

Original Research Article

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## Attitude of Agricultural Research Scholars towards Different Statement about Internet of Agriculture Science in MPUAT, Udaipur (Rajasthan), India

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Internet, Agriculture science, Research scholar, Attitude and Utilization.

#### Article Info

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The present study was purposively being conducted in Rajasthan College of Agriculture, Udaipur due to the reason that this College is the oldest Agricultural College in Rajasthan state and enjoys more and adequate facilities of internet surfing for agricultural students, especially for research scholars at central library as well as in their respective departments and Hostels as compared to other Agricultural Colleges in Rajasthan. Considering the importance of the internet utilization the present investigation “Attitude and Utilization Pattern of Internet among the Research Scholars of Agriculture Science in MPUAT, Udaipur (Rajasthan) was carried out.

### Introduction

The internet offers many options for computer users to communicate with others like chat, mail, telephone, browse special field for references and so on. The imperative necessity is to mount intense national as well as international efforts in the interest of achieving a bright common future by using the internet technology for all humanity on our planet. So for this purpose there is a need to develop human resources.

Internet has become a way of life for majority of higher education students all around the world. For most college students, the internet is a functional tool, one that has greatly changed the way they interact with each other

and with information as they go about their studies. With internet many students prepare course assignments, make study notes, tutor themselves with specialized multimedia, and process data for research projects.

Most students exchange e-mails with faculty, peers, and remote experts. They keep up to-date in fields on the internet, accessing newsgroups, bulletin boards, and websites posted by professional organizations. Most students access library catalogs, bibliographic database, and academic resource in text, graphics and imagery on the World Wide Web.

The internet offers information more than the largest libraries in the world. Using internet in universities has a positive value and many universities around the world are also using internet for educational purposes for easy and effective teaching among scholars and teacher.

The internet has become an essential part in education institution since it plays a vital role in meeting information and communication needs of students, teachers and institutions.

### **Materials and Methods**

The study was purposively conducted in Rajasthan College of Agriculture, Udaipur due to the reason that this College is the oldest Agricultural College in Rajasthan state and enjoys more and adequate facilities of internet surfing for agricultural students, especially for research scholars at central library as well as in their respective departments and Hostels as compared to other Agricultural Colleges in Rajasthan From the RCA, Udaipur, a list of all the PG and Ph.D. research scholars was prepared from the student section of the college.

There was 150 PG and 110 Ph. D research scholars, i.e. a total of 260 research scholars registered in second semester during the session 2011-12. Since the whole population was not too big, hence, the whole population as such of 260 research scholars (150 PG and 110 Ph. D research scholars) was treated as the respondents for the purpose of the study. The total size of the sample taken was 117 respondents (90 male and 27 female).

### **Results and Discussion**

A perusal of the table 1 indicated that the statement no. 1 “Knowledge of internet is essential for agricultural research scholars” had secured the first rank by both male (MS 4.56) and female (MS 4.67 MS) agricultural

research scholars as it was strongly agreed by 66.67 per cent male agricultural research scholars and 66.67 per cent female research scholars, agreed by the 28.89 percent male agricultural research scholars and 33.33 female research. Thus, most of the agricultural research scholars had favourable attitude toward this statement.

This is inferred from the data that as the most information are available on internet but to get it, it is necessary to know how to browse.

Agricultural research scholars get their class notes, research information, and sending application for job through internet and to do so the internet knowledge was considered important by both male female agricultural research scholars.

In the similar way the statement no. 2 “Internet is important like other research tools” had been awarded the second rank in order of preference of both the male (MS 4.29) and female (MS 4.63) agricultural research scholars.

This implies that as research scholars deals mostly with research, they found internet very important in getting information as printed materials for their assignment, thesis work etc.

The statement no 49 “Internet is a faster way to acquire knowledge” had been awarded the third rank in order of preferences of male agricultural research scholars (MS 4.22) and tenth rank of the preference for female agricultural research scholars (MS 4.33).

In case of female research scholars the statement “Internet services are cost effective” (MS 4.55) was ranked third in their preference whereas in case of male agricultural research scholars (MS 4.08) the same statement had been ranked seventh in their preference.

