



Research Article

CAREER PREFERENCES OF AGRICULTURE GIRL STUDENTS OF JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY FOR DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONS

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Abstract: Career is a regular occupation or profession in which one is making a living. Career preferences of agriculture girl students are to be studied due to increased employment opportunities and economic motivations. They do intend for a lucrative job as a fruit of their hard labour and have their own likings and disliking for various career avenues. The study was conducted on sample of total 120 UG and PG agriculture girl students studying in college of agriculture, J.A.U., Junagadh. The most preferred career of the agriculture girl students was to join academic teaching (rank I), followed by state agricultural department (rank II), administrative job (rank III), banking sector (rank IV) and agriculture research (rank V).

Keywords: Agriculture girl students, Career preferences

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Introduction

Improvement in India constitutes about forty-eight percent of women population and the majority of them perform agricultural work. For the empowerment of women, it is needed to strengthen the linkages between agriculture education and farm women by enrolling more girls in agricultural courses. The agriculture colleges offer diversified courses of study to fit their choice and option. Career preferences of agriculture girl students are to be studied due to increased employment opportunities and economic motivations. The agricultural girl students do have some plans to adopt a specific career after completing their graduation and post-graduation. They do intend for a lucrative job as a fruit of their hard labour and have their own likings and disliking for various career avenues like teaching, research, extension, bank job, sales representative, administrative job, cultivation, business and works not related to agriculture open to them.

Objectives of the study

To study the career preferences of the agriculture girl students of Junagadh Agricultural University Junagadh.

Materials and Methods

Ex-post facto research design was followed for carrying out the study. A purposive and random selection method of sampling was adopted for this study. The present study was conducted on a random sample of total 120 undergraduate and post-graduate girl students studying in College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. Sixteen careers aptly having relevance to agricultural students arrived out of the investigation conducted by Sailaja (1991) with modifications were considered for eliciting the preferential choices of the respondents. Mean score was calculated for assigning the ranks. The mean score will be obtained by total scores of an item divided by the total number of respondents.

Results

The information related to this study was collected from the respondents by means

of personal interview schedule. The respondents were contacted personally either at college classroom, library or at their hostels.

Discussion

From [Table-1] it is clear that out of 120 agriculture girl students their first preference for career was academic teaching with mean score of 2.76, followed by state agricultural department (2.62), administrative job (2.57), banking sector (2.55), agricultural research (2.32), extension related (2.13), Non-Government Organization (2.02), cooperative society (1.90), forest department (1.86), agricultural consultancy (1.84), agricultural journalism (1.81), establishment of own NGO (1.75), agricultural entrepreneurship (1.71), agricultural marketing (1.66), sales representatives (1.47) and farming (0.69).

Table-1 Distribution of career preferences of agriculture girl students

SN	Careers	Mean score	Rank
1	Academic teaching	2.76	I
2	Agricultural research	2.32	V
3	Agricultural marketing	1.66	XIV
4	Extension related	2.13	VI
5	Agricultural journalism	1.81	XI
6	Agricultural consultancy	1.84	X
7	Agricultural entrepreneurship	1.71	XIII
8	Banking sector	2.55	IV
9	Administrative job	2.57	III
10	Sales representatives	1.47	XV
11	Cooperative Society	1.90	VIII
12	Non-Government Organization	2.02	VII
13	Establishment of own NGO	1.75	XII
14	Forest department	1.86	IX
15	State agricultural department	2.62	II
16	Farming	0.69	XVI

Conclusion

These findings thrown light on the fact that most of the agriculture girl students preferred to join agriculture teaching, state agriculture department, administrative

job, banking sector, agriculture research and extension related jobs. This might be due to the girl students were probably interested in steady, white collared job, better promotion chances, less transferable and a peaceful job. The findings also revealed the fact that the number of agriculture girl students preferred to agriculture entrepreneurship, establishment of own NGO and farming career was quite low. The probable reason behind it is need of huge investment, erratic income and a great amount of uncertainty and risk involved in this career.

Application of research: An empirical investigation would help educational and vocational counsellors to provide proper guidance to the young agriculture graduates and also help proper planning for the educational system and the effective utilization of manpower resources.

Research Category: Agricultural Extension

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Study area / Sample Collection: Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, 362001, India

Cultivar / Variety / Breed name: Nil

Conflict of Interest: None declared

Ethical approval: This article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.
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