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## AGRICULTURE AS A BEST PROFESSION: A NEW INSIGHT

Abhishek Raj<sup>\*1</sup>, Vijay Upadhyay<sup>1</sup>, Brijesh Kumar Meena<sup>1</sup>, Gautam Singh Dhakad<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>\*Department of Forestry, Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Science, Mewar University, Chittorgah, Rajasthan, India.

### ABSTRACT

Although, agriculture plays an important role in fulfilling the farmers needs by providing tangible and intangible benefits which helps in maintaining socioeconomic conditions along with food and environmental security at local and national level. However, agricultural profession has been justified and secure among the other professions in various way such as it helps in building the carrier opportunities of youth and farmers through raising the employment opportunities and fulfill the slogan “become a job creator not a seeker”. As we know, agriculture is a main profession and largest sector which helps in building both socioeconomic and ecosystem. Agricultural professional has tremendous scope and potential in term of maintaining land fertility, employment opportunities, climate change mitigation, developing interpersonal skills, innovation skill enhancement and able to produce food grains to feed the world. Although, government, NGOs and private institutions have participated in various agricultural development scheme for attracting and retaining youth in Agriculture (ARYA).

### KEYWORDS

Environment, Profession, NGOs, Climate change and Land fertility etc.

### Author for Correspondence:

Abhishek Raj,  
Department of Forestry,  
Mewar University, Chittorgarh,  
Rajasthan, India.

**Email:** [ranger0392@gmail.com](mailto:ranger0392@gmail.com)

### INTRODUCTION

Profession is an occupation which will help to build skills and develop expertise in the interested our field. We have various field options to choose and become profession *viz.*, academic, cultural, medicinal, industry, public services, transport, science, technology etc. Learning ability, Skill development, getting challenge to overcome problems, earning money, uplift socioeconomic condition of society and overall improvement in

healthy and wealth of nation are the main objective of profession.

Agriculture is one the best profession due to its multifarious benefits, scope and potential. It provides highest contribution to national income. It is important not only from economic point of view but has deep rooted influence on our social, political and cultural life. Literally speaking agriculture means the production of crops and live stock on a farm. Generally speaking, agriculture is cultivation of crops. In the view of economic, agriculture involves the practice of cultivating field/agriculture crops with the integration of all other components such as livestock's (for dairy farming), forestry, fishing and poultry. Moreover, the contribution of farming system in the provision of food, fuel, timber and other resource are not new phenomenon but it has been running from the ancient time due to proper management of available natural resources (Cooper *et al*, 2009<sup>1</sup>, Varley *et al*, 2009)<sup>2</sup>. Although, the farming industry has greatest potential for enhancing the revenue through the cultivation practices of varying crops and their integration with cattle, pigs, chicken, poultry would be best business strategy which help in improving the land quality, environmental quality and food and nutritional security in any circumstances.

This article represents the agricultural scenario, present constraint in agriculture profession, its scope, significance and potential of farming professionals and its role in employment generation.

### **AGRICULTURAL SCENARIO**

Agriculture is the main occupation in India and people rely directly and indirectly on agriculture for fulfilling their needs. Agriculture sector is backbone of Indian economy contributing approximately 13.7% to the gross domestic product. As the figure, we are the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest producer in many cereals (rice and wheat), fruits and vegetable crops along with the largest exporting capacity in cashew and spices. It is saddest to know that the production of food grains were low due to losing of high fertile area of Punjab that went to Pakistan during separation of our India. It is the basic foundation of economic development.

However, there is a lack of faith of people on farmers due to heavy work with low income, but this farming profession can be reliable and truthful due to its multifarious benefits and better ecological adoptability (Meijboom, 2008)<sup>3</sup>.

### **CONSTRAINTS IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE**

India is an agricultural country. Seventy percent of its people live in villages. Their chief occupation is farming. They work on farmers scattered round the villages. Our Indian farming is backward and does not able to produce much foods and it is chiefly depends on rains for irrigation. Sometimes, the rain does not fall in time or there is no rain at all whereas rain is too much before time due to extreme weather condition. Uncertain rainfall and rising high temperature are the major concern of the farmers today. In either case, crops suffer.

Similarly, various insect pest and infectious disease have been emerged due to extreme weather, rising temperature and changing climate which will not only affects the health of crops but also affects the overall productivity of farming systems. Now science has invented many medicines which kill pests and thus protect the crops. In this context, the adoption of climate smart agriculture, conservation agriculture, agro forestry and other scientific based farming system are great strategies which can grab this problem through adaptation and mitigation of changing climate. Scientist and farming professionals are also works in the direction of producing pest and disease resistant varieties of plant and animals both. Recently, scientist has developed short duration wheat variety having shorter length with better yield quality and maximum production. Similarly, hens with more eggs laying capacity and cattle with more yielding capacity of milk are another successive research by the Indian scientist.

