

Original Research Article

Relationship between the profile of agricultural students and their career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship

ABSTRACT

Career aspiration refers to a long-term professional aim or goal that a person sets for themselves in their chosen career or profession.

Aims: To ascertain the relationship between the profile of students and their career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship.

Study design: *Expost facto* research design.

Place and Duration of Study: The study was taken in four State Agricultural Universities of Gujarat. August 2023 – March 2024.

Methodology: The study was conducted among the students from the agriculture faculty in four State Agricultural Universities of Gujarat which are Navsari Agricultural University, Junagadh Agricultural University, Anand Agricultural University and SardarkrushinagarDantiwada Agricultural University. The respondents were M.Sc. (Agri.), Ph.D. (Agri.) and final year B.Sc. (Agri.) students from the main campus of each university. *Expost facto* research design was used. By simple random sampling technique, 25 students from each degree from four universities were selected. Thus, the total sample is 300. By interview method, responses were collected using interview schedule. The relationship between the independent and dependent variable were analysed using statistical tools such as correlation and stepwise regression.

Results: The variables such as age, source of information, risk taking ability, achievement orientation, leadership ability, critical thinking, self confidence and innovativeness were significantly correlated with the level of career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship at 1 per cent level of significance. The variables such as source of information, achievement orientation, critical thinking, innovativeness and age were accounting influence and 41.00 per cent variation in career aspiration of the students.

Conclusion: Hence, these variables should be taken care and need to improve for the change in career aspiration.

Keywords: Agriculture, Career aspiration, Students, Profile, Correlation, Stepwise regression.

1. INTRODUCTION

Career aspiration refers to a long-term professional aim or goal that a person sets for themselves in their chosen career or profession. It entails determining the ideal degree of accomplishment, success, or standing one aspires to attain in the future. Career aspirations represent a learner's orientation towards a particular professional or occupational goal (Domenico and Jones, 2007). It was reported that it can be influenced by gender, socio-economic status and family support. During adolescence, aspirations are especially important because they allow teenagers to evaluate the degree to which various choices help or hinder their chances of attaining desired goals. The career aspirations of

adolescents have been viewed as significant determinates of both short term educational and long-term career choices. They have also been regarded as important career motivational variables which are predictive of later career attainment levels (Patton and Creed, 2007). Parcel and Sykuta (2003) expressed that students who have aspirations to own their own business have a personal connection to someone who is already an entrepreneur. The authors also reported that students feel more comfortable with risk taking, where they have witnessed the independence associated with self-employment. The objective of the present study is

- To ascertain the relationship between the profile of students and their career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship.

2.METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted among the students from the agriculture faculty in four State Agricultural Universities of Gujarat which are Navsari Agricultural University, Junagadh Agricultural University, Anand Agricultural University and SardarkrushinagarDantiwada Agricultural University. The respondents were M.Sc. (Agri.), Ph.D. (Agri.) and final year B.Sc. (Agri.) students from the main campus of each university. *Expost facto* research design was used. By simple random sampling technique, 25 students from each degree from four universities were selected. Thus, the total sample is 300. By interview method, responses were collected using interview schedule. The profile of the students were independent variables which are age, gender, area of residence, monthly family income, type of family, size of family, parents education, parents occupation, business background, size of land holding, spending leisure time, family support, source of information, trainings undergone, risk taking ability, achievement orientation, leadership ability, critical thinking, self confidence and innovativeness. The dependent variable is career aspiration. The relationship between the independent and dependent variable were analysed using statistical tools such as correlation and stepwise regression.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The relationship between the profile of the students and their career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Relationship between the profile of students and their career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship

(n=300)

Sr. No.	Independent Variables	Coefficient of correlation (r)
1.	Age	0.197 ^{**}
2.	Gender	0.044 ^{NS}
3.	Area of residence	0.046 ^{NS}

4.	Monthly Family Income	0.080 ^{NS}
5.	Type of family	-0.034 ^{NS}
6.	Size of family	0.022 ^{NS}
7.	Parents education	0.054 ^{NS}
8.	Parents occupation	-0.045 ^{NS}
9.	Business background	0.105 ^{NS}
10.	Size of Land holding	-0.032 ^{NS}
11.	Spending leisure time	0.052 ^{NS}
12.	Family support	0.102 ^{NS}
13.	Source of information	0.510 ^{**}
14.	Trainings undergone	0.090 ^{NS}
15.	Risk taking ability	0.465 ^{**}
16.	Achievement orientation	0.492 ^{**}
17.	Leadership ability	0.407 ^{**}
18.	Critical thinking	0.396 ^{**}
19.	Self confidence	0.302 ^{**}
20.	Innovativeness	0.392 ^{**}
**Significant at 0.01 level probability		

