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Mona Prajapati
M.Sc. Department of
Agricultural Extension and
Technology Transfer,
M.G.C.G.V., Chitrakoot, Satna,
Madhya Pradesh, India

Dr. YK Singh
Associate Professor and HOD,
Department of Technology
Transfer, Faculty of Agriculture,
M.G.C.G.V., Chitrakoot, Satna,
Madhya Pradesh, India

Pushpak Patel
Ph.D., Research Scholar,
Department of Technology
Transfer, M.G.C.G.V.,
Chitrakoot, Satna, Madhya
Pradesh, India

Jay Prakash Bishi
Ph.D., Research Scholar,
Department of Technology
Transfer, M.G.C.G.V.,
Chitrakoot, Satna, Madhya
Pradesh, India

Corresponding Author:
Mona Prajapati
M.Sc. Department of
Agricultural Extension and
Technology Transfer,
M.G.C.G.V., Chitrakoot, Satna,
Madhya Pradesh, India

Association of knowledge level with socio-economic profile of women (onion grower) Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh

Mona Prajapati, Dr. YK Singh, Pushpak Patel and Jay Prakash Bishi

Abstract

The study was conducted in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh, with 120 onion grower women. The finding indicated that half of the onion growers had medium (50.00%) followed by low (28.33%) and (21.67%) onion growers had high knowledge level. Education, cast, marital status, occupation, annual income, agriculture assets, source of information, membership of organization & size of land holding were significantly related and age, type of house, type of family, source of drinking water and source of irrigation were not found any relationship with the knowledge level.

Keywords: Onion grower, socio- economic profile and knowledge level of women

Introduction

Agriculture is a major sector of the Indian economy, which provides employment for a large proportion of the predominantly rural population. Besides this it also provides food for human consumption and raw materials for industries. China is the first in area and production while India occupies second position in the production of onion. Most of the onion produced in India comes from the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, onion is also grown in Madhya Pradesh. In Madhya Pradesh onion production was found to be 3714.79 tonnes in 2017-18. (Source: State Departments of Horticulture & Agriculture).

Onion (*Allium cepa* L.), Alliaceae family. Onion is one of the most important vegetable crops cultivated extensively throughout the country under a wide range of climatic conditions. It is used both in green and mature stage for salad. Vegetables enjoy a significant place in our daily diet as they provide essential nutrition including vitamins and minerals. Any meal is considered usually incomplete without vegetables. Onion has medicinal properties too. It has many uses as folk remedies and recent reports suggest that onion plays a part in preventing heart diseases and other ailments. It is diuretic and can be applied on bruises, boils and wounds. It relieves heat sensation. Bulb juice is used as smelling on hysterical fits in faintness. It is used to relieve insect bites and sore throat.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh in 2022-23. Semaria block and 6 villages (under Semaria block) were purposely selected for study. From each village, 20 farmers total 120 respondents purposely selected.

The data was collected personally by the researcher through a structured and pre-tested personal interview schedule. Frequency, percentage, mean, SD and chi square were used for analysing and interpreting the data.

Results and Discussion

1. Socio-economic profile of onion grower women.

Table no.1 shows that majority of onion grower, having middle age group 53.33 percent were followed by young 25.00 percent, and old 21.67 percent, Education, shows that most of onion grower 40.83 percent were illiterate education level, followed by up to primary 29.17 percent, intermediate and above 15.83 percent, up to high school 14.17 percent, Cast, most of onion grower belong, 28.33 percent were OBC cast followed by 25. Percent SC cast, General 24.17 percent general cast and 22.50 percent ST cast, respectively. Similar results were reported by Agarwal (2013)^[1] and Patel (2015)^[5]. Type of house, 47.50 percent mixed type house followed

by 20.83 percent and 31.67 percent were having pakka house, types of family 72.5 percent Nuclear and 27.50 percent farmer were belong joint family, Marital status, 78.33 percent onion grower are married and 21.67 percent are unmarried, occupation majority of farmer 53.33 percent farmers were having farming as their main occupation followed by 18.33 percent farming with service and 28.33 percent were farming with other work. Similar results were reported by Patel (2019) [6]. Annual income reveals that out of total onion farmers, 54.17 percent were having low income, followed by 27.50 percent were in medium level category and 18.33 percent of the soil health card holder belonged to high level income group. Similar results were reported by Inavati (2014) [4],

Source of drinking water majority of farmer 90.00 percent private and 10.00 percent farmer was use government sources, Agriculture Assets majority of onion grower 90.00 percent use medium no. of Ag. Assets followed by 37.50 percent low and 33.3 percent high, membership of organization reveals that most onion grower, 74.16 percent were belonged to no member of any organization followed by 19.16 percent one organization and 6.66 percent were more than one organization, Size of land out of total onion farmer, 41.67 percent respondents had small size of land holding, followed by 30.00 percent marginal size of land holding, 20.00 percent were having medium farmer and 8.33 percent large farmer. Similar results were reported by Patel (2015) [3].

