



Study on Socio-Personal Characteristics of Paddy Growers in Navsari District of Gujarat State

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ABSTRACT

Present study was conducted to know the personal characteristics of paddy growers of Jalalpore taluka of Navsari district of Gujarat state. The study aims at analyzing the socio-personal characteristics and economic characteristics of paddy growers. The study concluded that, majority of the paddy growers were middle aged and educated up to secondary level and had medium level of size of family and medium level of social participation. However, as far as extension communication characteristics were concerned they had medium level of extension contact. Thus, the study highlighting that the knowledge level and adoption level of paddy growers on improved paddy cultivation practices.

Keywords- *Improved paddy cultivation practices, Paddy growers, Socio-personal characteristics*

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INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa*, L.) belongs to family Poaceae. It is the most important food crop of the world, next to wheat for human consumption. Rice is a most important staple food for 60.00 per cent of world's population. It is grown in 152 millions hectares in the world with the production of 586 millions tones [1]. Asian countries in the world cover more than 90.00 per cent area of rice cultivation. Asia accounts about 92.00 per cent of world's rice production and 90.00 per cent of global rice consumption. The most important rice producing countries are China, India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Thailand, Japan, Pakistan, Burma and Brazil. Jalalpore taluka of Navsari district (Gujarat state) is one of the major paddy growing taluka having with total area of 10,200 ha and production 3500 kg/ha (Kharif, 2008-2009, DOA, Gandhinagar, Gujarat).

Rice, wheat, and maize are the world's three leading food crops; together they directly supply more than 42% of all calories consumed by the entire human population. Human consumption in 2009 accounted for 78% of total production for rice, compared with 64% for wheat and 14% for maize. Of these three major crops, rice is by far the most important food crop for people in low- and lower-middle-income countries. Although rice consumption is spread across income classes relatively equally in low-income countries, the poorest people consume relatively little wheat. Rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population – more than 3.5 billion people depend on rice for more than 20% of their daily calories. Rice provided 19% of global human per capita energy and 13% of per capita protein in 2009. Asia accounts for 90% of global rice consumption, and total rice demand there continues to rise. But outside Asia, where rice is not a staple yet, per capita consumption continues to grow. Rice is the fastest growing food staple in Africa, and also one of the fastest in Latin America. Global rice consumption remains strong, driven by both population and economic growth, especially in many Asian and African countries.

Keeping this in view, the present study was conducted with following specific objective- Study on socio-personal characteristics of paddy growers in Navsari district of Gujarat state.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Present study was carried out in 8 villages of Jalalpore taluka, Navsari district of Gujarat state in the year 2009-2010. Paddy is the major crop in Jalalpore taluka of Navsari district. Total 80 paddy growers were selected by simple random sampling technique. Ex-post facto research design was used to conduct this study. The lists of paddy growers were obtained from Talathi-cum muntri. A well structured interview schedule was prepared to collect the data from the selected paddy growers. The collected data were analyzed and tabulated by using statistical tools viz., frequency, ranking, percentage, standard deviation (S.D.), and coefficient of correlation (r-value)..

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-personal characteristics: The distribution of the paddy growers according to their socio-personal characteristics have been given in Table-1 and discussed as below

Age:

As an evident from Table-1, majority of the paddy growers (55.00 per cent) were middle aged. The percentage of young and old paddy growers was 18.75 per cent and 26.25 per cent, respectively.

This finding was supported by Patel [4], Dasai [2], Singh *et al.* [6], Ray *et al.* [5] and Dalvi [1].

Education:

A perusal of Table-1, concluded that most of the paddy growers (45.00 per cent) had secondary level of education followed by graduation 31.25 per cent and primary level 23.75 per cent.

This finding was supported by Singh *et al.* [6], Ray *et al.* [5] and Dalvi [1].

Family size:

Table-1, concluded that majority (47.50 per cent) of the paddy growers had medium size of family, whereas 20.00 per cent and 32.50 per cent of the paddy growers had small and large size of the family.

This finding was supported by Singh *et al.* [6], Ray *et al.* [5] and Dalvi [1].

Social participation:

Data presented on Table-1, concluded that majority (46.25 per cent) of paddy growers had medium level of social participation; whereas 31.25 per cent of the paddy growers had higher level of social participation and only 22.50 per cent of paddy growers had lower level of social participation. This might be due to membership of the paddy growers in different village institutions and organizations viz; Agriculture service, Co-operative society, youth club, farmers club etc.

This finding was supported by Singh *et al.* [6], Ray *et al.* [5] and Dalvi [1].

Economic characteristics:

Operational size of land holding:

Data presented in Table-1, concluded that majority (48.75 per cent) of paddy growers had small operational size of the farm holding whereas; 30.00 per cent and 21.25 per cent of the paddy growers possessed big and marginal operational size of the farm holding, respectively.

This finding was supported by Ingle and Kubde [3], Singh *et al.* [6], Ray *et al.* [5] and Dalvi [1].

Table-1: Socio-personal characteristics of paddy growers (N=80)

S.N.	Variable	Categories	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Age	Young (up to 35 years)	15	18.75%
		Middle (between 36 to 50 years)	44	55.00%
		Old (above 50 years)	21	26.25%
2.	Education	Illiterate	-	-
		Primary	19	23.75%
		Secondary and higher secondary	36	45.00%
		Graduation and above	25	31.25%
3.	Family size	Small (up to 4 member)	16	20.00%
		Medium (between 4 to 6 member)	38	47.50%
		Large (above 6 member)	26	32.50%
4.	Social participation	Lower level (up to 1 score)	18	22.50%
		Medium (between 1 to 4 score)	37	46.25%
		Higher level (above 4 score)	25	31.25%
5.	Operational size of land holding	Marginal (up to 1.00 ha)	17	21.25%
		Small (between 1.01 to 2.00 ha)	39	48.75%
		Big (above 2 ha)	24	30.00%
6.	Extension contact	Lower (up to 5 score)	16	20.00%
		Medium (between 5 to 10 score)	42	52.50%
		Higher (above 10 score)	22	27.50%

Extension communication characteristics:

Extension contact:

Data presented in Table-1, it could be easily observed that majority of the paddy growers (52.50 per cent) had medium level of extension contact, followed by higher level of extension contact (30.00 per cent) and lower level of extension contacts (22.50 per cent) respectively.

This finding was supported by Ray *et al.* [5] and Dalvi [1].

CONCLUSION

The present study concluded that, majority of the paddy growers were middle aged, educated up to secondary level, with medium level of size of family, medium level of social participation, medium size of land holding and medium level of extension contact.

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