

## Socio-personal Characteristics of Farmers and Adoption of Farm Practices

Raj Singh Kushwah and P Thakur

### 1. Introduction

High Yielding Varieties Programme was introduced in the country for raising crop production through transfer of farm technology to the farmers. A remarkable increase in wheat production has been made in Punjab and Haryana state but the average production of wheat in Madhya Pradesh (1771 kg/ha) is still very low. There are several factors which are responsible for low adoption of modern farm practices of wheat. This study has been conducted to identify the socio-personal characteristics of farmers of Sagar Block Sagar district of and their association with the adoption of farm practices with the following objectives:

- To study the socio-personal and economic condition of farmers.
- To study the association of socio-personal characteristics with adoption of farm practices.
- To study the adoption gap of farm practices among the farmers.

### 2. Methodology

The study was confined to measure the association between socio-personal factors and adoption of farm practices of wheat grown under rainfed conditions. The area selected for the study was Sagar block of Sagar district. Out of 28 RAEO circles, five circles were selected purposively where farmers were growing maximum area under unirrigated wheat. From each circle one village was randomly selected. There were five hundred farmers who were growing unirrigated wheat in selected villages. A list of such farmers was prepared and 10 per cent of them were randomly selected for the conduct of this study. Thus, total 50 respondents were selected.

### 3. Result and Discussion

In the study 4 main characteristics of farmers namely age, education, land holding and family type

**Table 1 Percentage Distribution of Farmers According to Their Socio-personal and Economic Characteristics.**

Character-istics	N=50	No of Farmers	Farmers (%)
Age	(A) Young	26	52%
	(B) Old	24	48%
Education	(A) Literate	28	56%
	(B) Illiterate	22	44%
Land holding	(A) Up to 10 acres	40	80%
	(B) Above to 10 acres	10	20%
Family type	(A) Individual	04	8%
	(B) Joint	46	92%

were observed. Out of each farmers 52 per cent had young age group, 48 per cent were found in old age group, 56 per cent in literate and 44 per cent in illiterate group, 80 per cent possessed up to 10 acres of land and 20 per cent possessed above 10 acres of land, 92 per cent were living in joint family and 8 per cent individually (Table 1).

Data presented in Table 2 reveals that the sowing time of seed was followed by all farmers of all characteristic categories. Similarly, seed rate practice was adopted by cent percent farmers living in individual family. Similarly, sowing method was adopted by about 50 per cent farmers of all categories. Interestingly seed treatment practice was observed not adopted by satisfactory number of farmers of any categories except individual family type farmers. However, there were significant association between education and sowing time, family type and seed treatment. Hence it has been concluded that the effects of the above factors on adoption of farm practices was negligible except in some cases.

**Table 2 Association Between Socio- personal Characteristics and Adoption of Farm Practices Under Unirrigated Wheat.**

	Farm Practices			
	Seed treatment	Seed rate	Sowing time	Sowing method
• Age				
Young n=26	03 (11.54)	19 (73.08)	26 (100)	16 (61.54)
Old n=24	01 (4.17)	19 (79.17)	24 (100)	12 (50.00)
$\alpha^2$ value	0.19	0.25	--	0.67
• Education				
Literate n=28	03 (10.71)	24 (85.71)	28 (100)	19 (67.86)
Illiterate n=28	01 (4.54)	14 (63.84)	22 (100)	09 (49.91)
• Land holding				
$\alpha^2$ value	0.07	0.19	--	3.65*
Upto 10 acres n=40	03 (7.5)	31 (77.5)	40 (100)	21 (52.50)
Above 10 acres n=40	01 (10)	07 (70)	10 (100)	07 (70)
• Types of family				
$\alpha^2$ value	0.1016	0.12	--	0.41
Individual n =4	02 (50)	04 (100)	04 (100)	02 (50)
Joint n=46	02 (4.35)	34 (73.91)	46 (100)	26 (56.52)
$\alpha^2$ value	5.14*	0.41	--	0.074

\* Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

On the basis of socio-personal and economic characteristics i.e. age, education, land holding and family type, the adoption gap in 4 farm practices were observed and found that in both categories of farmers the adoption gap percentage was almost equal while there was variation in land holding and family type regarding seed rate practice and sowing time. Hence overall it may be concluded that the adoption gaps in selected practices was not influenced by the age, education, land holding and family type (Table 3).

#### 4. Conclusion

- The adoption of recommended practices of seed treatment has been found increased by farmers of young age, higher education, larger land holdings and individual family types.
- The adoption of seed rate practices was similar in case of farmers of both age group.
- The complete adoption of sowing time was found by all categories of farmers.

- It was noted that there was not enough evidence of significant association between the socio-personal characteristics and adoption of farm practices.

**Table 3 Socio-economic Characteristics of Farmers According to Adoption Gap in Wheat Practices.**

	Farmers Practices			
	Seed treatment	Seed rate	Sowing time	Sowing method
Mean	4	38	50	28
Rank	I	III	IV	II
• Adoption gap %				
• Age				
Young	94	62	48	68
Old	98	62	52	76
• Education				
Literate	94	52	44	62
Illiterate	98	72	66	82
• Land Holding				
Up to 10 acres	94	38	50	58
Above 10 acres	98	86	80	86
• Types of family				
Individual	96	92	92	96
Joint	94	32	08	48

## 5. References

- Choubey, UK. (1978). A study of factors responsible for the incomplete adoption of recommended practices of wheat cultivation in Jabalpur district. *M.Sc (Ag.) Thesis*. JNKVV, Jabalpur.
- Kekatpure, W.A. (1975). Factors affecting knowledge and adoption of improved agricultural practices by small farmers. *M.Sc. (Ag.) Thesis*, JNKVV, Jabalpur.
- Khurana, D.K. and Swarnkar, V.K. (1968). Socio-economic constraints in adoption of wheat technology. *Unpublished M.Sc. (Ag.) Extension Thesis*, College of Agriculture, Rewa.
- Singh, S.P., Hudda, R.S. and Verma, H.K. (1991). Knowledge gap of Citrus growers. *Ind. Jr. Ext. Edn.* Vol. XXVII nos. 1&2 : 117-120.
- Waghmare. S.K. and pandit, V.K. (1982). Constrains in adoption of wheat technology by the tribal farmers of M.P. *Ind. Jr. Extn. Edn.* (\*1 & 2) June.