

**COMPUTER ANXIETY AMONG AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS****N. M. Chauhan<sup>1</sup> and R. F. Thakor<sup>2</sup>****INTRODUCTION**

The knowledge of computer operating is an essential, especially for agricultural students. Information Technology has become an important part in teaching, research and education. In a golden era of information super highway, the knowledge of computer is an essential for all. Without the knowledge of computer, the person will be designated as 'outdated'. The knowledge of computer and Agriculture Information Technology will be proved as milestone for the future generations of human resource in Agriculture. Hence, to know existing sensitivity of the students towards computer in using this smart machine for the development of their career and education, reliable information on the anxiety or say nervousness of the students towards computer. Systematic study was needed, because in present era of 'On Line education' and 'On Demand Examination', the knowledge of the students regarding computer operation in their daily life is most urgent need, present study was under taken with following specific objectives;

- i. To find out level of computer anxiety of students studying in the agricultural college,
- ii. To study the profile of the students and its relationship with their level of computer anxiety

**METHODOLOGY**

Computer anxiety is a common emotional response to computers characterized by the fear that many people exhibit. Fear and

anxiety toward subject matter are "conditions that tend to support negative learner attitudes and repel person's interest". To measure the computer anxiety of agriculture students, the scale was developed by Chauhan and Chauhan (2005) was used. A random sample of 100 undergraduate students of B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand studying the B.Sc. (Agri.) was selected to employ developed scale. The data were collected by personal interview from 100 randomly selected students. The data collected were then analysed using coefficient of correlation.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION****Profile of the respondents**

The results regarding profile of the students indicated (Table-1) that 68.00 per cent of the agricultural students had below 23 year of age, slightly more than half of them (52.00 per cent) had first class and first class with distinction in their academic performance, more than half (57 per cent) of their father's education was up to higher secondary and college level. About 54.00 per cent of the student had urban and 46.00 percent had rural background, majority (68.00 percent) of them had nuclear type of family, aspiration to migrate aboard either for permanent settlement (77.00 per cent), wish to get higher degree (78.00 Per cent). Majority of the student did not possess computer at home (60.00 per cent), 60.00 per cent of them had e-mail ID and 29.00 percent of them had everyday exposure of library.

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**Table : 1 Profile of the respondents**

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Up to 23 years	68	68.00
2	Above 23 years	32	32.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Academic performance</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Pass Class	20	20.00
2	Second Class	28	28.00
3	First Class	28	28.00
4	Distinction	24	24.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Father's education</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1.	Illiterate	00	00.00
2.	Primary	03	03.00
3.	Secondary	30	30.00
4.	Higher Secondary	16	16.00
5.	College	51	51.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Native place</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Rural	4	46.00
2.	Urbn	54	54.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Type of family</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Joint	32	32.00
2	Nuclear	68	68.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Wish to migrate abroad</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1.	Yes	77	77.00
2.	No	23	23.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Wish to get higher degree</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Yes	78	78.00
2	No	22	22.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Possession of computer at home</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Possession of computer	40	40.00
2	Not Possessing the computer	60	60.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Possession of E-mail ID</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Possession of E-mail ID	60	60.00
2	Not Possessing E-mail ID	40	40.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Library exposure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	Never	01	01.00
	Once in a month	21	21.00
3	Once in a Fortnght	49	49.00
4	Everyday	2	29.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 2 : Distribution of the respondents according to their level of computer anxiety/nervousness**

N = 100

Sr. No.	Level of computer anxiety/ nervousness	Number	Per cent
1	Low (Score above 57)	19	19.00
2	Medium (Score between 47 to 57)	42	42.00
3	Highly (Score below 47)	39	39.00
Total		100	100.00

### Level of computer anxiety

-The data presented in Table-2 shows that Majority (81.00 per cent) of the students had high to medium degree of favourable attitude towards computer anxiety. Therefore, extension agencies and teaching institutes should motivate the students and educate them for the importance and potentialities of computer in present world and its application in the field of agriculture and allied fields. The probable reason for that might be the computer science is recently emerging science. It is affected by many characteristics of the students and their problem also. India is rural based economic country, in rural area the computer experience and exposure is poor as compared to urban areas. In addition to this, students from rural area were not having own computer at home. Thus, due to lack of possession of computer by some of the urban and majority of the rural students at their own home, medium to high level of computer anxiety was observed among majority of the students. The findings are supported by the findings of Hakkinen, P. (1994).

