

## FACTORS AFFECTING THE TECHNOLOGICAL GAP OF TRIBAL WHEAT GROWERS

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### ABSTRACT

*Present study was conducted to access the technological gap of tribal irrigated wheat growers of Dahod district as it is the one of the tribal area of Gujarat State. Fifteen villages of Dahod district and ten tribal farmers from each village were selected randomly for the study. Thus, in all 150 tribal wheat growers constituted the sample for the investigation. Out of different nine variables education, social participation, land holding, occupation, annual income, extension participation and source of information had negative and significant correlation with technological gap of tribal wheat growers. Whereas, cropping intensity had negative and non-significant correlation and age had positive and non-significant relationship with technological gap of tribal wheat growers about adoption of improved wheat production technology.*

**Keywords :** tribal, technological gap, wheat grower

### INTRODUCTION

The tribal population in India is second only to that in African countries. As many as 250 tribal groups live in isolated regions of the country while 427 groups have been recognised as Scheduled Tribes. The green revolution gave a boost to the production and productivity of the major cereal crops like rice and wheat in India. It brought economic disparity; some sections of the farming population enjoyed a rise in their standard of living but others lagged behind. Nevertheless, there was significant economic prosperity in the agricultural sector with programmes for high yielding varieties, poultry farming, livestock rearing, water management, improved fruit and vegetable production, farm mechanization, plant protection and information technology all playing a key part. The disparity is clearly seen with highly progressive and prosperous farmers of other district of Gujarat and poor tribal farmers of Dahod who seem to be totally unresponsive to any of the above programmes. Tribal farmers still grow indigenous crops with low yields, low marketed surplus and low farm incomes; they consequently find it hard to save. Tribal farmers of Dahod district cultivating wheat with traditional practices. The area of irrigated wheat crop 44328 ha but the productivity of irrigated wheat crop is very low (1990 kg/ha) as compare to its potentiality. So, there is a need to find out the factors affecting the gap existed between technologies available and actually applies by farmers in

their fields. Therefore, the study entitled “Factor affecting the technological gap of tribal irrigated wheat growers” in Dahod district” was undertaken

### OBJECTIVES

- (a) To study personal profile of tribal wheat growers
- (b) To find out factors affecting the technological gap of tribal irrigated wheat growers

### METHODOLOGY

Fifteen villages of Dahod district and ten tribal farmers from each village were selected randomly for the study. Thus, in all 150 tribal wheat growers constituted the sample for the investigation. The data of this study were collected by arranging personal interview and survey performa. The data were analyzed in light of objectives.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Profile of the tribal wheat growers

The respondents were categorized into different groups on the basis of their some of the important personal, social, economic, and communicational characteristics of the livestock owner were selected and studied the findings are as follows.

Table 1: Profile of tribal wheat growers

n=150

Variables	Group/categories	Frequencies	Percent
Age	Young age (Up to 30 year)	37	24.67
	Middle age (31 to 50 year)	76	50.67
	Old age (Above 50 year)	37	24.66
Level of education	Illiterate	28	18.66
	Primary education (Up to VII Std.)	31	20.67
	Secondary education (VIII to X Std.)	64	42.67
	Higher Secondary education (XI to XII Std.)	21	14.00
	College and above education	06	04.00
Social participation	No membership	75	50.00
	Membership in one organization	61	40.67
	Membership in more than one organizations	09	06.00
	Holding position	05	03.33
Land holding	Marginal farmers (Up to 1.00 ha)	47	31.33
	Small farmers (1.01 to 2.00 ha)	92	61.34
	Medium farmers (2.01 to 4.00 ha)	09	06.00
	Large farmers (Above 4.00 ha)	02	01.33
Cropping intensity	upto 100	03	02.00
	101-150	21	14.00
	151-200	105	70.00
	201-250	12	08.00
	More than 250	09	06.00
Occupation	Only farming	51	34.00
	Farming + Animal Husbandry	48	32.00
	Farming + Animal Husbandry + Labour work	39	26.00
	Farming +Animal Husbandry + Service	01	00.67
	Farming +Animal Husbandry + Business	01	00.67
	Farming + Labour work	10	06.66
Annual income (₹)	Up to 25,000	43	28.67
	25,001 to 50,000	61	40.67
	50,001 to 75,000	30	20.00
	75,001 to 1,00,000	08	05.33
	1,00,000 and above	08	05.33
Extension participation	Low (< 0.43 score)	30	20.00
	Medium (Between 0.43 to 12.13 score)	96	64.00
	High (>12.13 score)	24	16.00
Sources of information utilised	Low (<4.43 score)	16	10.67
	Medium (Between 4.43 to 10.51 score)	109	72.67
	High (>10.51score)	26	17.33

