

# A Study on Agricultural Income of Small-Scale Farmers

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**Abstract:** This study examines key factors influencing agricultural income among small-scale farmers, with attention to landholding size, awareness of government support measures, and access to productive resources. Using primary data collected through a questionnaire-based descriptive approach, the study analyzes how these variables shape income levels, adoption of modern farming practices, and agricultural production. The findings show that larger landholdings are generally associated with better income opportunities, while awareness of government schemes supports the use of improved techniques. Access to irrigation, credit, seeds, and related inputs also contributes to higher productivity. At the same time, the study highlights the persistent constraints faced by small farmers, particularly limited financial access and infrastructural gaps. Statistical tools such as correlation and chi-square analysis support the assessment of these relationships. The study underscores the need for stronger awareness initiatives, improved credit support, and wider access to modern agricultural resources to strengthen rural livelihoods and improve the economic conditions of small-scale farmers.

**Keywords:** Agricultural income, Small-scale farmers, Landholding size, Resource availability, Government schemes

## 1. Introduction

Agriculture plays a vital role in the Indian economy, especially for rural livelihoods. Small-scale farmers form a major portion of the agricultural sector but often face challenges related to low income, limited resources, and lack of awareness about modern techniques. This study focuses on analyzing the factors affecting agricultural income among small-scale farmers.

## 2. Objectives of the Study

- 1) To examine the relationship between landholding size and farmer income.
- 2) To analyze the impact of awareness of government schemes on adoption of modern techniques.
- 3) To study the effect of availability of resources on agricultural production.

## 3. Hypotheses

### Hypothesis 1:

H<sub>0</sub>: Landholding size has no significant relationship with income.

H<sub>1</sub>: Landholding size has a significant relationship with income.

### Hypothesis 2:

H<sub>0</sub>: Awareness of schemes has no effect on adoption of modern techniques.

H<sub>1</sub>: Awareness has a significant effect on adoption.

### Hypothesis 3:

H<sub>0</sub>: Resource availability has no impact on production.

H<sub>1</sub>: Resource availability has a significant impact on production.

## 4. Literature Review

Previous studies show that farmers with larger landholdings tend to earn higher income due to economies of scale. Awareness programs and training help farmers adopt improved techniques like irrigation systems and machinery.

Availability of inputs like seeds, fertilizers, and credit significantly increases productivity.

## 5. Research Methodology

- **Research Type:** Descriptive
- **Data Type:** Primary Data
- **Data Collection Method:** Questionnaire (Likert Scale)
- **Sample Size:** 50–100 farmers
- **Sampling Method:** Convenience Sampling

## 6. Data Analysis

- Use **percentage method** for demographic data
- Use **Chi-square / correlation** to test hypotheses
- Represent findings using **tables or charts**

## 7. Findings

- 1) Farmers with larger landholdings earn relatively higher income.
- 2) Awareness of government schemes increases adoption of modern techniques.
- 3) Availability of resources like irrigation and credit improves production.
- 4) Small farmers face challenges due to limited access to finance.

## 8. Limitations

- Small sample size
- Limited geographical area
- Responses may be biased

## 9. Suggestions

- 1) Government should improve awareness programs.
- 2) Provide easy access to credit facilities.
- 3) Encourage use of modern farming techniques.
- 4) Improve irrigation and infrastructure facilities.

## 10. Conclusion

The study concludes that landholding size, awareness, and resource availability significantly influence agricultural income. Improving these factors can help enhance the economic condition of small-scale farmers.

## References

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