



ISSN (E): 2277-7695  
ISSN (P): 2349-8242  
NAAS Rating: 5.23  
TPI 2023; 12(11): 2031-2038  
© 2023 TPI  
[www.thepharmajournal.com](http://www.thepharmajournal.com)

Received: 28-08-2023  
Accepted: 30-09-2023

**Gurshaminder Singh**  
Assistant Professor, Agriculture  
Extension, University Institute  
of Agricultural Sciences,  
Chandigarh University, Mohali,  
Punjab, India

**Akanksha Rai**  
B.Sc. Agriculture Student,  
University Institute of  
Agricultural Sciences,  
Chandigarh University, Mohali,  
Punjab, India

**Muskan Rana**  
University Institute of  
Agricultural Sciences,  
Chandigarh University, Mohali,  
Punjab, India

**Dilshad**  
University Institute of  
Agricultural Sciences,  
Chandigarh University, Mohali,  
Punjab, India

**Kartik Sabharwal**  
University Institute of  
Agricultural Sciences,  
Chandigarh University, Mohali,  
Punjab, India

**Corresponding Author:**  
**Akanksha Rai**  
B.Sc. Agriculture Student,  
University Institute of  
Agricultural Sciences,  
Chandigarh University, Mohali,  
Punjab, India

## Socio-economic profile of farmers in Rupnagar and Fatehgarh Sahib district, Punjab, India

**Akanksha Rai, Muskan Rana, Dilshad, Kartik Sabharwal and Gurshaminder Singh**

### Abstract

Agriculture holds immense importance in India due to its significant contributions to the economy, livelihoods, and food security of the nation. India's dependency on agriculture is evident through its multifaceted impact on the economy, employment, food security, and cultural heritage. However, this dependency also highlights the need for reforms, investments in infrastructure, technological advancements, and policy changes to enhance the sector's resilience and ensure the well-being of farmers and rural communities. The study was conducted on socio-economic profile of the farmers and the data collected from six different villages i.e. Chhoti Mandauli, Rattangarh, Ramgarh Manda, Badwali, Bhateri and Bari Mandauli from districts Rupnagar and Fatehgarh saheb from Punjab. For the study, a questionnaire-based technique was chosen. The original data source forms the basis of the study. There is a recording of the 100 farmers' interviews. To do this, we devised a survey wherein we were required to gather every piece of information on the farmer's socio-economic status, including their - age categorization, caste system, education qualification, mobile phone and internet facilities available, family composition, extension contact, source of information, availability of cards, land holdings, livestock possession, Implements and machinery available etc. In order to draw meaningful conclusions, every item was looked over in detail and explained. Farmers' desirable status is the outcome of enhanced medical facilities, improved seed supply and affordable fertiliser availability. According to interaction results, farmers' socio-economic standing may be raised by raising their educational attainment, expanding their degree of social involvement and providing them with technical expertise. Absence of knowledge in the domain of disease and pest control, agricultural inputs were observed. Thus, in order to ensure the welfare of agricultural community modern technologies such as using software to track diseases and sustainable agriculture should make use of artificial intelligence.

**Keywords:** Agriculture, socio-economic, sustainable agriculture, employment, survey

### Introduction

Rural Agriculture Work Experience (Rawe) an assist achieve a number of goals, including increasing agricultural productivity, sustainability, environmental and ecological security, profitability, employment stability, and equity. The RAWE programme provides a great deal of practical experience to help with learning and skill development. Knowing about actual, practical field issues and village situations is incredibly helpful. Farmers acquired knowledge and experience, and so did we. Babatunde *et al.*'s 2007<sup>[1]</sup> study on the socio-economic status causes also found that some important statuses of farmers are food security, garment size, household income and educational attainment.

Economic growth is greatly influenced by agriculture. Over 50% of India's population still makes their living from agriculture, which also serves as a mahor supply of raw materials for several other sectors. (Singh *et al.* 2016)<sup>[2]</sup>. Economic stability is mostly produced by agriculture, particularly in emerging nations like India. Over 50% of Indian workers are involved in agriculture, according to 2018 data and added between 17 and 18% to the GDP of the nation. Approximately 20% of the GDP is derived from the agriculture sector, which is a major contributor to the Indian economy (Ahmad L, 2017)<sup>[3]</sup>. The provision of high quality education to all, especially the impoverished and those living in rural areas, is essential to India's social and economic progress (Gille, 2010)<sup>[4]</sup>.

