

RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Aspiraton of agricultural college students

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SUMMARY : The present study “aspiration of agricultural college students” was carried out in Nagpur tehsil of Nagpur district in Maharashtra state. In all 90 students from College Of Agriculture, Nagpur were selected from three faculties by random sampling method. The data were collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of structured interview schedule. Collected data were carefully examined, classified quantified and tabulated. Frequencies, mean, standard deviation, correlation of co-efficient analysis were employed for interpreting the results. Results obtained after analysis have been summarized as below. Findings revealed that Maximum percentages of the respondents (34.44%) families had small (1.01 to 2.00 ha) land holding. More than half of respondent’s (52.22%) fathers had educated upto college and above. Less than half of respondents (31.11%) mothers were educated upto primary school. Majority of respondents (75.55%) were from medium family size (4 – 6 members). More than half of the respondents (64.44%) belonged to rural area. More than half of respondents (62.22%) fathers had farming as occupation. Majority of the respondents (61.11%) secured ‘distinction’. One third of the respondents family (31.11%) had high annual income in the range of (above Rs.2,00,000/-). Nearly all of the respondents (93.33%) came under male category. Majority of respondents (66.66%) were interested in doing M.Sc. (Ag.) and MBA. More than half of respondents (58.88%) were from medium economical aspiration. Majority of respondents (45.55%) were interested in banker as a career aspiration. More than half of respondents (52.22%) were from high agricultural aspiration. In the study it was found that land holding, family education status and annual family income had positive and significant relationship with aspiration of agricultural college students at 0.05 level of probability. Academic performance had positive and significant relationship with aspiration of agricultural college students at 0.01 level of probability. The variables size of family, family background and occupation of parents failed to show any significant relationship with aspiration of agricultural college students. It was found that in case of overall aspiration majority of respondents about 51.11 per cent had medium level of overall aspiration. The highly perceived constraints in aspiration of agricultural college students were unavailability of sport education to students, actual use of audio visual instruments for study not done, actual behavioral training is not given, regular periods are not conducted, internet facilities are not available in college, regular educational tours are not being organized, competitive exams are not preferred first, current affairs about agriculture are not being discussed.

KEY WORDS :

Aspiration,
Educational
aspiration,
Economical
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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Education functions as an intermediate

agency between the family and employment
by providing access to the economic or social

records for financial benefits and prestige that accrue to individuals and their families from employment or work

Education is one of the most important means of empowering students with the knowledge, skills and self confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process. Education is important for everyone. This is true not only because education is an entry point to other opportunities, but also because the educational achievements have ripple effect within the family and across generation. Investments in secondary school education for students yield especially high dividends. Education helps men and women to know their rights and gain confidence to claim them.

Agricultural education provided by the educational institutes may put a concrete base in the mind of the future farmer to enable them to rational decision making with regard to farming, perceive the specific problems in the correct perspective, and expose themselves to newer technological options. A general understanding of the farming situation and practices, in relation to the local surrounding, may help the pupils to develop in future as local change agents, who could certainly perform better than the employed change agents.

In Maharashtra most of the student of agriculture under graduate colleges generally comes from rural background with farming as main occupation. These students can also use their knowledge and techniques on their field, therefore, it is necessary to study the socio-economic profile and aspiration of the agriculture graduate student and relationship of their socio-economic characteristics with their aspiration.

Now a days education is going to become a specialized field, agriculture occupation also require specialization. Majority of agricultural students belong to low income group and farming as their occupation. The study addressed towards ascertaining their interests and aspirations will help in formulating some programmes for improving their living standards.

Agriculture education security holds a key to nation's food and nutritional security and solves the problem of unemployment. Some of the students will return in their farm and help to turn traditional agriculture into a commercial enterprise. The present study will reveal the aspiration of the students regarding various aspects of life.

