



ISSN NO. 2320-5407

Journal Homepage: - www.journalijar.com

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR)

Article DOI: 10.21474/IJAR01/2811
DOI URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21474/IJAR01/2811>



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR)
ISSN 2320-5407
Journal homepage: <http://www.journalijar.com>
Journal DOI: 10.21474/IJAR01

RESEARCH ARTICLE

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF FARMER'S OF THE BASIS OF FAMILY PROFILE AND MATERIALS POSSESSED INVOLVED IN POTATO CULTIVATION ACTIVITIES.

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Manuscript Info

Manuscript History

Received: 15 November 2016
Final Accepted: 17 December 2016
Published: January 2017

Key words:-

Potato Growers, Family Profile, Monthly Income, Potato Cultivation.

Abstract

Potato is one of the most important food crops grown in more than 100 countries in the world. Over one billion people consume potato worldwide and it is the staple diet of half a billion people in developing countries. Present study entitled “**Socio-Economic Status of Farmer’s of the Basis of Family Profile and Materials Possessed involved in Potato Cultivation activities**” The pre-coded interview schedule was constructed in order to elicit information needed to obtain the objectives of the study. Multistage purposive random sampling technique was followed to select the state, district, blocks and finally respondents. District Kannauj is purposively selected as this is one of the largest potato producer districts while two blocks namely Kannauj and Jalabad were randomly selected. Two villages from each selected block i.e. Basirapur and Mahmoadpur paith from **Kannauj** and, Badlepurwa and Kheda from **Jalalabad**, selected randomly. Forty farmers from each selected village, Total sample size 160 respondents were randomly selected for final data collection. Majority of head of respondent’s family were farmer and earning Rs. less than 10,000 per month. Prevalence of nuclear family was seen in rural areas as majority of respondents were belonging to nuclear family, having up to five members, living in mixed type of houses, belonging to small farmer category and holding upto two animals. Rural areas were also witnessing technological advancement as majority respondents were having improved chulha and mobile phones while considerable per cent were having gas connection, television and other asstes.

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Introduction:-

Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* Linn.) ranks fourth among the major food crops of the world. It is the staple food of almost half of the world’s population .The global area under potato during 2009 was about 18.28 million ha, with a total production of 343.91 million t. India ranks 3rd in area (1.86 million ha) 2nd in production(42.34 million t) in the world The production and productivity of the crop have been improved by a number of technological interventions viz., improved varieties, quality and quantity of fertilizers. Irrigation schedule, seed size, seed rate,

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planting distance and pest management. In Jammu division, it occupies highest area cover after rice, wheat and maize and has 16 per cent share in area and 18 per cent share in production under vegetables.

Research Methodology:-

The study was conducted in Kannauj district of Uttar Pradesh during the year 2015. The pre-coded interview schedule was constructed in order to elicit information needed to obtain the objectives of the study. Multistage purposive random sampling technique was followed to select the state, district, blocks and finally respondents. District Kannauj is purposively selected as this is one of the largest potato producer districts while two blocks namely Kannauj and Jalabad were randomly selected. Two villages from each selected block i.e. Basirapur and Mahmoadpur paith from **Kannauj** and, Badlepurwa and Kheda from **Jalalabad**, selected randomly. Forty farmers from each selected village, Total sample size 160 respondents were randomly selected for final data collection.

Result and Discussion:-

Table 1.1:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Occupation of head of family

S.No	Occupation of head of family	Frequency	Percentage
1	Labour	62.00	38.75
2	Farming	64.00	40.00
3	Business	25.00	15.62
4	Service	09.00	05.63
	Total	160.00	100.00

Majority (40.00%) of heads of respondent's family were farmers while little less i.e. 38.75 per cent were labours. About sixteen per cent heads of respondents family were doing business while only 5.63 per cent heads of family were service man.

Table 1.2:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Monthly Income

S.No	Monthly Income (Rs)	Frequency	Percentage
1	Less than 10000	64.00	40.00
2	10001-15000	63.00	39.37
3	15001-20000	25.00	15.63
4	Above 20000	08.00	05.00
	Total	160.00	100.00

Table 1.2 inferred that forty per cent and 39.37 per cent respondents were having monthly family income less than Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 10001-15,000 respectively, whereas 15.63 per cent respondents were earning Rs. 15, 0001-20,000 month. Only five per cent respondents were having income above Rs. 20,000 per month. **Fig. 01** revealed that maximum respondents from all income groups were identified as above 55 years age group. It shows that as age increases the income level of the respondents also increases.