One of the main objectives of rural development is to raise farmers' incomes and quality of life via increasing agricultural production. Improving agricultural practices is the main way to increase the country's agricultural productivity. Interaction between farmers based on surveys to determine the primary problems. These are excellent substitutes available for lessen the challenges that farmers face.

Presently, social circumstances are expanding rapidly and the economies of emerging countries are swiftly transitioning from underdeveloped to developed. (Chandna, 2010) [11].

A nation's socioeconomic standing reveals its social and economic circumstances. Oduro- Ofori Eric *et al.* (2014) [6] evaluated the effect of education on local farmers' agricultural output. These days, socio-economic status is the primary concern, particularly in emerging countries. However, the rural population's economic progress could not be dispersed equally throughout the region. A persons' financial situation has a significant impact on their way of living. (Islam and Mustaquim, 2014) [7]. The financial circumstances of rural farmers are dire, and many live in abject poverty. Despite their hard work, farmers don't make enough momto pay for their prerequisites. Farmers' poor socioeconomic level contributes to the agriculture sector's sluggish rate of development. The socioeconomic environment of small farmers was underlined by Tanwir *et al.* (2006) [8]. Their poor income is a major contributing factor to their low socioeconomic status. Sathayanarayn *et al.* in 2010 [9] conducted an analysis of the socioeconomic status of farmers.

### Materials and Methods

The survey was conducted in Rupnagar and Fatehgarh sahib districts of Punjab. In those survey 25 farmers were interviewed by exh students in the selected six villages i.e. Chhoti Mandauli, Rattangarh, Ramgarh Manda, Badwali, Bhatari and Bari Mandauli as a part of Chandigarh University RAWE program.

Each group consists of 5 or 6 students and all assigned with their task to interview the farmers from respective villages. A total of 100 farmers' were questioned at random from six communities in order to determine the socio-economic profile, agronomic practices, plant protection and livestock management. A questionnaire was designed to interview the farmers and accurately evaluate each characteristics. Following the collection of data from respondents, the information was categorized and assessed using the relevant

statistical methods, such as bar graphs, pie charts, percentages and graphical representation.

### Result and Discussion

A total of 100 farmers from six villages were interviewed for this segment. The report's conclusion is that over an extended period of time, many people were made aware of several concerns, issues, features, and difficulties related to farming through surveys. Lectures extolled the virtues of growing public awareness and desire for healthier, more sustainable farming methods indicate that organic farming has a bright future. Rallies were staged to support the principles of organic farming, demonstrate gratitude to our farmers, and ignite the enthusiasm of aspiring farmers. Avert the slash and burn technique. To improve fertility, preserve soil health, and lessen environmental effect, appropriate straw management techniques must be implemented. We also had the opportunity to speak with a few prosperous farmers who expressed interest in learning more about organic farming practises. Farmers should avoid the slash and burn method instead use their straw to feed to their livestock.

### Socio-profile of Farmers

The socioeconomic profile of a farmer provides details on their family history, financial stability, social status, and personal information. It also includes statistics on the number of cattle owned, details on farm machinery and implements, farm infrastructure, social participation, and information sources related to agricultural practises. Understanding farmers and their issues, disagreements, and so forth is helpful.

### Age category

According to survey, it was found that 35% of the farmers belonged to the age group of 20-40, 55% of the farmers belonged to the age group of 40-60 and 10% of the farmers belonged to the age group of 60-80.

Table 1: Age category

S. No.	Parameters	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhatari	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1-	20-40	9	8	6	4	7	1	35%
2-	40-60	14	8	7	8	11	7	55%
3-	60-80	2	1	3	1	1	2	10%