Although, Indian scientist did their great work in the context of creation of knowledge but unfortunately it could be reached and transfer among the farmers in the remote and inaccessible area at ground level. Also, the farming productivity per acre is low in India. However, chemical fertilizers do not fulfill the needs of the farming situations in India. Better quality seeds are still not available to him, the result

is that he cannot produce as much in his fields as done by his counterparts in Europe and America.

## **SIGNIFICANCE AND POTENTIAL OF FARMING PROFESSIONALS**

### **Need to achieve**

Farming professionals have got strong desire to achieve higher goals through their inner self motives power which would help in achieving the success in any trust area of agriculture.

### **Independence**

Most of the farming professionals start on their own because they dislike to work for others. They depend on itself for any decision and feels as boss itself and a boss has no boss.

### **Risk-bearing**

Farming professionals are the persons who take decisions under uncertainty and thus they are willing to take risk, but they never gamble with the results. Mostly, they come across the less risk activities rather than play wild gamble.

### **Perseverance**

Farming has got the quality of sticking to job he decides to undertake. Once committed to a specific goal and course of action, farming professionals become absorbed to it.

### **Positive self-concept**

Farming professionals are always positive in their action. Being an achiever, he directs his fantasies and dreams towards achievement of worthwhile goals and sets extraordinary standard of excellence in what he is doing.

### **Ability to find and explore opportunities**

Farming professionals are always alert for any opportunities by their intellectual and innovative mind and are able to convert any problem into opportunities in any circumstances. They plan intellectually and anticipate carefully how to achieve their goals in realizing an opportunity.

### **Hope of success**

Hope of success is a significant quality of farming personality. Farming professionals set their goals with a hope of success rather than fear of failure. They are having great patience and hope for success in the future.

### **Flexibility**

Most of the successful Farming professionals measure the pros and cons of a decision and tend to change if the situation demands. They never feel reluctant to revise their decisions and having open mind with non-rigidity.

### **Sense of efficacy**

Farming professionals are always oriented towards action for accomplishment of their goals. Due to presence of confident abilities, they can solve many problems rather than avoiding it.

### **Openness to feedback and learning from experience**

Successful Farming professionals like to have immediate feedback of their performance. They can potentially modify their plans as per environmental feedbacks from surrounding. They learn from their experience and never get discouraged having received unfavorable information.

### **Confronting uncertainty**

Successful Farming professionals are always optimistic and take every odd as the opportunity. They have different logic for work completion through the balancing environment which can improve the skill and wisdom.

### **Interpersonal skills**

Farming professionals are always comfortable in dealing with their customers, bankers, raw material suppliers etc at both local and national level. As successful Farming professionals, they should be persons who like working with others possessing the much needed quality of interpersonal skill to deal with people.

### **Stress takers**

Farming professionals are capable of working for long hours and solving different complexities at the same time. As the captain of an industry or an enterprise, an Farming faces a number of problems and in right moment he takes right decisions which may involve physical as well as mental stress. He can face these challenges if he has the capability to work for long hours and keep himself cool under monotony.

### **Time orientation**

Farming professionals anticipate future trends basing upon their past experience and exposure. They stick to the time pragmatically while doing their jobs.

### **Innovators**

Successful Farming professionals are innovators as they have skill to place products in new context of commercialization. They have willing to introduce new products in market.

### **Business communication skill**

In order to motivate others in the business Farming professionals must possess good communication skill. Both written and oral communication skills are necessary for the Farming professionals for running enterprise efficiently.

### **Telescopic faculty**

Successful Farming professionals works as telescopic faculties and staff as they think ahead for the future. Future orientation makes them quite alert to the changing conditions of the time and they tend to produce goods and commodities as per the changing demands.

### **Leadership**

Farming professionals should possess the quality of leadership. They possess the leadership quality which can help in guiding, motivating, inspiring, assisting and directing the farming peoples for achievement of their goals through the of unity of action and efforts. Hence, Farming professionals by their own leadership styles and behaviour reduce the problems by proper handling of situations. Good administrative work depends upon effective leadership of the Farming.

### **Business plan**

Farming professionals should be equipped with skill and knowledge to prepare their business plan. A successful Farming always follows the principles of management while planning for his business. The planning can act as a bridge between the present position and expected future shape of the enterprise. It provides a sense of vision to the Farming professionals to cope with risky and uncertain situation.

### **Decision making**

Decision-making skill is a fundamental characteristic of a farming professionals as every stage they can

decide easily for the achieving their specific goals. Moreover, decision making skill is the prerequisite at the stage of risk and uncertainty.