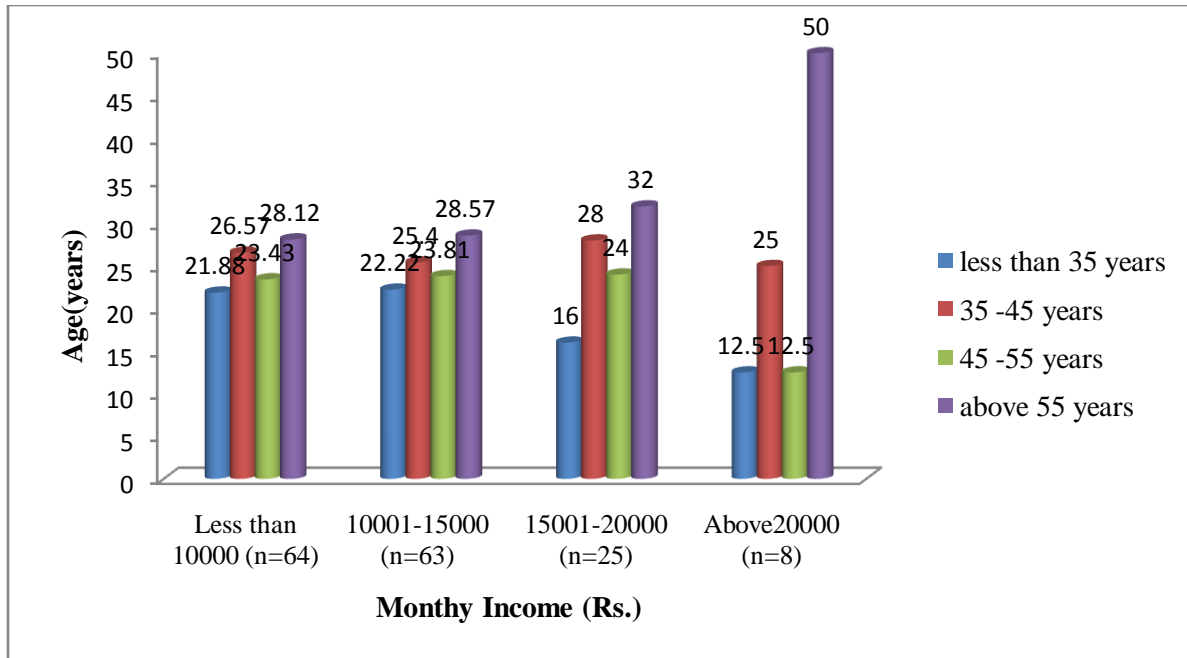


Fig. 01:- Monthly Income of the Respondents According to Age

Table 1.3:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Type of Family

S.No	Type of Family	Frequency	Percentage
1	Nuclear	97.00	60.63
2	Joint	55.00	34.37
3	Extended	08.00	05.00
	Total	160.00	100.00

Table 1.3 depicts that more than sixty per cent respondents were from nuclear family followed by 34.37 per cent respondents belonging to joint family. Very few i.e. only five per cent respondents were from extended family.

Table 1.4:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Size of Family

S.No	Size of family	Frequency	Percentage
1	Up to 5 members	95.00	59.37
2	6-7 members	50.00	31.25
3	Above 7 members	15.00	09.37
	Total	160.00	100.00

It is evident from the figures presented in Table 1.4 that majority (59.37%) of respondents under study were having upto 5 members in their family followed by 31.25 per cent having 6-7 members. Little less than ten per cent respondents were having above 7 members in their family.

Table 1.5:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Type of house

S.No	Type of house	Frequency	Percentage
1	Kachcha Type	43.00	26.87
2	Mixed Type	73.00	45.63
3	Pacca Type	44.00	27.50
	Total	160.00	100.00

It is clear from Table 1.5 that more than forty five per cent respondents were living in mixed type of houses i.e. Kachcha and Pacca mixed while approximately 26.87 per cent and 27.50 per cent respondents were having Kachcha type and Pacca type house respectively.

Table 1.6:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Type of land holding

S.No	Type of land holding	Frequency	Percentage
1	Landless	70.00	43.75
2	Marginal Farmer(Less than 1ha)	73.00	45.62
3	Small Farmer (1-2ha)	12.00	07.50
4	Medium Farmer(2-4ha)	02.00	01.25
5	Large Farmer(4ha and above)	03.00	01.87
	Total	160.00	100.00

Land holding has direct bearing upon economic condition of family. Enquiry regarding land holding revealed that more than forty three per cent respondents were falling in landless and 45.62 per cent were in marginal farmer category respectively. While about eight per cent respondents were from small farmers group. Two respondents identified from medium farmer category, whereas about two per cent respondents were from large farmer category. **Fig. 02** explicit that majority of small farmers were belonging to the age group 45- 55 years and large farmer were belonging to above 55 years.