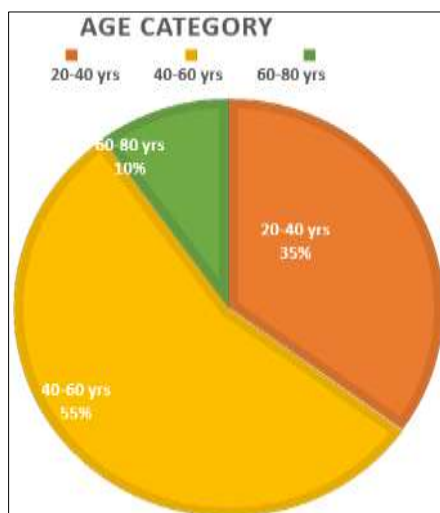


Fig 1: Age category

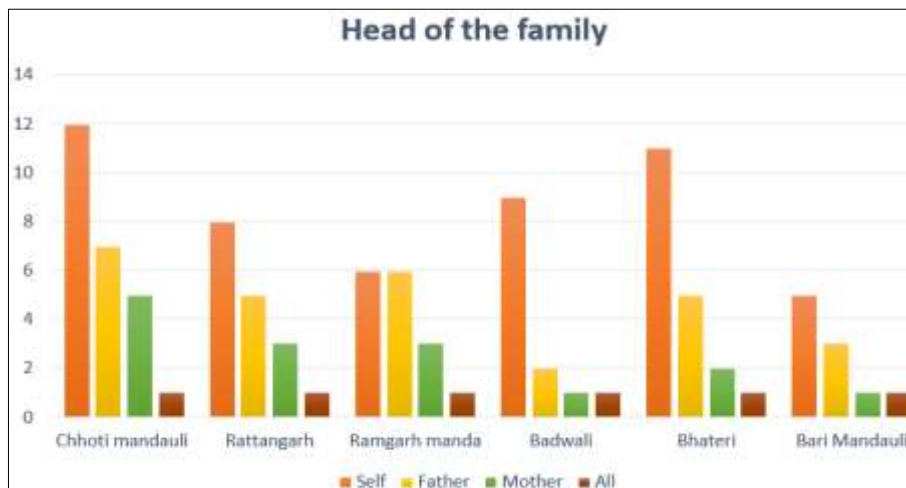
**Head of the family**

According to the survey, 51% of farmers are the heads of their families. In 28% of these cases, the head of the family is the

farmer's father, in 15% of cases, the head of the family is the farmer's mother and in 6% of cases, the head of the family is all of them.

**Table 2: Head of the family**

S. No.	Parameter	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1-	Self	12	8	6	9	11	5	51%
2-	Father	7	5	6	2	5	3	28%
3-	Mother	5	3	3	1	2	1	15%
4-	All	1	1	1	1	1	1	6%



**Fig 2: Head of the family**

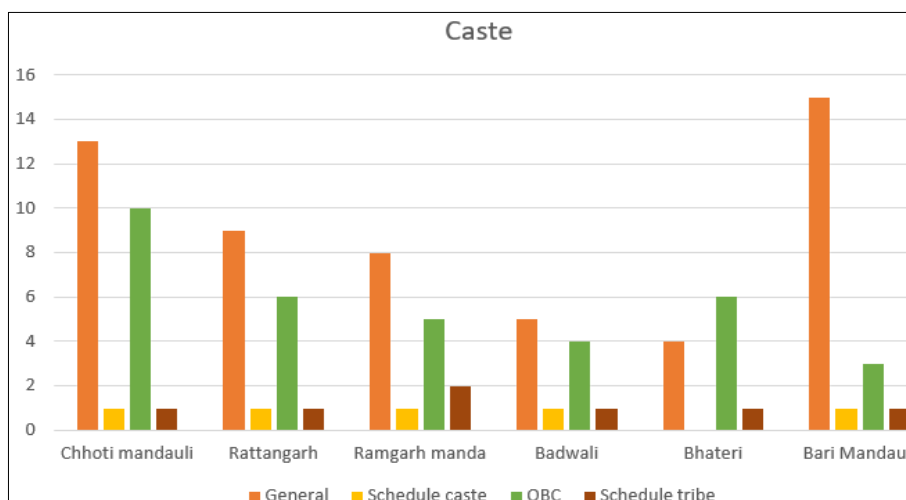
**Caste**

Out of 100 farmers interviewed, 54% of the farmers belonged to the general category, 5% belonged to Schedule caste

category, 34% of the farmers belonged to OBC category and 7% belonged to schedule tribe category.

