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## Socio-economic status of farming community in Hasanpur and Kalewal village of S.A.S. Nagar district, Punjab

**Aparna Yadav, Gurshaminder Singh and Ridhima Dhiman**

### Abstract

An important factor in assuring the improvement of agricultural output, productivity, sustainability, agricultural technology, and environmental and ecological security is agricultural education. There are linkages between rural and agricultural sector development. The current study looks on the socioeconomic determinants of the farmers' community's prominence in Punjab, particularly in village Hasanpur and Kalewal. The present study was designed to know the socio-economic status of the farmers in Hasanpur and Kalewal village under Kharar tehsil, of SAS Nagar Mohali district of Punjab. The questionnaire based methodology was adopted for study purpose. The research is based on the initial source of data. The interviews of 120 farmers are recorded. In order to do this, we created a questionnaire in which we had to collect all the data related to the socioeconomic profile of the farmer, including their income level, caste system, level of education, family structure, cropping system, accessibility to tools and machinery, access to loans, information sources, etc. To make inferences that were significant, each item was thoroughly examined and explained. The appealing standing of farmers is a result of improved medical facilities, the availability of better seeds, and the provision of inexpensive fertilizers. The primary source of data is the catalyst of the study. The purpose of this study is to ascertain the peoples' living and working conditions. The goal of this study was to fully understand the socioeconomic situation. The key data sources used in the paper are gathered using both qualitative and quantitative techniques. Using various visual statistical methods, the state of this area is depicted. Many people have raised their standards of life, yet some still find themselves in the same situation. Many of them are under stress because access to healthcare, quality education, and jobs make it challenging for them to survive. According to interaction studies, farmers' socioeconomic conditions can be improved by teaching them technical skills, raising their educational attainment, and improving their social involvement. Therefore, exploring these areas' socioeconomic situation in terms of their population, occupational structure, education, employment, income, housing characteristics, and government programmes is crucial.

**Keywords:** Socio-economic determinants, qualitative & quantitative, statistical methods, farming community

### Introduction

Increasing agricultural productivity with the aim of raising farmers' income and living standards is one of the key goals of rural development. The primary means of raising agricultural productivity in the nation is through better practises. Contact amongst farmers based on questionnaires to identify the main issues. There are fantastic alternatives available to reduce the difficulties experienced by farmers. The present status of the society in the developing nations is briskly moving from undeveloped economy to developed economy along with the development of social conditions (Chandna, 2010) [28]. The main issue nowadays, especially in developing nations, is socioeconomic position. The socioeconomic climate in rural communities is steadily improving over time. The execution of several programmes and initiatives has improved the socioeconomic situation of the population in rural areas. The economic development of rural populations could not, however, be distributed uniformly throughout the area. An individual's lifestyle is widely dependent on their economic status (Islam and Mustaqim, 2014) [1]. Even in a small town, different economic classes might be discovered. It has long been believed that development is a process that enhances people's quality of living. Demographic data, agricultural income and expenditures on a monthly basis, habitation patterns of individuals in a particular area, and other data relating to their cultivation profile are all included in socio-economic surveys. Based on these variables/dimensions, maintaining the place as the primary focus, development policies can be created and enhanced.

The causes of socioeconomic status were also researched by Babatunde *et al.* in 2007 [13], who discovered that the food security, farm size, household income, household size, and educational level are some of the significant status of farmers. It depicts a person's or a group's standard of living. If someone has easy access to resources, their socioeconomic standing is likely to be high. Rural farmers live in abysmal poverty and are in a terrible financial situation. Farmers put in a lot of effort, yet their income is insufficient to cover their requirements. One of the main causes of their low socioeconomic position is low income. Low per capita decreases the control over the available resources, which worsens their living conditions. The socioeconomic standing of a nation reveals its social and economic circumstances. The main cause of a low degree of socioeconomic status was discovered to be poverty. The socioeconomic situation of farmers was examined by Sathayanarayan *et al.* in 2010 [9]. To determine a farmer's socioeconomic position, researchers looked at factors such family type, family size, decision-maker gender, social involvement, income level, land ownership, and productivity level. Eric Oduro-Ofori and colleagues (2014) [14] investigated the effect of education on farmers' agricultural productivity in municipalities.

