

# TO ANALYZE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF BRINJAL GROWERS IN CHHATTISGARH

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**Abstracts:** The present investigation was carried out during the year of 2010-11 in 12 selected villages in Durg district of Chhattisgarh. This study aims to assess socioeconomic profile of the brinjal growers. From each selected village ten farmers were selected randomly, thus total 120 farmers were selected for the present study. The data were collected through personal interview with the help of pretested interview schedule and analyzed by using appropriate statistical tools like mean, standard deviation frequency and percentages etc. The findings of this study revealed that the majority of the respondents were found in middle age group, educated upto higher secondary level, belonged to other backward class, medium family size and had membership in two and more than two organization. Majority of the respondents were small farmers with Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + labor as their main occupation and belonged to the income category Rs 45,001 to 1.55 lacs per year having medium size (2.1 to 4.0 ha) of land holding. Majority of the respondents took credit from friends.

**Keywords:** Socio-personal, socioeconomic characteristics, durg, Chhattisgarh

## INTRODUCTION

Vegetables are grown in every part of our country under varied agro-climatic and soil conditions in plains as well as in hilly regions. At present, India produces about 70 different varieties of leafy, fruity and starchy tuber varieties of vegetables. More than 40 kinds of vegetables belonging to different groups namely solanaceous, cucurbitaceous, leguminous, cruciferous (cole crops) root crops and leafy vegetables are grown in India in tropical, subtropical and temperate regions. Important vegetables grown in India are tomato, onion, brinjal, cabbage, cauliflower, okra, peas *etc.* India contributes about 13 per cent of the world vegetable production.

Brinjal or eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.) is an important solanaceous crop of sub-tropics and tropics. The name brinjal is popular in Indian subcontinent and is derived from Arabic and Sanskrit whereas the name eggplant has been derived from the shape of the fruit of some varieties, which are white and resemble in shape to chicken eggs. It is also called aubergine (French word) in Europe.

The brinjal is of much importance in the warm areas of Far East, being grown extensively in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, China and the Philippines. It is also popular in Egypt, France, Italy and United States. In India, it is one of the most common, popular and principal vegetable crops grown throughout the country except higher altitudes. It is a versatile crop adopted to different agro-climatic regions and can be grown throughout the year. It is a perennial but grown commercially as an annual crop. A number of cultivars are grown in India, consumer preference being dependent upon fruit colour, size and shape.

Keeping this consideration in view, an attempt was made to make an in depth analysis of brinjal cultivation in general with the following specific objective:

1. To determine the socio-economic profile of brinjal growers in the selected villages.

## MATERIAL AND METHOD

The present study was carried out in Durg district of Chhattisgarh state. During the study period Durg district has 12 blocks, out of which, only 3 blocks were purposively selected namely, Durg, Berla and Dhamdha because these three blocks are having fairly good brinjal production. A list of brinjal growers of the selected blocks were obtained from the office of the horticultural department of Durg district and from each selected block, 40 farmers those were practicing brinjal cultivation were selected randomly. In this way total 120 brinjal growers were selected as respondents. Respondents were interviewed through personal interview. Prior to interview, respondents were taken in to confidence by revealing the actual purpose of the study and full care was taken in to consideration to develop good rapport with them. For the data collection well designed and pre-tested interview scheduled were used. Collected data were analyzed by the help of various statistical tools i.e. frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation, etc.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Socio-personal profile of the respondents

Age, education, caste, size of family and social participation were considered as socio-personal characteristics of the respondents. These

characteristics were analyzed and are presented in Table 1.

### Age

It is observed from the Table 1 that the maximum number of the respondents (55.00%) belonged to middle age group (35 to 51 years), 25.83 per cent respondents were of young age group (up to 34 years) and 19.17 per cent respondents were of old age group (more than 51 years). Thus, it may be concluded that the majority of brinjal growers belonged to middle age group (35 to 51 years).