**Table 3: Caste**

S. No.	Parameter	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1-	General	13	9	8	7	11	6	54%
2-	Schedule caste	1	1	1	1	0	1	5%
3-	OBC	10	6	5	4	7	2	34%
4-	Schedule tribe	1	1	2	1	1	1	7%



**Fig 3: Caste**

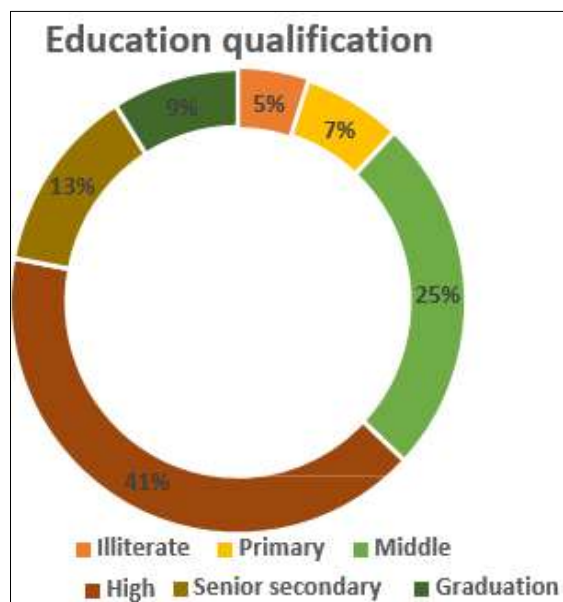
**Education**

According to the survey, I found that majority of farmers had completed middle and high school. About 5% of the farmers were illiterate, 7% of the farmers had studied till primary,

25% of the farmers had studied till middle school, 41% of the farmers went to high school, 13% of the farmers had senior secondary education, and only 9% of the farmers had completed their graduation education.

**Table 4:** Education qualification

S. No.	Parameter	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1	Illiterate	1	1	1	0	1	1	5%
2	Primary	2	1	1	1	2	0	7%
3	Middle	7	4	2	5	4	3	25%
4	High	10	7	8	3	9	4	41%
5	Senior secondary	2	3	2	3	2	1	13%
6	Graduation	3	1	2	1	1	1	9%



**Fig 4:** Education qualification

**Mobile phone and internet facility available**

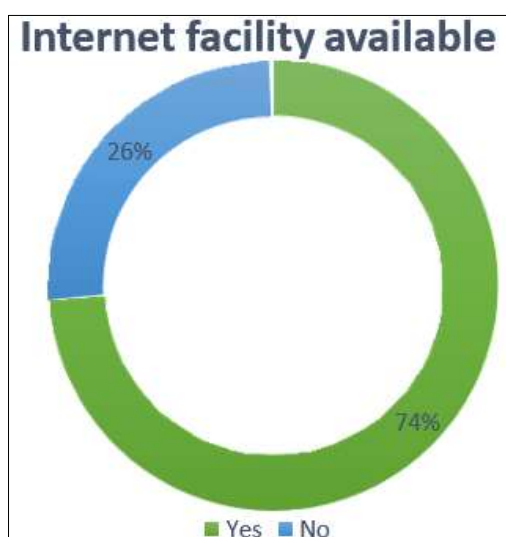
From the 100 farmers interviewed, 95% of the farmers

possess mobile phones and 74% had internet facility in their phones.

**Table 5:** Internet facility available

S. No.	Internet facility available	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1.	Yes	21	14	10	8	12	9	74%
2.	No	4	3	6	5	7	1	26%