### Relationship between profile of the students and their computer nervousness

The result indicates that the computer nervousness was observed more among those students who had young age means studying in first or second years. The other variable such as academic nervousness.

Results say that students with lower level education of their father were found more active in computer and had less computer nervousness.

### Native place and computer nervousness

The relationship between native place of the students and computer nervousness was observed negatively non significant. It means that as compared to rural students the urban students had higher computer nervousness, but this difference was not up to the level of significance. It is striking to note that the students having rural background where more active in computer exposure and they had low level of computer anxiety. This might be due to more hunger among rural students to know new system of computer technology.

### Type of family and computer nervousness

Type of family of the students was observed negatively non-significant with their computer nervousness. According to methodology adopted in scoring, it can be said that degree of computer nervousness of the students was lower among the student having nuclear family background as compared to the students having joint type of family background.

### Wish to migrate abroad and computer anxiety

The relationship between wish to migrate abroad of students and computer nervousness was found negative. It means,

**Table-3 : Relationship between profile of the students and their computer anxiety**

Sr. No.	Name of variable	"r <sup>1</sup> value	
1	Age	0.3931*	S
2	Academic performance	- 0.0966	NS
3	Father's education	- 0.0905	NS
4	Native place	-0.1219	NS
5	Type of family	- 0.0358	NS
6	Wish to migrate aboard	- 0.0207	NS
7	Wish to get higher degree	-0.1661	NS
8	Possession of computer at home	- 0.0967	NS
9	Possession of E-mail ID	0.1116	NS
10	Library exposure	0.1846	NS

the students having desire to stay in India had low level of computer nervousness. Here it is fascinating to know that in spite of the wish to stay in India they took more interest in computer, thus they had less computer nervousness. In other words students have realized that in Indian condition also they will be required knowledae of comouter and affiliation with it to make progress.

#### **Wish to get higher degree and computer anxiety**

The relationship between wish to get higher degree of students and their computer anxiety was negative and non significant. It means that computer anxiety was observed low among those students who had no desire to get higher degree. Here it was remarkable to note that students with no any expectations to get higher degree, realized additional knowledge of computer as an additional qualification for better carrier.

#### **Possession of computer at home and computer anxiety.**

It is generally believed that the students having own computer at home will have more exposure of computer operating and less computer nervousness but results of this study shows that, students without having computer at home had less computer

nervousness. There was high score means low computer anxiety among those students who had no any computer facility at their home.

#### **Possession of e-mail ID and computer nervousness**

The relationship between possession of e-mail ID and their computer nervousness was found positively non-significant. It may be due that the students having E-mail ID can run and easily operate the computer for receiving and sending the E-mail. Naturally, he had no fear of computer, which leads, towards low level of computer anxiety.

#### **Library Exposure and computer anxiety**

Library exposure makes the students aware of changing scenario of the world through the use of available information technology and computer in library. Generally it is seen that the students having high library exposure, have good knowledge of all those components available in the library to collect information. Thus it can be said that students having high library exposure have good connections with computers that may lead them towards low level of computer anxiety. There was negatively non-significant relationship between library exposure and computer nervousness of the students. As per methodology of scoring of

computer nervousness, person having high level of library exposure got high score, means he had less computer anxiety and person having less library exposure got less score means he had high computer anxiety. Thus, it can be said that there was low level of computer anxiety among those students who had better exposure of library.

## **CONCLUSION**

The result indicates that the computer nervousness was observed more among those students who had young age, means studying in first or second years. The other variables such as academic performance, father's education, native place, type of family, wish to migrate abroad, wish to get higher degree, possession of computer at

home, possession of E-mail/ID and library exposure did not have significant relationship with the computer anxiety of the students.

Majority (81.00 per cent) of the students had high to medium degree of favorable attitude towards computer anxiety.

## **REFERENCES**

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