### Social status of Hasanpur and Kalewal

The management of rural areas and the adoption of various Government initiatives and activities are typically through the authority of the Panchayat Samitis, which is headed by Gram Pradhan. The financial, political, and regulatory authority determines the social position in the villages.

### Economic status

The economic situation of the villagers is generally not very good; their primary means of support is agriculture, but due to the lack of viable seeds, production procedures are having a negative impact on their quality of life and crop yields are decreasing. Peasants migrate to towns and cities in quest of labour because agriculture has become unprofitable due to the weather's erratic nature, depletion of soil due to excessive use of pesticides, decreasing water table due to rice cultivation and low rate of return.

### Research objectives

With the above mentioned in mind, a socioeconomic survey of the village of Hasanpur and Kalewal in Kharar, Punjab, India, was conducted with the following goals:

1. To investigate the socio economic status of the village's households.
2. To look into the educational, employment, healthcare, and family structure conditions in the village.
3. In order to better understand local resource management systems, resource consumption, and the relative value of resources for households and villages, information will be gathered in this manner.
4. To research demographic trends of the village and how natural resources are used.

### Method and Methodology

The present study was designed to know the socio-economic

status of the farmers in Hasanpur and Kalewal village under Kharar tehsil, of S.A.S. Nagar Mohali district of Punjab. The questionnaire based methodology was adopted for study purpose. The research is based on the primary source of data. The interviews of 120 farmers are recorded in Hasanpur and Kalewal village of S.A.S. Nagar district, Punjab.

The study area and the village overview included the Hasanpur and Kalewal village's Census.

### Village overview: Hasanpur

Hasanpur village comes under Kharar tehil in Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar district of Punjab. Pincode of the village is 140103. Total geographical area is 172 hectares and no. of school count in this village is only one and there is not even a single hospital followed by not even a single dispensary and Post office.

**Table 1:** Hasanpur Census (source-registrations and surveys)

| Census Parameter             | Census Data (2021) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Total Population             | 961                |
| Total No. of Houses          | 226                |
| Female Population%           | 36.7% (443)        |
| Total Literacy Rate%         | 66.3% (552)        |
| Female Literacy Rate         | 69.1% (339)        |
| Scheduled Tribes Population% | 0.0%               |
| Scheduled caste Population%  | 12.2%              |
| Working Population%          | 31.2%              |



**Fig 1:** Hasanpur Village Map

### Village overview: Kalewal

Kalewal is a Village in Kharar Tehsil in S.A.S. Nagar District of Punjab State, India. It is located 21 KM towards west from District head quarters Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar. 16 KM from Kharar. 24KM from Chandigarh. Kalewal Pin code is 140103 and postal head office is Kurali. Total geographical area is 174 hectares and has 2 schools and 1 hospital.

**Table 2:** Kalewal Census (source - registrations and surveys)

| Census Parameter             | Census Data (2021) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Total Population             | 1116               |
| Total No. of Houses          | 220                |
| Female Population%           | 46.1% (515)        |
| Total Literacy Rate%         | 78.7% (818)        |
| Female Literacy Rate         | 34.7% (387)        |
| Scheduled Tribes Population% | 0.0%               |
| Scheduled caste Population%  | 28.2% (315)        |
| Working Population%          | 38.1%              |
| Child (0-6) Population       | 125                |
| Girl Child (0-6) Population% | 45.6% (57)         |



