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Correlates of profile of onion seed producers with their entrepreneurial behaviour

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Abstract

The present research was undertaken on topic "Entrepreneurial Behaviour of Onion Seed Producers" in Akola district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state' conducted purposively on the basis of major area under Onion seed production. An exploratory design of social research was used for present study aims at assessing the entrepreneurial behaviour of Onion seed producers. Two talukas namely Akola and Patur of Akola district was selected for the study as they are having major area under Onion seed production and based on highest cultivable area. From each of the selected taluka's five villages was selected purposively based on highest area under Onion seed production. Thus, total ten villages were selected for the study, total 120 Onion seed producers constitute the sample size for the study. 60 respondents were selected from Akola and Patur talukas each.

The findings of the research study relational analysis revealed that The entrepreneurial behaviour found significant co-relationship with socio-economic characteristics like age, education, occupation, land holding, annual income, cropping pattern, area under Onion seed production, experience in Onion seed production, extension contact, social participation and scientific orientation. The co-relation co-efficient between entrepreneurial behaviour of respondents with their profile result clearly indicated that selected characteristics of Onion seed producer i.e. education, annual income, experience in Onion seed production, extension contact, social participation had positive and significant relationship at 0.01 level of probability with entrepreneurial behaviour whereas, occupation, land holding, cropping pattern, area under Onion seed production and scientific orientation had positive and significant relationship at 0.05 level of probability. Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected for these characteristics and concluded that these characteristics were correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour. Further, remaining characteristics of Onion seed producer such as age of the respondent establish negatively significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected with respect to these characteristics and it can be resulted that this characteristic was negatively correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour.

Keywords: correlation, onion seed production, entrepreneurial behavior, onion

Introduction

Onion is one of the major bulb crops of the world and also an important commercial vegetable crop. Among the commercially grown bulbous vegetable crops in India, Onion occupies predominant place. Onion (*Allium sepa* L.), Alliaceae family and the synonymous are Kanda, Earulli, Ullagaddi, Piyaz, Pallando in various regional languages. In India, total production of Onion in year 2016-2017 was about 22427 thousand million tonnes, cultivated in 1306 thousand hectares. Whereas, in Maharashtra, total production of Onion was about 6773.08 thousand million tonnes, cultivated in 471.66 thousand hectares of area. Particularly in Western Maharashtra, Nashik is the leading district in area and production of Onion followed by Ahmednagar and Pune. (Handbook of Horticulture statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Gov. of India 2018) [6]. In Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, Buldhana and Akola district possess the largest area and production of Onion. In Akola district 2982 ha. area is under Onion production. (DSAO Akola, Annual Report, 2018) [12]. In India, the short day types of Onion is cultivated on large scale in the northern plains. Central and southern parts of the country except higher hills, where the long day types Onion varieties like Brown Spanish and Yellow Spanish etc. are grown over a limited area. Therefore, the seed production of the short day types of Onion is done in central parts of the country particularly in Mandarin and Khandwa region of Madhya Pradesh, Nashik, Pune, Buldhana and Akola districts of Maharashtra and Rajkot district of Gujrat. However, Northern states like Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan are not preferred by the seed industry due to the severe attack of stem phylum and purple blotch and lower seed yield but there is a potential for seed production in north under delayed planting.

Seed is the basic and most critical input for sustainable agriculture. The response of all other inputs depends on quality of seed to a larger extent. The Indian seed programme largely adheres to the limited generation system for seed multiplication in a phased manner. The system recognizes three generations namely breeder, foundation and certified seeds which provides adequate safeguards for quality assurance in the seed multiplication chain to maintain the purity of the variety as it flows from the breeder to the farmer. With recent technological development in agriculture, seed production has become more complex business and requires careful planning for successful operations.

The seed production is systematically organized, carefully planned based on the best information available and aimed to achieve higher yields and best quality of seed out of their resources. It is the deliberate and conscious effort on the part of the seed grower to think about the seed programme in advance and adjust them according to new knowledge on technological changes in physical and economic situation, price structures etc.

