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Socio-Economic Status of Brinjal Growers in Bulandshahr District of Western Uttar Pradesh, India

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A B S T R A C T

The present investigation was carried out during the year 2016-17 in Bulandshahr district of Western Uttar Pradesh to know the socio-economic status of brinjal growers. Bulandshahr district comprise of 16 blocks in which two blocks namely Lakhoti and Jahangirabad were purposively selected. Four villages namely Dhakka, Dhakroli from lakhoti block and Shekhpur, Pasoli selected from Jahangirabad block. From the selected each village's 20 respondents were selected randomly, thus a total of 80 brinjal growers constituted the sample size for the study and data were collected by means of personal interview with the help of pre structured schedule. The study depicted that the majority of the brinjal growers were found upper middle age category group of 46-60 years (42.50 per cent), other backward caste (62.50 per cent), high school (31.25 per cent), married (93.75per cent), joint families (62.50 per cent), families size of medium category 5 to 8 members (50.00 per cent), no social participation (75.00 per cent), medium land holding size category of respondents with 4-10 hectare (28.75 per cent), pucca type of housing pattern (83.75 per cent). It was also observed that the maximum respondents were use as small dairy size (73.75 per cent). The maximum brinjal growers (48.75 per cent) were having resource poor, medium family resources (66.25 per cent), transport facilities for loading were jhota buggy (81.25 per cent), and source of irrigation was canal (30.00 per cent). It was also observed that agriculture is main occupation (91.25 per cent), and service as subsidiary occupation with (06.25 per cent), respectively. Respondents were found such who had the earning annual income of Rs. above 1,50,000/-. It was found maximum respondents (51.25 per cent) using medium level of information sources, had medium level of scientific orientation (48.75 per cent), and medium level of risk orientation (60 per cent).

Introduction

Vegetables are grown in India since thousands of years but now-a-days it has become an important enterprise at national and inter-national level. In recent years, the vegetables has become as an essential requirement of the daily human diet, because of its nutritional value. Regular use of vegetables provides us most of the essential health building and protecting substances, such as vitamins and minerals. In India where

vegetarianism has been a way of life, since, the early days of recorded history, the problem of under nutrition and malnutrition can only be solved through balanced diet for which vegetables are essential component of the daily diet. Brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) or eggplant is one of the most common popular and principle vegetable crops grown in India and other parts of the world. The brinjal is of most importance in the warm areas of Far-East, being grown extensively in India and other Asian countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan. Other major brinjal producing countries are China, Turkey, Japan, Indonesia and Spain. The cultivated brinjal is of Indian origin and has been in cultivation for long time (Thompson and Kelly, 1957). Vavilov (1928) was of the opinion that its centre of origin was in the Indo-Burman region.

Egg-plant or brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) is a hardy plant compared to other vegetables grown in Sri-Lanka. Because of its hardiness, it can be successfully grown in very dry areas under rain-fed conditions or with minimum irrigation facilities. Egg-plant can be kept for more than one year in production by pruning at the end of the harvesting season. The fruit colour varies from pure white to dark purple or black in different varieties. Eggplant is an important source of antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals (Gramazio *et al.,* 2014). The most important nutritional components of eggplant are phenolic compounds that give the fruit its antioxidant properties (Plazas *et al.,* 2013) which are beneficial for a number of metabolic and cardiovascular ailments. Breeding objectives for eggplant are mostly oriented toward developing high-yielding, early maturing, and high fruit-quality varieties, along with stress resistance and high antioxidants

This crop can be grown throughout the year in all Agro-climatic regions except up country-wet zone. Grows well up to an elevation of about 1300m in low country wet zone, Intermediate, up country intermediate and dry zone. Eggplant is tolerant to drought. Well drain, light soils with a pH of 5.5-5.8 are more suitable for the cultivation in India. India contributes 8703.8 metric tonnes to the global production of brinjal and ranks second next to China. Brinjal occupies third position among vegetable crops in India and covers 9 per cent of total vegetable production in India. Brinjal is highly productive and usually find its place as poor man's crop. Brinjal fruits are fairly good source of Ca, O, Fe and Vitamins particularly "B" group and C. It is reported to stimulate the intrahepatic metabolism of blood cholesterol. It is also got much potential as raw material in pickle making and dehydration industries.

Materials and Methods

This study was conducted in Bulandshahr district of Western Uttar Pradesh during the year 2016-17. Bulandshahr district comprise of 16 blocks in which two blocks namely Lakhoti and Jahangirabad were purposively selected.

Two villages selected from each blocks. From the selected each village's 20 respondents were selected randomly, thus a total of 80 brinjal growers constituted the sample size for the study. The data were collected through personal interview with the help of pre structured schedule. The data were analysed and find out the percentage and rank order.