**Fig 2:** Kalewal Village Map

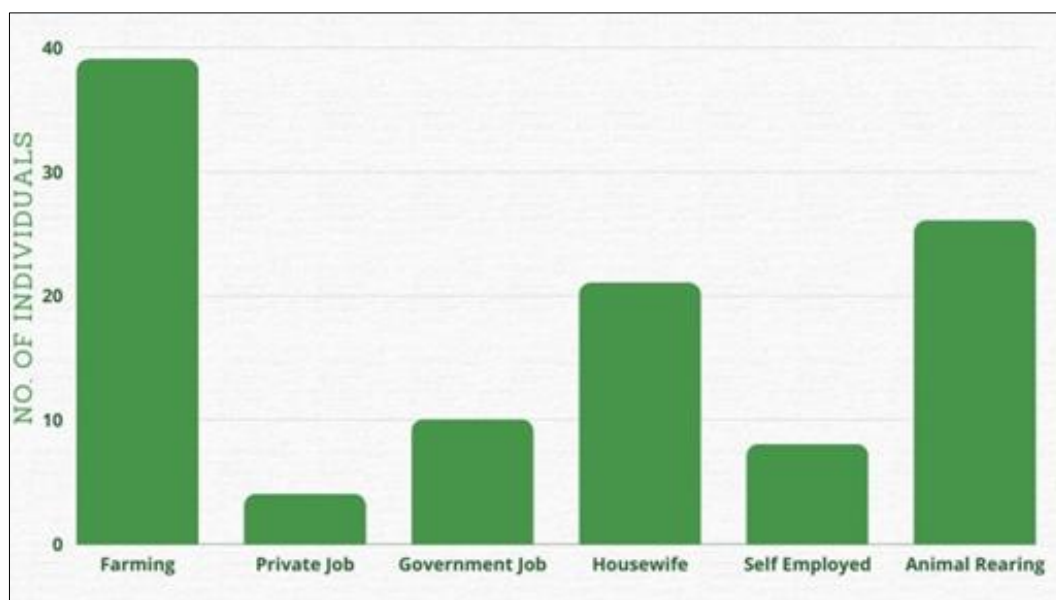
Primary and secondary data from both published and unpublished sources are used in this study. Data collection is done using the quantitative approach. The main data was produced as a result of a census that was conducted in these villages. 120 households were surveyed i.e. 60 households from each village which comprises of all farmers, government employees as well as self employed business holders. A systematic questionnaire and in-person door-to-door interviews were used to gather the data. Direct observation, focus group discussions, and community group interviews are also employed as quick evaluation methods. Personal interviews with senior villagers and nearby villagers are also done for the collection of qualitative data.

**Results and Discussion**

The following are the various topics examined under the socioeconomic survey:

**Occupation**

Nearly about 40% of the household's agricultural production is for local consumption; the majority is done for self-sufficiency. 26% of the household take animal husbandry as their main source of livelihood while some of them rear animals as secondary source of income. Only a small number of people work in government-based offices; the majority is employed in other jobs, such as teaching in the neighborhood's elementary school, while a few of them are self employed.