Material and Methods

Locale of the study

The present study was carried out in Akola district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state. The above district was selected purposively on the basis of major area under Onion seed production. Two talukas namely Akola and Patur of Akola district was selected for the study as they are having major area under Onion seed production and based on highest cultivable area

Selection of respondents

The list of Onion seed producers was obtained from TAO, Department of Agriculture. From each taluka five villages was selected in respect of Onion seed producers and from each village, twelve Onion seed producers were selected randomly. Thus, total 120 Onion seed producers were the sample size for the study. 60 respondents were selected from Akola and Patur talukas each. The whole sample was considered as respondents and they were interviewed for collection of data. Data was collected with the help of interview schedule.

Measurement of Co-efficient of correlation

Co-efficient of correlation shows the relationship between the variables. The correlation coefficient gives two kinds of information (i) degree of relationship and (ii) direction of the relationship (positive or negative) between the variables. This relationship was obtained using following formula which is given by Karl Pearson.

$$r = \frac{\sum xy}{\sqrt{\sum x^2 \sum y^2}}$$

Where as,

$$\bar{x} = (X - X), \quad \bar{y} = (Y - Y)$$

r = correlation coefficient

X = Independent variable

Y = Dependent variable

$$\sum xy = \sum^n (X - X) (Y - Y), \quad \sum x^2 = \sum^n (X - X)^2, \quad \sum y^2 = \sum^n (Y - Y)^2$$

Results and Discussion

Relationship between profile of Onion seed producer with their entrepreneurial behaviour

Correlation analysis was carried out to find out as to whether the selected characteristics had any association with entrepreneurial behaviour of Onion seed producer. The coefficients of correlation of the profile of respondents with their entrepreneurial behaviour have been furnished in Table 1.

Table 1: Relationship between profile of respondents and entrepreneurial behavior

Sl. No.	Independent variables	Calculated 'r' value
1.	Age	-0.2239*
2.	Education	0.2573**
3.	Occupation	0.1812*
4.	Land holding	0.2342*
5.	Annual income	0.2706**
6.	Cropping pattern	0.1953*
7.	Area under Onion seed production	0.2012*
8.	Experience in Onion seed production	0.2347**
9.	Extension contact	0.2556**
10.	Social participation	0.2665**
11.	Scientific orientation	0.1867*

** = Significant at 0.01 per cent level of probability

* = Significant at 0.05 per cent level of probability

It can be observed from Table 1 that, the calculated correlation co-efficient between entrepreneurial behaviour of respondents and their profile revealed the following results which clearly indicates that selected characteristics of Onion seed producer i.e. education, annual income, experience in Onion seed production, extension contact, social participation had positive and significant relationship at 0.01 level of probability with entrepreneurial behaviour whereas, occupation, land holding, cropping pattern, area under Onion seed production and scientific orientation had positive and significant relationship at 0.05 level of probability. While only age had negatively significant relationship at 0.05 per cent level of probability with entrepreneurial behaviour of Onion seed producer. Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected for these characteristics and concluded that these characteristics were correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour. As regards age of Onion seed producer, it was found to have negatively significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. The age is factor, which determines the zeal, attitude and enthusiasm to work hard required for determining effectiveness in any activity. Younger farmers are more energetic, and adopt new technologies faster than old, more educated and they work for excellence in their life. This could be the reason for negative correlation between age and their entrepreneurial behaviour. The similar results have reported by Ghube (2014) [4], Raut (2018) [11] and Yewatkar (2018) [14] who stated that age of respondents had negatively significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. As regards education of Onion seed producer, it had positive and significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. Education broadens the vision of an individual. Education helps the farmer to get information from various sources. The educated persons develop more access to extension agencies, developmental organizations, economic motivation, achievement motivation, decision making ability and inclined to use of innovations by taking the high risk. Thus, these factors also help in better management planning and

production. Hence, education was the influencing factor of entrepreneurial behaviour of Onion seed producer. These findings are in accordance with the findings of Ghube (2014)^[4] and Raut (2018)^[11], who also reported that there was positively significant relationship between education and entrepreneurial behaviour.