### Education

Education builds the ability of an individual to seek knowledge, understand and utilize things better and hence assessment of respondent's educational attainment was essential. When we discuss the data

presented in Table 1, we find that 34.17 per cent of the respondents were educated upto higher secondary level and 20.84 per cent were educated upto primary school level, followed by 16.66 per cent of the respondents who were educated upto high school level, 08.33 per cent respondents were educated upto college and above and 05.00 per cent of the respondents were found in the category of illiterate.

### Caste

As regards to caste, most of the respondents (44.17%) belonged to other backward class, followed by 25.00 per cent who belonged to schedule caste, 21.66 per cent of the respondents were found in the category of schedule tribes and 09.17 per cent of the respondents were found in the category of general caste. It can be concluded that most of the respondent's belonged to other backward class.

**Table 1:** Distribution of respondents according to their socio-personal characteristic  
(n = 120)

S. No.	Characteristics	Frequency	Per cent
1.	<b>Age</b>		
	Young (up to 34 years)	31	25.83
	Middle (35 to 51 years)	66	55.00
	Old (above 51 years)	23	19.17
2.	<b>Education</b>		
	Illiterate	06	05.00
	Primary school	25	20.84
	Middle school	18	15.00
	High school	20	16.66
	Higher Secondary	41	34.17
	College and above	10	08.33
3.	<b>Caste</b>		
	Schedule tribes	26	21.66
	Schedule caste	30	25.00
	Other backward class	53	44.17
	General	11	09.17
4.	<b>Family size</b>		
	Small (up to 5 members)	45	37.50
	Medium (6 to 9 members)	57	47.50
	Big (> 10 members)	18	15.00
5.	<b>Social participation</b>		
	No membership	34	28.33
	Membership in one organization	35	29.17
	Membership in two and more than two Organization	51	42.50
	Executive / office bearer	00	00.00

### Size of family

Most of the respondents (47.50%) had medium size of family (6 to 9 members) followed by 37.50 per cent with small size of family (upto 5 members). Rest of the respondents 15.00 per cent belonged to large size of family (more than 10 members). This

indicates that the maximum number of the respondents belonged to medium size of family.

### Social participation

Social participation gives an idea about the respondent's participation in social activities. As regard to social participation, maximum number of

respondents (42.50%) had membership in two and more than two organizations followed by 29.17 per cent of respondents who were having membership in one organization and 28.33 per cent respondents had no membership in any organization. There were no respondents who belonged to executive/ office bearer category.

**Socio-economic profile of the respondents**

The independent variables i.e. size of land holding, occupation, annual income, and credit acquisition were considered as socio-economic characteristics of the respondents.

**Table 2:** Distribution of respondents according to their size of land holding

(n = 120)			
S. No.	Size of land holding	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Marginal (up to 1 ha)	16	13.33
2.	Small (1.1 to 2 ha)	61	50.85
3.	Medium (2.1 to 4.0 ha)	32	26.66
4.	Large (above 4.0 ha)	11	09.16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**(i) Size of land holding**

It is apparent from the Table 2 that (50.85%) of the respondents had small size of land holding (1.1 to 2 ha), followed by 26.66 per cent of the respondents who belonged under medium size of land holding (2.1 to 4.0 ha), 13.33 per cent of the respondents

were found in marginal size of land holding (up to 1 ha) and only 09.16 per cent of the respondents were found in large size of the land holding (above 4.0 ha) category.

It could be concluded from the table that maximum number of respondents had small size of land holding.