**Internet facility available**



**Fig 5:** Internet facility available

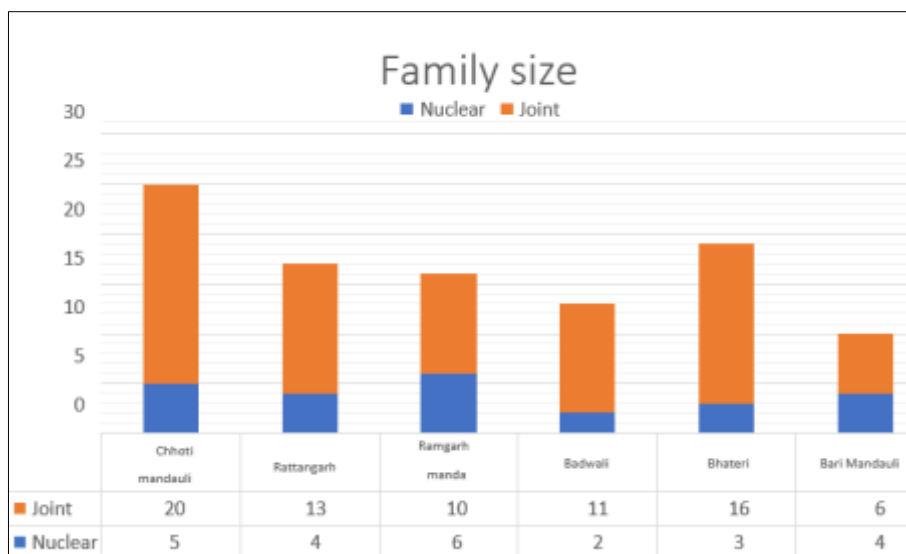
**Family size**

According to the survey, out of 100 farmers interviewed, 24%

of the farmers lived in a nuclear family and 76% of the farmers lived in a joint family.

**Table 6:** Family size

S. No.	Parameter	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N= 100)
1.	Nuclear	5	4	6	2	3	4	24%
2.	Joint	20	13	10	11	16	6	76%



**Fig 6:** Family size

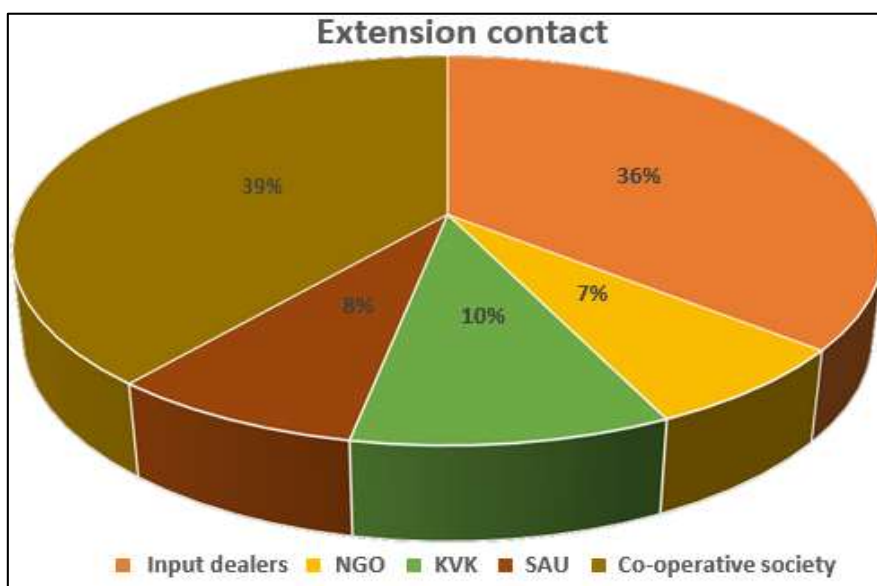
**Extension contact**

According to the survey, it was found that 36% of the farmers had input dealers as their extension contact, 7% of the farmers had NGO as their extension contact, 10% of the farmers had

KVK as their extension contact, 8% of the farmers had SAU as their extension contact and 39% of the farmers had Co-operative society as their extension contact.

**Table 7:** Extension contact

S. No.	Parameters	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1.	Input dealers	8	5	9	4	7	3	36%
2.	NGO	2	1	1	1	1	1	7%
3.	KVK	2	1	1	2	3	1	10%
4.	SAU	1	2	1	1	2	1	8%
5.	Co-operative society	12	8	4	5	6	4	39%



