Agriways 7 (2) : 102-106 December, 2019

ISSN: 2321-8614 (Print)
ISSN: 2454-2318 (Online)

Research Article

BASELINE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF FARMERS IN MIRZAPUR DISTRICT OF UTTAR PRADESH

[1]Prabha, [2]S.R. Singh, [2]Jai. P. Rai and [2]S.K. Goyal*
[1]Shri Venkateshwara University, Gajraula, Amroha (U.P.)
[2]BHU-KVK, Instt. of Agril. Scs., RGSC, Barkachha, Mirzapur (U.P.)
*Email: sunil.svbp@gmail.com

Abstract 12 blocks and 05 villages from each block of Mirzapur were chosen for the study. 05 farmers from each village were randomly selected and the sample was made up of 300 farmers. Data were collected with the use of questionnaire. Majority of 142 farmers (47.33%) were middle age group of 31-50 years, followed by 30% of old age group (>51 years) and 22.67% were of young age group of below 30 years. It was noticed that, more farmers belonged to middle and old age group. It was observed that, 67 farmers (22.33%) were having intermediate education, followed by high school (17.0%), can read only (15.0%), middle school (14.0%), primary school (9.67%), illiterate (6.33%), graduate (2.67%) and post graduate & other diploma (0.67%), respectively. 212 farmers (70.67%) were lived in joint family and only 88 farmers (29.33%) were lived as nuclear family. In case of land holding, 165 farmers (55%) belonged to small group. Whereas, 89 farmers (29.67%) of marginal group, 29 farmers (9.67%) of semi-medium group. While, 9 farmers (3.0%) of medium land holding group and 8 farmers (2.67%) were in the group of large farmers, respectively. Majority of the farmers (49.0%) belonged to medium experience group (16-25 years), while 34.33% of the farmers had high experience (>25 years). 74% of the farmers were earned medium income (Rs.1,25,001 to 1,75,000). While, 27.67%, 19.0% and 6.33% of the farmers belonged to semi-medium (Rs. 75,001 to 1,25,000), low (Rs.<75,000) and high (>1,75,000) income category, respectively.

Keywords: Annual income, Baseline survey, Farmers, KVK programmes, Socio-economic

Introduction

The economy of the district is predominantly agrarian hence; agriculture is the main enterprise of economy (Pandey and Reddy, 2012). There are many big agricultural farms and progressive farmers, those adopting latest and improved agricultural technologies for agricultural activities. These farmers are producing paddy, wheat, barley, jowar, bajra, maize, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, flowers, medicinal plants, livestock, poultry, fishery, goatary etc. They are contributing to enhance economy of the district. Mirzapur has an area of 4521 km^2 and population of more than 20 lacs. The district is divided into 04 sub-divisions, 12 blocks, 973 gram sabhas and 806 gram panchayats containing 2079 villages. Agro-climatically it comes under ACZ-9 (Vindhyan Zone) and Agro-ecologically under two major situations, i.e. Indo-Gangetic plain (30-40% area) and Vindhyan region (rest area). An attempt was made to provide a brief description of the physical, natural and socio-economic features of Mirzapur district where this survey was conducted in order to make the survey more effective. The average annual household income of farmers of Mirzapur from agriculture was Rs. 45677, Livestock Rs. 10125, wages Rs. 7219 and other sources Rs. 7264 (Total average income Rs. 70285) of Vindhyan Agro-Climatic Zone in 2011-12 (GOI, 2013).

Majority (58.33%) of the banana growers were from middle age group (35-45 years) followed by young age (24.17%) and old age group (17.50%) (Patil *et al.,* 2000). The age group of farmers lies between 21 and 60 years (Murugan and Dharmalingam, 2000). 36.67% respondents were educated upto middle school followed by 25% educated upto high school, while only 5.83% farmers were illiterate (Patil *et al.*, 2000). The respondents were educated upto middle school (26.67%) (Sridhara, 2002). Moulasab (2004) indicated that, more than 23% of the respondents were educated upto primary school followed by higher secondary school (19.16%) while, 14.16% of the respondents were illiterates. 54.0% of respondents belonged to nuclear family whereas, 46.0% of them belonged to joint family (Deshmukh and Mane, 1999). 78% of the respondents belonged to the group which had farming experience between 3 to 15

years (Sharma and Gangwar, 1994). Majority (63.20%) of the trainees had farming experience upto 10 years (Desai *et al.,* 1996). About 34% of the farmers had low farming experience while, 32.50% and 33.50% farmers had medium and more experience, respectively (Veeraiah *et al*., 1998).