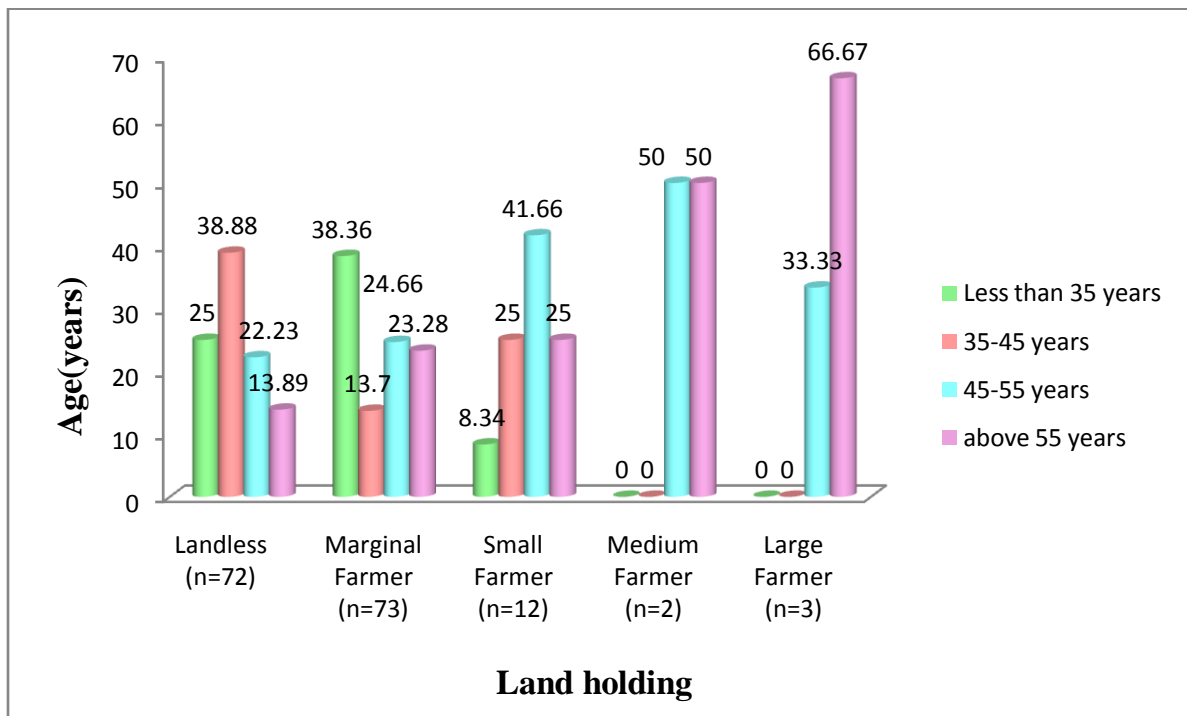


Fig. 02:- Land Holding of the Respondents According to Age

Table 1.7:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Livestock

S.No	Livestock	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low (up to 2 animal)	80.00	50.00
2	Medium (3 to 4 animal)	61.00	38.12
3	High (above 4 animal)	19.00	11.87
	Total	160.00	100.00

The data presented in Table 1.7 reveals that fifty per cent respondents were having up to 2 animals and falling in low category followed by 38.12 per cent respondents having 2-4 animals and belonged to medium category. About twelve per cent respondents had more than 4 animals and thus belonging to high category in holding the livestock. It is very clear from **Fig. 03** that majority respondents were holding up to two animals and living in kachcha house while medium (2 to 4 animals) and high (above 4 animals) livestock holding respondents were living in pacca house.

