ISSN: 0976-1675

www.rjas.org

Research Journal of Agricultural Sciences

© Centre for Advanced Research in Agricultural Sciences

Research Paper

DI: 5704-2309-165

Socio Economic Profile of Farmers in Nagarkurnool District of Telangana, India

J Swapna*, Seema and P Radhika

School of Agri Business Management, College of Agriculture,
Professor Jayashanker Telangana State Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad - 500 030, Telangana

***Corresponding author:** School of Agri Business Management, College of Agriculture, Professor Jayashanker Telangana State Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad - 500 030, Telangana

e-mail: swapnareddyjangidi2023@gmail.com **Contact:** +91- 9491187103

Received: 23 September 2019; Revised accepted: 18 December 2019

Citation: Swapna J, Seema and Radhika P. 2019. Socio Economic Profile of Farmers in Nagarkurnool District of Telangana, India. *Res. Jr. of Agril. Sci.* **10**(5/6): 765-767.

ABSTRACT

In order to offset the growing demand for food grains either the area under the production should be increased or productivity of the existing land should be improved. The present study was conducted to find out the extent of adoption of agri input technologies and services in Nagarkurnool district of Telangana. The results indicated that majority of the sampled farmers (47%) of the farmers were in the age group of 31-40 years, more than half percentage (63%) of sampled farmers were small families (<5 members), the education status of sampled farmers majority were illiterates (40%) followed by (31.25%) were studied up to seventh class, more than half (56.25%) of the sample belongs to the category whose annual income ranged between 1-3 lakhs, distribution of land holding across different farm-size among the sample household 42 per cent had small farm size of 1-2 ha, for irrigation bore wells are major source (50%) for the sampled farmers.

Key words: Agriculture, Age, Education, Family size, Annual income, Land, Irrigation

Agriculture holds a prime importance in the socio-economic fabric of India. The sector presently accounts for 15 per cent of the country's GDP. Nearly 58 per cent of the rural households depend on agriculture as their principal means of livelihood. Being a source of livelihood and food security of the nation, higher growth in agriculture assumes great importance and is matter of concern. Thus, to accelerate high growth and ensure sustainability, combined effort in terms of technology, policies and institutional support has to be adopted. As per Indian agriculture census 2015-16, the average size of operational holding has declined to 1.08 ha. in 2015-16 as compared to 1.15 ha in 2010-11. (Agriculture Census Report, Government of India, 2018). In order to offset the growing demand for food grains either the area under the production should be increased or productivity of the existing land should be improved. As the arable land is limited, increasing productivity is the only option available. This can only be achieved through usage of high yielding seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

The challenges in Indian agricultural sector currently are quite different from those met in the previous decades. The ever increasing population, climate change, and changing dietary habits are continuously putting pressure and at the same time low investment in research, infrastructure development, processing, value addition and marketing is hindering the inclusive growth. The enormous pressure to produce more food from less land with shrinking natural resources is a tough task for the farmers. To keep up the momentum of growth a careful economic evaluation of inputs like seeds, fertilizers, irrigation sources etc is of

considerable importance. Farmers require a diverse range of information to support their farm enterprises. Information is needed not only on best practices and technologies for crop production, which the traditional public-sector extension system provided during the green revolution, but also information about postharvest aspects including processing, marketing, storage, and handling.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Telangana state. The state has mostly dependent on agriculture. Amongst 31 districts of the state, one district Nagarkurnool selected for the study. Nagarkurnool is a semi-arid area and has a predominantly hot and dry climate. The rainfall of the district is influenced mainly by the South West monsoon (June - Sept).

Multistage sampling procedure was adopted for selection of farmers for the study.

From the proposed district, Nagarkurnool, four mandals under the district were identified based on the highest area under selected crop cultivation. From each mandal, two villages were selected randomly for the study. From each village, 12 farmers were randomly selected. Therefore, a total of 4 mandals, 8 villages and 96 farmers formed the basis of the study. The selection of the farmers were based on the growing of the selected crops viz. groundnut, paddy, maize and cotton.

