

## Occupational Preference of Agriculturally Trained Youths

Gasson (1968) has stated that farmers' son tend to regard education as an alternative and not as an aid to better farming. A study was conducted with 135 agricultural graduates studying in final year B.Sc. (Ag.) with an objective to assess their occupational preference. Their preference was assessed through a structured closed type questionnaire. The study revealed the following.

Only 2.2 per cent of the students have expressed their willingness to go back to farming. Of the balance, 53.78 per cent have revealed their willingness to join research section and 46.02 per cent expressed for extension section (Table 1).

Table 1. The occupational preference of final year B. Sc. (Ag) students

Occupational preference	No. (n=135)
Going back to farm	3
To work in research section	71
To work in extension	61

So, non-availability of own lands acts as the most important factor which explains why agricultural graduates do not go back to work on land (Table 2). The financial support needed to family in respect of major financial obligation was second most important factor responsible for them not working on land. It may be concluded that the students who are joining in agriculture were primarily motivated by the consideration of entering the service as most of them do not possess land or sufficient lands to return back to work.

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### REFERENCE

GASSON, RUTH 1968. Occupations chosen by the sons of farmers. *J. Ag. Eco.* 19 (3)

Table 2. Reasons stated for not going back to farm

Reasons	No.	Per cent
Excess number of members work on family holding	15	11.46
Desire of elders in the family of the respondents to be in service	6	4.65
Problems of joint family	2	1.27
Financial support needed to family	24	18.36
Opportunity to educate while in service	22	16.84
Prestige in service	4	3.13
Ease, comfort, glamour of city life	2	1.27
Higher standard of living in service	2	1.27
No owned lands available for family	55	41.75