Results and Discussion

The socio-economic status of brinjal growers was studied and data have been given in table 1. The data of socio-economic status of brinjal growers are presented in table 1 the result revealed that the majority of the brinjal growers (42.50 per cent) were belonged to

age group of 46-60 years. The education status revealed that 31.25 per cent of high school level of education belonged to other backward castes 62.50 per cent. The majority of brinjal growers (62.50 per cent) belonging to joint family system and the majority of respondents (50.00 per cent) were having 5 to 8 members in family. The data also shows that maximum number of brinjal growers (75.00 per cent) having not participation in any organizational or social activities, The land holding size revealed that maximum brinjal growers (28.75 per cent) belonged to 4 to 10 hectare land holding size and the majority of brinjal growers (83.75 per cent) were having pucca type of housing pattern.

It was also observed that the maximum brinjal growers (73.75 per cent) were use as small dairy. The maximum brinjal growers (48.75 per cent) were having resource poor, medium family resources (66.25 per cent), transport facilities for loading were jhota buggy (81.25 per cent) and as source of irrigation was canal (30.00 per cent). It was also observed that agriculture is main occupation (91.25 per cent) and service as subsidiary occupation with (06.25 per cent), respectively.

Table.1 Distribution of the brinjal growers according to their socio-economic status N=80

Socio-economic status of brinjal growers	**Brinjal growers**	
Age categories (years)	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Young (15- 30)	10	12.50
Lower Middle (31 to 45)	26	32.50
Upper Middle (46-60)	34	42.50
Old age (above 60)	10	12.50
Caste		
General caste	22	27.50
Other backward caste	50	62.50
Scheduled caste/Sch. Tribe.	08	10.00
Education		
Illiterate	02	2.50
Can read and write	04	5.00
Primary school	07	8.75
Middle school	12	15.00
High school	25	31.25
Intermediate	13	16.25
Graduate	12	15.00
Post graduate and above	05	6.25
Marital status		
Married	75	93.75
Unmarried	05	6.25
family type		
Nuclear Family	30	37.50
Joint Family	50	62.50
Size of family		
Small (1- 4 members)	15	18.75
Medium (5-8 members)	40	50.00
Large (more than 8 members)	25	31.25
Social participation		
No participation	60	75.00

Participation in one organization	10	12.50
Participation in two organization	7	8.75
Participation in more than two organization	3	3.75
Land holding size		
Marginal (below 1 ha)	11	13.75
Small (1-2 ha)	21	26.25
Semi Medium (2-4 ha)	9	11.25
Medium (4-10 ha)	23	28.75
Large (above 10 ha)	15	18.75
Housing pattern		
Mixed (Pucca + kuccha)	13	16.25
Pucca	67	83.75
livestock possession		
Small dairy (1-3 milch animal)	59	73.75
Medium dairy (4-6 milch animal)	18	22.50
Big dairy (more than 6 milch animal)	3	3.75
Farm assets		
Resource poor (<5)	39	48.75
Resource medium (6 to 10)	32	40.00
Resource rich (>10)	9	11.25
Family resources		
Low (Up to 5 materials)	15	18.75
Medium (6 to 10 materials)	53	66.25
High (Above 10)	12	15.00
Transport facilities		
Cycle	48	60.00
Motorcycle/scooter	59	73.75
Car	7	8.75
Tractor trolley	15	18.75
Bullock cart / jhota-buggy	65	81.25
Irrigation facilities		
Diesel engine	16	20.00
Govt. Tube-well	21	26.25
Private tube well	19	23.75
Canal	24	30.00
Occupation		
Service	05	06.25
Agriculture	73	91.25
Business	02	02.50
Annual income		
Below Rs. 50,000/-	2	2.50
Rs. 50,001-1,00,000/-	7	8.75
Rs. 1,00,001-1,50,000/-	35	43.75
Above 1,50,000/-	36	45.00
Communication sources		
Information poor (up to 4 sources)	29	36.25
Information medium (5 to 8 sources)	41	51.25
Information rich (more than 8 sources)	10	12.50
Scientific orientation		

Low (up to 18 members)	31	38.75
Medium (29 to 24)	39	48.75
High (25 and above)	10	12.50
Mean=19.38, S.D.= 2.77, Min. =12, Max. =24		
Risk orientation		
Low (up to 17 members)	19	23.75
Medium (18 to 22)	48	60.00
High (23 and above)	13	16.25
Mean=19.57, S.D.= 3.72, Min. =13, Max. =27		

Respondents were found such who had the earning annual income of Rs. above 1,50,000/-. It was found that maximum respondents (51.25 per cent) using medium level of information sources, had medium level of scientific orientation (48.75 per cent), and medium level of risk orientation (60 per cent).

It is concluded that majority of the respondents belonged to middle age group, other backward caste, married and literate.

These respondents had joint & medium family, maximum number of respondents had no social participation, having pucca houses and medium size of land holding.

Most of the respondents having small dairy, resource poor, medium family resources, using canal as an irrigation facilities, having agriculture as main occupation with annual income range above Rs, 1,50,000/-. Information medium and medium level of scientific and risk orientation, respectively.

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