

PROFILE OF POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS AND THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Sheth M. C. Polytechnic College of Agriculture, AAU, Anand, Gujarat. The purpose of the study was to find out profile of the polytechnic students and their attitude towards sustainable agriculture. The sample consisted of 60 purposively selected polytechnic students. Personal interview technique was used for collecting the data. The outcome of the study revealed that Majority (66.66 per cent) of the polytechnic students were male and 33.3 per cent were female. 38.33 per cent of the polytechnic students were in first class in their last semester exam and 25 per cent, 20 per cent and 16.66 per cent were in pass class, first class distinction and second class respectively. Slightly less than half (45 per cent) of the polytechnic students from general category followed by 33.3 per cent OBC, 13.33 per cent ST and 8.33 per cent from SC category. More than half (55 per cent) of the students had medium land holding followed by 25 per cent and 20 per cent had low and high land holding. Majority (83.32 per cent) of the polytechnic students had medium to low level of family annual income and 16.66 per cent had high level of family annual income. 74.90 per cent having family occupation agriculture and agriculture + animal husbandry followed by 20 per cent and 5 per cent having Govt. Sector and private sector job. 75 per cent of the students belonged to rural area and 25 per cent of the students belonged to urban area. More than half (56.66 per cent) of the student's father having primary to secondary education followed by 26.66 per cent and 13.34 per cent having higher secondary and graduate level of their father's education. More than half (53.33 per cent) of the students having more favourable attitude and 38.33 per cent having moderate level of attitude followed by 8.43 per cent having most favourable attitude towards Sustainable agriculture.

Keywords: *profile of polytechnic students, attitude, sustainable agriculture*

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is considered as a critical sector in the world economy. It constitutes the major source of food and earning. In agriculture sector, sustainable agriculture is a complex and multidimensional concept. Now a day's sustainable agriculture tries to replace chemical sources of input with the biological ones to reduce the damage to the environment. The term sustainable agriculture is an integrated system of plant and animal production practices that will, over the long-term, satisfy human food and needs, enhance the environment quality and natural resources and on farm resources, make the most efficient use of non-renewable resources and appropriate natural biological cycles and controls, sustain the economic viability of farm operation and enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.

There are many complex factors that influence sustainable

development of agriculture and food security, however it is clear that attitude of students its play an important role in preparing farmers to make productive contribution for sustainable agriculture. Attitude refers to an "a person's evaluation of any psychological object".

Polytechnic students have immense potential, which if properly utilized can be great use of agriculture development. It is essential to inculcate their attitude towards sustainable agriculture. This fact I conduct a study- "Attitude of polytechnic students towards sustainable agriculture." With following objectives:

OBJECTIVES

- (a) To study the profile of polytechnic students.
- (b) To study the attitude of polytechnic students towards sustainable agriculture.

METHODOLOGY

Sheth M. C. Polytechnic College of Agriculture, AAU, Anand was selected for the study. The sample consisted of 60 purposively selected polytechnic students. Personal interview technique was used for collecting the data. An interview schedule based on objective of the study was developed and respondents were personally interviewed for collection of information. The respondents were asked to mention their attitude towards sustainable agriculture. Based on the frequencies and intensity attitude was converted in percentage. Frequency and percentage were used to analyze the data to draw the meaningful conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

An attitude is often defined as a tendency to react favorable or unfavorable towards a designated class of stimuli such as a national or racial group a custom or an institution. Attitude of Polytechnic students were categorized into five categories viz. least favourable, less favourable, moderately favourable, more favourable and most favourable.

Table 1: Distribution of polytechnic students according to their attitude towards sustainable agriculture

n=60

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percent
1	Least favourable (15 to 27)	0	0
2	Less favourable (28 to 39)	0	0
3	Moderately favourable (40 to 51)	23	38.33
4	More favourable. (52 to 63)	32	53.33
5	Most favourable. (64 to 75)	05	8.43

Table 1 indicates that around slightly more than half (53.33 per cent) of the polytechnic students had more favourable attitude, while 38.33 percent and 8.43 percent of them had moderately and most favourable attitude towards sustainable agriculture respectively. None of the students belonged to least and less favourable categories. The students of polytechnic has more inclination towards sustainable agriculture there might be reason of the fact that most of the students were from agricultural background and also good practical education imparted upon them more aware about the many advantages in the sustainable agriculture for

economic balance and food security and helped to develop a more favourable attitude towards sustainable agriculture.

Table 2: Distribution of polytechnic students according to their personal information n=60

Sr. No.	Variables	Frequency	Percent
1	Age		
	Up to 17 years	21	35
	18 – 19 years	20	33.33
	Above 19 years	19	31.66
2	Gender		
	Male	40	66.66
	Female	20	33.33
3	Academic achievement		
	Pass class	15	25.00
	Second class	10	16.66
	First class	23	38.33
	Distinction	12	20.00
4	Caste		
	General	27	45.00
	OBC	20	33.34
	SC	5	8.33
	ST	8	13.33
4	Land holding		
	Low (up to 1 ha)	15	25.00
	Medium (up to 3 ha)	33	55.00
	High (above 3 ha)	12	20.00
5	Annual income		
	Low (upto 1 lakh)	28	46.67
	Medium (1 lakh – 2 lakh)	22	36.67
	High (above 2 lakh)	10	16.66
6	Family occupation		
	Private job	3	05.00
	Govt. job	12	20.00
	Agriculture	29	48.33
	Agri + animal hus-bandry	16	26.64
7	Native		
	Rural	45	75.00
	Urban	15	25.00
8	Father's education		
	Illiterate	2	03.33
	1 to 10 class	34	56.67
	11 th - 12 th class	16	26.66
	Graduate	8	13.34
	Post graduate	0	0.00

Looking the data presented in table 2 reflects that among various characteristics of polytechnic students: (1)35 percent of the respondents were up to 17 year, 33.33 percent of the respondents were 18-19 year and 31.66 percent were

above 19 year. (2) More than half of the polytechnic students (66.66 percent) were male and 33.33 percent students were female. (3) more than one- third (38.33 percent) of the students were in first class category , while 25 percent and 16.66 percent of them were in pass class and second class respectively. About 20 percent of the polytechnic students were in distinction. (4) Slightly more than one- third of the (45 per cent) were from general category, whereas number of students belonging OBC, SC and ST were 33.3 per cent, 8.33 and 13.33 percent respectively. (5) More than half (55 per cent) of the polytechnic students had medium land, while 25 per cent had low level of land further , 20 percent of the students had high level of land. (6) 46.66 percent of the respondents had low annual income followed by 36.66 percent had medium annual income and 16.66 per cent of the respondents with high level of annual income (7) slightly less than half (48.33 per cent) of the student's father were joined with only agriculture, while 26.64 per cent, 20 per cent and only 5 per cent of the student's father were agriculture + AH, Govt. job, private job respectively. (8) Majority of polytechnic students (75 percent) had belonged with rural area and 25 percent of the students were belonged with urban area (9) more than half (56.66 per cent) of the students had 1 to 10 class level of their father's education followed by 26.66 percent had H.S.C. level education whereas, 13.34 percent had graduate level of education and 3.33 per cent student's fathers were illiterate.

CONCLUSION

It could be inferred that majority of polytechnic

students had more favourable to moderately favourable attitude towards Sustainable agriculture. Looking to the personal information majority of respondents had first class level of academic achievement, student's father had farming as an family occupation, They had up to 1 lakh family income, had fathers' education of secondary level of education, majority of the students were belong to rural area respectively.

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