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Correlation between profile of sugarcane growers and training needs

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Abstract

The present study was conducted in Deulgaon Raja and Sindkhed Raja tahsil of Buldhana district from Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state. Ex-post-facto medium research design was adopted for this study. The data regarding profile of sugarcane growers indicated that majority of the respondents (60.83%) were from farming experience category, 25.00 percent respondents were educated up to secondary school level, 47.50 percent of sugarcane growers were found in semi-medium land holding category. Whereas, 64.16 percent of respondents had medium annual income, 65.00 percent of them had medium area under sugarcane cultivation category, 43.33 percent of them had medium extension contact. Equal percentage i.e. 57.50 percent of respondents were used medium sources of information and medium risk orientation. The majority of the respondents (67.50%) had medium level of knowledge about sugarcane production practices, whereas 7.50 and 25.00 percent had low and high level of knowledge, respectively. The study revealed that variables like area under sugarcane cultivation found to be positive and significant relationship with training needs. Whereas variables like education, extension contact, source of information, risk orientation and had positive and highly significant relationship with training needs about sugarcane production technology. Data also indicated that variables viz., land holding and annual income had positive and non-significant relationship with training needs about sugarcane production technology.

Keywords: Profile of sugarcane grower, training needs, farming experience

Introduction

Sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum* L.) is an important commercial crop of India. The main product of Sugarcane is sugar, however, there are many by-products of sugarcane industry are bagasse, molasses, press mud and green top, which are used by various industries like Bagasse based industries mainly produce pulp, paper, particle boards using bagasse as a fuel, cattle feed, medium for cultivation of edible mushroom, production of furfural etc., Molasses based industries mainly produce potable alcohol for Distillery, Acetic Acid, Fuel Alcohol, Cattle feed and many Pharmaceutical products etc. Sugarcane accounts for the largest value of production and holds an enviable position among all the commercial crops in India. Obviously, it is the first choice of the farmers, wherever geographical conditions favour its growth. Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of sugarcane in the country, followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Bihar. Top five producers accounted for about 85 percent of total cane production in the country in 2019-20. Sugarcane production in 2018-19 recorded a significant increase in Karnataka 34.9 percent and Maharashtra 11.4 percent over 2017-18 mainly due to higher acreage. However, in 2019-20, top three producers, namely, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka are forecast to witness a decline in sugarcane production over 2018-19 while Tamil Nadu and Bihar are expected to record an increase in production. The investigation is focused on correlates of training needs of sugarcane growers; this is helpful to account training needs of sugarcane growers in sugarcane production technology. The present study was conducted with objectives to study the profile of the sugarcane growers and to study correlation of profile of the respondents with their training needs.

Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state during the year 2021-22 with the objective to study the profile of the sugarcane growers and correlation of profile of the respondents with their training needs. Buldhana district was selected randomly from Vidarbha region which has considerable area under sugarcane cultivation.

Two talukas from each selected district and four villages from each talukas were selected randomly for the study. From each selected village, fifteen farmers were selected randomly, in this way total 120 respondents were considered for the study. An Ex-post-facto research design was followed for the study. Data was gathered using a well-structured interview schedule created with the study's objectives in mind. The collected data was analysed, classified and tabulated. Statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and coefficient correlation were used to interpret findings and draw conclusions.

Results and Discussion

Profile of the sugarcane growers

Farming experience: The data from the study indicate that most of sugarcane growers 60.83 percent had medium farming experience, while 23.34 percent of the growers had high farming experience, whereas 15.83 percent of them were found in low farming experience category.

Education: The data from shows that 42.50 percent respondent were educated up to higher secondary school level, whereas 25.00 percent respondent were educated up to secondary school level, and 20.00 percent of the respondents were educated up to college level, 9.16 percent of the respondent were educated up to primary school level, only 3.33 percent of them were illiterate.

Land holding: As regards with the land holding, it is revealed that higher percentage 47.50 percent of sugarcane growers were found in semi medium land holding category, followed by 5.00 percent were in small land holding category, 31.66 percent were found in medium land holding category and 4.16 percent were in marginal land holding category and 11.66 percent were found in big land holding.

Annual income: It is observed that 64.16 percent of sugarcane growers had medium annual income (Rs.265001 to 500000), followed by 18.33 percent and 17.5 percent had low (Up to Rs.265000) and high annual income (Rs.500001 & above) respectively.