**Fig 3:** Graph of Hasanpur People Occupation

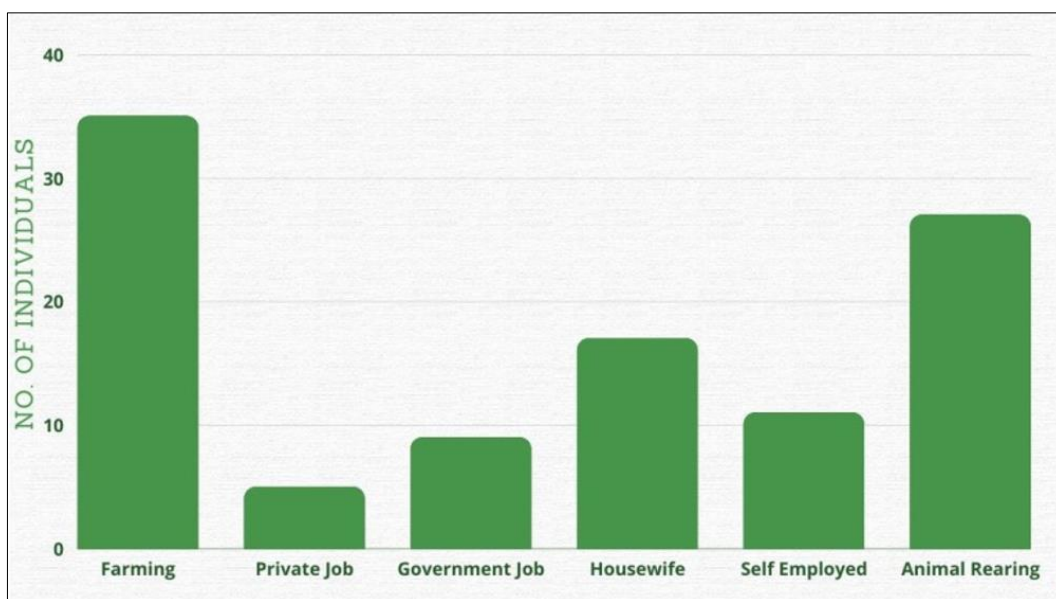


Fig 4: Graph of Kalewal’s people occupation

**Family composition**

In comparison to nuclear families, it was found that joint families were more prevalent. 41.2% of the family was

nuclear, and 59.8% was made up of joint members in Hasanpur. While in Kalewal, 38% of the families are nuclear and the rest are joint.

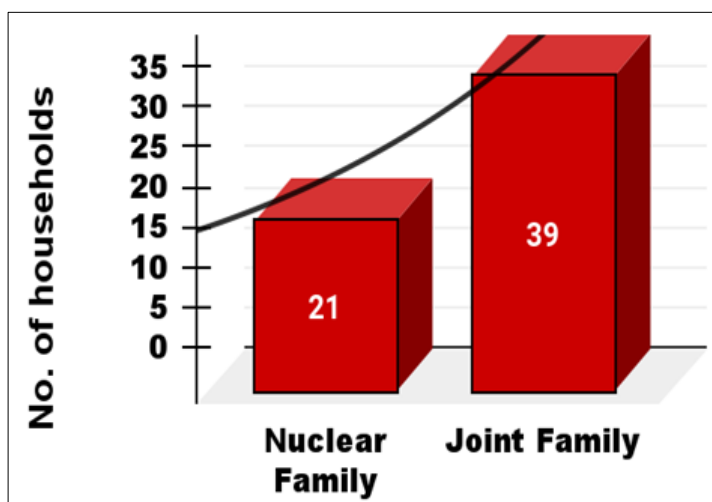


Fig 5: Graph of Hasanpur Farmer’s family composition

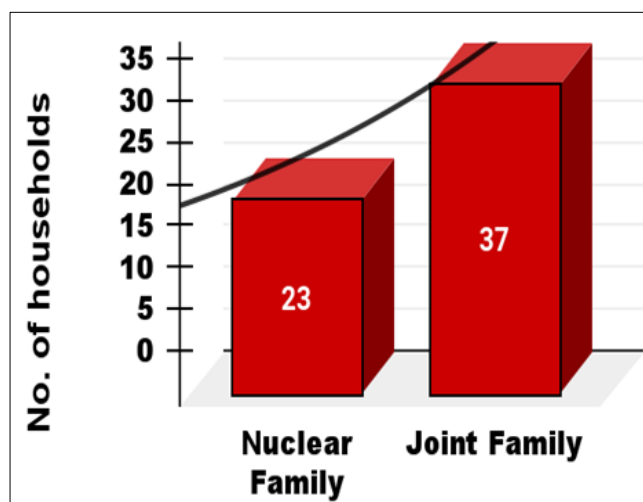


Fig 6: Graph of Kalewal Farmer’s family composition

**Education**

As you can see from Hasanpur’s graph below, 31.7% of persons lack a high school diploma or equivalent. 16.7% of the population have completed their elementary education, 18.3% have completed secondary education, 20.0% have completed higher secondary education, and 13.3% of them

have completed their graduation and from Kalewal’s Graph, 30% of the farmers are uneducated, 13.3% of the population have completed their elementary education, 20% have completed secondary education, 25.0% have completed higher secondary education, and 11.7% of them have completed their graduation.

