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To study of socio-economic status of cotton growers in Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan

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Abstract

The study was conducted during the year 2022-23 in Padampur and Suratgarh blocks of Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan to study of socio-economic status of cotton growers on improved cotton cultivation practices. A sample size of 120 respondents was selected based on proportionate random sampling procedure. The study show majority of respondents was in middle age group, OBC caste, maximum respondents was literate, nuclear family and 4 members in family, farming as occupation, majority of respondents had medium land holding, Rs. 83000/- of annual income, majority respondents had pacca type of housing pattern, majority of respondents had no social participation and low economic motivation.

Keywords: Socio-economic, cotton growers, cotton cultivation, practices

Introduction

Cotton is one of the most important fiber and cash crop of India and plays a dominant role in the industrial and agricultural economy. It is only agriculture commodity that provides both fiber and food. Cotton is a natural fiber that comes from the fluffy fibers surrounding the seeds of the cotton plant, belonging to the genus *Gossypium*. It has a long and rich history, dating back thousands of years. Cotton cultivation in India has a long and significant history, as the country has been one of the largest producers and exporters of cotton for many years. India's cotton industry plays a crucial role in the country's economy and agricultural sector. The major cotton-producing states in India are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

The present study was conducted in Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan to understand the Knowledge of farmers about improved cotton production technology. In Rajasthan cotton is mainly grown in Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajasmand, Banswara, Bikaner and Nagaur district. Sriganganagar is major cotton growing district of the state.

The climatic conditions of the district are most suitable for cultivation of cotton but the productivity of this crop is far below than desired level. This level can be achieved through timely adoption of improved cotton cultivation technology by the farmers.

Keeping the above facts in view the present study was undertaken with the following specific objective:

Objective

To study about the socio-economic status of the cotton grower.

Methodology

The present study was purposively conducted in Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan state on the basis of maximum production. Sriganganagar district has nine block namely sriganganagar, Padampur, Karanpur, Raisinghnagar, Suratgarh, Anupgarh, Vijaynagar, Sadulshahar and Gharsana out of these two block namely Padampur and Suratgarh have been selected for the study. Five villages from each identify block was selected randomly. Thus total ten villages was selected randomly for the study. Selection of respondents done by random sampling method and 12 respondents was selected from each identify village to make a total sample size of 120 respondents.

A semi-structured interview schedule based on objective of the study was developed and respondent was personally interviewed for collection of information. All the responses was recorded and transferred to master excel sheet. The data was compiled, scored, tabulated and analyzed to give statistical treatment in such a way that they might give proper answers to the specific objectives of the study.

Results and Discussion

Socio-economic status of the farmers

In this section data regarding personal characteristics viz., Age, Caste, Education, Family type, Family size, Occupation, Land holding, Annual income, Housing pattern, Social participation, Economic motivation, and Extension contact has been discussed.

The following result has been presented in subsequent table

Age of respondents

On the basis of their age respondents was classified into three categories i.e., (up to 38) young age, (39 to 63) middle age and (64 and above) old age. The data reveals that majority of respondents 71 (59.16 per cent) belonged to middle age group (39 to 63), followed by 27 (22.50 per cent) of respondents belonged to old age group (above 63) and only 22 (18.34 per cent) of respondents belonged to the young age group (below 39), respectively.

Caste

On the basis of caste respondents was classified into four categories i.e., General caste, other backward caste, Scheduled caste and Scheduled tribe. Study reveals that the majority of the respondents 54(45.00 per cent) belonged to Other backward caste category, followed by Scheduled caste 40(33.33 per cent), General caste 20(16.66 per cent) and Scheduled tribe 06(05.00 per cent) respectively.

Education

On the basis of education, respondents was classified into two categories i.e., Illiterate and Literate (Primary school, Middle school, High school, Intermediate, Graduate and Post graduate). Data reveals that the majority of the respondents 106 (88.33 per cent) was literate and 14 (11.67 per cent) respondents was illiterate. Further, the educational level was worked out and given in ascending order as 23.33 per cent (Intermediate), 20.83 per cent (High School), 15.00 per cent (Graduate), 10.83 per cent (Primary), 10.83 per cent (middle school), and 07.50 per cent (Post Graduate).

Family type

On the basis of family type respondents was classified into two categories i.e., Nuclear family, Joint family. Data shows that single families was more in number than joint families. In terms of percentage 92 (76.66 per cent) respondents belongs to nuclear families, while remaining 28 (23.34 per cent) belongs to joint families.

Family size

On the basis of size of family respondents was classified into three categories i.e., Small family (Below 5 members), Medium family (5 to 9 members), Large family (above 9 members). Study shows that majority of respondents 84(70.00 per cent) belonged to small category of those had below 5 members in their families followed by 21 (17.50 per cent) respondents belonged to medium (5 to 9 members) and 15 (12.50 per cent) respondents belonged to large (above 9

members) families, respectively. It concluded that majority of respondents belongs to category of small size family.

