

## **Study the level of knowledge of small farmers about the cultivation technology of wheat**

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### **Abstract**

*The present study was conducted in C.D. Block Farah of Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh. Five villages were selected through random sampling method. Thereafter the study samples was comprised of 125 respondents selected through random sampling method. The data were collected with the help of interview schedule through personal interview method by the investigator. The data were analyzed with the suitable statistical techniques and methods. Maximum small farmers i.e. 48.00 per cent and 52.00 per cent have fair knowledge in adoption of soil testing and seed technology, 42.40 per cent of respondents have good knowledge of irrigation technology while 43.20 per cent and 49.60 per cent respondents possessed fair knowledge regarding fertilizer and plant protection technology.*

Key words: Wheat technology, small farmers, level of knowledge

### **Introduction**

The new agricultural technology based on high yielding varieties of seeds, chemical fertilizers, water management, pesticides and fungicides, agriculture implements has also by passed certain regions, certain crops, small and marginal farmers and their benefits have largely been availed by the bigger farmers which tended to add to the disparity between the more privileged and less privileged classes in the rural sector. Further it has been confined to these areas which have assured sources of irrigation and other needful resources and infrastructures consequently it has led to regional economic imbalances.

In our country most of the studies conducted so far concerning small farmers were attempted to characterize the small farmers with reference to their socio-economic behaviour. In the depth of study on level of knowledge of small farmers about the cultivation technology of wheat with farming situation and socio-economic impact over adoption, likewise, other programmes in the country side which have bright indication of future scope for such study in India i.e. region wise. Therefore the present study was undertaken with specific two objectives: (i) Study the

socio-economic characteristics of the small farmers (ii) Study the level of knowledge of small farmers about the cultivation technology of wheat in Mathura district.

### **Research Methodology**

This study was conducted in Farah block of Mathura district, Uttar Pradesh. This block was selected purposively. The five villages were selected through random sampling method for the study. For the selection of respondents 125 wheat growing farmers were selected consisting 25 respondents from each village. The data were collected personally through pre-structured interview schedule. The data were further analyzed, interpreted and tested with the help of appropriate statistical techniques.

### **Results and Discussion**

Table 1 reveals that majority 52.80 per cent of the respondents belong to middle age group, 90.40 per cent respondents were observed being literate out of which majority i.e. 37.60 per cent are high school/Inter Maximum of the respondents (44.80 per cent) were found in general caste category. 75% family blong to single family system. About size of family majority (67.20%) of the respondents belong to the size of family having up to 5 members. The table indicate that majority (69.60%) have their main occupation as 'Agriculture'. 55.20% respondents have the annual

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Table 1: Socio-economic characteristics of the small farmers (N = 12)

Variables	No. of respondents	%age
<b>1. Age</b>		
Up to 35 years (young)	34	27.2
36 to 50 years (middle)	66	52.8
51 years and above (old)	25	20.0
<b>2. Education</b>		
Illiterate	12	9.6
Primary	23	17.6
Middle	34	27.2
High school/inter	47	37.6
Graduate & above	10	8.0
<b>3. Caste</b>		
General	56	44.8
Backward Caste	31	24.8
SC/ST	38	30.4
<b>4. Type of Family</b>		
Single	75	60.0
Joint	50	40.0
<b>5. Family size</b>		
Up to 5 members	84	67.2
Above 5 members	41	32.8
<b>6. Occupation</b>		
Labour	8	6.4
Caste occupation	14	11.2
Business	7	5.6
Agriculture	87	69.6
Service	9	7.2
<b>7. Annual Income</b>		
Up to Rs. 60000	40	31.7
Rs.6000 to 120000	69	55.8
Rs.120000 and above	16	12.5
<b>Size of holding</b>		
Up to 2.5 acres	101	80.8
2.5 to 5 acres	24	19.2

income between Rs. 60001 to 120000. The size of land holding, majority of the respondents were having the size of holding in the range of up to 2.5 acres of land.

It is clear from table 2 that maximum of small farmers i.e. 48.00 per cent were possessing fair level of knowledge regarding soil technology. Majority (52.00%) were found who possessed fair levels of knowledge regarding seed technology. About 42.40% possessed good level of knowledge regarding irrigation technology. It is also clear from the table that 43.20 per cent farmers were found who possessed fair level

Table 2: Level of knowledge having by the small farmers about the cultivation technology of wheat (N = 125)

Knowledge categories	No. of respondents	%age
<b>A. Soil Technology</b>		
Poor	29	23.2
Fair	60	48.0
Good	36	28.3
<b>B. Seed Technology</b>		
Poor	21	16.8
Fair	65	52.0
Good	39	31.2
<b>C. Irrigation technology</b>		
Poor	24	19.2
Fair	48	38.4
Good	53	42.4
<b>D. Fertilizer technology</b>		
Poor	32	25.6
Fair	52	43.2
Good	39	31.2
<b>E. Plant Protection technology</b>		
Poor	29	23.2
Fair	62	49.6
Good	34	27.2

of knowledge about fertilizer technology. It is also clear from the table that 49.60 per cent farmers were having fair level of plant protection technology. It can be concluded from the study that small farmers need further increase in farm technology i.e. good level technology.

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