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Wheat growers socio-economic characteristics in Kanpur Dehat district, Uttar Pradesh, in relation to adoption of improved wheat production technology (India)

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Abstract
The research was carried out in five villages in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur Dehat area, with a sample size of 125 small wheat growers. According to the findings of the survey, 68 per cent of wheat grower farmers were in their middle years (26-50 years) and 92 per cent were literate. Small farmers made up roughly 52 per cent of the wheat growers in the survey, with land holdings ranging from 1 to 2 hectare. In terms of social involvement, 52 per cent of farmers were members of at least one group. Wheat growers with annual incomes ranging from 75,000 to 150,000 were found to make up roughly 72 percent of the total. According to the report, 80 per cent of wheat growers had medium level of economic motivation followed by scientific orientation and risk orientation had 56 per cent and 64 per cent respectively. According to the findings, farmers' socioeconomic position can be enhanced by imparting technical knowledge about wheat growing procedures, as well as raising their education level, social involvement, and information sources.

Keywords: Wheat growers, socio-economic characteristics, adoption

1. Introduction
Wheat is the world's most widely planted staple food crop. It is mostly a Rabi (winter) season crop in India. At the conclusion of fiscal year 2020, India has roughly 31.5 million hectares of land accessible for wheat cultivation. Wheat is consumed in various forms by over a billion people throughout the world. After rice, it is India's second most significant food crop. To feed the country's ever-growing population, the country will need to produce 100 million tonnes of wheat by 2030, which will be a big challenge in light of the changing climate. Increased agricultural productivity, with the goal of increasing farmer income and living standards, is a key goal of rural development. The main avenue for enhancing agricultural productivity in the country is through improved techniques. Stimulating the adoption of better agricultural practises can help to enhance rural development. For any country, human resources are the most valuable resource. However, it is the qualitative power of the people, not their numerical strength, that propels a country forward to wealth and growth. Human resource development is primarily responsible for any society's socioeconomic, political, and cultural transformation. The goal of this research was to find out more about wheat growers' socioeconomic characteristics. The amount of wheat produced is increasing. The information below is taken into consideration. The purpose of this study is to look at the personal and socioeconomic elements of wheat farmers, and it was conducted in the Kanpur Dehat area of Uttar Pradesh in the years 2021-22. Akberpur, Derapur, Rasulabad, Bhognipur, Maitha, and Sikandara are the districts that make up the district. In all 25 small farmers (respondents) were selected randomly from each village constituting the sample of 125 respondents for the purpose of study. The data were collected with the help of personal interview method during the study period. The data were analyzed, tabulated and the results were drawn with the help of appropriate statistical methods.

2. Material and Methods
The main goal of this chapter is to examine the numerous methods and procedures that are used in the selection of the study area, study location, data collection sampling designs and procedures, distinct variables under study, empirical measurements, and statistical methods used for data analysis. The variables were chosen in accordance with the study's goals.

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The variables were divided into two groups: independent and dependent variables. The variables are listed in tabular form below, along with their measurements**.**

2.1 Age
The bulk of the respondents (68.33 per cent) were between the ages of 26 and 50, followed by 25.83 per cent and 15.83 per cent for 51 and above and up to 25 years of age. As a result, the majority of wheat growers are between the ages of 26 and 50. As a result, the majority of wheat growers are between the ages of 26 and 50.

2.2 Education
It shows that 92 per cent of respondents are literate, whereas 8 per cent are illiterate. Furthermore, the educational standard of literate respondents was found to be 64 per cent, 16 per cent, 31.2 per cent, 24 per cent, 8 per cent, 4.8 per cent, and 1.6 per cent for Middle school, High school, Primary school, Intermediate, Graduate, Postgraduate, and Can read and write only in descending order.

2.3 Land holding
The land holding category of small farmers (1-2 ha.) had the most responders (52 per cent), followed by marginal farmers (less than 1 ha.), small farmers (1.0-2.0 ha.), and big farmers (2 ha. and above) with 30.40 per cent and 17.6 percent, respectively. As a result, it is reasonable to conclude that the majority of land holdings in the studied region have shrunk.

2.4 Type of family
It projected that 86.4 per cent respondent's families belonged to nuclear family system followed by 13.6 per cent families to joint family system. It revealed the fact that the majority of the respondents family was nuclear families.

2.5 Occupation
Agriculture emerged as the most common occupation (100.00 percent). In terms of secondary occupations, dairy accounted for the most answers (36.80 per cent), followed by agro-based companies (19.20 per cent), gardening (15.20 per cent), business (12.80 per cent), agricultural labourers (8.8 per cent), services (3.2 per cent), and caste-based occupations (4 per cent).

2.6 Social participation
It reveals that out of 125 respondents, 52.00 per cent participated in one group, followed by 28.00 per cent who did not participate, 13.60 per cent participated in two organization, and 6.4 per cent participated in more than two organization.

