

## Farming System Based Constraints Faced by Farmers

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### ABSTRACT

*The present investigation was conducted in Dausa district of Rajasthan to suggest which particular farming system viz crop, dairy, vegetable and labour can provide maximum yield benefit and job opportunity. The most important constraint expressed by the respondents were non-availability of communication facility, financial crisis in the family, very low support price fixed by the Govt., higher input cost and inadequate and untimely rainfall. The effect of these constraints can be mitigated by taking appropriate remedial measures.*

**Key words:** Farming system; constraints faced by farmers

In India, agriculture is the primary source of employment for both men and women. Agriculture accounts for about 30 per cent of gross domestic product and employs about two third of the labour force. Most of the areas in our country suffer almost every year from one or other form of natural calamities like flood, heavy rains or droughts. Further, the pressure on the available agriculture land is increasing due to growing urbanization, population explosion and subsequent fragmentation of land holding. In view of the above facts there is strong need to commercialize agriculture and in order to ensure an all round development of farming families farming should be considered as a system in which crop and other enterprises that are compatible and complimentary are combined together. It should include all components of land such as soil, water, crop, livestock, labour and other resources. The study of farming systems and application of farming systems approaches can bring a ray of hope for the betterment of farmers. Keeping all these factors in mind the present study was conducted to suggest which particular mixture of crop, dairy, vegetable and labour can provide maximum benefit and job opportunity.

### METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was conducted in Dausa district of Rajasthan on a sample of 360 farmers comprising of marginal, small and big farmers selected randomly from 15 villages of three tehsils in the district.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The productivity of different farming systems is largely affected by a number of constraints faced by the farmerS in different enterprises. The constraints faced by the farmers were grouped in to major heads related to transport, institutional, credit, marketing, technical, economic and socio-cultural.

*Transport constraints:* The constraints identified varied greatly from system to system. For instance, non-availability of communication means was the major constraint faced by the farmers dependent on crop, crop + labour, crop + dairy, crop + vegetable and crop + vegetable + labour. Another major constraint was the poor road to the nearest market.

*Institutional constraints :* Results showed that among the institutional constraints non-availability of effective leader in the villages was perceived as the most important constraint by the respondents. This might be due to the fact that mostly the leaders are political leaders. They use to discuss the political matters rather than agricultural issues. Hence, they were not the potential and functional leaders. Another constraint highlighted was scarcity of technical know how which may be true due to the reason that most of the technological advances are not reaching to the farmers through extension agency.

*Credit related constraints :* The intensity and severity of credit constraints varied from system to system. Financial crisis in the family was the first major constraint reported by the farmers. Another important constraint was long and complicated procedure of loaning.

*Marketing related constraints:* Very low support price fixed by the government was perceived as the first major constraint. Another constraint was non availability market facilities in the villages.

*Technical constraints :* Six technical constraints have been identified. The intensity and seriousness of these constraints varied from system to system. Lack of communication of technical know how to the farm families and untimely diffusion of the latest technical know how were the major constraints. Lack of practical applicability of technical know how was perceived as another major constraints.

