

Factors Affecting Adoption of Modern Practices of Maize and Animal Husbandry of Large Farmers

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The modern scientific agricultural and animal husbandry practices adopted since the mid sixties, have helped in modernizing Indian Farmers. The adoption of new technology can best be considered as means to achieve increased productivity and hereby improved standard of living of farming community. Keeping this face in view, the present study was attempted to understand the extent to which large farmers adopted modern technology and to know the factors which influence adoption behaviour as well as to know how adoption behaviour of large farmers influence their level of overall modernization.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Dungarpur district of Rajasthan state. A random sample of total 210 farmers were selected out of them 60 farmers who had more than two hectares of land holding and adopted maize as a major crop with animal husbandry, were further selected from the twelve villages of all the three tehsils of Dungarpur district. The data were collected by personal interview with the help of interview schedule from the selected large farmers. Adoption of modern practices of maize crop and animal husbandry were

measured with the help of scales developed by Chattopadhyay (1974) and Sharma and Sohal (1987), respectively. To findout the relationship of selected factors with the level of adoption of large farmers, the co-efficient of correlation ('r') was used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It can be inferred from the result in Table-1 that majority (60.00 and 58.33 percent) of the large farmers had high level of adoption of modern practices of maize and animal husbandry, respectively. Probable reasons for above situation might be due to the fact that education and literacy seemed to facilitate mass media exposure and cosmopolitaness, which in turn led to greater knowledgeable and inovativeness. Higher literacy provides opportunity for greater exposure to the print mass media. Thus, positivism of large farmers in useful factors become a catalyst of modernization. The data presented in Table-2 reveal that, among selected personal, social-communication, economic and psychological factors, education, change agency contact, organisation prati, aspiration role taking empathy, non-fatalism, economic motivation, risk orientation, attitude towards modern agril.

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Table 1 : Distribution of respondents according to their extent of adoption of modern practices of maize and animal husbandry.

Sr. No.	Extent of adoption	Adoption of modern practices of maize N = 60		Adoption of modern practices of Animal Husbandry N = 60	
		No	%	N	%
1.	Low	01	1.67	16	26.67
2.	Medium	23	38.33	09	15.00
3.	High	36	60.00	35	58.33
Total		60	100.00	60	100.00

practices, knowledge of maize and overall modernization were positively, while age secularism were negatively significant with the level of adoption of modern practices of maize crop of large farmers.

Whereas, adoption of modern practices of animal husbandry by large farmers was found positively significant with their education, urban pull, change agency contact, organisational participation, political efficacy, aspiration, empathy, non-fatalism, cosmopolitaness, eco. motivation, risk orientation, scientific orientation, knowledge of animal husbandry and overall modernization.

IMPLICATIONS

Significant relationship of adoption modern practices of maize and animal husbandry of large farmers with their

majority of psychological factors indicated that, it is essential to make large farmers psychologically strong, if their level of adoption of modern technology has to be improved because psychology is powerful base for modernization of farmers. Positivism in education, and some of the social, communicational and psychological factors of the large farmers are the prerequisites for higher adoption of modern technology.

Further, from the above finding and discussions it can be said that for the high level of adoption of modern technology, large farmers should be modernised in terms of their education, communication, social and psychological variables, because these variables have proved here as great supporters in improving level of adoption of modern technology in case of the large farmers.

Table 2 : Relationship between selected variables and extent of adoption of modern practices of maize crop and animal husbandry of large farmers.

Sr. No.	Variables	Correlation Co-efficients (r values) with adoption of	
		Modern practices of maize	Modern practices of animal husbandry
I. PERSONAL			
1.	Age	-0.2774*	-0.1337 Ns
2.	Education	0.6424*	0.5600*
II. SOCIAL-COMMUNICATION			
3.	Caste	0.0403 NS	0.2140 Ns
4.	Unbanpall	0.2370 NS	0.3563*
5.	Change agency contact	0.4632*	0.4719*
6.	Organisation partici.	0.3037*	0.4554*
7.	Political efficacy	-0.0357 NS	0.3264*
8.	Mass media exposure	-0.0677 NS	0.1782 NS
III. ECONOMIC			
9.	Land holding	0.0496 NS	0.2487 NS
10.	Level of achievement	0.0066 NS	0.2513 NS
11.	Occupation	0.0964 NS	-0.0476 NS
12.	Socio-techo-eco-change	-0.1101 NS	0.2429 NS
IV. PSYCHOLOGICAL			
13.	Level of aspiration	0.2734*	0.3691*
14.	Level of edu. aspi. for son	0.1006 NS	0.2419 NS
15.	Role taking empathy	0.4121*	0.3666*
16.	Secularism	-0.3890*	-0.0224 NS
17.	Non-fatalism	0.3829*	0.3423*
18.	Cosmopoliteness	0.2515 NS	0.4519
19.	Economic motivation	0.2721*	0.3616*
20.	Risk orientation	0.2802*	0.4069*
21.	Scientific orientation	0.1929 NS	0.4489*
22.	Attitude towards modern Agril. practices	0.2631*	-
23.	Knowledge of maize/animal husbandry	0.8035*	0.8571*
24.	Overall modernization	0.2611*	0.4730*

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability.