



ISSN (E): 2277- 7695

ISSN (P): 2349-8242

NAAS Rating: 5.03

TPI 2019; 8(8): 336-339

© 2019 TPI

www.thepharmajournal.com

Received: 13-06-2019

Accepted: 15-07-2019

## Martal PB

Ex. M.Sc. Student, Department of Extension Education, Dr. B.S. Konkani Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, India

## Patil VG

Professor, Department of Extension Education, Dr. B.S. Konkani Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, India

## Wanole SN

Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Extension Education, Dr. B.S. Konkani Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, India

## Correspondence

### Martal PB

Ex. M.Sc. Student, Department of Extension Education, Dr. B.S. Konkani Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, India

## Participation of rural youth in agricultural activities

Martal PB, Patil VG and Wanole SN

### Abstract

The study was conducted in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra state. From the selected district two tahsils and five villages from each tahsil were selected purposively. Senior B.Sc. (Agri.) students of College of Agriculture, Dapoli, were placed in five villages namely, Walaval (Kudal), Vetore, Palkarwadi and Hodawada (Vengurla) and Talawade (Sawantwadi) in all there were 50 students under RAWA (Rural Agriculture Work Experience) programme for the academic year 2017-2018. These 50 students have been asked for preparation of the list of rural youth who actually working in agricultural activities, from the list 105 rural youth were selected randomly for the study. The ex-post-facto research design was used for the present study. The analysis of data revealed that majority 48.57 per cent of the rural youth high participation in different agricultural activities like pre farming operations, sowing, intercultural operations, crop harvesting operations, animal husbandry and dairy practices, orchard management operations and field management operations. Collected data was classified, tabulated and analyzed by using statistical methods like frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, correlation coefficient and multiple regressions.

**Keywords:** Agriculture, participation and rural youth

### Introduction

Every nation looks forward to the younger generation for its growth and development. Youth is an important and vital segment of human resources which is not only today but it will have to shoulder responsibility for the development which includes agriculture and rural sectors. Realizing the potential of youth power, the United Nations declared 2011 as the 'International Year of Youth' in which the issue of making farming attractive to youth was deliberated vigorously. According to population census 2011, India had a total youth population of 325.2 million, which is 35 per cent of the total population. Out of this, about 70 per cent were rural youth and the remaining 30 per cent was urban youth. As the majority of the youth comes from a rural area, they are considered as the nation builders of tomorrow (Jayapuria, 2015.)<sup>[4]</sup>

In rural areas, the traditional role of youth consists of farm work usually as unpaid family workers, rather than as farmers in their own account. This is often not due to scarcity of arable land, but rather due to customary rules of land use, which limit access to land for rural youth. Since youth constitute on average one-third of the economically active population of Asia, raising labour productivity will depend to a large degree upon an efficient integration of rural youth into agriculture and other rural-based industries. Agriculture generally involves five stages viz. production, processing, consumption, storage and marketing. In most of the stages, farmers and their family members including youths and elders are actively involved. Youths are also as a family members participate in most of the agricultural operations like field preparation, sowing of seed, inter-culture operations, weeding and plant protection measures, harvesting, compost making, application of manures and fertilizers. They also involved in the cleaning of farm produce and storing of seed and food grains and processing of farm by-product.

At present, the youths are having different needs, aspirations, attitudes, and habits and values of life. The development of personal, social, economic and spiritual aspects of rural youth is possible, only when their needs, aspirations, attitudes, habits and values of life. The development of personal, social, economic and spiritual aspects of rural youth is possible, only when their needs, aspirations, attitudes, habits and values of life are recognized early and guided properly. They further stressed that youths have high enthusiasm and learn very fast. They are prone to innovativeness, less risk-shy and eager to change. Migration is one of the factors which is affected by the participation of rural youth in agricultural activities.

**Specific objectives of the study**

1. To ascertain the various agricultural activities in which rural youths are involve.

**Methodology**

Keeping in view the objectives of the study, the present study was conducted in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra state. Ex-post-facto research design was used to investigate the participation of rural youth in agricultural activities. The Konkan region comprises of five districts namely, Thane, Raigad, Palghar, Ratnagiri, and Sindhudurg. Sindhudurg district was selected purposively for the present study, as this district is quite away from metropolitan cities like Mumbai and Pune. Three Tahsils viz. Kudal, Vengurle and Sawantwadi were selected from Sindhudurg district for the present study, as RAWE (Rural Agriculture Work Experience) students of the college of agriculture Dapoli were placed in these talukas since last three years.

Senior B.Sc. (Agri) students of College of Agriculture, Dapoli, were placed in five villages namely, Walaval (Kudal), Vetore, palkarwadi and Hodawada (Vengurla) and Talawade (Sawantwadi) in all there were 50 students under RAWE

(Rural Agriculture Work Experience) programme for the academic year 2017-2018. These 50 students have been asked for preparation of a list of rural youth who actually working in agricultural activities, from the list 105 rural youth were selected randomly for the study.

**Result and Discussion**

**Ascertain the various agricultural activities in which rural youths are involved**

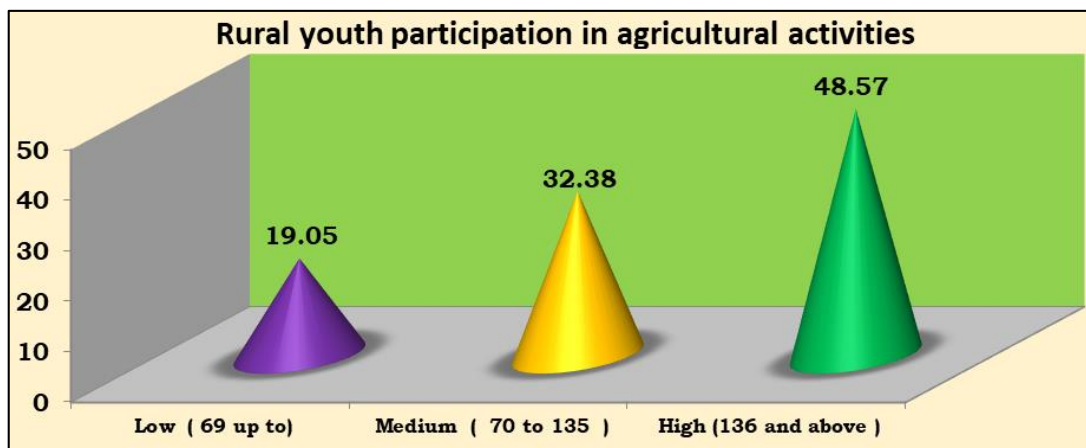
Participation means the act of involving oneself in any kind of operations. It is an activity by which the rural youth participate in agriculture activities. Participation can be both active and passive such as being present as transformation of knowledge, skill contributing labour, material, decision making and motivating. In this case participation is an activity by which the rural youth contributes in agricultural activities by involving himself. The data regarding participation of the rural youth in agriculture activities were collected and they were grouped into three categories on the basis of participation score obtained by them. The distribution of the rural youth according to their level of participation in agriculture activities is given in Table No.1 and Figure 1.

**Table 1:** Distribution of the rural youth according to their level of participation in agricultural activities

Sl. No.	Level of Participation	Respondents (N=105)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low ( 69 up to)	20	19.05
2.	Medium ( 70 to 135 )	34	32.38
3.	High (136 and above )	51	48.57
	Total	105	100

It can be seen from table 1 that, nearly half (48.57 per cent) of the rural youth had high participation, followed by 32.38 per cent had medium level of participation and only 19.05 per cent had low participation in agricultural activities. This

indicates that the rural youth had high to medium level of participation in agricultural activities. The findings of the present study are similar to those of Ahire *et al.* (2001)<sup>[1]</sup>, and Nale (2003)<sup>[5]</sup>.



**Fig 1:** Distribution of rural youth according to their Participation in agricultural activities

**Participation of rural youth in different agricultural activities**

**A) Pre farming operations**

Table No.2 revealed that that, 42.33 per cent of the rural youth regularly participate in tillage operation like ploughing (42.85 per cent) followed by clod crushing (37.14 per cent) and land levelling (40.95 per cent). More than two-fifth (39.33 per cent) of the rural youth occasionally participated in ploughing(35.24 per cent ) followed by clod crushing (41.90 per cent) and land levelling (35.24 per cent), occasionally.

Further, 23.33 per cent of the respondents did not participate in ploughing (21.90 per cent) followed by clod crushing (20.95per cent), land levelling (23.81 per cent) and harvesting of fruits (23.81 per cent)

**B) Sowing operations**

It quite clear from Table No. 2 that majority of (53.00 per cent) rural youth have not participated in seed treatment (50.48 per cent) and sowing of the seed (51.53 per cent), followed by (49.52 per cent) tree planting. Further, 28.00 per

cent youth were occasionally participated in seed treatment (24.76 per cent) and sowing of the seed (24.76 per cent), followed by 30.48 per cent tree planting. Only 24.00 per cent youth regularly participated in seed treatment (24.76 per cent) and sowing of seed (23.81 per cent), followed by (20.00 per cent) tree planting.

**C) Intercultural operations**

It was observed from Table No.2 that, more than one third (29.00 per cent) of youth were regularly participated in weeding/hoeing followed by thinning (25.71 per cent), (30.48 per cent) application of chemical fertilizer (27.62 per cent) and spraying of chemicals (26.67 per cent). Two third (36.50.per cent) of the rural youth were occasionally participated in weeding/hoeing followed by thinning (40.00 per cent), (34.29 per cent) application of chemical fertilizer (27.62 per cent) and spraying of chemicals (37.14 per cent), Further, (39.50. per cent) of rural youth were not participated in weeding/hoeing followed by thinning (34.29 per cent), (35.24 per cent) application of chemical fertilizer (44.76 per cent) and spraying of chemicals (36.19 per cent).

**D) Crop harvesting operations**

It was revealed from Table No.2 that, More than half (51.25 per cent) of rural youth were not participated in harvesting, followed by threshing operation (49.52 per cent)), (49.52per cent) drying and storage of farm produce (49.52per cent) and selling of farm produce. (46.67 per cent).In case of regularly participation 27.00 per cent of youth participated in harvesting, followed by threshing operation (20.00 per cent)), (25.71per cent) drying and storage of farm produce (24.76 per cent) and selling of farm produce. (32.38 per cent). Further 26.75 per cent of youth were occasionally participated harvesting, followed by threshing operation 30.48 per cent)), (24.76per cent) drying and storage of farm produce (25.71 per cent) and selling of farm produce. (20.95 per cent). This indicates that participation of rural youth crop cutting and harvesting operations found to be at lower level.

**E) Animal husbandry and dairy practices**

A perusal Table No.2 revealed that, majority of (41.00 per cent) of rural youth were regularly participated in caring of animal (36.19 per cent), preparation of feed for animals (40.00 per cent), milking operations (39.05 per cent) followed

by, selling of milk and milk products (40.95 per cent). Further 27.50 per cent of youth were occasionally participated in caring of animal (28.57 per cent), preparation of feed for animals (28.57 per cent), milking operations (24.76 per cent) followed by, selling of milk and milk products (22.86 per cent). Whereas 36.50 per cent of the rural youth did not participate in animal husbandry and dairy practices mainly because they did not possess animals. The result shows that participation of rural youth in animal husbandry and dairy practices was of satisfactory level.

**F) Orchard management operations**

It could be inferred from the Table No.2 that, majority (40.80 per cent) of rural youth were not participated in intercultural operations in the orchard (37.14 per cent), selection of fertilizers (38.10 per cent), spraying of pesticide/fungicide/weedicide and use (38.10 per cent), harvesting of fruits (39.50 per cent) and marketing of fruits 41.90 per cent). Further, (37.20 per cent) of rural youth were regularly participated in intercultural operations in the orchard (34.29 per cent), selection of fertilizers (38.10 per cent), spraying of pesticide/fungicide/ weedicide and use (40.05 per cent), harvesting of fruits (26.67 per cent) and marketing of fruits (37.14 per cent). In the case of occasionally, participation 27.00 per cent of youth participated in intercultural operations in the orchard, selection of fertilizers, spraying of pesticide/fungicide/ weedicide and use, harvesting of fruits and marketing of fruits.

**G) Field management operations**

It could be noticed from Table No.2 that, nearly forty per cent rural youth did not participate in field management practices like the hiring of labour for field work, supervision, keeping a record of fieldwork, paying wages, and buying of inputs. While of 41.90 per cent of the rural youth were regularly participated in paying wages, followed by supervision, and buying of inputs (40.00 per cent). Only 38.10 per cent of youth regularly participated in the hiring of labour for fieldwork operation. Further, nearly twenty per cent of rural youth were occasionally participated in keeping a record of field work, buying of seeds, hiring of labour for field work, paying wages and in supervision. It indicates that the majority of rural youth regularly participated in field management operations.

**Table 2:** Distribution of the rural youth according to Participation of rural youth in different agricultural activities

Sl. No.	Statements	Respondents (N=105)		
		Regularly	Occasionally	Not participated
<b>A</b>	<b>Pre farming operations</b>			
1.	Ploughing	45 (42.85)	37 (35.24)	23 (21.90)
2.	Clod crushing	39 (37.14)	44 (41.90)	22 (20.95)
3.	Land levelling	43 (40.95)	37 (35.24)	25 (23.81)
<b>B</b>	<b>Sowing</b>			
1.	Seed treatment	26 (24.76)	26 (24.76)	53 (50.48)
2.	Sowing of seed	25 (23.81)	26 (24.76)	54 (51.43)
3.	Tree planting	21 (20.00)	32 (30.48)	52 (49.52)
<b>C</b>	<b>Intercultural operations</b>			
1.	Weeding/Hoeing	27 (25.71)	42 (40.00)	36 (34.29)
2.	Thinning	32 (30.48)	36 (34.29)	37 (35.24)
3.	Application of chemical fertilizer	29 (27.62)	29 (27.62)	47 (44.76)
4.	Spraying of chemicals	28 (26.67)	39 (37.14)	38 (36.19)
<b>D</b>	<b>Crop harvesting operations</b>			
1.	Harvesting	21 (20.00)	32 (30.48)	52 (49.52)
2.	Threshing operation	27 (25.71)	26 (24.76)	52 (49.52)
3.	Drying and storage of farm produce	26 (24.76)	27 (25.71)	52 (49.52)

4.	Selling of farm produce	34 (32.38)	22 (20.95)	49 (46.67)
<b>E</b>	<b>Animal husbandry and dairy practices</b>			
1.	Caring of animals	38 (36.19)	30 (28.57)	37 (35.24)
2.	Preparation of feed for animals	42 (40.00)	30 (28.57)	33 (31.43)
3.	Milking	41 (39.05)	26 (24.76)	38 (36.19)
4.	Selling of milk / milk products	43 (40.95)	24 (22.86)	38 (36.19)
<b>F</b>	<b>Orchard management operations</b>			
1.	Intercultural operations in orchard	36 (34.29)	30 (28.57)	39 (37.14)
2.	Selection of fertilizers and use	40 (38.10)	25 (23.81)	40 (38.10)
3.	Spraying of pesticide / fungicide / weedicide	43 (40.95)	22 (20.95)	40 (38.10)
4.	Harvesting of fruits	28 (26.67)	36 (34.29)	41 (39.05)
5.	Marketing of fruits	39 (37.14)	22 (20.95)	44 (41.90)
<b>G</b>	<b>Field management operations</b>			
1.	Hiring of labour for field work	40 (38.10)	21 (20.00)	44 (41.90)
2.	Supervision	42 (40.00)	20 (19.05)	43 (40.95)
3.	Paying wages	44 (41.90)	21 (20.00)	40 (38.10)
4.	Keeping record of field work	40 (38.10)	24 (22.85)	41 (39.05)
5.	Buying of seeds	42 (40.00)	23 (21.90)	40 (38.10)

### Conclusion

It could be concluded that the rural youth are the potential labour force who are characterized by innovative behaviour, less conservativeness, greater physical strength and a fast rate of learning which is all being perceived as the significant engine for agriculture development. It was noticed that nearly half of the rural youths high level of participation in agriculture. This inclination can be enhanced properly by integrated efforts to be done by Agriculture University, State Agriculture Department, Industrial Corporation and NGOs to organize technical and motivational programmes to develop Agri- pruner's youths and provide all support to them until the success of their agripreneurship. Such programmes should be widely and intensively organized in the rural areas to seek maximum participation of rural youths in agriculture.

### References

1. Ahire RD, Kulkarni RR, Lambat AH. Participation of rural youth in farm activities. Maharashtra Journal of Extension Education. 2001; 20:152-154.
2. Aphunu, Atoma CN. Rural Youths' involvement in agricultural production in Delta Central Agricultural Zone: Challenge to Agricultural Extension Development in Delta State, Journal of Agricultural Extension, 2010, 14(2).
3. Auto SJ, Abdullahi YM, Nasiru M. Rural Youths participation in agriculture: prospects, challenges and the implications for Policy in Nigeria. Journal of agricultural education and extension. 2010; 16(3):297-307.
4. Jayapuria Debasis. A study on attitude of rural youth regarding participation in agricultural activities of Patana block of Jabalpur District (M.P.). M.Sc. (Agriculture) Thesis, J.N.K.V.V., Jabalpur, 2015.
5. Nale SC. Changing rural youth participation in farming. M.Sc. (Agri) Thesis, V.N.M.K.V., Parbhani, (MH), 2003.