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ASSOCIATION BETWEEN PROFILE OF CROP GROWERS AND THEIR LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CRISIS AND ITS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN CROPS

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ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out in six districts of South Gujarat. Paddy, Mung, Tomato and Banana crops were taken under the present study. Out of six districts, 360 crop growers and 48 researchers were selected. Thus, total sample size was 408 respondents for the present study. The study discloses that out of twenty independent variables; education, occupation, farming experience, sources of information, social participation, risk orientation, economic motivation, innovativeness, overall modernity and market orientation were positive and highly significantly correlated, whereas annual income, scientific orientation, management orientation and cropping pattern were positive and significantly correlated with the knowledge of farmers about crisis and its management practices in crops. Age, sources of information, economic motivation, management orientation and overall modernity were positive and highly significantly correlated, while risk orientation, scientific orientation, material possession and market orientation were positive and significantly correlated with the knowledge of researchers about crisis and its management practices in crops.

Keywords: *crisis and its management practices, crop growers, knowledge and association*

INTRODUCTION

The crisis in Indian agriculture, which has been building up for decades, is not one of declining profitability but of non-viability of the bulk of landholdings. A crisis is a major, unpredictable event that threatens to harm an individual or organization and its stakeholders (Vinaya and Shivamurthy, 2021). Although crisis events are unpredictable, they are not unexpected. Crisis can affected all segments of society and are caused by a wide range of reasons. The practice of crisis management involves attempts to eliminate technological failure to avoid or to manage crisis situations. Crisis management consists of skills and techniques required to assess, understand, and cope with any serious situations, especially from the moment it first occurs to the point that recovery producer start.

In the context of present study, there were some prominent profile variables influencing the level of knowledge about crisis and its management practices in crops. The findings of the study would certainly be helpful for planners, extension personnel from government and private agencies to plan out a suitable program for crisis management and mitigate the crisis in agriculture. Keeping the above facts in view, an attempt has been made to study the association between profile of crop growers and their level of knowledge about crisis and its management practices in crops.

OBJECTIVE

To ascertain the association between profile of crop growers with knowledge about crisis and its management practices in crops

METHODOLOGY

Ex-post-facto research design was used in the present investigation. Paddy, Mung, Tomato and Banana crops were taken under the present study. The present study was carried out in six districts of Gujarat state *viz,* Navsari, Surat, Valsad, Tapi, Bharuch and Narmada of South Gujarat region were approached and dominated areas all four crops were identified. Three talukas from each district which possessed highest area under respective crops were selected purposively. Further, same procedure was followed to get one village from each talukas. In all, 18 talukas and 18 villages were selected from study area. At the end, a lottery method of randomisation was adopted to get 5 crop growers of the village for each crop. The crop wise lists prepared and 8 researchers were randomly selected from the each district. Thus, total 48 researchers were selected as respondents for the present study. In all, 360 farmers and 48 researchers, so

total sample size were 408 selected as respondents for the study. Twenty independent variables were chosen. In light of the objectives, the interview schedule was prepared and data were collected by using the personal interview method. The collected data were analyzed by correlation coefficient (r).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 : Association between profile of crop growers with level of knowledge about crisis and its management practices in crops

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Farmers (n=360)	Researchers (n=48)
X_1	Age	0.061^{NS}	0.450**
X_2	Education	0.235**	***
X_3	Size of family	-0.021^{NS}	0.230^{NS}
X_4	Land holding	0.007^{NS}	0.185^{NS}
X_5	Occupation	0.662**	***
X_6	Annual income	0.104*	***
X_7	Farming experience	0.228**	0.162^{NS}
X_8	Sources of information	0.156**	0.446**
X_9	Social participation	0.382**	***
X_{10}	Risk orientation	0.219**	0.307*
X_{11}	Economic motivation	0.183**	0.401**
X_{12}	Scientific orientation	0.107*	0.320*
X_{13}	Management orientation	0.116*	0.400**
X_{14}	Innovativeness	0.208**	***
X_{15}	Overall modernity	0.167**	0.446**
X_{16}	Material possession	0.100^{NS}	0.357*
X_{17}	Irrigation facilities	-0.080^{NS}	0.202^{NS}
X_{18}	Cropping pattern	0.109*	0.179^{NS}
X_{19}	Market orientation	0.189**	0.357*
X_{20}	Credit seeking behaviour	0.070^{NS}	0.025^{NS}

* Significant at 5 per cent ** Significant at 1 per cent
^{NS} Non-significant

*** Due to the same score of all the researchers 'r' value is not worked out

The data evident in Table 1 revealed that education (0.235**), occupation (0.662**), farming experience (0.228**), sources of information (0.156**), social participation (0.382**), risk orientation (0.219**), economic motivation (0.183**), innovativeness (0.208**), overall modernity (0.167**) and market orientation (0.189**) were positive and highly significantly correlated with the knowledge of farmers about crisis and its management practices in crops. Whereas, annual income (0.104*), scientific orientation (0.107*), management orientation (0.116*) and cropping pattern (0.109*) were positive and significantly correlated with the knowledge of farmers about crisis and its management practices in crops. Further, the age (0.061^{NS}), land holding (0.007^{NS}), material possession (0.100^{NS}) and credit-seeking behavior (0.070^{NS}) were non-significantly correlated, while size of family (-0.021^{NS}) and irrigation facilities (-0.080^{NS}) were negative and non-significantly correlated with the knowledge of farmers about crisis and its management practices in crops.

Same Table also shows that the age (0.450**), sources of information (0.446**), economic motivation (0.401**), management orientation (0.400**) and overall modernity (0.446**) were positive and highly significantly correlated with the knowledge of researchers about crisis and its management practices in crops. While, risk orientation (0.307*), scientific orientation (0.320*), material possession (0.357*) and market orientation (0.357*) were positive and significantly correlated with the knowledge of researchers about crisis and its management practices in crops. Further, size of family (0.230^{NS}), land holding (0.185^{NS}), farming experience (0.162^{NS}), irrigation facilities (0.202^{NS}), cropping pattern (0.179^{NS}) and credit-seeking behavior (0.025^{NS}) were non-significantly correlated with the knowledge of researchers about crisis and its management practices in crops. This finding is supported by the findings of Darandale (2015), Saxena *et al.* (2015), Tavethiya *et al.* (2016), Deshmukh (2018), Dabhi *et al.* (2019) and Raval *et al.* (2021), Chigadolli et al. (2022).

CONCLUSION

From the above finding it is concluded that education, occupation, farming experience, sources of information, social participation, risk orientation, economic motivation, innovativeness, overall modernity and market orientation were positive and highly significantly correlated with the knowledge of farmers about crisis and its management practices in crops while, annual income, scientific orientation, management orientation and cropping pattern were positive and significantly correlated with the knowledge of farmers about crisis and its management practices in crops. In case of researchers, the age, sources of information, economic motivation, management orientation and overall modernity were positive and highly significantly correlated while, risk orientation, scientific orientation, material possession and market orientation were positive and significantly correlated with the knowledge of researchers about crisis and its management practices in crops.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

This is to declare that there is "No conflict of interest" among researcher.

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