

## KNOWLEDGE OF THE FARMERS' SONS ABOUT AGRICULTURE AND RELATED ASPECTS

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### ABSTRACT

*The study was conducted on farmers' sons from Anand and Kheda Districts. Five random Talukas from each district were selected. Two random villages where numbers of practicing farmers were higher were selected randomly. A random sample of total 200 farmers' sons was selected for the study to know their attitude towards permanently working in rural area. The data were collected by personal contact. Ex-post-facto research design was used. More than two third (70.50 per cent) of the farmers' sons had high level of knowledge about agriculture and related aspects. The knowledge about agriculture and related aspects of the farmers' sons was positively significant with their age, marital status, land holding, annual income, farm mass media exposure, extension contact, scientific orientation, market orientation, achievement motivation, innovation proneness, while it was negatively significant with type of family.*

**Keywords :** farmers' sons, knowledge about agriculture

### INTRODUCTION

The knowledge is a familiarity, awareness or understanding of someone or something, such as facts, information and descriptions, which is acquired through experience or education by perceiving, discovering or learning. The knowledge is basic need to be a successful workable human resource to be a part of any tasks; farming is not exempted from them. Any decision to carry out agricultural practices must be supported by scientific knowledge. Agricultural production needs proper planning of what, how, why and where to produce crop or livestock. Therefore, knowledge in the sector is so crucial for sustainable development to ensure food security. The experts' opinion state that for the sustainability of farming as an important source of income for rural people, it is necessary to address and encourage concept of family farming in India by encouraging young generation to adopt farming as livelihood occupation. India is reportedly having its large size of the population in age below 35 years. The persons who want to be a part of farming occupation are expected to have knowledge to carryout farming. This has prompted the researcher to search about knowledge of the farmers' sons about agriculture and related aspects.

### OBJECTIVES

(1) To study the level of knowledge of the farmers' sons

about agriculture and related aspects

(2) To find out the relationship between knowledge of the farmers' sons and their profile

### METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted on farmers' sons from Anand and Kheda Districts. Five random Talukas from each district were selected. Two random villages where numbers of practicing farmers were higher were selected randomly. A random sample of total 200 farmers' sons was selected for the study to know their knowledge about agriculture and related aspects. To measure the knowledge about agriculture and related aspects, total seventy objective types of questions were prepared. The data were collected by personal contact. Ex-post-facto research design was used. All the responses were recorded and transferred to master sheet. They were compiled, scored, tabulated and analyzed to give statistical treatment in such a way that they might give proper answer to the specific objective of the study. Frequency, percentage and Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation were used for interpreting the data.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Knowledge of the farmers' sons was worked out by adding scores of all the seventy items of knowledge about

farming and allied fields. Thereafter, based on total score received by the respondents, they were classified in to the five groups. The result about this is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Farmers’ sons according to their basic knowledge about agriculture and related aspects**

(n= 200)

Sr No	Category	Number	Per cent
1	Very low (Up to 20% score)	00	00.00
2	Low (Above 20 to 40% score)	00	00.00
3	Medium (Above 40 to 60% score)	26	13.00
4	High (Above 60 to 80% score)	141	70.50
5	Very high (Above 80% score)	33	16.50

It is evident from the data presented in Table 1 that more than two third (70.50 per cent) of the farmers’ sons had high level of knowledge about agriculture and related aspects, followed by 16.50 per cent and 13.00 per cent of them were with very high and medium level of knowledge about agriculture and related aspects, respectively, while none of them was with very low and low level of knowledge about agriculture and related aspects.

Thus, it can be inferred from the Table 1 that majority (87.00 per cent) of the farmers’ sons had high to very high level of knowledge about agriculture and related aspects. The knowledge gained informally from the parents through personal and verbal discussion, observing elders doing farm related jobs and activities, casual or regular help rendered by the sons to their parents on the job, reasonable level of education to understand modern innovations of farming and allied fields, media exposure and due to lack of high to very high level of education they might be mentally ready to engage themselves in family farming occupation by knowing useful information of farming and allied activities. All such situations and circumstances might have played role in forming high to very high level of fundamental knowledge of the farming and allied fields amongst the majority of the sons of the farmers. This finding is more or less supported by Biradar et al. (2013) and Onima (2017).

**Relationship between knowledge of the farmers’ sons and their profile**

The relationship between knowledge of the farmers’ sons and the selected independent variables were measured by computing “Coefficient of correlation (r)”. The data have been presented in Table 2.

**Table 2: Relationship between knowledge of the farmers’ sons and their profile** (n= 200)

No	Independent variables	Correlation Coefficient
<b>A Personal variables</b>		
X <sub>1</sub>	Age	0.289**
X <sub>2</sub>	Education	-0.099
X <sub>3</sub>	Marital Status	0.257**
<b>B Economic variables</b>		
X <sub>4</sub>	Land holding	0.215**
X <sub>5</sub>	Occupation	-0.003
X <sub>6</sub>	Annual income	0.225**
<b>C Social variables</b>		
X <sub>7</sub>	Type of family	-0.200**
X <sub>8</sub>	Social participation	-0.012
<b>D Communicational variables</b>		
X <sub>9</sub>	Farm mass media exposure	0.681**
X <sub>10</sub>	Exposure of digital media	0.129
X <sub>11</sub>	Extension Contact	0.642**
<b>E Psychological variables</b>		
X <sub>12</sub>	Scientific orientation	0.295**
X <sub>13</sub>	Economic motivation	0.123
X <sub>14</sub>	Risk orientation	0.092
X <sub>15</sub>	Market orientation	0.207**
X <sub>16</sub>	Achievement motivation	0.191**
X <sub>17</sub>	Innovation proneness	0.142*

\*\* Significant at 0.01 level \* Significant at 0.05 level

The data presented in Table 2 indicate that the knowledge about agriculture and related aspects was observed significantly superior amongst those farmers’ sons, who had above twenty-five years of age, married marital status, big size of family land holding, high level of family income, nuclear type of family, higher degree of farm mass media exposure extension contact, high level of psychology in terms of superior degree of scientific orientation, market orientation, achievement motivation and innovation proneness.

The result also shows that the knowledge about agriculture and related aspects of the farmers’ sons was non-significantly correlated with their education, occupation, social participation, exposure of digital media, economic motivation and risk orientation. It can be explained in other words that with irrespective levels of education, occupation, social participation, exposure of digital media, economic motivation and risk orientation of the farmers’ sons, the knowledge about agriculture and related aspects was identical.

## CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that majority (70.50 per cent) of the farmers' sons had high level of knowledge about agriculture and related aspects. The knowledge about agriculture and related aspects of the farmers' sons was positively significant with their age, marital status, land holding, annual income, farm mass media exposure, extension contact, scientific orientation, market orientation, achievement motivation, innovation proneness, while it was negatively significant with type of family, however it was non-significant with their education, occupation, social participation, exposure of digital media, economic motivation and risk orientation.

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