

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROFILE CHARACTERISTICS AND ATTITUDE OF UNDER GRADUATE STUDENTS TOWARDS RAWE PROGRAMME

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ABSTRACT

People living in rural areas are dependent on agriculture. Development of India can be possible through strengthening the socioeconomic condition of rural people. The rural work experience is basic for developing a graduate's competence. Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) is an opportunity to the students to live in rural areas and develop right perspective of rural life. RAWE is one of the best means to produce well trained agricultural graduates with broad based knowledge and techniques to meet the emerging challenges. It provides significant hands on experience in acquiring skills, which are mainly aimed at creating a product or providing a service to those who demand. In fact, RAWE is basic to develop graduate competence as a teacher, researcher and extension specialist. Agricultural students have immense potential which, if properly utilized, can be of great use for agricultural development. So, RAWE provide this facility to the students. Work experience includes physical and/or mental effort exerted for a purposeful activity that includes training, observation and practice, experience and personal participation or involvement. The main objective of the present study was to find out the attitude of under graduate students towards RAWE programme of Sardarkrushinagar dantiwada agricultural university and Anand agricultural university of Gujarat state.

Keywords: Rawe, agricultural students, programme, attitude and relationship

INTRODUCTION

Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme (RAWEP) for under graduate students of agriculture are offered during 7th semester. Under this programme, every student is expected to work for one semester with farmers in villages within the vicinity of Research Stations / KVKs / DAATT Centers of the university. This is a unique opportunity for the students to work with the farmers at their farms and identify various production, protection and marketing constraints. In addition, RAWEP develops competency in the areas of technological, managerial and communication skills among the students. The main components of the programme include Crop Production, Plant Protection, Rural Economics, Extension Programme and Research Station / KVK / DAATT Center Activities / Attachment to agro-based industries. Besides, the students will also be imparted two weeks vocational training in thrust areas to enable them to become entrepreneurs. Apart from this, during the programme, the students will be attached with anyone of the identified agro-based industries for two weeks to acquaint themselves with the organizational setup, the functioning and to gain firsthand information of the industries. The Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme (RAWEP)

was started in undergraduate curriculum of the degree course in the academic year, 1979-1980. Three decades passed after starting of this programme. In this view, there is need to take up a research study to find out whether this programme is actually fulfilling the needs, whether the objectives of the programme have been met or not. In the absence of any research study either by the students or by the university concerned, the RAWE programme may become a disappointing experience if the loopholes and problems do not surface, if the authorities implementing the programme do not take notice of glaring gaps existing between the objectives set forth and goals achieved. In fact, it may result in an undesirable experience for the students, if they do not participated in the programme fully and if they spend their time in native places leaving RAWE programme to its fate, thus becoming indifferent, if not adverse to agriculture and rural areas itself at the cost of 120 days precious academic time.

OBJECTIVES

- (1) To study the profile characteristics of under graduate students
- (2) To find out the association between profile characteristics

and attitude of under graduate students towards RAWE programme

METHODOLOGY

The main objective of the present study was to find out the attitude of under graduate students towards RAWE programme of Sardarkrushinagar dantiwada agricultural university and Anand agricultural university of Gujarat state. The present study was conducted among final year students of B.Sc.(Hons.) Agriculture of Anand Agricultural University and Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University. The present study was confirmed to “Ex-post facto” research design as the independent variables are already operated in the study area. According to Research Methodology 26 Kerlinger (1976), ex-post facto research design is worthy to apply when the independent variables have already acted upon. Hence, this design was used in the present study. here,75 Respondents were selected from C. P. College of agriculture and 75 respondents selected from B. A. College

of agriculture with the total sample size of 150. . In all 150 respondents was selected from two colleges of different university. The independent and dependent variables were measured with the help of the scales and indices developed by the past researchers as well as structured schedules which were framed for purpose. The collected data were analyzed by using percentage, mean, standard deviation and correlation coefficient(r).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Profile characteristics of under graduate students

On the basis of review of literature and discussions with the experts, some of the important personal, socio-economic, communication and psychological characteristics of the respondents were selected in the present study. The data of these characteristics were analyzed and presented in the table 1 with an object to draw a general picture of the respondents having attitude of undergraduate students toward rawe programme.

Table 1: Distribution of profile characteristics of under graduate students

(n = 150)

Sr. No.	Personal profile	Category	Frequency	Percent
1	Age	Less than or equal to 22 years (up to 22 year)	119	79.34
		Above 22 years	31	20.66
2	Academic achievement	Pass class (5.50 to 5.99 CGPA)	17	11.33
		Second class (6.00 to 6.49 CGPA)	37	24.66
		First class (6.50 to 7.49 CGPA)	61	40.68
		First class with distinction (above 7.50 CGPA)	35	23.33
3	Caste	Scheduled tribe	32	21.33
		Scheduled caste	21	14.00
		Socially and economically backward class	46	30.67
		General	51	34.00
4	Father’s education	Illiterate	26	17.33
		Primary education (up to 7 th standard)	28	18.66
		Secondary education (8 th to 10 th standard)	35	23.35
		Higher secondary education (11 th and 12 th standard)	31	20.66
		College education (graduation and above)	30	20.00
5	Family occupation	Agriculture + Animal husbandry + Business	19	12.66
		Agriculture + Animal husbandry + Service	23	15.33
		Agriculture + Animal husbandry	35	23.35
		Agriculture	22	14.66
		Only Business	21	14.00
		Only Service	30	20.00
6	Family income	Low annual income (below ₹90,062.98)	16	10.67
		Medium annual income (₹90,062.98 to ₹6,27,355.68)	108	72.00
		High annual income (Above ₹6,27,355.68)	26	17.33