**Table.1** The attitude of agricultural research scholars towards different statements about internet

n= 117

S. No.	Attitudinal statements	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)							Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)						
		SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank	SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank
1	Knowledge of internet is essential for students	60 (66.67)	26 (28.89)	1 (1.11)	0 (0.00)	3 (3.33)	4.56	I	18 (66.67)	9 (33.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.67	I
2	Internet is important like other research tools	39 (43.33)	41 (45.55)	8 (8.89)	1 (1.11)	1 (1.11)	4.29	II	11 (40.74)	16 (59.26)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.41	IX
3	Internet is easier to use	22 (24.44)	48 (53.33)	15 (16.67)	4 (4.44)	1 (1.11)	3.95	XIV	9 (33.33)	16 (59.26)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	1 (3.70)	4.18	XIX
4	Internet is as informative as teachers	31 (34.44)	28 (31.11)	20 (22.22)	7 (7.78)	4 (4.44)	3.83	XVIII	14 (51.85)	11 (40.74)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	4.33	XI
5	Getting information from internet is enjoyable	36 (40.00)	34 (37.78)	14 (15.56)	6 (6.67)	0 (0.00)	4.11	V	15 (55.56)	11 (40.74)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.52	V
6	Using internet in studies is overwhelming.	21 (23.33)	27 (30.00)	27 (30.00)	11 (12.22)	4 (4.44)	3.56	XXIX	14 (51.85)	4 (14.81)	7 (25.93)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	4.07	XX
7	Internet is an integral part of the educational process	41 (45.55)	33 (36.67)	11 (12.22)	1 (1.11)	4 (4.44)	4.18	IV	14 (51.85)	12 (44.44)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.44	VII
8	Using internet is comfortable	33 (36.67)	37 (41.11)	12 (13.33)	5 (5.55)	3 (3.33)	4.02	IX	11 (40.74)	7 (25.93)	4 (14.81)	0 (0.00)	5 (18.52)	3.70	XXXIV
9	Internet is difficult to use.	18 (20.00)	39 (43.33)	15 (16.67)	14 (15.56)	4 (4.44)	3.59	XXVIII	5 (18.52)	14 (51.85)	4 (14.81)	3 (11.11)	1 (3.70)	3.71	XXXIII
10	Using internet for important educational projects is not liked	26 (28.89)	37 (41.11)	13 (14.44)	10 (11.11)	4 (4.44)	3.78	XXII	9 (33.33)	8 (29.63)	8 (29.62)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	3.85	XXVIII
11	Internet contains useless information	41 (45.55)	21 (23.33)	18 (20.00)	4 (4.44)	6 (6.67)	3.96	XIII	16 (59.26)	7 (25.92)	1 (3.70)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	4.33	XIII
12	Using internet is not secured	21 (23.33)	21 (23.33)	25 (27.78)	22 (24.44)	1 (1.11)	3.43	XXXII	15 (55.55)	7 (25.92)	1 (3.70)	4 (14.81)	0 (0.00)	4.22	XV

S. No.	Attitudinal statements	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)							Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)						
		SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank	SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank
13	Internet use decreases the live time for discussion with friends	11 (12.22)	22 (24.44)	19 (21.11)	17 (18.89)	21 (23.33)	2.83	XXXXII	8 (29.63)	6 (22.22)	8 (29.63)	4 (14.81)	1 (3.70)	3.59	XXXVII
14	Internet is easy to understand	25 (27.78)	42 (46.67)	17 (18.89)	1 (1.11)	5 (5.55)	3.90	XVI	12 (44.44)	5 (18.52)	10 (37.04)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.07	XXI
15	Internet is interactive	17 (18.89)	42 (46.67)	21 (23.33)	5 (5.55)	5 (5.55)	3.68	XXIV	9 (33.3)	16 (59.26)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	4.22	XVI
16	Internet is credible	11 (12.22)	30 (33.33)	33 (36.67)	10 (11.11)	6 (6.67)	3.33	XXXIII	4 (14.81)	16 (59.26)	6 (22.22)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	3.85	XXVII
17	Internet is Unbiased	20 (22.22)	21 (23.33)	20 (22.22)	21 (23.33)	8 (8.89)	3.27	XXXIV	8 (29.63)	12 (44.44)	6 (22.22)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	4.0	XXV
18	Internet is more time saving as compared to conventional document	27 (30.00)	30 (33.33)	23 (25.55)	7 (7.78)	3 (3.33)	3.79	XX	20 (74.07)	4 (14.81)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.63	II
19	Internet is more informative as compared to conventional document	32 (35.55)	38 (42.22)	16 (17.78)	3 (3.33)	1 (1.11)	4.08	VI	14 (51.85)	8 (29.63)	4 (14.81)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	4.30	XIV
20	Internet is more useful as compared to conventional document	31 (34.44)	37 (41.11)	20 (22.22)	2 (2.22)	0 (0.00)	4.07	VIII	9 (33.33)	12 (44.44)	6 (22.22)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	4.22	XVII
21	Internet is less expensive as compared to conventional document	21 (23.33)	36 (40.00)	16 (17.78)	13 (14.44)	4 (4.44)	3.63	XXVI	11 (40.74)	9 (33.33)	4 (14.81)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	4.04	XXIV
22	Internet is more preferred as compared to conventional document	16 (17.78)	36 (40.00)	23 (25.55)	10 (11.11)	5 (5.55)	3.53	XXX	7 (25.93)	12 (44.44)	5 (18.52)	0 (0.00)	3 (11.11)	3.74	XXXII