Table 1. Major constraints faced by different categories of farmers

S. No.	Constraints faced by farmers	Constraints faced by different categories of farmers (N=297)				
		Marginal farmer	Small farmer	Big farmer	Percentage	Rank
<b>i. Major transport related constraints</b>						
1	Lack of linked road to the nearest market	9	8	6	7.74	III
2	Quality of road is poor to the nearest market	22	17	20	19.86	II
3	Non-availability of communication means	23	37	30	33.67	I
4	Non-availability of labour for loading & unloading	1	0	2	1.01	IV
<b>ii. Institutional constraints</b>						
1	Lack of educational facilities	28	32	24	28.28	VIII
2	Unavailability of training institutes for training the farmers	84	87	61	78.11	III
3	Scarcity of technical know how	84	85	64	78.45	II
4	Scarcity of	76	74	64	72.05	IV
	(a) Co-operative banks	59	52	45	52.52	VII
	(b) Farmers club	61	56	47	55.21	VI
	(c) Discussion groups	65	68	52	62.28	V
5	Gram panchayat is not functioning in proper way	32	25	22	26.59	IX
6	Non-availability of effective leader in village	86	85	70	81.14	I
<b>iii. Credit related constraints</b>						
1	Financial crisis in the family	114	92	73	90.57	I
2	Lack of banks and other authorised loaning agencies	88	87	70	82.49	IV
3	Untimely and inadequate loaning by banks or other authorised loaning agencies	87	82	67	79.46	VI
4	Lack of private finance agencies	90	83	69	81.48	V
5	Higher interest rates of private finance agencies	94	87	68	83.83	III
6	Inefficient working of cooperative societies	70	61	56	62.96	VIII
7	Only few influential persons getting loans from the banks/ cooperative societies	71	71	65	69.69	VII
8	Long & complicated procedure is to be followed for taking loans	91	88	73	84.84	II
<b>iv. Marketing related constraints</b>						
1	No market facilities in the village	87	82	64	78.45	II
2	Market is far away	30	33	28	30.63	VI
3	Lack of knowledge about prevailing market price	57	61	44	54.54	IV
4	High marketing charges	22	30	26	26.26	VIII
5	Lack of water facilities for drinking to human being and animals	62	63	44	56.90	III
6	Very low support price fixed by Govt	105	100	75	94.27	I
7	Untimely payment of commodities sold in the market	38	34	35	36.02	V
8	Cheating by middle man in the marketing	20	18	21	19.86	IX
9	Constraints in disposal of produce	27	32	25	28.28	VII
<b>v. Technical Constraints</b>						
1	Lack of communication of technical know how from Agril. Deptt./ Agril. University to the farm families	100	96	74	90.90	IV
2	Untimely diffusion of the latest technical know how	100	99	77	92.92	I
3	Lack of latest technology related to agril. and allied fields	100	98	77	92.59	II
4	Lack of practical applicability of technical know how	99	96	78	91.91	III
5	Only the big farmers are getting the benefits of improved technology through extension personnel	72	66	56	65.31	VI
6	Technology is not according to the need of farmer	90	93	70	85.18	V
<b>vi. Economic constraints</b>						
1	Lack of credit facilities	106	99	79	106	9
2	Non availability of inputs including labour	42	37	34	42	37
3	Lack of knowledge about marketing	61	65	51	61	65
4	Market price fluctuation	77	77	61	77	77
5	Low prices of commodity in the village	72	72	55	72	72
6	Inputs costs are higher	105	102	79	105	102
<b>vii. Socio-cultural constraints</b>						
1	Non-adoption by the society	81	82	67	77.44	IV
2	Lack of participation in socio cultural activities	71	77	62	70.70	VI
3	Attachment to tradition	83	75	68	76.09	V
4	More attachment to social norms & culture	97	95	75	89.89	II
5	Poverty	104	100	78	94.94	I
6	Resistance in adoption of new technology by neighbouring farmers/ relatives	93	90	75	86.86	III

Results showed that among the technical constraints untimely diffusion of the latest technical know how the most important constraint was perceived by the respondents. This might be due to fact that farmers were not getting information about latest technical know how timely.

(vi) *Socio-economic & socio-cultural constraints* : Lack of credit facilities higher inputs costs and banks are not in most of the sample villages. So farmers are forced to purchase input from local markets and take credit from local moneylenders.

## CONCLUSION

In the present study the constraints being faced by the farmers were grouped into major heads like transport, institutional, credit, marketing, technical, economic and socio-cultural in different farming systems.

'Non-availability of communication mean', 'non-availability of effective leader in the village', 'un-availability of chemicals for plant protection', 'financial crisis in the family', 'very low support price fixed by the Govt.', 'untimely diffusion of latest technical know how', 'higher input cost' are major constraints found during course of investigation

In order to mitigate these constraints it is suggested that communication facilities should be made available to the farmer, Extension agencies should conduct training on leadership development at village level, co-operative societies should be made effective so that original chemicals for plant protection are available to the farmers. Long and complicated procedure for loaning should made simple. Support price should be increased and latest technologies should be diffused among the farmers timely.

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