The specific objectives have been undertaken as follows:

- To study educational, economical, career and agricultural aspirations of agricultural students.
- To ascertain the relationship between aspirations of the agricultural students and their personal, socio-economic and psychological characteristics.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

Three faculties were selected from college of agriculture, Nagpur. Three faculties under study are B.sc. Agri students, M.Sc. Agri students and ABM students. Students of the selected agriculture faculty were chosen randomly for the study. According to Maharashtra Council of Agricultural Education and Research, Pune, College of Agriculture, Nagpur has intake capacity of 172 students for B.Sc. (Agri.) degree program. Accordingly, College of Agriculture, Nagpur has intake capacity of 143 students for M.Sc. (Agri.) and ABM degree programme. Thirty respondents from each faculty were selected randomly for the study comprising the total sample of 90 respondents. The data were collected from the student respondents by personal interview method or by providing questionnaires and their responses about each factor under study was recorded in the interview schedule. An exploratory research design of social research was used for the present investigation. The objective of the present study was mainly to study the educational, economic, career and agricultural aspiration of students in agriculture colleges. The study also intends to know the socio economic profile of the students.

Profile of respondents like land holding, family education status, size of family, family background, occupation of parents, academic performance, annual family income, gender, educational aspiration, economical aspiration, career aspiration and agricultural aspiration were consider in this study. The simple statistical mean, standard deviation, t test and correlation were used for used to identify relation between aspiration and profile of respondents.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The findings of the study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under the following heads:

Profile and aspiration analysis:

In this part of study, the findings related to profile of

the students and their educational, economical, career and agricultural aspiration are presented.

Findings revealed that Maximum percentages of the respondents (34.44%) families were small (1.01 to 2.00 ha) land holding. More than half of respondent's (52.22%) fathers were educated up to college and above. Less than half of respondents (31.11%) mothers were educated up to primary school. Majority of respondents (75.55%) were from medium family size (4 – 6 members). More than half of the respondents (64.44%) belonged to rural area. More than half of respondents (62.22%) fathers had farming as occupation. Majority of the respondents (61.11%) secured 'Distinction'. One third of the respondents family (31.11%) had high annual income in the range of (Above Rs.2,00,000/-). Nearly all of the respondents (93.33%) were comes under male category (Table 1). Majority of respondents (66.66%) were interested in doing M.Sc. (Ag.) and MBA. More than half of respondents (58.88%) were from medium economical aspiration. Majority of respondents (45.55%) were interested in banker as a career aspiration. More than half of respondents (52.22%) were from high agricultural aspiration (Table 2). These findings were supported by findings of Waman *et al.* (2000); Deshmukh (2005); Patil *et al.* (1985); Iswalkar (2001); Babar (2003); Shigwan (2002); Wattamwar and Suryawanshi (2003); Kalantri and Khonde (2003); Khole (2011) and Kolte (2002).

Relation analysis:

In order to find out the relationship of the selected characteristics of respondents with their aspiration, correlation co-efficient were worked out. The findings are presented in this part.

A critical examination revealed those among selected variables it was found that land holding, family education status and annual family income were positive and significant relationship with aspiration of agricultural college students at 0.05 level of probability. Academic performance was positive and significant relationship with aspiration of agricultural college students at 0.01 level of probability. The variables size of family, family background and occupation of parents does not show any significant relationship with aspiration of agricultural college students (Table 3). The finding of present study is in accordance with the findings reported by Sathyan (2008); Mali (2013); Rajwardhan *et al.* (2012); Rahim

Table 1 : Distribution of students according to their profile (n = 90)