S. No.	Attitudinal statements	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)							Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)						
		SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank	SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank
23	Internet is accurate	27 (30.00)	40 (44.44)	17 (18.89)	5 (5.55)	1 (1.11)	3.97	XII	5 (18.52)	19 (70.37)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.07	XXII
24	Internet is trustworthy	23 (25.25)	44 (48.89)	15 (16.67)	3 (3.33)	5 (5.55)	3.85	XVII	3 (11.11)	23 (85.19)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.63	III
25	Internet is beneficial	22 (24.44)	38 (42.22)	22 (24.44)	6 (6.67)	2 (2.22)	3.80	XIX	6 (22.22)	20 (74.07)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.18	XVIII
26	Internet has a potential to be an effective teaching/ training tool	23 (25.55)	30 (33.33)	21 (23.33)	11 (12.22)	5 (5.55)	3.61	XXVII	15 (55.55)	12 (44.44)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.55	IV
27	Use of internet by students is just a waste of time and money	26 (28.89)	22 (24.44)	17 (18.89)	16 (17.78)	9 (10.00)	3.44	XXXI	18 (66.67)	6 (22.22)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	1 (3.70)	4.44	VIII
28	Internet facilitate to retrieve latest information through number of sources found	10 (11.11)	30 (33.33)	28 (31.11)	18 (20.00)	4 (4.44)	3.27	XXXV	3 (11.11)	13 (48.15)	11 (40.74)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3.70	XXXV
29	Internet use decreased the actual study- hours	5 (5.55)	28 (31.11)	16 (17.78)	27 (30.00)	14 (15.55)	2.81	XXXXIII	3 (11.11)	11 (40.74)	5 (33.33)	4 (14.81)	4 (14.81)	3.18	XXXIX
30	Internet services are cost- effective	33 (36.67)	40 (44.44)	10 (11.11)	5 (5.55)	2 (2.22)	4.08	VII	9 (33.33)	14 (51.85)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.07	XXIII
31	Internet usage decreases the frequency of reading printed materials like books, journals, newspapers, etc	5 (5.55)	16 (17.78)	21 (23.33)	31 (34.44)	17 (18.89)	2.57	XXXXV	3 (11.11)	8 (29.62)	4 (14.81)	9 (33.33)	3 (11.11)	2.96	XXXXIII
32	Internet services facilitate improvement in system of communication	21 (23.33)	49 (54.44)	15 (16.67)	4 (4.44)	1 (1.11)	3.94	XV	14 (51.85)	12 (44.44)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.48	VI

S. No.	Attitudinal statements	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)							Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)						
		SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank	SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank
33	Internet had a positive impact on academic experience in general	25 (27.78)	47 (52.22)	14 (15.55)	2 (2.22)	3 (3.33)	4.02	X	3 (11.11)	16 (59.25)	7 (25.92)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	3.78	XXX
34	Internet decreases the frequency of visit to library as well as preparing hand-writing note	4 (4.44)	12 (13.33)	14 (15.55)	42 (46.67)	18 (20.00)	2.36	XXXXIX	0 (0.00)	7 (25.92)	5 (18.52)	9 (33.33)	6 (22.22)	2.48	XXXXVII
35	Internet improve the professional competence of the students	25 (27.78)	28 (31.11)	30 (33.33)	6 (6.67)	1 (1.11)	3.78	XXI	7 (25.92)	11 (40.74)	8 (29.63)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	3.89	XXVI
36	Internet expedited the research process conducted by students	23 (25.55)	33 (36.67)	20 (22.22)	9 (10.00)	5 (5.55)	3.66	XXV	8 (29.62)	8 (29.62)	7 (25.92)	4 (14.81)	0 (0.00)	3.74	XXXI
37	Internet is a good source to make friends	21 (23.33)	16 (17.78)	21 (23.33)	25 (27.78)	7 (7.78)	3.21	XXXVI	4 (14.81)	7 (25.92)	1 (3.70)	12 (44.44)	3 (11.11)	2.89	XXXXV
38	Internet use disturbs the social interaction with others	9 (10.00)	26 (28.89)	22 (24.44)	21 (23.33)	12 (13.33)	2.99	XXXVIII	0 (0.00)	8 (29.63)	11 (40.74)	5 (18.52)	3 (11.11)	2.89	XXXXVI
39	Internet use decreases the participation in the extra-curricular activities of the college/university	1 (1.11)	15 (16.67)	25 (27.78)	32 (35.55)	17 (18.890)	2.46	XXXXVII	1 (3.70)	5 (18.52)	4 (14.44)	9 (33.33)	8 (29.63)	2.33	XXXXIX
40	Due to internet use, health related problems like eye pain, back pain, neck pain etc are	1 (1.11)	38 (42.22)	22 (24.44)	22 (24.44)	13 (14.44)	3.11	XXXVII	0 (0.00)	5 (18.52)	7 (25.92)	8 (29.62)	7 (25.92)	2.37	XXXXVIII