Descriptive statistics were worked out for the data collected from primary and secondary sources and the results are tabulated. The data collected was presented in tabular form to facilitate easy comparison. Simple tabular analysis was used for analysis of socio economic characteristics of the farmers.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic analysis presents a portfolio of the social and economic conditions of the respondents selected for the study. This will help to get a comprehensive view about the respondents.

Family size of the sampled farmers

Particulars regarding the family size are presented in (Table 1). It can be observed from the data that out of the total respondents, majority of the respondents i.e. 62.5 per cent have three to four members in the family, 33.40 per cent have five to six members in the family followed by 4.16 per cent of respondents have more than six members in the family. These results are in accordance to the findings of Nagaraj *et al*. (2013).

Table 1 Family size of the sampled farmers

Family size	Number of Farmers	Percentage (%)
Small (<5)	60	63
Medium (5-6)	32	33
Large (>6)	4	4
Total	96	100

Age group of the sampled farmers

The age of respondents helps us to understand their experience and also the direction of decisions that would be taken by them. The details of age wise distribution of sample respondents is presented in (Fig 1). Among the sample farmers, 47 per cent of the farmers were in the age group of 31-40 years, 24 per cent of the farmers were in the age group of 41-50 years, 18 per cent of the farmers were in the age group of 20-30 years and the remaining 11 per cent of them were above 50 years of age.

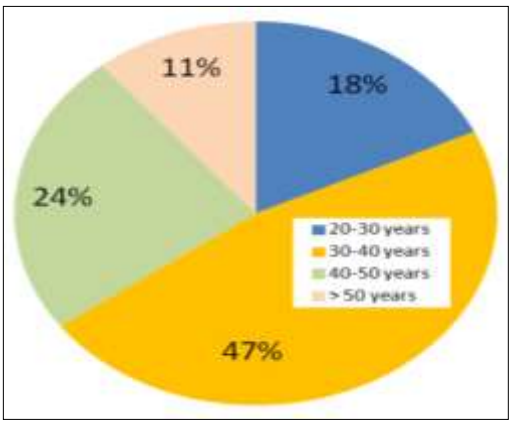

Fig 1 Age group of the sampled farmers

Educational status of the sampled farmers

Education provides knowledge, which plays a major role in decision making in adoption of the improved farming practices. Farmers were interviewed regarding their education. (Table 2) depicts the educational status of the sample farmers. The education profile of sample is analyzed and observations are made. It is seen that of the total sampled farmers 40 per cent of them were illiterates, 31.25 per cent studied up to seventh class, 17 per cent of studied up to SSC, 10.41 per cent of sampled farmers have done intermediate and 2 per cent were graduates. Thus the analysis indicates that majority of the sampled farmers were illiterates followed by education upto primary school level.

Table 2 Educational qualifications of the sampled farmers in the study area

Educational qualification	Number of Farmers	Percentage (%)
Illiterates	38	40
Primary education	30	31
High school education	16	17
Intermediate	10	10
Above	2	2
Total	96	100

Annual income of the family of sample farmers in the study area

Results depicted in (Fig 2) provides the annual income of the family of the respondents. The results revealed that 56.25 per cent of the sample belonged to the category whose annual income ranged between 1-3 lakhs. About 23.95 per cent of sampled farmers annual income was between 3-5

lakhs. The percentage of sampled farmers with less than 1 lakh annual income was 13.54 per cent and only 6 per cent farmers income was above 5 lakhs (Ramanjaneyulu 2003).