**(ii) Occupation**

**Table 3:** Distribution of respondents according to their occupation

(n = 120)			
S. No.	Occupation	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Brinjal cultivation only	00	00.00
2.	Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation	30	25.00
3.	Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + labour	46	38.35
4.	Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + Service	21	17.50
5.	Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + Animal husbandry + Service	10	08.33
6.	Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + Business + Service	05	04.16
7.	Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + others	08	06.66
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Regarding the distribution of respondents according to their occupation, it is observed from Table 3 that most of the respondents (38.35%) were involved in Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + labour, followed by Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation (25.00%) , Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + Service (17.50%),

Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + Animal husbandry + Service (08.33%), Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + others (06.66%), Agriculture + Brinjal cultivation + Business + Service (04.16%) and none of the respondents were found in only Brinjal cultivation category.

**Table 4:** Distribution of respondents according to their annual income

(n = 120)			
S. No.	Annual income (Rs)	Frequency	Per cent
1.	Up to Rs 45 thousand	25	20.83
2.	Rs 45,001 to 1.55 lacs	72	60.00
3.	Above Rs 1.55 lacs	23	19.17
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**(iii) Annual income**

Annual income of family helps to project the overall economic position and it is an indicator of the economic stability of the family. The distribution of

the respondents according to their annual income is presented in Table 4.

It was found that majority (60.00%) of the respondents were having their annual income between Rs 45,001 to 1.55 lacs followed by 20.83 per cent of respondents who were having their annual income Up to Rs 45 thousand. Whereas 19.17 per

cent respondents were having their annual income Above Rs 1.55 lacs.

The results clearly indicated that majority of the respondents belonged to Rs 45,001 to Rs 1.55 lacs annual income group.

#### (iv) Credit acquisition

**Table 5:** Distribution of respondents according to their credit acquisition

		(n = 120)	
S. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Per cent
<b>1.</b>	<b>Credit acquisition (n=120)</b>		
(i)	Not acquired	105	87.50
(ii)	Acquired	15	12.50
<b>2.</b>	<b>Duration of credit (n = 15)</b>		
(i)	Short term credit	09	60.00
(ii)	Mid term credit	06	40.00
(iii)	Long term credit	00	00.00
<b>3.</b>	<b>Availability of credit (n = 15)</b>		
(i)	Easy	03	20.00
(ii)	Difficult	12	80.00
<b>4.</b>	<b>Source of credit (n = 15)</b>		
(i)	Cooperative society	00	00.00
(ii)	Nationalized bank	00	00.00
(iii)	Money lenders	00	00.00
(iv)	Friends	08	53.34
(v)	Neighbour	04	26.66
(vi)	Relatives	03	20.00
(vii)	Others	00	00.00

The data as presented in Table 5 reveals that majority of the respondents (87.50%) had not acquired the credit, whereas, only 12.50 per cent respondents had acquired the credit. Out of the credit acquiring respondents (total 15) the majority of the respondents (60.00%) had taken the short term credit followed by 40.00 per cent of the respondents who had taken medium term credit and long term credit was taken by none of the respondents.

It can be concluded that majority of the respondents had acquired short term credit while a small percentage of the respondents had acquired medium term credit. The acquired short term credit might have been taken for purchasing seeds, fertilizers, while medium term credit might have been taken for housekeeping facilities or buying implements etc.

In case of sources of credit the maximum number of the respondents (53.34%) had acquired credit from the friends followed by 26.66 per cent of respondents who had taken credit from neighbors, 20.00 per cent of respondents had taken credit from the relatives.

In case of availability of credit out of the total respondents who had acquired credit majority of the respondents (80.00%) had difficulty in acquiring credit whereas, 20.00 per cent of the respondents have acquired it easily.

It can be concluded that majority of the respondents had acquired short term credit; Friends were the

major source of credit and the credit facilities were available to them with difficulty. The Cooperative societies and the nationalized banks are not functioning properly and their credit policies are too difficult for the respondents.

#### CONCLUSION

From the above findings it can be concluded that the maximum number (55.00%) of the respondents were middle aged, educated up to higher secondary level (34.17%), belonged Other backward class caste (44.17%), had medium family size (47.50%) with six to nine members and had membership in two and more than two organization (42.50%) indicating good social participation.

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