**Fig 7:** Extension contact

**Size of land holdings (in ha)**

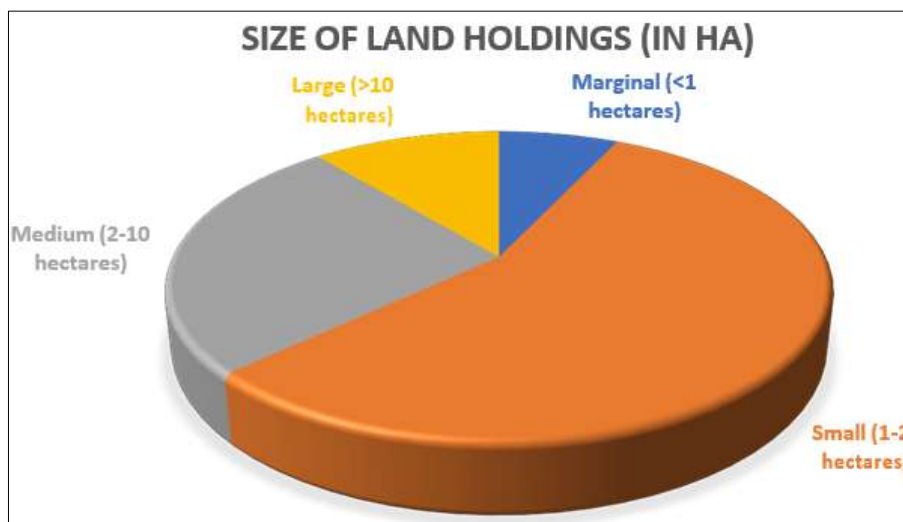
From the 100 farmers interviewed, it was found that 7% of the farmers have land holdings less than 1 hectares, 56% of the

farmers have land holdings between 1-2 hectares, 26% of the farmers have land holdings between 2-10 hectares and 11% of the farmers have land holdings greater than 10 hectares.



**Table 8:** Size of Hand holdings

S. No.	Parameters	Chhoti Mandauli (n=2)	Rattangarh (n=6)	Ramgarh Manda (n=4)	Badwali (n=5)	Bhateri (n=3)	Bari Mandauli (n=5)	Overall % (N=100)
1.	Marginal (<1 hectares)	2	1	1	1	1	1	7%
2.	Small (1-2 hectares)	13	9	8	9	11	6	56%
3.	Medium (2-10 hectares)	7	5	4	2	6	2	26%
4.	Large (>10 hectares)	3	2	3	1	1	1	11%



**Fig 8:** Size of land holdings

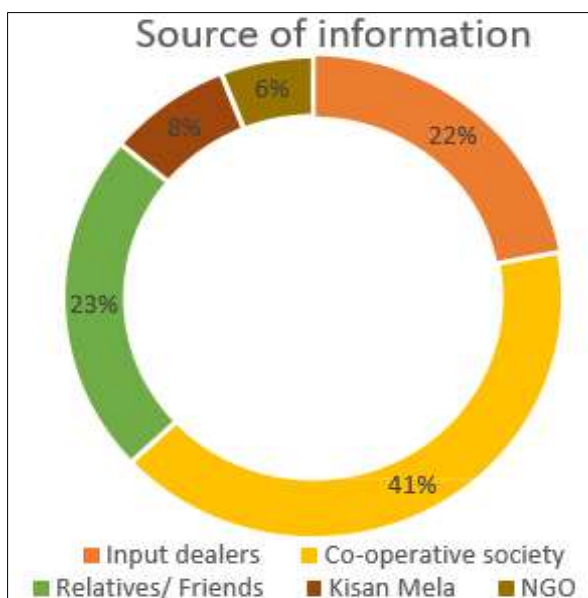
**Source of information**

Input dealers act as the source of information for 22% the

farmers, followed by Co-operative society (41%), Relatives/ Friends (23%), Kisan Mela (8%), and NGO (6%).

**Table 9:** Source of information

S. No.	Parameter	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1.	Input dealers	5	3	4	2	5	3	22%
2.	Co- operative society	10	6	7	5	9	4	41%
3.	Relatives/ Friends	7	5	3	4	3	1	23%
4.	Kisan Mela	2	2	1	1	1	1	8%
5.	NGO	1	1	1	1	1	1	6%