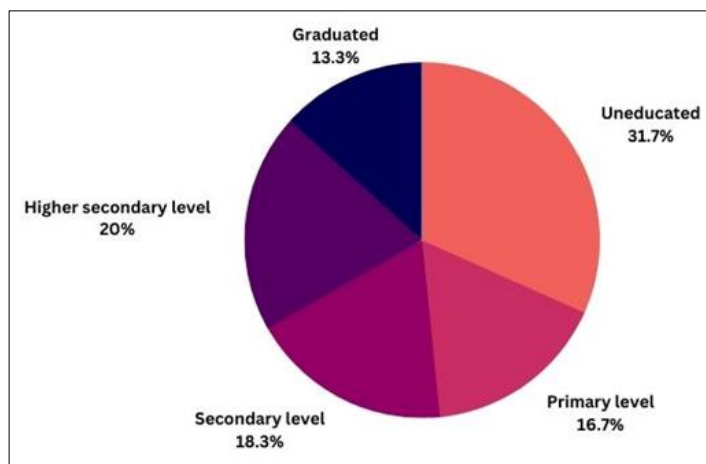


Fig 7: Graph of Hasanpur Farmer’s Education

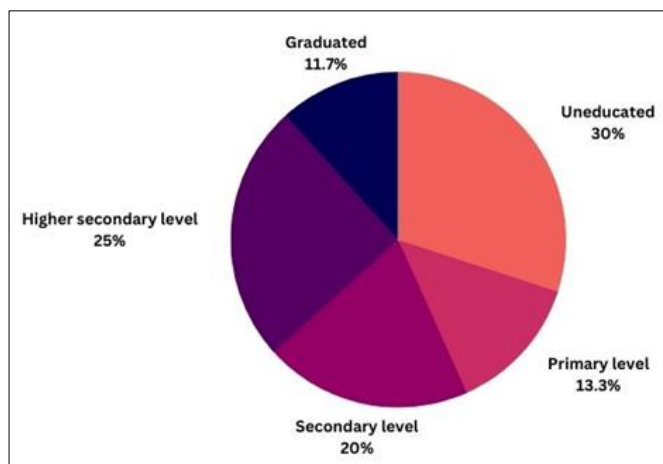


Fig 8: Graph of Kalewal Farmer’s Education

**Category of Farmers**

According to a poll, the community has a small number of large farmers and a smaller number of people who don't farm

or who have leased their land to other farmers (Raju *et al.* 2019)<sup>[6]</sup>.

