

**The Perceived Preferences and Priority Pattern of Farm
Graduates towards Higher Agricultural Education
Vis-À-Vis Employment**

S.K. Mehta, A.K. Godara, D.K. Shivrain and Nasib Singh

Department of Extension Education, College of Agriculture, CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar 125 004, Haryana, India

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ABSTRACT The study was conducted on the final year students of College of Agriculture, CCS HAU, Hisar to ascertain their preference pattern for specialization in higher agricultural education and their priority pattern for employment. There were 86 students in all, of which 44 students were from 4-year programme and 42 students were from 5-year programme. The study revealed that the 4-year Agriculture stream graduates ranked *Agronomy* at the top followed by *Horticulture*, *Entomology*, *Plant Breeding* and *Extension Education* at 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th, respectively. *Nematology* was the least preferred subject and *Agricultural Meteorology* was the least but one. The 6 year Agriculture programme graduates ranked *Agronomy* again at the top followed by *Plant Breeding*, *Entomology*, *Extension Education* and *Horticulture*. The first five subjects preferred for higher agricultural education are identical with minor differences in ranking, maintaining *Agronomy* at the top. Regarding job areas, *Civil/Administrative jobs* remained the first choice of 4-year programme final year students of college of Agriculture followed by *Educational and Research Institutional jobs*, *State Govt. Jobs*, *Agro based public sector*, *Agro-based private sector* and *Self employment*, while, *General jobs* and *Farming* were the least preferred job areas. The same priority pattern was observed among 6-year programme students except that they preferred *State govt. jobs* over *Educational and Research Institutional jobs*.