Sr. No.	Personal profile	Category	Frequency	Percent
7	Participation in extra-curricular activities	Poor (0 to 38 score)	46	30.66
		Below average (39 to 77 score)	55	36.68
		Average (78 to 114 score)	29	19.33
		Above average (115 to 153 score)	12	08.00
		High (154 to 192 score)	08	05.33
8	Achievement motivation	Very low (7 to 12 score)	00	00.00
		Low (13 to 18 score)	02	01.33
		Medium (19 to 23 score)	21	14.00
		High (24 to 29 score)	111	74.00
		Very high (30 to 35 score)	16	10.67
9	Self confidence	Very low (09 to 10 score)	02	01.33
		Low (11 to 12 score)	31	20.66
		Medium (13 to 14 score)	55	36.66
		High (15 to 16 score)	58	38.69
		Very high (17 to 18 score)	04	02.66
10	Level of Attitude	Less favourable (≤ 149.91)	23	15.33
		Moderately favourable ($149.91 - 185.31$)	105	70.00
		Most favourable (≥ 185.31)	22	14.67

Table 1 indicates that, Age group of the respondents was 79.34 per cent of the respondents belonged to less than or equal to 22 years age group. Academic achievement of 40.68 per cent under graduate students was first, while 24.66 and 23.33 per cent of them were in second class and first class with distinction category, respectively. 34.00 per cent respondents was from general category, whereas number of students belonging to socially and economically backward class, schedule tribe and scheduled caste were 30.67, 21.33 and 14.00 per cent, respectively. fathers' education of the respondents 23.35 per cent had secondary level of their education. Family occupation of the 23.55 per cent under graduate students was agriculture + animal husbandry followed by 14.66 per cent of the students, having only agriculture as their family occupation. 72.00 per cent of under graduate students had family income ranging from 90,062.98 to ₹ 6,27,355.68 followed by 17.33 and 10.67 per cent with above ₹ 6,27,355.68 and below ₹ 90,062.98 family income, respectively. Participation in extra-curricular activities of the under graduate students has below average among 36.68 per cent students performance. Achievement motivation of the under graduate students had high degree were 74.00 per cent. Self confidence of under graduate students had high level

were 38.69 per cent.

Attitude towards RAWE programme of the under graduate students had moderately favourable were 70.00 per cent, while 15.33 and 14.67 per cent of them had less favourable and most favourable attitude towards RAWE programme, respectively.

The findings are similar with Dahake (2009), Kawale (2013), Lyndem (2014), Bhawani (2013) and Ayub (2017), Dobariya (2011), Rekha *et al.* (2012), Patel *et al.* (2018) and Patel (2019).

Association between profile characteristics and attitude of under graduate students towards RAWE programme

Relationship between the personal profile of under graduate students towards rawe programme *viz.*; age, academic achievement, caste, fathers education, family occupation, family income, participation in extra-curricular activities, achievement motivation, self confidence with attitude of students were worked out with the help of correlation coefficient (r). The data are presented in table 2.

Table2: Association between profile characteristics and attitude of under graduate students towards RAWE programme

(n = 150)

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Correlation of coefficient 'r'
X ₁	Age	-0.041 ^{NS}
X ₂	Academic achievement	0.167*
X ₃	Caste	0.022 ^{NS}
X ₄	Fathers' education	0.120 ^{NS}
X ₅	Family occupation	0.126 ^{NS}
X ₆	Family income	0.163*
X ₇	Participation in extra-curricular activities	0.140 ^{NS}
X ₈	Achievement motivation	0.015 ^{NS}
X ₉	Self confidence	0.219**

** Significant at 0.01 level of probability

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability

Out of ninth independent variables, six viz.; age were negative and non significant (-0.041^{NS}), Academic achievement (0.167*), Caste (0.022^{NS}), Fathers' education (0.120^{NS}), Family occupation (0.126^{NS}), Family income (0.163*), Participation in extra-curricular activities (0.140^{NS}), while Achievement motivation (0.015^{NS}) was positively and negatively and significantly related to their attitude of under graduate students. Other one variable viz.; Self confidence were positively and highly significant (0.219**).

The findings are similar with Ajit (2004) and Bai (2016), Mashaliya *et al.* (2020).

CONCLUSION

From the above results it can be conclude that, academic achievement, family income were positively and significant ware as self confidence were positively and highly significantly related. Age were negative and non significant. Caste, fathers education, Family occupation, Participation in extra-curricular activities and Achievement motivation were positively and non significant.

IMPLICATION

An understanding of the opinion and extent of participation of the students and functionaries may serve as a feedback to the higher ups which facilitate to redirect and streamline their efforts for more efficient management of the students and the RAWE programme. Thus, the findings of the

present study certainly will have some practical significance for improving the Rural Agricultural Work Experience programme:

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest among researchers.

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Received : October 2022 : Accepted : December 2022