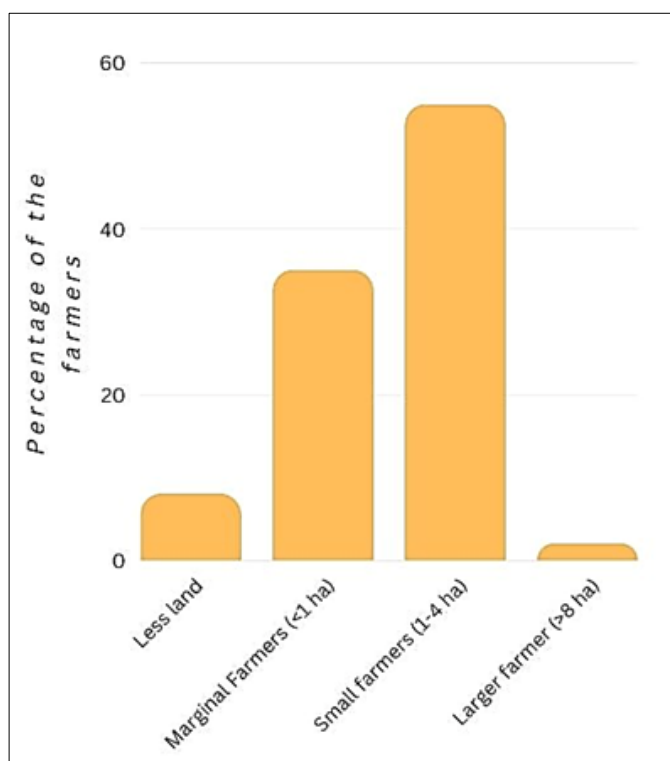


Fig 9: Graph on Category of Hasanpur’s Farmers

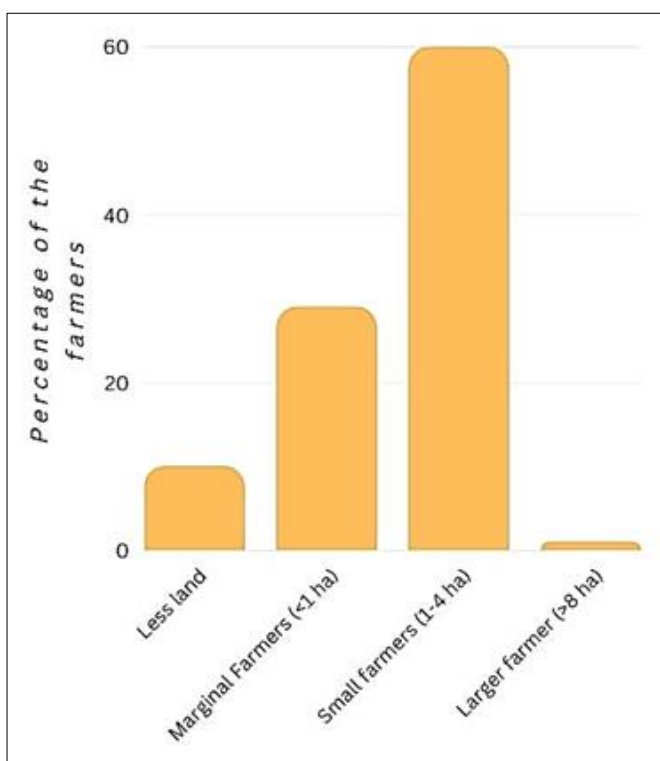


Fig 10: Graph on Category of Kalewal’s Farmers

**Income status**

According to the line graph of Hasanpur, 31.66 percent of the population is lower middle class, earning between Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000 per month, 25 percent is middle class, earning around Rs 10,000 and Rs 25,000 per month, 28.33 percent belong to upper middle class, earning between Rs 25,000 and

Rs 40,000 per month, and 15 percent is upper class, earning between Rs 40,000 and 1 lakh per month and for Kalewal, 35% of population is lower middle class, 30%, 26.66% and 13.33% of the population is middle class, upper middle class and upper class respectively.