Table 1: Distribution of the onion grower women according to their socio-economic variables (n=120)

| S. No. | Variables | Category | | | |
|--------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Young (22-35) | Middle (36-50) | Old (>51) | |
| 1. | Age | 25.00% | 53.33% | 21.67% | |
| 2. | Education | Illiterate | Up to primary | Up to High School | Intermediate & above |
| | | 40.83% | 29.17% | 14.17% | 15.83% |
| 3. | Cast | General | OBC | SC | ST |
| | | 24.17% | 28.33% | 25.00% | 22.50% |
| 4. | Types of house | Kacha | Pakka | Mixed | |
| | | 20.83% | 31.67% | 47.50% | |
| 5. | Types of family | Nuclear | joint | | |
| | | 72.5% | 27.50% | | |
| 6. | Marital status | Married | unmarried | | |
| | | 78.33% | 21.67% | | |
| 7. | Occupation | Farming | Farming+ service | Farming + other work | |
| | | 53.33% | 18.33% | 28.33% | |
| 8. | Annual income | Low <1Lakh | Medium (1lakh-2lakh) | High (>2lakh) | |
| | | 54.17% | 27.50% | 18.33% | |
| 9. | Sources of drinking water | Private | Government | | |
| | | 90.00% | 10.00% | | |
| 10. | Agriculture Assets | Low (1-4) | Medium (5-8) | High (>8) | |
| | | 37.50% | 41.67% | 20.87% | |
| 11. | Source of information | Low | Medium | High | |
| | | 12.5% | 54.2% | 33.3% | |
| 12. | Membership of organization | No. member any organization | One organization | More than One organization | |
| | | 74.16% | 19.16% | 6.66% | |
| 13. | Size of land holding | Marginal | Small | Medium | large |
| | | 30% | 41.67% | 20% | 8.33% |
| 14. | Source of irrigation | Tubewell+canal | Tube well | Tubewell+canal+well | |
| | | 37.50% | 41.67% | 20.87% | |

2. Knowledge level of onion growers women

To measure the perceived knowledge level of onion grower women were asked to rate the agreement on three-point continuum i.e., no knowledge, partial knowledge and complete knowledge. Table no.2 evince that maximum number of respondent (50.00%) were having medium knowledge level followed by low knowledge level (28.33%) and only (21.67%) respondents had high knowledge level. Similar results were reported by Chaudhary (2019) [3].

Table 2: Respondents were divided into groups based on their knowledge level. (n=120)

| S. No. | Category | Frequency | Percentage |
|---------------------------|---|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Low Knowledge level (Up to 49 score) | 34 | 28.33 |
| 2 | Medium Knowledge level (50 to 79 score) | 60 | 50.00 |
| 3 | High Knowledge level (Above 79 score) | 26 | 21.67 |
| Mean = 63.49 S.D. = 15.27 | | | |

Table 3: Association between socio-economic profile of onion grower women and their knowledge level.

| S.No. | Characteristics | Chi Square value(χ^2) |
|-------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | Age | 8.10 ^{NS} |
| 2 | Education | 10.39* |
| 3 | Cast | 10.94* |
| 4 | Types of house | 4.60 ^{NS} |
| 5 | Types of family | 3.66 ^{NS} |
| 6 | Marital status | 6.85* |
| 7 | Occupation | 11.05* |
| 8 | Annual income | 9.81* |
| 9 | Sources of drinking water | 1.61 ^{NS} |
| 10 | Agriculture assets | 12.02* |
| 11 | Source of information | 15.82* |
| 12 | Membership of organization | 14.02* |
| 13 | Size of land holding | 11.04* |
| 14 | Source of irrigation | 6.56 ^{NS} |

* Indicate that .05% level of significance
^{NS} indicate that non-significant

Conclusions

It was concluded that most of the respondents were middle age group, were illiterate education status, belong OBC cast, had mix type house with nuclear type of family, main occupation were farming, were small farmer with low level of annual income, were private source of drinking water, had medium level ag assets and source of irrigation were mainly use tube well. And concluded related to association, education, cast, marital status, occupation, annual income, agriculture assets, source of information, membership of organization, size of land holding were significantly related with knowledge level and age, type of house, type of family, source of drinking water and source of irrigation were not found any relationship with knowledge level. Among knowledge level, most of the onion grower women had medium level of knowledge for onion cultivation.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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