

Department of Agricultural Scientists for Publishing Agricultural Literatures for Farming Community

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural literature means any kind of print media viz. research journals, farm magazines, books, newspapers etc. which play crucial role between Agricultural Scientists and farmers for dissemination of farm information and latest technical know – how. Here an effort was made to find out Department of Agricultural Scientists for Publishing Agricultural Literatures for Farming Community. In this context, Agricultural Scientists were evaluated by four indicators: 1. Nature of publication, 2. Membership in scientific publication, 3. Involvement in editorial board, and 4. Scientific interaction.

Keywords: *Agricultural literature, Scientific interaction*

INTRODUCTION

Dissemination of agricultural scientific information is the most important aspect for catering need based information to the farmers for higher agricultural production. It is also true that literacy rate is increasing day by day and youngsters are involved in farming business. In such a situation, I think that agricultural literatures can play vital role for dissemination of information, but the problem is that farmers are interested for trusted and authentic information. This type of information can be provided only by agricultural scientists. Here, question is that what agricultural scientists will be agreeing for publishing qualitative and quantitative agricultural literatures. Therefore, there is need to study department of agricultural scientists for publishing agricultural literatures.

OBJECTIVE

To study the department of agricultural scientists for publishing agricultural literatures.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted on stratified random sampling techniques of 150 agricultural scientists of four Agricultural Universities of Gujarat state. The data were collected by personal contact. The collected data were classified, tabulated and analyzed in order to make the finding meaningful. The statistical measures, such as frequency and

percentage were used for analysis of data.

The department of agricultural scientists for publishing agricultural literatures was measured by studying four indicators such as the nature of publication, membership in scientific publication, involvement in editorial board and scientific interaction of the agricultural scientists.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Nature of publications

Table1: Distribution of the agricultural scientists according to their contribution in nature of publications
n=150

Sr. No.	Nature of publications	Contribution in publications		Rank
		Number	Per cent	
1	Research journals	136	90.67	I
2	Farm magazines	90	60.00	II
3	News papers	70	46.67	IV
4	Books	64	42.67	VI
5	Chapters in book	40	26.67	VIII
6	Visheshanks	49	32.67	VI
7	Reports	67	44.67	V
8	Leaflets/folders	83	55.33	III
9	Others	35	23.33	IX

The data in Table 1 reveal that the agricultural scientists contributed more in research journals as it ranked

first with 90.67 per cent followed by farm magazines (60.00 per cent), leaflets/folders (55.33 per cent), newspapers (46.67 per cent), reports (44.67 per cent), Visheshanks (32.67 per cent), chapters in book (26.67 per cent), and others (23.33 per cent).

The result indicates that the agricultural scientists were motivated for publishing agricultural literatures in scientific way for farming community. The reason behind

maximum contribution for research journal might be their higher scientific orientation and desire to improve their bio-data. Comparatively higher contribution in farm magazines and leaflet/folder is indicative of their feeling for farming community. This finding gets agreement from those reported by Shah (2006).

Membership in scientific publication

Table 2 : Distribution of the agricultural scientists according to their membership in scientific publication n=150

Sr. No.	Category	Annual membership		Life membership	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1	Local	13	08.67	09	06.00
2	State	28	18.67	58	38.67
3	National	51	34.00	89	59.33
4	International	04	02.67	17	11.33

Table 2 manifests that 59.33 per cent and 38.67 per cent of the agricultural scientists were the subscribers of life time in scientific publications at national and state level, respectively. From this finding it can be concluded that majority of the agricultural scientists were attracted for the national and state level membership. This finding is in conformity with the finding Joshi (2009).

Involvement in editorial board

Table 3: Distribution of the agricultural scientists according to their involvement in editorial board n=150

Sr. No.	Category	Level of involvement	Number	Per cent
1	Chief editor	No involvement	140	93.33
		Involvement	10	06.67
2	Assistant editor	No involvement	131	87.33
		Involvement	19	12.67
3	Member	No involvement	123	82.00
		Involvement	27	18.00
4	Referee	No involvement	139	92.67
		Involvement	11	07.33

The data presented in Table 3 represent that, only 6.67 per cent of the agricultural scientists were in the position of chief editor, whereas 12.67 per cent were in the position of assistant editor. Moreover, 18.00 per cent were members and 7.33 per cent of them acted as referee in different editorial boards of scientific publications. Since the number

of scientific organizations carrying out publication is very meager, the chances for the agricultural scientists to get included in the editorial board are naturally very less. This is the probable reason for poor involvement of agricultural scientists in editorial board. This finding is in consonance with those reported by Parmar (2005).

Scientific interaction

It is ascertained from Table 4 that 45.33 per cent of the agricultural scientists did not participate in any conference/ seminar/ symposium etc. at university level, whereas 39.34 per cent of the agricultural scientists participated in up to 5 and conferences / seminars / symposiums. This table also reflects that more than two third (70.67) per cent of agricultural scientists did not present any research paper, while 25.33 per cent of them had presented research papers in conference/ seminar/ symposium etc. at University level.

At state level, 44.67 per cent of agricultural scientists did not participate in conference/ seminar/ symposium etc., while 40.00 per cent of the agricultural scientists were participated in up to 5 conferences / seminars/ symposium etc. It also shows that two third (68.00 per cent) of the agricultural scientists did not present any research papers, but about one fourth (24.00 per cent) of them had presented up to 5 research papers in conference/ seminar/ symposium etc.

At national level, more than one third (36.00 per cent) of the agricultural scientists did not participate in conference/ seminar/ symposium etc. However, about one half (50.67 per cent) of the agricultural scientists participated in more than 2 conference/ seminar/ symposium. It also reveals that more than half (54.67 per cent) of the agricultural scientists did not present any paper. However, 31.33 per cent of them

presented more than two at national level.

Table 4 : Distribution of the agricultural scientists according to their scientific interaction

n=150

Sr. No.	Scientific interaction	Participation in conferences/ seminars/ symposiums		Paper Presentation	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1	University level				
	No	68	45.33	106	70.67
	1 to 2	28	18.67	26	17.33
	3 to 5	31	20.67	12	08.00
	More than 5	23	15.33	06	04.00
2	State level				
	No	67	44.67	102	68.00
	1 to 2	36	24.00	28	18.67
	3 to 5	24	16.00	08	5.33
	More than 5	23	15.33	12	08.00
3	National level				
	No	45	36.00	82	54.67
	1 to 2	29	19.33	21	14.00
	3 to 5	35	23.33	23	15.33
	More than 5	41	27.34	24	16.00
4	International level				
	No	94	62.67	110	73.33
	1 to 2	41	27.33	32	21.34
	3 to 5	11	07.33	08	05.33
	More than 5	04	02.67	00	00.00

At international level, more than three fifth (62.67 per cent) of the agricultural scientists did not participate in any conference/ seminar/ symposium etc. Hence, more than one third (34.66 per cent) of the agricultural scientists participated in up to 5 conference/ seminar/ symposium. It is also described that 73.33 per cent of the agricultural scientists did not present any research paper, more than one fourth (26.67 per cent) of them presented up to 5 research papers.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that great majority (90.67 per cent) of the agricultural scientists had published their articles in research journals having subscriber of life time membership in scientific publication at national level (59.33 per cent) as member in different editorial boards of scientific publications (18.00 per cent) with participation in more than 2 conference / seminar / symposium at national level (50.67 per cent).

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