Farming experience of the respondents indicated that one third of the respondents (36.0%) from KVK Jalgaon-Jamod had upto 10 years of experience in farming, about 28.0% respondents had 11 to 20 years of experience. While, in case of KVK, Karda more than half of the respondents (55.20%) possessed upto 10 years of farming experience, followed by 26.40% respondents having 11 to 20 years of farming experience (Bhople *et al.*, 2001). Majority of the respondents had medium farming experience (48%) followed by high (45%) and low (7%) farming experience, respectively (Natikar, 2001). 61.68% farmers had medium farming experience while 19.66% of each of them were noticed in low and high farming experience, respectively. The average farming experience of the respondents was 32 years (Jayachandra and Naidu, 2006). Kumar and Subramanian (2012) reported that, 53.33% of the respondents belonged to low experience category followed by medium (45%) and high (1.67%) farming experience. 40.62% of the respondents belonged to high experience category while, 35.9% and 23.45% of the respondents belonged to medium and low experience category, respectively (Sridhar *et al.,* 2013). Sudha (1998) found that majority of the women farmers have an annual income from Rs. 10,001 to Rs. 15,000. However, Dasaratharamaiah *et al.* (2006) reported that 10.0% of beneficiaries had income between Rs. 7,201 and above, 20.67% had income between Rs. 4,801 and 7,200,31. 33% had income from Rs. 3,601 to 4,800 and 38% had income below Rs.3,600 per annum after implementation of DWCRA. It was also found that there was no person without any income.

Materials and Methods

There were totally 12 blocks (Fig.-1) in the jurisdiction area of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mirzapur. All 12 blocks were chosen for the study. Simple random sampling design was used to select the five villages from each block. The list of farmers who had participated in the various interventions which were conducted by KVK, Mirzapur during last five years in the area of crop science, crop production, horticulture, plant protection, animal science, agricultural engineering, soil science and agricultural extension were obtained from the KVK records. From each village, 05 farmers were randomly selected for the present survey. The sample was madeup of (12x5x5) 300 farmers. Data were collected with the use of questionnaires and observations. Obtained data were presented in the form of frequency and percentage.To fulfill the objective of the survey, primary data related to demographic profile and socio-economic status of selected farmer were collected using questionnaire.

Results and Discussion

The details of personal and socio-economic profile of selected farmers for the survey are given in table 1. It is clear from the table that, majority of 142 farmers (47.33%) were under middle age group (31-50 years), followed by 30% under old age group (more than 51 years) and 22.67% were under young age group (below 30 years). It is interesting to note that, more percentage of farmers belonged to middle and old age. This implies that, the KVK has identified and encouraged middle and old age farmers by considering their farming experience to achieve benefits in approaches to various enterprises. This might be the reason for middle and old age group farmers dominating the scene. It may be concluded that, most of the farmers having education upto intermediate level. Findings of Patil *et al.* (2000) seem to advocate the results of the present survey. Similar results were also noticed by Murugan and Dharmalingam (2000). Shashidhara (2004) also reported similar findings that, majority of the respondents fallen under middle age (48.33%) category.

Education

The education status of the selected farmers can be seen in Table. It is observed that, more than 67 farmers (22.33%) were having education upto intermediate, followed by high school (17.0%), can read only (15.0%), middle school (14.0%), having no formal education (12.33%), primary school (9.67%), illiterate (6.33%), graduate (2.67%) and post graduate & other diploma (0.67%), respectively. The findings of the present investigation are in coordination with those of Chandregowda and Jayaramaiah (1990); Patil *et al.* (2000) and Maulasab (2004).

Family type

Data contained in table also reveal that 212 selected farmers (70.67%) were living in joint family, while only 88 famers (29.33%) were living in nuclear family. It is found that the joint family system is still common at village level. People were told that there are many advantages to live in a joint family system. Generally, farmers do not prefer to live in nuclear family system.