Occupation

Occupation refers to the profession of the respondents possessed for their livelihood. The respondent was categorized in four categories based on their profession. Data shows that majority of the respondents 63(52.50%) are exclusively involved in farming. There is also a significant proportion of respondents 28(23.34%) who combine farming with business activities. A smaller percentage of respondents are engaged in farming alongside service-related occupations 20(16.66%), and a few individuals 9(7.50%) reported being involved in farming, business, and service simultaneously.

Land holding

On the basis of land holding respondents was classified into four categories i.e., Marginal farmers, Small farmers, Medium farmers, Large farmers. Study describe that maximum 76(63.34 per cent) respondents was having up to 1 hectare of land who belonged to marginal category. Respondents belonged to small and medium categories was 19(15.84 per cent) and 08(06.66 per cent) respectively. Data also shows that 17(14.16 per cent) of respondents was having large land holding. It concluded that majority of respondents belong to marginal category of land holding.

Annual income

On the basis on annual income respondents was classified into three categories Small (up to 83,000), Medium (83001 to 4,66,999), High (4,67,000 and above). Study reveals that maximum number of the respondents 68(56.66 per cent) was belonged to the annual income of up to Rs. 83000(small) while, 36(30.00 per cent) and 16(13.34 per cent) respondents belong to income range of medium (83001 to 4,66,999) and High (4,67,000 and above), respectively. It concluded that maximum number of the respondents was found in the small category up to 83000 annual income range with an average of Rs. 275000

Housing pattern

The table 4.9 presents the distribution of respondents based on their housing pattern. A total of 120 respondents was surveyed, and they was categorized into two housing patterns: "Mixed" and "Pacca." Study reveal that majority of respondents, 103 (85.84%), reported having a "Pacca" housing pattern. And other 17 respondents (14.16%) reported having a "Mixed" housing pattern.

Social Participation

On the basis of participation respondents was classified into four categories i.e., No participation, Participation in one organization, Participation in two organization, Participation in more than two organization. Study reveal that 71 respondents (59.16 per cent) was no participation in any organization, followed by 27 respondents (22.50 per cent) was participation in one organization, while 12(10.00 per cent) and 10(08.33 per cent) respondents has participation in two organization and participation in more than two organizations, respectively. It concluded that majority of respondents have low social participation.

Economic motivation

On the basis of the economic motivation of respondents, they was classified into three categories, i.e. low level of economic

motivation (< 7 scores), medium level of economic motivation (7 to 8 scores) and high level of economic motivation (> 8 scores).

Study reveal that the maximum number of respondents 50 (41.67 per cent) was found having low level of economic motivation followed by 45(37.50 percent) and 25(20.83 per cent) respondents was such who had medium and high level of economic motivation respectively.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their socio-economic status

S.R. No.	Socio-economic status parameter	frequency	Percentage
1. Age			
	Young age(up to 38)	22	18.34
	Middle age(39 to 63)	71	59.16
	Old age(above 63)	27	22.50
2. Caste			
	General	20	16.66
	OBC	54	45.00
	SC	40	33.33
	ST	06	05.00
3. Education			
	Illiterate	14	11.67
	Literate	106	88.33
	Primary	13	10.83
	Middle	13	10.83
	High School	25	20.83
	Intermediate	28	23.34
	Graduate	18	15.00
	Post Graduate	09	07.50
4. Family type			
	Nuclear	92	76.66
	Joint	28	23.34
5. Family size			
	Small (up to 4)	84	70.00
	Medium (5 to 9)	21	17.50
	Large (above 9)	15	12.50
6. Occupation			
	Farming	63	52.50
	Farming+ Business	28	23.34
	Farming+ Service	20	16.66
	Farming+ Business +Service	09	7.50
7. Land holding			
	Marginal (up to 1ha.)	76	63.34
	Small (1.01 to 2.00 ha.)	19	15.84
	Medium (2.01 to 3.00 ha.)	08	06.66
	Large (above 3.00 ha.)	17	14.16
8. Annual Income			
	Small (up to 83000)	68	56.66
	Medium (83001 to 4,66,999)	36	30.00
	High (4,67,000 and above)	16	13.34
9. Housing Pattern			
	Mixed	17	14.16
	Pacca	103	85.84
10. Social Participation			
	No Participation	71	59.17
	Participation in one organization	27	22.50
	Participation in two organization	12	10.00
	Participation in three organization	10	08.33
11. Economic motivation			
	Low(below 7)	50	41.67
	Medium(7 to 8)	45	37.50
	High(above 8)	25	20.83

Conclusion

Cotton is important cash crop in more than 80 countries. India is one of the major cotton producers in the world. The study show majority of respondents were in middle age group, OBC

caste, maximum respondents were literate, nuclear family and 4 members in family, farming as occupation, majority of respondents have medium land holding, Rs. 83000/- of annual income, majority respondents have pacca type of housing pattern, majority of respondents have no social participation and low economic motivation.

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