2.7 Annual income
It revealed that a maximum number of the respondents 72 per cent belong to the annual income upto 75,000 to 1,50,000 where as 20 per cent belongs to annual income upto 75,000 and 8 per cent belongs from annual income above 1,50,001 and above, respectively.

2.8 Economic motivation
The majority of respondents (80 per cent) had a medium degree of economic motivation, while the remaining 12 percent and 8 per cent had a low and high level of economic motivation, respectively

2.9 Scientific orientation
Shows that 56 per cent of respondents have a medium degree of scientific orientation, with 36 per cent having a low level and 8 percent having a high level of scientific orientation. As a result, the majority of the respondents (56 per cent) had a medium level of scientific inclination.

2.10 Risk orientation
It shows that 64.00 per cent of respondents have a medium level of risk orientation, followed by low (20.00 per cent) and high (16.00 per cent) risk orientation. As a result, it may be stated that the respondents are willing to take on the risk of enhanced farming.

Table 1: Distribution of wheat growers according to their various socio-economic characteristics.

N=125

S. NO.	Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age	Young (up to 25)	5	04.00
		Middle (26 to 50)	85	68.00
		Old (51 and above)	35	28.00
2	Education	Illiterate	10	08.00
		Literate	115	92.00
		Can read and write	08	06.40
		Primary school	20	16.00
		Middle school	39	31.20
		High school	30	24.00
		Intermediate	10	08.00
		Graduate	06	04.80
		Post graduate	02	01.60
3	Caste	General	55	44.00
		Other backward caste	30	24.00
		Schedule caste	40	32.00
4	Land Holding	Marginal (less than 1 ha)	38	30.40
		Small (1- 2 ha)	65	52.00
		Big farmer (2 ha and above)	22	17.60
5	Type Of Family	Nuclear family	108	86.00
		Joint family	17	13.60
6	Housing Pattern	Mixed pattern	27	21.60
		Puckka pattern	98	78.40

7	Occupation	Agriculture	125	100
		Service	4	03.20
		Business	16	12.80
		Dairy	46	36.80
		Gardening	19	15.20
		Agro- based enterprise	24	19,20
		Agriculture labour	11	08.80
		Caste based ocupation	5	04.00
8	Social Participation	No paticipation	35	28.00
		Participation in one organization	65	52.00
		Participation in two organization	17	13.60
		Participation in more than two	8	06.40
9	Annual Income	Up to 75,000	25	20.00
		75,000 -1,50,000	90	72.00
		1,50,0001 and above	10	08.00
10	Economic Motivation	Low (up to 16)	15	12.00
		Medium (17 to 19)	100	80.00
		High (20 and above)	10	08.00
11	Scientific Orientation	Low (up to 19)	45	36.00
		Medium (20 to 21)	70	56.00
		High (22 and above)	10	08.00
12	Risk Orientation	Low (upto 17)	25	20.00
		Medium (18 to 21)	80	64.00
		High (22 and above)	20	16,00

3. Result and Discussion
The age group of middle-aged people had the highest number of respondents (68 per cent) (26-50 years). The highest percentage of respondents, 92 per cent, were found to be literate, whereas 8 per cent were illiterate. The land holding group, i.e. small farmers (1-2 ha.), had the highest percentage of responders (52 per cent), followed by 30.4 percent for marginal farmers and 17.6 percent for big farmers. Nuclear families had a higher percentage of responders than joint families, with 86.4 percent belonging to nuclear families and 13.6 percent to joint families. The bulk of respondents (72 per cent) were from families with annual family incomes of Rs. 75,001 to 1,50,000, followed by 20 per cent from families with annual family incomes of up to 75,000, and 8 per cent from families with annual family incomes of Rs. 1,50,001 and above. Agriculture was stated as the primary occupation of an overwhelming majority of respondents' households (100.00 per cent). In terms of secondary occupations, dairy accounted for the most answers (36 per cent), followed by agro-based companies (16 per cent), gardening (12 per cent), business (8 per cent), agricultural labourers (8 per cent), services (8 per cent), and caste-based occupations (4.8 per cent). The majority of respondents (50.00 per cent) are members of one group, followed by 30.00 per cent who are not members of any organization. The majority of respondents (80 per cent) had a medium level of economic motivation, with low (12 per cent) and high (8 per cent) levels following closely behind. The majority of respondents (56 per cent) had a medium degree of scientific inclination, with low (36 per cent) and high (8 per cent) levels following closely behind. The majority of respondents (64.00 per cent) had a medium risk orientation, followed by low (20.0 per cent) and high (16.0 per cent) risk orientations, respectively.

4. Conclusion
For improved policy alternatives, farmers' socio-economic traits are crucial. According to the findings, wheat growers in Kanpur Dehat district (Uttar Pradesh) lack adequate understanding and application of scientific wheat cultivating procedures. According to the findings, farmers' socioeconomic position can be enhanced by imparting technical knowledge about wheat growing procedures, as well as raising their education level, social involvement, and information sources.

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