Table 1: Personal and socio-economic profile of selected farmers
(n=300)

S. No.	Characteristics	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
	Age		
1	Young (up to 30 years)	68	22.67
	Medium (31 to 50 years)	142	47.33
	Old (>51 years)	90	30.00
	Education		
2	Illiterate (can't read and write)	19	06.33
	Can read only	45	15.00
	Can read and write (no formal education)	37	12.33
	Primary school (1-4th standard)	29	09.67
	Middle school (5-8th standard)	42	14.00
	High school (9th -10th standard)	51	17.00
	Intermediate (11th -12th standard)	67	22.33
	Graduate	8	02.67
	Post Graduate and other	2	00.67
	Family type		
3	Joint	212	70.67
	Nuclear	88	29.33
	Land Holding		
4	Marginal famers (< 2.5 acres)	89	29.67
	Small farmers (2.51 to 5.00 acres)	165	55.00
	Semi-medium farmers (5.01 to 10.00 acres)	29	09.67
	Medium farmers (10.1 to 25.00 acres)	9	03.00
	Large farmers (>25.00 acres)	8	02.67
	Farming Experience		
5	High (>25 years)	103	34.33
	Medium (16 to 25 years)	147	49.00
	Low (10 to 15 years)	31	10.33
	Very low (<10 years)	19	06.33
	Annual Income (Rs.)		
6	Low (< 75,000)	57	19.00
	Semi-medium (75,001 to 1,25,000)	83	27.67
	Medium (1,25,001 to 1, 75,000)	141	47.00
	High (>1,75,000)	19	06.33

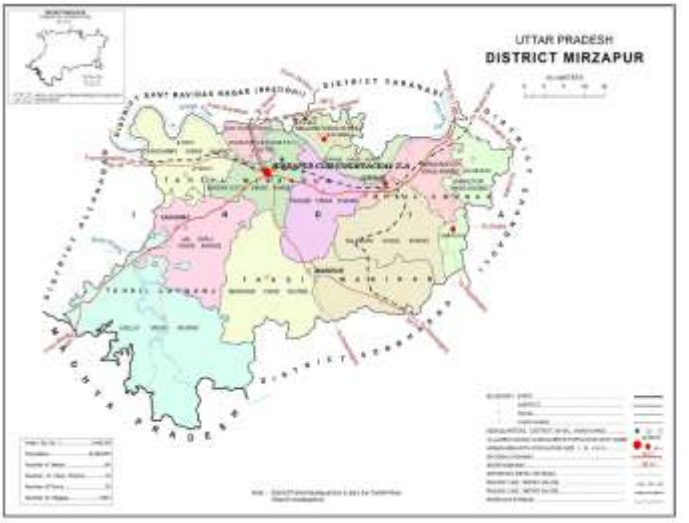

Fig.: Map of District Mirzapur
(Source: mapsofindia.com)

Similar findings have also been reported by Deshmukh and Mane (1999) and Sridhar *et al.* (2013).

Land holding

The data on size of land holding as contained in table exhibit that, 165 famers (55%) belonged to small group whereas, 89 farmers (29.67%) were under marginal group and 29 famers (9.67%) belonged to semi-medium group. This was followed by 9 famers (3.0%) of medium land holding group and 8 farmers (2.67%) in the group of large land holding size. The reason might be that due to increase in family members, the fragmentation of ancestors land from generation to generation might have led to marginal and small land holdings. Similar findings have also been reported by Patil *et al.* (2000) and Shashidhara (2004) in their respective research.

Farming experience

It could be observed from table that, 147 farmers, *i.e.* majority (49.0%) of the selected farmers belonged to medium farming experience group (16-25 years), while 34.33% of the farmers had high experience (>25 years). Further, 10.33% farmers had low experience (10-15 years) and only 6.33% farmers had very low (<10 years) farming experience. The reason for majority of farmers belonging to medium farming experience category might be attributed to birth in a farmer family which is largely dependent on agriculture. This enables one to inherit the family culture from generation to generation enriching them with the traditional agricultural experience. Similar findings have also been reported by Sharma and Gangwar (1994); Desai *et al.* (1996); Sudha (1998). The results are in accordance with the findings of Veeraiah *et al.* (1998), Bhopale *et al.* (2001); Natikar (2001); Jayachandra and Naidu (2006); Kumar and Subramanian (2012); Sridhar *et al.* (2013).

