



Profile Study under Entrepreneurial Behaviour of Young Farmers of Navsari District

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ABSTRACT

This study reports the profile of the young farmers under the broad objective of Entrepreneurial Behaviour of Young Farmers. This study was conducted at Navsari, Gujarat (2014-2015) with 60 young farmer entrepreneurs belonging to age group of 15 to 35 years who were sampled following simple random sampling. The profile was studied using a structured schedule. The results indicated here are the major findings, majority of the young farmers belonged to age group of 29-35 years, had secondary level of education, medium level of farming experience, big land holding, higher annual income, medium material possession, low level of extension contact, medium extension participation, high social participation and medium mass media exposure.

Keywords: Profile, young, farmer, entrepreneurs, entrepreneurial behavior

Entrepreneurs are regarded as engine of nation's economic welfare and also solid answer to India's twin problem of poverty and unemployment. Having world largest number of young working population India need to thrive through this powerful population in achieving the economic growth of citizens in general and young farmers in particular. Studies have revealed that entrepreneurial behaviour of an individual is affected by number of factors which mainly forms the prolific components of the same. Heuristically an attempt was made to study the profile of young farmers as a specific objective under the broad objective of studying entrepreneurial behaviour of young farmers of Navsari district.

Objective

- ❖ To Study the Profile of Young Farmers.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Navsari district of South Gujarat (2014-2015), which was selected purposively since the researcher residence and the location of Navsari Agricultural University is in the same selected district. Simple random sampling procedure was followed in selecting the taluka, village and respondents. A total of 60 respondent young farmers of age group 15-35 years were selected who were actively involved in farming activity and as well as home management and get major income out of it. Deliberately reviewing the literature ten independent variables viz. age, education, farming experience, land holding, annual income, material possession, extension contact, extension participation, social participation and mass media exposure were selected as the components of the profile of young farmers. Considering the above independent variables

structures interview schedule was prepared, pretested and then utilized for data collection through personal interview method. The data collected was analyzed and interpreted using statistical tolls such as mean standard deviation, percentage and frequency wherever required. The results of the analysis is presented in next section of this paper.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is clear from the data indicated in the Table 1 that majority of the farmers (88.33%) were in the age group of 29-35 years, rest all of them (11.67%) were in the age group of 22-28 years and no farmer belong to the age group of 15-21 years.

Table 1: Distribution of young farmers according to age. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Age group	f	%
1	15-21 years	0	0.00
2	22-28 years	7	11.67
3	29 -35years	53	88.33
Total		60	100.00

Mea=28.45 Standard deviation=1.54.

The probable reason for majority of respondents to be in 29-35 years age category might be that usually farmers of this age are enthusiastic and are having moderate experience in farming and have more work efficiency than older and younger ones. Further, middle aged farmers possess more physical vigor and can shoulder more family responsibility. The above findings are in consonant with the findings of Boruah *et al.* (2015).

Table 2: Distribution of young farmers according to education. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Illiterate	0	0.00
2	Primary school	0	0.00
3	Middle school	4	6.67
4	High school	29	48.33
5	Higher secondary school	26	43.33
6	Graduate	1	1.67
7	Post-graduate	0	0.00
Total		60	100.00

Mean=4.46 Standard deviation=0.69

From the Table 2 it is evident that majority of the young farmers (48.33%) had education up high school, followed by higher secondary school (43.33%), middle school (6.67%), only one farmer (1.67%) was graduate and no farmers were found in illiterate, primary school and post graduate category of education. The above findings are in line with the findings of Dash (2013).

From the below Table 3 it is clear that majority of farmers (60.00%) had medium farming experience (6-15 years), followed by low (40.00%) i.e. up to 5 years of farming experience and no farmer had a farming experience above 15 years.

Table 3: Distribution of young farmers according to farming experience. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Low (up to 5 years)	24	40.00
2	Medium (6-15 years)	36	60.00
3	High (Above 15 years)	0	0.00
Total		60	100.00

Mean =7 Standard deviation=3.46

Farming experience mainly depends upon age of the farmer. A majority of farmers belonged to 26-29 years age category and they might have started farming in their early age itself. So, majority of respondents had medium farming experience. The above findings are in agreement with that of Sabale *et al* (2014).