**Fig 9:** Source of information

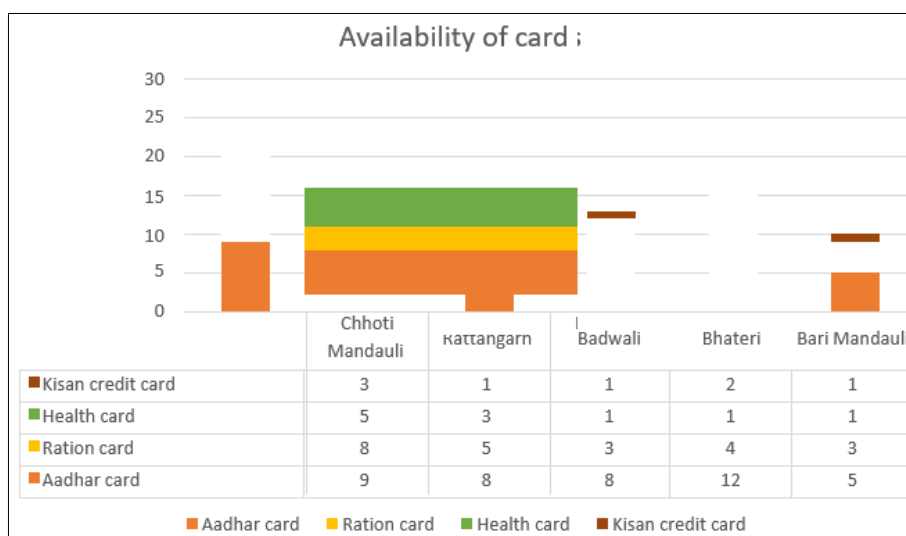
**Availability of cards**

According to the survey, 52% of the farmers have Aadhar card availability, 27% of the farmers have ration card, 12% of

the farmers have Health card and 9% of the farmers have Kisan credit card availability.

**Table 10:** Availability of cards

S. No.	Parameters	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1.	Aadhar card	9	8	10	8	12	5	52%
2.	Ration card	8	5	4	3	4	3	27%
3.	Health card	5	3	1	1	1	1	12%
4.	Kisan credit card	3	1	1	1	2	1	9%



**Fig 10:** Availability of cards

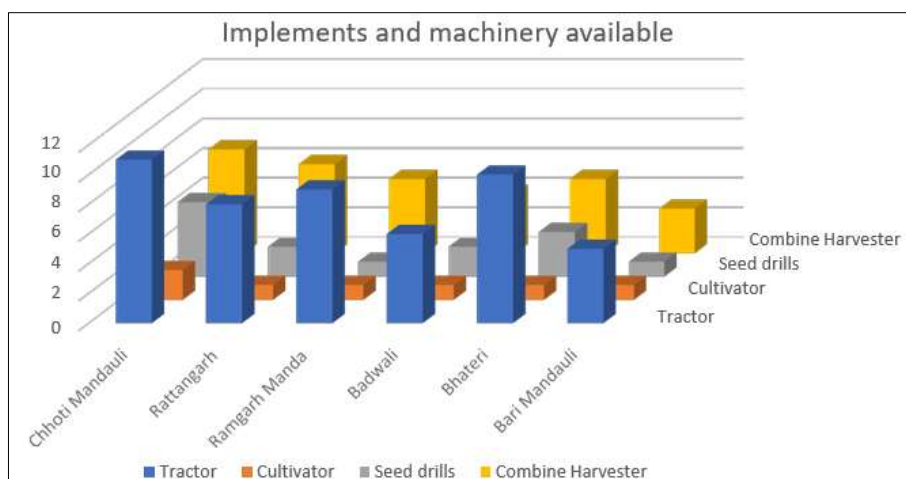
**Implements and machinery available**

According to survey, 49% of the farmers possessed tractor, 7% of the farmers possessed cultivator, 14% of the farmers

possessed seed drills and 30% percentage of the farmers possessed combine harvester.

**Table 11:** Implements and machinery available

S. No.	Parameters	Chhoti Mandauli	Rattangarh	Ramgarh Manda	Badwali	Bhateri	Bari Mandauli	Overall % (N=100)
1.	Tractor	11	8	9	6	10	5	49%
2.	Cultivator	2	1	1	1	1	1	7%
3.	Seed drills	5	2	1	2	3	1	14%
4.	Combine Harvester	7	6	5	4	5	3	30%



**Fig 12:** Implements and machinery available

**Conclusion**

In the RAWA programme, farmers and students gain a great deal from one another, which offers invaluable advantages that significantly improve their growth, learning, and development.

These encounters give farmers a forum for passing down traditional knowledge, which encourages creativity and skill

improvement. Farmers get a deeper grasp of the land and acquire knowledge about contemporary agricultural techniques and sustainable practises via practical involvement in rural agricultural operations. Their exposure equips them with the necessary skills to efficiently handle obstacles, adjust to shifting agricultural environments, and increase output. These encounters also guarantee the passing on of priceless

methods and wisdom by promoting the conservation of agricultural legacy and the generational transfer of knowledge.