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Land holding			
1.	Marginal	15	16.66
2.	Small	31	34.44
3.	Semi-Medium	24	26.66
4.	Medium	20	22.22
5.	Large	0	0
Family education status			
Fathers education			
1	Illiterate	3	3.33
2	Functionally literate	4	4.44
3	Primary school	15	16.66
4	Middle school	9	10
5	High school	12	13.33
6	College and above	47	52.22
Mothers education			
1.	Illiterate	7	7.77
2.	Functionally literate	7	7.77
3.	Primary school	28	31.11
4.	Middle school	18	20
5.	High school	16	17.77
6.	College and above	14	15.55
Size of family			
1.	Small	12	13.33
2.	Medium	68	75.55
3.	Large	10	11.11
Family background			
1.	Rural	58	64.44
2.	Semi-urban	12	13.33
3.	Urban	20	22.22
Occupation of parents			
1.	Service	22	24.44
2.	Farming	56	62.22
3.	Trade/Business	6	6.66
4.	Dairy farming	2	2.22
5.	Labour	4	4.44
Academic performance			
1.	Distinction	55	61.11
2.	Grade I	35	38.88
3.	Grade II	0	0
4.	Pass class	0	0
Annual family income			
1.	BPL	0	0
2.	Low	23	25.55
3.	Low Medium	12	13.33
4.	Medium	14	15.55
5.	Moderately High	13	14.44
6.	High	28	31.11
Gender			
1.	Male	84	93.33
2.	Female	6	6.66

et al. (2012); More, *et al.* (2008); Surve (2005); Tayade *et al.* (2010); Ingle *et al.* (1999); Patil and Sasane (1999); Dhakre (2014) and Takalkar (2003).

Constraints analysis:

The constraints are the circumstances or causes which prohibit and restraint the students in their

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Educational aspiration			
1.	M.Sc. / MBA	60	66.66
2.	UG	30	33.33
Economical aspiration			
1.	Low	7	7.77
2.	Medium	53	58.88
3.	High	30	33.33
Career aspiration			
1.	Lecturer	7	7.77
2.	Banker	41	45.55
3.	Agricultural services	23	25.55
4.	Agri-business	16	17.77
5.	Others	3	3.33
Agricultural aspiration			
1.	Low	4	4.44
2.	Medium	39	43.33
3.	High	47	52.22

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Correlation co-efficient (r)
1.	Land holding	0.215*
2.	Family education status	
	Father's education	0.212*
	Mother's education	0.240*
3.	Size of family	0.044 ^{NS}
4.	Family background	0.119 ^{NS}
5.	Occupation of parents	0.126 ^{NS}
6.	Academic performance	0.296**
7.	Annual family income	0.217*
8.	Gender	0.136 ^{NS}

* and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively
NS= Non-significant

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Regular educational tours are not being organized	80	88.88
2.	Books are not available in sufficient quantity	56	62.22
3.	Current affairs about agriculture are not being discussed	69	76.66
4.	Competitive exams are not preferred first	70	77.77
5.	Sport education is not available	90	100
6.	Magazine's regarding agriculture are not available regularly	60	66.66
7.	Actual use of audio visual instruments for study not done	90	100
8.	Actual behavioral training is not given	90	100
9.	Internet facilities are not available in college	75	83.33

aspirations and the findings related to constraints are presented in this part.

The highly perceived constraints in aspiration of agricultural college students were unavailability of sport education to students, actual use of audio visual instruments for study not done, actual behavioral training is not given, regular periods are not conducted, internet facilities are not available in college, regular educational tours are not being organized, competitive exams are not preferred first, current affairs about agriculture are not being discussed (Table 4). The finding of present study is in accordance with the findings reported by Chaudhary (2011); Lukngam (2014) and Deshmukh (2005).

Conclusion:

Findings revealed that it was observed that nearly one third of respondents families were small land holding, more than half of respondents fathers were educated up to college and above and less than half of respondents mothers were educated up to primary school majority of respondents were from medium family size, more than half of the respondents belonged to rural area, majority of the respondents father had farming as occupation, majority of the respondents secured 'Distinction' in academic performance, one third of the respondents family had high annual family income in the range of above Rs.2,00,000, majority of the respondents were comes under male category. Regarding educational aspiration it was observed that majority of respondents were interested in doing M.Sc. (Ag.) and MBA, in case of economical aspiration it was observed that more than half of respondents were from medium economical aspiration category, in case of career aspiration of agricultural students majority of respondents were interested in banker as a career aspiration and in case of agricultural aspiration more than half of respondents were from high agricultural aspiration category.

In case of overall aspirations of agricultural students it was observed that majority of respondents had medium level of overall aspiration.

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