Area under sugarcane cultivation: The data shows that higher percentage 78 percent of sugarcane growers were found in medium area under sugarcane cultivation category, followed by 24.16 percent were in large area under sugarcane cultivation category and 10.83 percent of sugarcane growers were found in small area under sugarcane cultivation category.

Extension contact: The result indicated that so far as extension contact of the respondents was concerned, 43.33 percent of them had medium extension contact; followed by 35.00 percent were having high extension contact the 21.66 percent respondents were having low extension contact.

Sources of information: It is observed that majority 57.50 percent respondents had used medium sources of information, followed by 22.50 percent of respondents had used low sources of information and 20.00 percent respondents had used high sources of information.

Risk orientation: The data revealed that 57.50 percent of the

respondents had medium risk orientation, followed by 25.00 percent of the respondents had high risk orientation and 17.50 percent of the respondents had low risk orientation.

Knowledge: A perusal of result indicates that majority of the respondents 67.50 percent had medium level of knowledge about sugarcane production practices, whereas 25.00 percent and 7.50 percent of them had low and high level of knowledge, respectively.

Table 1: Profile of sugarcane grower (N=120)

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
1	Farming experience		
	Low (up to 6.63)	19	15.83
	Medium (6.64 to 15.92)	73	60.83
	High (15.93 & Above)	28	23.34
2	Education		
	Illiterate (No formal education)	04	03.33
	Primary school level (1 st – 4 th std)	11	09.16
	Secondary school level (5 th – 10 th std)	30	25.00
	High secondary school level (11 th – 12 th std)	51	42.50
	College level (Above 12 th std)	24	20.00
3	Land holding		
	Marginal farmers (up to 1.00 ha)	05	04.16
	Small farmers (1.00 to 2.00 ha)	06	05.00
	Semi medium farmers (2.01 to 4.00 ha)	57	47.50
	Medium farmers (4.01 to 10.00 ha)	38	31.66
	Big farmers (10.01 ha & Above)	14	11.66
4	Annual income		
	Low (Up to Rs. 2,65,000)	22	18.33
	Medium (Rs. 2,65,001 to Rs. 5,00,000)	77	64.16
	High (Rs.5,00,001 & Above)	21	17.50
5	Area under sugarcane cultivation		
	Low (up to 1.62)	13	10.83
	Medium (1.63 to 4.01)	78	65.00
	High (4.01 & above)	29	24.16
6	Extension contact		
	Low (up to 3)	26	21.66
	Medium (4 to 7)	52	43.33
	High (7 & above)	42	35.00
7	Sources of information		
	Low (up to 5)	24	20.00
	Medium (6 to 14)	69	57.50
	High (15 & above)	27	22.50
8	Risk orientation		
	Low (up to 8)	21	17.50
	Medium (9 to 18)	69	57.50
	High (19 and above)	30	25.00
9	Knowledge level		
	Low (up to 19)	09	07.50
	Medium (20 to 27)	81	67.50
	High (28 & above)	30	25.00

2. Correlations between profiles of the sugarcane growers with their training needs

Variables like area under sugarcane cultivation found to be positive and significant relationship with training needs and variables like education, extension contact, source of information, risk orientation and had positive and highly significant relationship with training needs about sugarcane production technology. Then positive and non-significant variable is land holding, annual income, with training needs about sugarcane production technology. The findings are in

line with the findings of Bandagar *et al.* (2018) [3], Borate *et al.* (2018) [1] and Kadam *et al.* (2014) [2].

Table 2: Correlation between the profiles of the respondents with their training needs. (N=120)

Sr. No.	Independent Variables	Training needs ('r' value)
1	Farming experience	-0.3696**
2	Education	0.3264**
3	Land holding	0.2090*
4	Area under sugarcane	0.2107*
5	Annual income	0.2066*
6	Extension contact	0.2754**
7	Source of information	0.2846**
8	Risk orientation	0.4222**
9	Knowledge	-0.2761**

*Significant at 0.05 level of probability

**Significant at 0.01 level of probability

Conclusions

This study provides us profile of sugarcane growers. Majority of the respondents were having medium farming experience, education up to secondary school level and semi-medium land holding. Most of the respondents belonged to medium category of annual income, area under sugarcane cultivation, extension contact, source of information, risk orientation. Whereas, majority of the sugarcane growers having medium level of overall knowledge.

Variables like area under sugarcane cultivation found to be positive and significant relationship with training needs and variables like education, extension contact, source of information, risk orientation and had positive and highly significant relationship with training needs about sugarcane production technology. Then positive and non-significant variable is land holding, annual income, with training needs about sugarcane production technology.

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