The data in Table 1, revealed that age (0.197^{**}), source of information (0.510^{**}), risk taking ability (0.465^{**}), achievement orientation (0.492^{**}), leadership ability (0.407^{**}), critical thinking (0.396^{**}), selfconfidence (0.302^{**}) and innovativeness (0.392^{**}) were significantly correlated with the level of career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship at 1 per cent level of significance. The findings were similar to the findings of Yomgam and Tekale (2014), Reddy (2018) and Ansari (2019).

The results indicate, as students grow older, they may gain more exposure to different career options, leading to increased clarity and ambition in their career choices. Students who have access to diverse sources of information about various career options might have a better-informed perspective on their career choices, influencing their aspirations positively. Students with a higher risk-taking ability might be more open to exploring unconventional or challenging career paths, leading to stronger career aspirations. Leadership skills might aspire to careers that allow them to utilize and further develop these skills. Critical thinking skills might enable students to analyze career options, make informed decisions and set ambitious goals. Students with innovativeness might aspire to careers that allow them to apply and develop their creative skills.

The variables such as gender (0.044^{NS}), area of residence (0.046^{NS}), monthly family income (0.080^{NS}), size of family (0.022^{NS}), parents education (0.054^{NS}), business background (0.105^{NS}), spending leisure time (0.052^{NS}), family support (0.102^{NS}) and trainings undergone (0.090^{NS}) were non-significantly correlated, while type of family (-0.034^{NS}), parents occupation (-0.045^{NS}) and size of land holding (-0.032^{NS}) had negative and

non-significant correlation with the their career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship.

Stepwise multiple regression analysis with 20 independent variables and career aspiration was carried out. The findings are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Stepwise multiple regression analysis of independent variables and career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship (n=300)

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Partial regression coefficient (b)	Standard error	Multiple Correlation Coefficient 'R'	Adjusted R ²
	(Constant)	32.852	5.914	0.648	0.410
1.	Source of information (X ₁₃)	0.984**	0.148		
2.	Achievement orientation (X ₁₆)	0.748**	0.176		
3.	Critical thinking (X ₁₈)	0.507**	0.159		
4.	Innovativeness (X ₂₀)	0.596**	0.207		
5.	Age (X ₁)	1.293**	0.600		
**Significant at 0.01 level probability					

Data presented in Table 2, reveals that out of 20 independent variables, five variables namely source of information (0.984**), achievement orientation (0.748**), critical thinking (0.507**), innovativeness (0.596**) and age (1.293**) were accounting influence on career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship. These five independent variables together accounted 41.00 per cent variation in career aspiration of the students.

By following model, a result of stepwise regression analysis is as;

$$Y_2 = a + b_{13}X_{13} + b_{16}X_{16} + b_{18}X_{18} + b_{20}X_{20} + b_1X_1$$

Where,

Y₂ = Career aspiration

a = the intercept i.e., 32.852

b₁₃ = Coefficient of partial regression of Y₂ on X₁₃ i.e. 0.984

b₁₆ = Coefficient of partial regression of Y₂ on X₁₆ i.e. 0.748

b₁₈ = Coefficient of partial regression of Y₂ on X₁₈ i.e. 0.507

b₂₀ = Coefficient of partial regression of Y₂ on X₂₀ i.e. 0.596

b₁ = Coefficient of partial regression of Y₂ on X₁ i.e. 1.293

X₁₃ = Source of information

X₁₆ = Achievement orientation

X_{18} = Critical thinking

X_{20} = Innovativeness

X_1 = Age

Therefore, the fitted equation would be as under:

$$Y_2 = 32.852 + (0.984) X_{13} + (0.748) X_{16} + (0.507) X_{18} + (0.596) X_{20} + (1.293) X_1$$

4. CONCLUSION

From the study, it can be concluded that the variable such as age, source of information, risk taking ability, achievement orientation, leadership ability, critical thinking, self confidence and innovativeness were significantly correlated with the level of career aspiration about future prospects of agripreneurship at 1 per cent level of significance. the variables such as source of information, achievement orientation, critical thinking, innovativeness and age were accounting influence and 41.00 per cent variation in career aspiration of the students. hence, these variables should be taken care and need to improve for the change in career aspiration.

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