Table 4: Distribution of young farmers according to land holding. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Small land holding (up to 2.00 acers)	5	8.33
2	Medium land holding (2.01 to 5.00 acers)	16	26.66
3	Big land holding(above 5.00 acers)	39	65.00
Total		60	100.00

Mean=2.56 Standard deviation=0.67

From the Table 4 it is evident that majority of farmers (65.00%) had big land holding, followed by medium (26.66%) land holding and small land holding (8.33%). The possible reasons that could be attributed to this were those who had agriculture as the main occupation

of the family almost depended on their land for their livelihood.

Table 5: Distribution of young farmers according to Annual income. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Low annual income (up to ₹ 50,000/)	11	18.33
2	Medium annual income (₹ 50,001 to 1,00,000)	5	8.33
3	High annual income (Above ₹ 1,00,000)	44	73.33
Total		60	100.00

Mean=2.60 Standard deviation=0.79

From the Table 5 it is evident that majority of farmers (73.33%) belonged to higher annual income, followed by low (18.33%) and medium (8.33%). The probable reason for majority of farmers belonging to higher income level might be attributed to their family background and they might be gaining major share of income from cultivation of cash crops as observed during survey.

Table 6: Distribution of young farmers according to Material possession. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Low material possession	19	31.66
2	Medium material possession	29	48.33
3	High material possession	12	20.00
Total		60	100

Mean=18.50 Standard deviation=7.81

From the Table 6 it is evident that majority of farmers (48.33%) belonged to medium material possession, followed by low (31.66%) and high (20.00%). This might be due to over 68.33% of the respondents belonged to high income category. Remaining farmers might hire the agricultural equipment.

Table 7: Distribution of young farmers according to Extension contact. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Low extension contact	28	46.66
2	Medium extension contact	12	20
3	High extension contact	20	33.33
Total		60	100.00

Mean=5.33 Standard deviation=2.98

From the Table 7 it is evident that most of farmers (46.66%) had low extension contact, followed by high (33.33%) and medium (20.00%). This situation might be a vigil blower for concerned extension agencies to take utmost measures to strengthen extension workers and their capacity building for solving the problems of farmers.

Table 8: Distribution of young farmers according to Extension participation. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Low extension participation	18	30.00
2	Medium extension participation	37	61.66
3	High extension participation	5	8.33
Total		60	100.00

Mean=4.18 Standard deviation=1.64

As indicated in Table 8, 61.66% of the farmers had medium level of extension participation, while, 30.00% and 8.33% of them had low and high levels of extension participation, respectively. The probable reason might be lack of motivation, less interest and low educational level of the respondents.

Table 9: Distribution of young farmers according to Social participation. (n=60)

Sl. N.	Category	f	%
1	Low social participation	6	10.00
2	Medium social participation	20	33.33
3	High social participation	34	56.66
Total		60	100.00

Mean=1.55 Standard deviation=0.75

From the Table 9 it is evident that majority of farmers (56.66%) had high social participation, followed by medium (33.33%) and low (10.00%) and only one farmer is holding position in youth club. The probable reason for higher social participation might be their young age and mass media exposure.

From the Table 10 it is evident from the majority of farmers (68.33%) belonged to medium mass media exposure, followed by low (23.33%) and high (8.33%).

Table 10: Distribution of young farmers according to mass media exposure. (n=60)

Sl. No.	Category	f	%
1	Low mass media exposure	14	23.33
2	Medium mass media exposure	41	68.33
3	High mass media exposure	5	8.33
Total		60	100.00

Mean=4.65 Standard deviation=2.47

CONCLUSION

The study revealed the following major findings, majority of the farmers were in the age group of 29-35 years, most of the young farmers had education up to high school, half of the young farmers had medium farming experience, belonged to higher annual income with medium material possession, medium level of extension participation, young farmers had high social participation with medium level of mass media exposure. Youths are having high social participation with medium level of other components hence the study recommend to use participatory approach to develop entrepreneurship behaviour.

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