As regards occupation of Onion seed producer, it had positive and significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. These finding is in accordance with the Ghube (2014)^[4] and Yewatkar (2018)^[14], who also reported that there was positively significant relationship between education and entrepreneurial behavior. Land holding of Onion seed producer was found positive and significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. Thus, land holding and annual income are interrelated factors reflecting the socio-economic status of an individual. The probable reason for present findings might be that respondent with large holding, would have more opportunities and potentialities to try and adopt variety of technological innovations had higher purchasing power and urge to invest in seed production. It helps them to bear risk against uncertainty and motivate for adoption of innovations. As a result, it is quite possible that farmers with larger land holding evinced keen interest to know about new forum practices and be more respective to such ideas and thus leading to better innovativeness, achievement motivation and risk orientation, which turn reflect on their entrepreneurial behaviour. Therefore, size of land holding and annual income must have shown positive and significant relationship with entrepreneurial behaviour. These findings are in accordance with the findings of Ghube (2014)^[4], Raut (2018)^[11] and Yewatkar (2018)^[14], who also reported that there was positively significant relationship between land holding and entrepreneurial attributes.

Annual income of Onion seed producer was positively and significantly correlated with their entrepreneurial behaviour. Onion seed producer with higher annual family income have higher purchasing power and as a result have an urge to invest in specialized farm operations. The higher income itself motivates the farmers to seek new technologies for improving their income and standard of living. Farmers with high annual family income usually have good leadership abilities and they can normally bear risk and uncertainty in adopting new ideas. These findings are in line with the findings of Raut (2018)^[11] and Yewatkar (2018)^[14], who reported that there was positively significant relationship between land holding and annual income with their entrepreneurial behaviour. As regards cropping pattern followed by Onion seed producer, it was found positively and significantly correlated with their entrepreneurial behavior. the finding is in line with Anita Bare (2017)^[1]. Area under Onion seed production was positively and significantly correlated with their entrepreneurial behaviour. It provides the economic base for the farmer to practice new Onion seed production technology and regulated impetus to make optimum utilization of resources on farm through efficient decision making to apply new ideas for achieving maximum profits. Further, it helps the farmer to bear risk and uncertainty as they cannot cause much damage to him. The finding is in line with the findings of Raut (2018)^[11] and Yewatkar (2018)^[14], who reported that there was significant relationship between area under Gram seed production and area under Garlic with their entrepreneurial behavior, respectively. As regards experience in Onion seed production, it was positively and significantly correlated with

entrepreneurial behaviour. These findings are in line with Archana K. (2013)^[2], where in she reported that experience in seed production had significant correlation with entrepreneurial behaviour. As regards extension contact of Onion seed producer, it was positively and significantly correlated with their entrepreneurial behaviour. The finding is in line with the findings of Wadekar (2016), Raut (2018)^[11] and Yewatkar (2018)^[14], who reported that there was significant relationship between extension contact with their entrepreneurial behaviour. As regards social participation of Onion seed producer, it was positively and significantly correlated with their entrepreneurial behaviour. It helps farmers to get information from various sources. Social activities conducted in area have direct effect on knowledge gained about improved practices and adopt them. These findings are in line with Ghube (2014)^[4] and Yewatkar (2018)^[14] who revealed that social participation of respondents have significant relationship with entrepreneurial behaviour. As regards scientific orientation of Onion seed producers, it had positive and significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. The reason might be due to the fact that respondents with higher scientific orientation try to gather more information, which could be applied at field level, thus increasing production.

The finding is in line with the findings of Wadekar (2016) and Yewatkar (2018)^[14] revealed that scientific orientation had positive and significant relationship with entrepreneurial behaviour.

Conclusion

As regards Co-efficient of correlation, it can be concluded that The results of the co-relation co-efficient between entrepreneurial behaviour of respondents and their profile clearly indicated that selected characteristics of Onion seed producer i.e. education, annual income, experience in Onion seed production, extension contact, social participation had positive and significant relationship at 0.01 level of probability with entrepreneurial behaviour whereas, occupation, land holding, cropping pattern, area under Onion seed production and scientific orientation had positive and significant relationship at 0.05 level of probability and age of Onion seed producer establish negatively significant relationship with their entrepreneurial behaviour. Thus it is recommended that the concerned agencies/ Extension agencies/ SMS of KVK's, SAU scientists should take a greater interest in helping out the Onion seed producer in order to overcome training needs.

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