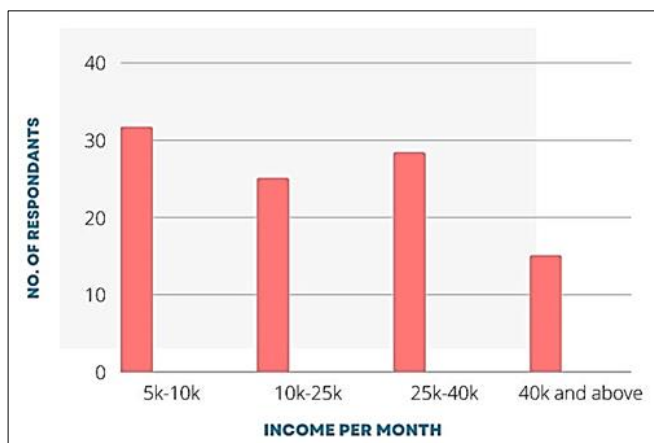


Fig 11: Graph on Hasanpur farmer's Income status

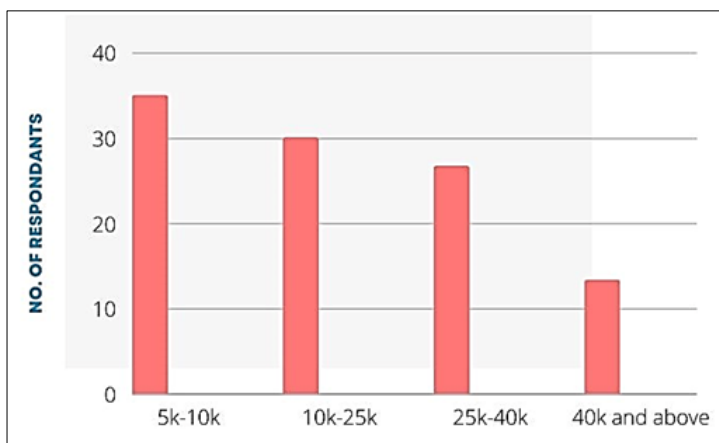


Fig 12: Graph on Kalewal farmer's Income status

**Age group**

According to the graph of Hasanpur, 33.5 percent of the population is over 60 years old and consists of older adults. 23.2 percent of the population was between ages of 12 and 39, whereas 29.7% of the population is between 40 and 59.

Infants between the ages of 0 and 11 make up 14.3% of the population and for Kalewal, 34.8% of the population are senior citizens, 30.4%, 21.1%, 13.7% of the population are Middle, young and infants respectively.

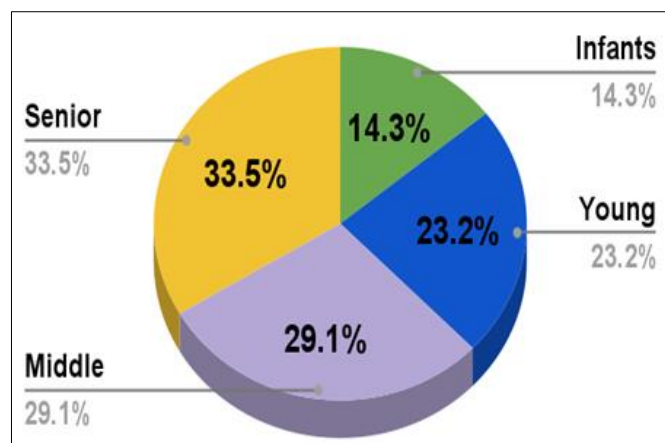


Fig 13: Graph of Hasanpur farmer's age group

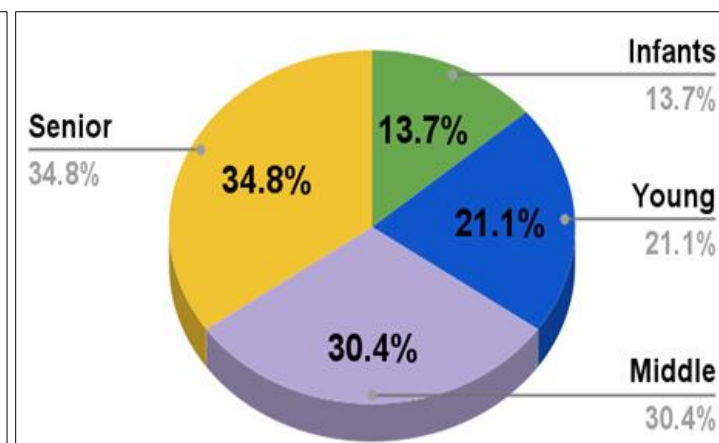


Fig 14: Graph of Kalewal farmer's age group

**Transport and communication**

Automobiles with four or two wheels are the only mode of transportation on the road in the area. Both the villages i.e. Hasanpur and Kalewal has a well-built mortar road that connects it to other villages in the district as well as the district's administrative centre. There are communication options in the area, including phone and cell phone networks.