### **Ability to mobilize resources**

Farming professionals must have the ability to marshal all the inputs to obtain the end product. They have to mobilize 6Ms, i.e. Man, Money, Material, Machinery, Market and Method effectively to realize the final product as Farming professional is a function of gap filling and input completing

### **Self-confidence**

Farming professionals must have self-confidence to accomplish the task effectively and efficiently. They have decisive power and self confidence in any risky situations while completing any tasks and assignments.

### **Need for Agri- professionals**

Increasing demand of organic and quality food both in India and abroad. Private sector is willing to enter in to agribusiness at all levels of operation. To reduce malnutrition as majority of women and children in the country are malnourished

## **SCOPE FOR FARMING PROFESSIONALS DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE:**

Technologies those reduce the cost of production and increase the benefit of the farmers will open new opportunities for Agri- professionals. New technologies that are simple and time saving and keep away farmers from drudgery of Technologies that provide social and psychological benefits to farmers will also provide opportunity for Farming professionals in agriculture

### **On farm Activities**

Depending upon the geographical situation and resources availability, the possible areas of Farming professionals in agriculture are:

#### **Agri based processing units**

They merely process the agriculture produce. e.g., rice mills, dal mills, decorticating mills etc. rather than manufacture of new products.

#### **Agro produce manufacturing units**

These units produce entirely new products based on the agricultural produce as the main raw material. e.g., Sugar factories, Bakery, Strawboard units etc.

### **Agri based manufacturing units**

This unit's help in manufacturing the mechanized tools (as agricultural implements and others) through the production of several goods for enhancing the mechanized agriculture and its productivity. E.g., Fertilizer manufacturing plants, insecticides production units, food processing units, agricultural implements etc.

### **Agro-service centers**

These include the workshops and service centers for repairing and serving the agricultural implements used in agriculture. The yield per acre in India continues to be extremely low. Through some chemical fertilizers are now produced in the country, they are not at all sufficient to meet the needs of Indian farming. Modern agriculture is so much more and having potential to create job for every youth of their interest. Students of high school and college have bright careers while studying agriculture and can find a job easily in the agriculture sector.

### **Off-Farm activities**

Farming professionals development is also profitable in different off-farm activities like cloth stitching, knitting, embroidery, cloth printing (tie and dye), carpet making, dari making, envelope and plastic bag making, agarbatti making, candle making, rope making, basket making, bamboo-work, distilled water making, oil extraction, chalk making, biogas mechanic, electric wiring, mason, carpentry, black smithy, solar mechanic, electrician, auto mechanic, welding, pottery, and other rural crafts.

The possible areas of farming professionals in allied activities of agriculture. This includes the activities like, forestry, fishery, dairying, goat & sheep rearing, sericulture, flower and vegetable cultivation, nursery management and poultry cultivation etc.

### **Agriculture: a boon for employment**

Agriculture is a boon for the employment and perfect profession for the people due to massive dependency on farm products such as timber, fuel wood, food, fruits etc. This sector has wide scope due to its linking concept with social development, income generation and environmental security. Farming creates a great employment opportunities for the people in poultry, dairy, forestry, sericulture, fishery, nursery etc. Although, new job/employment is being

added due to continuously changing nature of agriculture. However, people and especially younger avoids working in farm and even they migrates to the metropolitan cities for the search of small job. They become "job seeker instead of job creator". They are not aware about the tremendous employment opportunities of farming system. In this context government of India run a policy for attracting and retaining youth in agriculture (ARYA). This would not only helps in generating employment for the peoples but also maintain their living standard along with a vision power of creating their own business and generating the employment opportunities for other. Thus, farming professional become job creator rather than seeker.

Self-employment and making a living from working the land are some of the main attractions of becoming a farmer. For becoming an successful farmer, firstly we should know about agriculture. Farmer is an economic Agent who plays a vital role in the economic development of a country. Farming professionals is an individual with knowledge, skills, initiative, drive and spirit of innovation who aims at achieving goals.

### **CONCLUSION**

As we know, agriculture plays an important role in our national economy due to its significance and potential in term of food and nutritional security, soil fertility maintenance, employment opportunities, environmental security and potentially able to feed billions of people of the world. Today, farming practices are affected by changing the climatic situation such as uncertain rainfall, extreme weather, rising temperature etc. These can not only affects the overall productivity but also affects the people's attitude and fear about adopting the farming practices. This can be overcome by adoption of some scientific based cultivation techniques and in this context farming professional play a key role due to their interpersonal skills, positive attitude, risk bearing ability, leadership, flexibility and motivating peoples for adopting farming practices. Therefore, we feel proud to say "farming as the best profession".

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## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

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