S. No.	Attitudinal statements	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)							Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)						
		SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank	SA 5	A 4	N 3	DA 2	SDA 1	MS	Rank
	caused														
41	Internet create addiction	11 (12.22)	20 (22.22)	23 (25.55)	22 (22.44)	14 (15.55)	2.91	XXXX	1 (3.70)	10 (37.04)	5 (18.52)	11 (40.74)	0 (0.00)	3.04	XXXXII
42	Internet is harmful for the culture	2 (2.22)	18 (20.00)	26 (28.89)	27 (30.00)	17 (18.89)	2.57	XXXXVI	0 (0.00)	9 (33.33)	7 (25.92)	11 (40.74)	0 (0.00)	2.92	XXXXIV
43	Internet use has disturbed the sleeping pattern erratically	5 (5.55)	10 (11.11)	23 (25.55)	30 (33.33)	22 (24.44)	2.40	XXXXVIII	4 (14.44)	8 (29.63)	4 (14.44)	10 (37.04)	1 (3.70)	3.15	XXXX
44	Internet use has increased the dependency on internet	10 (11.11)	15 (16.67)	17 (18.89)	32 (35.55)	16 (17.78)	2.78	XXXXIV	3 (11.11)	11 (40.74)	4 (14.44)	5 (18.52)	4 (14.44)	3.15	XXXXI
45	Internet forces the people to be alone	10 (11.11)	23 (25.55)	23 (25.55)	20 (22.22)	14 (15.55)	2.94	XXXIX	8 (29.63)	4 (14.44)	11 (40.74)	3 (11.11)	1 (3.70)	3.55	XXXVIII
46	It is enjoyable to chat on internet	31 (34.44)	35 (38.89)	17 (18.89)	6 (6.67)	1 (1.11)	3.99	XI	4 (14.81)	15 (55.55)	7 (25.92)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	3.81	XXIX
47	It is not safe to make shopping, banking etc at internet	12 (13.33)	20 (22.22)	23 (25.55)	17 (18.88)	18 (20.00)	2.90	XXXXI	4 (14.48)	12 (44.44)	8 (29.62)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	3.63	XXXVI
48	Internet provides easy life	23 (25.55)	33 (36.67)	21 (23.33)	10 (11.11)	3 (3.33)	3.70	XXIII	11 (40.74)	15 (55.55)	1 (3.70)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.37	X
49	Internet is a faster way to acquire knowledge	42 (46.67)	31 (34.44)	12 (13.33)	5 (5.55)	0 (0.00)	4.22	III	16 (59.26)	7 (25.92)	1 (3.70)	3 (11.11)	0 (0.00)	4.33	XXII

SA = Strongly agree; A = Agree; N = Neutral; DA = Disagree; SDA = Strongly disagree

Rank correlation coefficient ( $r_s$ ) = 0.76 ;  $t = 8.02$  (significant at 0.01 level of probability)

Tabulated value of t at 0.0 level of probability with 47 degrees of freedom = 1.68

On the other side, the statement no. 34 “Internet decrease the frequency of visit to library as well as preparing hand written notes ” got the lowest mean score (MS 2.37) by the male agricultural research scholars and had been ranked 49<sup>th</sup> means last, whereas the same statement had been ranked 47<sup>th</sup> by the female agricultural research scholars (MS 2.48).

The female agricultural research scholars on their preference ranked the statement 39 “Internet use decreases the participation in the extracurricular activities at 49<sup>th</sup> rank means last position with MS 2.33 and the same statement were ranked at 47<sup>th</sup> position by male agricultural research scholars with MS 2.46.

The other statement, which got next lowest rank i.e. 47<sup>th</sup> rank by female agricultural research scholars (MS 2.37), was “ Due to internet use health related problems like eye pain, neck pain etc are caused” whereas this was awarded 37<sup>th</sup> rank by male agricultural research scholars.

The probable reason behind such findings might be that as the female still young and have never feel such problem even though they are using internet and now a day most of

research scholars are using Laptop in their room and on their bed and are using it at their convenience while browsing

Majority of the male and female agricultural research scholars had favourable attitude towards internet and were of the opinion that the “Knowledge of internet is essential for agricultural research scholars”.

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