**Vegetative pattern**

Most of the population practice agriculture as their prime source of income the crops grown in this area include Paddy, Wheat, Sorghum, Berseem, Bajra, Sugarcane, Cauliflower, Maize etc.

Major crops grown in Hasanpur and Kalewal village were paddy and wheat. The majority of fodder crops grown for cattle were Sorghum, Bajra, and Berseem. Average areas under these crops are 3 hectares for rice, 4 hectares of land for wheat, 2 hectares of land for Bajra, and 1 hectare each for Jowar and Berseem. The total cost of production for paddy is Rs 30000 per hectare, for wheat Rs25000 per hectare, for Bajra Rs 26000 per hectare, for jowar Rs 29000 per hectare, and for berseem Rs 23000 per hectare. The yield per hectare goes as 35,58,35,30,12 quintals per hectare for paddy, wheat,

Bajra, jowar, and berseem respectively.

Table 3: Vegetative pattern in Hasanpur and Kalewal

| S. No. | Crop Grown           | Percentage of the Farmer |
|--------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.     | Rice                 | 80%                      |
| 2.     | Wheat                | 85%                      |
| 3.     | Bajra (Pearl millet) | 25%                      |
| 4.     | Chari (Sorghum)      | 10%                      |

Table 4: Livestock production in Hasanpur and Kalewal

| S No. | Category | Breed             | Number | Average Yield |
|-------|----------|-------------------|--------|---------------|
| 1.    | Buffalo  | Murrah            | 100    | 9kg/day       |
| 2.    | Cow      | Holstein Friesian | 15     | 7 kg/day      |
|       |          | Desi              | 50     | 4 kg/day      |

**Conclusion**

The aspects that determine the farmer community's position in Hasanpur and Kalewal village of Punjab have been looked into in the current study. The primary source of data used in the study was gathered. The socioeconomic standing of farmers is determined by a number of elements, particularly those with an agricultural foundation. In the two villages of Hasanpur and Kalewal in the district of Sahibzada Ajit Singh

Nagar, the village survey was successfully completed (Punjab). It was shown that the bulk of them (80%) farmed rice during the kharif season. The majority (80%) of the wheat was grown during the Rabi season. Only a small percentage of them grew sorghum (10%) and pearl millet (10%) for use as fodder. It is indicated based on interactions and the findings that farmers' socioeconomic standing can be enhanced by giving them technical expertise, raising their educational attainment, and boosting their social involvement. It was evident that there was a lack of knowledge regarding farming inputs, disease and pest management.

The study comes to the conclusion that factors such as the head of household's age, education, health, and usage of contemporary technologies have a substantial impact on farmers' standing. The inhabitants of Kharar are very important to the state, and they are renowned for being sensitive to issues in the home and in the neighbourhood. According to the socioeconomic survey, the Hasanpur and Kalewal village's residents have a lot of room to improve their social and economic circumstances. With the expansion of educational opportunities in the region, the inhabitants have started to adopt modern living standards. If the village receives assistance from the government, such as modern agricultural technologies, appropriate schools, medical facilities, and other infrastructures, there can be much greater economic development in the area. Farm diversification, domestication of priority medicinal and aromatic herbs for sustainable development, the growth of the herbal sector, and economic development all provide greater chances for farmers (Singh *et al.*, 2022; Singh *et al.*, 2018) <sup>[16, 17]</sup>.

In conclusion, we can say that the "Socioeconomic" study is a vital and important component of education since it enables us to understand the state of our society, people's standards of living, and the social and economic situation of our nation as a whole. In light of this, the "Socio-Economic Survey" is crucial to our educational system.

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