Annual income

As evident from the table that, 47% of the farmers were earning medium income (Rs.1,25,001 to 1,75,000). The possible reasons that could be attributed are their large size land holding and practicing income generating activities and growing commercial crops. Further, the existence of families with a size of 5 to 8 members where number of earning people is more who are engaged in difference occupations other than agriculture might have also contributed to this kind of result. A close perusal of the data also reveals the fact that 27.67%, 19.0% and 6.33% of the selected farmers belonged to semi-medium (Rs. 75,001 to 1,25,000), low (Rs.<75,000) and high (>1,75,000) income category, respectively. The possible reason may be that people having small size of land holding and depend mainly on dryland agriculture, which might have been the reason behind medium level of annual income. In case of low income, the reason may be lower socio-economic status and no adoption of other sources of income. The above findings are in conformity with those of Parthasarthy (1991); Sudha (1998) and Dasaratharamaiah *et al.* (2013).

Conclusion

On the basis of present survey, it can be concluded that, majority of the farmers were found under middle age group. It was also observed that, most of the farmers were having education upto intermediate level, followed by high school. The farmers were lived in both systems, joint as well as nuclear family. Maximum number of famers belonged to the small land holding group. In case of farming experience mostly famers having medium framing experience and generally the farmers earned only a medium income.

References

Bhople RS, Shinde PS and Dhule SS. 2001. Knowledge and adoption of bio-control pest management in cotton. *Maharashtra Journal of Extension Education* 20: 19-24.

Chandregowda, M,J. and Jayaramaiah, K.M. 1990. Impact of watershed development programme on socio-economic status, land productivity and income of small and marginal farmers. *Indian Journal of Extension Education* 25(3&4): 44-47.

Dasaratharamaiah K, Naidu MC and Jayaraju M. 2006. Women's empowerment through DWCRA – An empirical study. *Social Welfare* 52(12): 33-38.

Desai BR, Tirase KA and Kakde KD. 1996. Appraisal of training programmes of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. *Maharashtra Journal of Extension Education* 15: 74-79.

Deshmukh S and Mane A. 1999. Training needs of rural women in home science and agriculture. *Maharashtra Journal of Extension Education* 18: 178-181.

GoI. 2013. Key Indicators of Household Consumption Expenditure in India, 2011-12. Report No.NSS KI (68/1.0), National Sample Survey Organization, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, New Delhi.

Jayachandra K and Naidu G. 2006. Impact of dairy cooperatives on income, employment and creation of assets of marginal and small farmers - A case study. *Indian Cooperative Review* 43(4): 719-724.

Kumar U and Subramanian A. 2012. Growth in India's States in the First Decade of the 21st Century: Four Facts. *Economic and Political Weekly* 47(3): 48-57.

Moulasab I. 2004. A study on knowledge and adoption of improved cultivation practices by mango growers of North Karnataka, M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.

Murugan KR and Dharmalingam B. 2000. Self help groups-new women's movement in Tamil Nadu, *Social Welfare* 47(5): 9-12.

Natikar KV. 2001. Attitude and use of farm journal by the subscribers farmers and their profile. A critical analysis. Ph.D. Thesis, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.

Pandey L and Reddy AA. 2012. Farm Productivity and Rural Poverty in Uttar Pradesh: A Regional Perspective. *Agricultural Economics Research Review* 25(01): 25-35.

Parthasarathy G. 1991. White revolution, dairy co-operatives and weaker sections. *Economic and Political Weekly* 28 December, 177-188.

Patil PG, Borse VV and Khade PB. 2000. Correlates of knowledge and adoption of Kokani tribal farmers. *Tribal Research Bulletin* 22(1): 30-35.

Sharma SK and Gangwar BS. 1994. Cropping system in intensive agriculture for meeting the future food needs. *Indian Farming* 44: 16-21.

Shashidhara DN. 2004. A study on influencing factors and constraints in drip irrigation by horticulture farmers of Bijapur district. Impact of Vegetable Research in India. NCAP, New Delhi, Proceedings: 13: 4-5.

Sridhar G, Rao SB, Malleswararao SSN and Patil DV. 2013. Empowering rural community with improvement in knowledge level and livelihood through KVKs: Impact and Cases in Vishakapattanam district of Andhra Pradesh. *International Journal of Scientific Engineering Research* 1(2): 13-20.

Sridhara K. 2002. An evaluative study of watershed programme in Pavagada taluk of Tumkur district in Karnataka. M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.

Sudha H. 1998. Role of women workers in raising fruit nursery. *Thesis Abst*racts. 24(1): 14-15.

Veeraiah A, Daivadeenam P and Pandey RN. 1998. Knowledge and adoption level of farmers trained in Krishi Vigyan Kendra about groundnut cultivation. *Indian Journal of Extension Education* 17(1&2): 58-63.