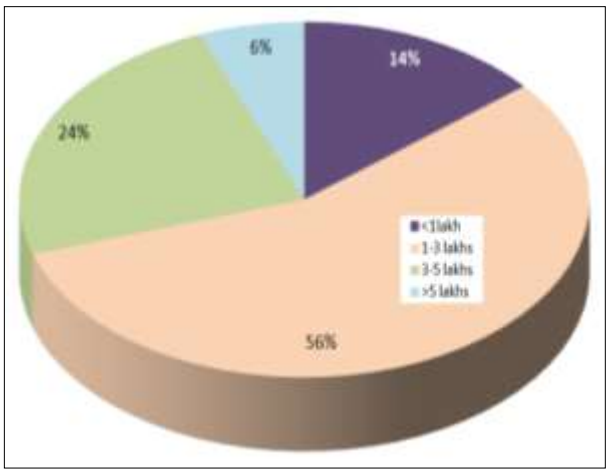

Fig 2 Annual income of the family of sampled farmers in the study area

Land holdings of the sampled farmers in the study area

To carry out the study, it is important to know about the distribution of land holding across different farm-size among the sample household. For this, four categories have been developed viz. marginal (less than 1 ha), small farmer (1 to 2 ha), medium (2 to 5 ha) and large (above 5 ha). The distribution of farmers according to the size of holding has been presented in the (Table 3).

Table 3 Land holding pattern of the sample farmers

Particulars	Number of Farmers	Percentage (%)
Marginal (<1 ha)	18	19
Small (1-2 ha)	40	42
Medium (2-5 ha)	26	27
Large (>5 ha)	12	12
Total	96	100

From the (Table 3) it can be inferred that most of the farmers i.e. 42 per cent had small farm size of 1-2 ha, 27 per cent farmers had medium farm size of 2-5 ha, 19 per cent of farmers had less than 1ha and only 12 per cent of farmers had large farm size of more than 5 ha.

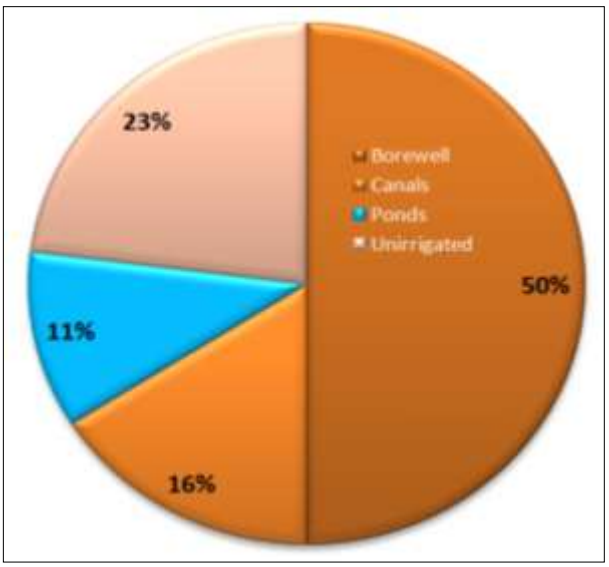

Fig 3 Area under irrigation

Area under irrigation

Data illustrated in (Fig 3) provides the source of irrigation of the farmers. Bore wells of almost 50 per cent were the major source of irrigation followed by 16 per cent canals, 11 per cent ponds for irrigated area and almost 23 per cent of the farmers were not having any irrigation facilities (Bagal *et al*. 2018).

Agriculture holds a prime importance in the socio-economic fabric of India. Being a source of livelihood and food security of the nation, higher growth in agriculture assumes great importance and is matter of concern. Thus, to accelerate high growth and ensure sustainability, combined effort in terms of technology, policies and institutional support has to be adopted.

LITERATURE CITED

Anonymous. 2018. Statistical year book India. Nagarkurnool District Pdf, Telangana State Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University, Extension, 2019.

Bagal Y S, Sharma L K, Kaur G P, Singh A and Gupta P. 2018. Trends and patterns in fertilizer consumption: A case study. *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences* **7**(4): 480-487.

http://www.mospi.gov.in/statistical-year-book-india/2018/177.

http://www.tsdps.telangana.gov.in/dist_profiles/districts/17-Nagarkurnool.pdf.

https://www.pjtsau.edu.in/index.html.

Nagaraj, Dhananjaya Swamy P S, Madhushree A and Vidyadhara B. 2013. A study on knowledge and adoption of farm mechanization by paddy grower in Tungabhadra Project Area, Karnataka. *International Journal of Agriculture and Food Science Technology* **4**(4): 385-390.

Ramanjaneyulu G. 2003. Study on cotton and maize seed requirement, utilization and supply by both public and private sectors in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. *M. Sc. Thesis, Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University*, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.