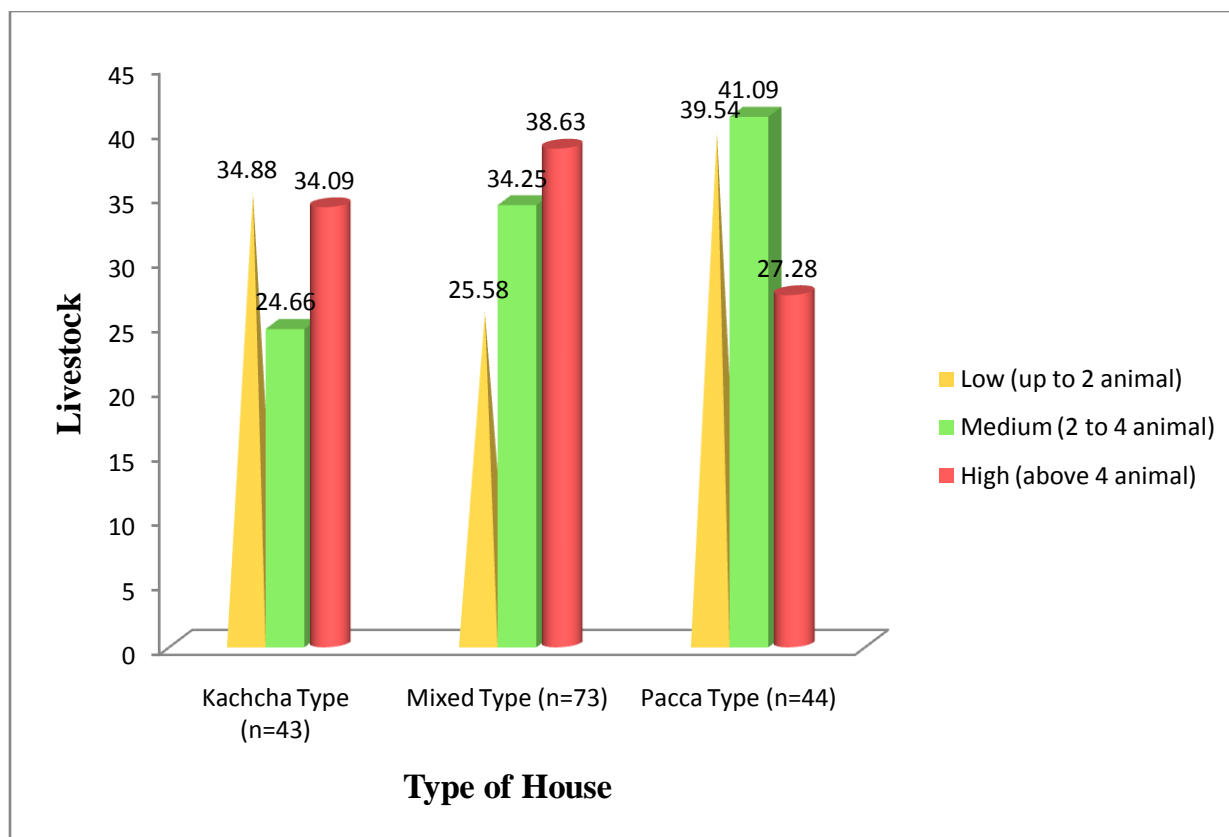


Fig. 03:- Distribution of Livestock on the Basis of Type of House Existing

Table 1.8:- Distributions of Respondents on the Basis of Materials Possessed
N=160

S.No.	Materials possessed	Frequency	Percentage
1	Improved Smokeless Chulha	134.00	83.75
2	Gas connection	66.00	41.25
3	Mixer Grinder	12.00	07.50
4	Refrigerator	08.00	05.00
5	Solar Cooker	-	-
6	Sewing machine	24.00	15.00
7	Television	46.00	28.75
8	Tape recorder/cd player	30.00	18.75
9	Mobile phone	106.00	66.25
10	Fan	60.00	37.50
11	Wooden Furniture	14.00	08.75
12	Others	40.00	25.00

Table 1.8 dealing with material possessed by selected respondents revealed that majority (83.75%) of respondents having improved smokeless chulha followed by 66.25 per cent respondents were having mobile phone. About forty one per cent respondents were having gas connection in their homes while little less i.e. 37.50 per cent respondents were having fans. More than twenty five per cent respondents were having television, whereas about nineteen per cent respondents were having tape recorder/CD player. Fifteen per cent respondents were having sawing machine in their homes while about nine per cent respondents were having wooden furniture. Minimum, only five per cent respondent were having refrigerator, whereas 7.50 per cent respondents were also possessing mixer and grinder. About one quarter respondents were having other materials like cycles, solar panel and washing machine etc.

Conclusion:-

It can be concluded from the Tables that majority (40.00%) of heads of respondent's family were farmers, whereas,

forty per cent and 39.37 per cent respondents were having monthly family income less than Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 10001-15,000 respectively. More than sixty per cent respondents were from nuclear family and majority (59.37%) of respondents under study were having up to 5 members in their family. More than forty five per cent respondents were living in mixed type of houses and belonging to landless category. Fifty per cent respondents were having up to 2 animals and identified in low category. Majority (83.75%) respondents having improved smokeless chulha followed by 66.25 per cent respondents were having mobile phones. About forty one per cent respondents were having gas connection in their homes while little less i.e. 37.50 per cent respondents were having fans.

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