A unique learning environment that extends beyond textbooks and classrooms is offered to students through work experiences in rural agriculture. Participating in such activities fosters the development of strong work ethics, practical skills, and an awareness of the complexity of agricultural practises. Exposure to real-world issues fosters adaptability, problem-solving skills, and a thorough grasp of the food production process, all of which help students.

During rural agricultural work experiences, farmers and students have a symbiotic connection that benefits both parties. Farmers gain from the new ideas and energy that students provide, which promotes information sharing and possible innovation. In addition, students get valuable insights and guidance from experienced farmers, which enhances their educational experience.

In general, these encounters act as a link across generations, fostering an environment of learning where information sharing, creativity, and skill improvement are encouraged. It is essential to acknowledge and endorse the significance of work experiences in rural agriculture for both farmers and students. By incorporating these experiences into educational programmes and offering farmers tools and assistance, it is possible to optimize the advantages for both parties and create a more educated and sustainable farming environment.

#### Acknowledgement

We, the fourth-year B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture students, are overjoyed with the completion of our first research paper assigned under the RAWE programme. Without the help and direction of our group members and mentors, we could not have completed our trip to the goal. My profound gratitude goes out to our distinguished Head of Department, Dr. Garima Gupta, for her hard work in organising the programme and making sure everything was set up for the RAWE course. We express our gratitude to Chandigarh University's University Institute of Agricultural Sciences (ICAR Accredited) for providing us with this opportunity. We are appreciative to Dr. Gurshinder Singh, a devoted faculty member of the Faculty of

Agriculture, who provided us with invaluable academic mentoring. We are indebted to all the farmers of Chhoti Mandauli, Rattangarh, Ramgarh Manda, Bari Mandauli, and Bhatari villages. Our work experience programme could not have run more smoothly without their involvement and steadfast support. This programme could not have been effectively organised without their help.

#### References

1. Babatunde RO, Omotesho OA, Sholotan OS. Socio-economic characteristics and food security status of farming households in Kwara State, North-Central Nigeria. *Pakistan journal of nutrition*. 2007;6(1):49-58.
2. Singh JA, Saag KG, Bridges Jr SL, Akl EA, Bannuru RR, Sullivan MC, *et al.* 2015 American College of Rheumatology guideline for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis & rheumatology*. 2016 Jan;68(1):1-26.
3. Ahmad L, Habib Kanth R, Parvaze S, Sheraz Mahdi S. *Agro-climatic and agro-ecological zones of India*; c2017.
4. Gille V. Education spillovers in farm productivity: empirical evidence in rural India. In 6th Annual

Conference on Economic Growth and Development. 2010 Dec 16, 3.

5. Yadav A, Singh G, Dhiman R. Socio-economic status of farming community in Hasanpur and Kalewal village of SAS Nagar district, Punjab.
6. Oduro-Ofori E, Anokye PA, Edetor M. Microfinance and small loans centre (MASLOC) as a model for promoting micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the Ashaiman municipality of Ghana. *Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development*. 2014;5(28):53-65.
7. Islam M, Mustaqim MD. Socio-Economic Status of Rural Population: An Income Level Analysis. *Asian academic research Journal of multidisciplinary*. 2014;1(24):99-106.
8. Tanwir F, Saboor A, Maan AA, Ali I, Mahmood T, Muhammad S, *et al.* Socio economic milieu of small farmers in sargodha district. *Pak. J Agri. Sci.* 2006;43:1-2.
9. Sathyanarayan K, Jagadeeswary V, Murthy VC, Ruban SW, Sudha G. Socio- economic status of livestock farmers of Narasapura Village-A Benchmark analysis. *Veterinary World*. 2010 May 1;3(5):215.
10. Singh H, Verma S, Kamboj H, Dutt M, Dureja A, Dalai A, *et al.* Socio-economic status for qualitative and quantitative assessment towards crop diversification and sustainable agriculture under different components Punjab.
11. Erenstein O, Hellin J, Chandna P. Poverty mapping based on livelihood assets: A meso-level application in the Indo-Gangetic Plains, India. *Applied Geography*. 2010 Jan 1;30(1):112-25.