

Attitude of Contact and Fellow Farmers Towards Training and Visit System

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Nearly three years have elapsed since the introduction of the new Agricultural Extension System (T & V system) in the State of Gujarat. The intensity of operation of the system may vary from area to area but it is a fact that the people have been exposed to the new system for a considerable period of time to make up their mind about changes that are taking place around them.

The T & V system being a base level extension system plays a great role in providing farm information to the farmers. However, its success largely depends upon farmer's attitude towards it that is what farmers think and feel about this system so far as transfer of knowledge is concerned. The type of attitude they possess has a bearing on the future progress of the system and it might have some association with certain characteristics of the farmers.

Considering this the present study was carried out in Surendranagar District of Gujarat State. Eighty farmers (40 contact and 40 fellow farmers) of four villages of Patadi Taluka were purposively selected. The information pertinent to the study was collected through personal interview.

The scale was administered with a five point continuum ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. The responses were obtained against each statement in terms of their own agreement or disagreement with the statement. The scoring procedure followed was five, four, three, two and one in case of positive and the reverse for the negative statements. The attitude score of an individual respondent was the sum total of the scores of all the statements included in the scale.

The attitude was classified as favourable and non-favourable. From a perusal of Table-1, it is obvious that contact farmers differ from the fellow farmers in their attitude towards T & V system. The total and average attitude scores of the contact farmers were higher than fellow farmers. The calculated value of 't' test of mean difference is significant at 0.05 level of significance.

TABLE 1

Difference in the attitude of contact and fellow farmers towards T & V system.

Respondents	Total Attitude score	Average Attitude score	't' value of mean difference
Contact farmers	1530	38.25	
Fellow farmers	1397	34.93	6.036*

*Significant at 0.05 level of significance.

The dependence of attitude on the personal characteristics of the respondents like age, education, landholding and extension contact has been highlighted with the use of chi-square test of independence. The X^2 values have been reported in Table-2.

TABLE 2

Relationship between attitude of contact and fellow farmers towards T & V system and some of their characteristics.

Sr. No.	Characteristics of respondents	X^2 value	
		Contact farmers	Fellow farmers
1.	Age	12.22**	0.96
2.	Education	6.38*	10.49**
3.	Land holding	2.44	2.99
4.	Extension contact	7.82**	12.91**

*Significant at 0.05 level of significance.

**Significant at 0.01 level of significance.

It can be seen from the Table 2 that age had significant relationship with attitude of contact farmers. While

the same showed non-significant association in respect of fellow farmers. Similar result was found by Patil (1964) in his investigation entitled "A study of the attitude of farmers towards co-operative farming".

Education has positive and significant association with the attitude of both the categories of the respondents. The calculated chi-square (6.38 and 10.49) is significant at 0.05 and 0.01 probability level of significance respectively. The probable reason might be the fact that equal opportunity exists both for contact and fellow farmers in respect of formal schooling.

The calculated value of X^2 indicates highly significant relationship between extension contact of both categories of the respondents and their attitude towards T & V system. It directs to infer attitude of the respondents depended upon extent of their contact with extension personnel.

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