It is evident from the Table 1 that majority of tribal farmers were in middle age, secondary education, no membership in any organization, small farmers, 151-200 per cent cropping intensity, farming + animal husbandry, annual income between 25,001 to 50,000, medium extension participation and medium sources of information utilized.

#### Technological gap of tribal irrigated wheat growers

The respondents were grouped according to their overall technological gap on the basis of their degree of technological gap in relation to all the aspect together. The respondents were categorized into five groups i.e. very high, high, medium, very low and low. The data in this regards are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2 : Distribution of tribal irrigated wheat growers according to their overall technological gap**

n=150

Sr. No.	Technological gap	Frequencys	Percent
1	Very Low (00.00 to 20.00 %)	00	00.00
2	Low (20.01 to 40.00 %)	13	08.67
3	Medium (40.01 to 60.00 %)	62	41.33
4	High (60.01 to 80.00 %)	56	37.33
5	Very High (80.01 to 100.00 %)	19	12.67

It is clear from Table 2 that more than two-fifth of the tribal irrigated wheat growers (41.33 per cent) were fall under medium level of technological gap, followed by 37.33 per cent, 12.67 per cent and 8.67 per cent of tribal irrigated wheat growers were categorised under high, very high and low level of technological gap respectively. While none of them were in the category of very low level of technological gap group.

**Factor affecting the technological gap of tribal irrigated wheat growers**

With a view to understand the nature of relationship between independent and dependent variable, the data were subjected to correlation co-efficient and presented in Table-3.

**Table 3 : Factor affecting the technological gap of tribal irrigated wheat growers**

n=150

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Correlation coefficient ('r' value)
X <sub>1</sub>	Age	0.136
X <sub>2</sub>	Education	-0.290**
X <sub>3</sub>	Social participation	-0.208*
X <sub>4</sub>	Land holding	-0.231*
X <sub>5</sub>	Cropping intensity	-0.119
X <sub>6</sub>	Occupation	-0.235*
X <sub>7</sub>	Annual income	-0.514**
X <sub>8</sub>	Extension participation	-0.310**
X <sub>9</sub>	Source of information	-0.277**

\*Significant at 0.05 level of significance

\*\* Significant at 0.01 level of significance

NS = Non significant

The Table 3 clearly indicates that the personnel profile viz. education, social participation, land holding, occupation, annual income, extension participation and source of information had negative and significant correlation with technological gap of tribal wheat growers. Whereas, cropping intensity had negative and non-significant correlation and age had positive and non-significant relationship with technological gap of tribal wheat growers.

**CONCLUSION**

As per results the overall technological gap of two-fifth of the tribal irrigated wheat growers (41.33 per cent) were fall under medium level, followed by 37.33 per cent, 12.67 per cent and 8.67 per cent of tribal irrigated wheat growers were categorised under high, very high and low level of technological gap respectively. While none of them were in the category of very low level of technological gap group. Variables viz. education, social participation, land holding, occupation, annual income, extension participation and source of information had negative and significant correlation with technological gap of tribal wheat growers. Whereas, cropping intensity had negative and non-significant correlation and age had positive and non-significant relationship with technological gap of tribal wheat growers.

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