects for rural youths.

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