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**Original article:**

**Is farming a occupational hazard for severe male factor infertility?**

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**Abstract**

**Objective** – To study the incidence of male factor infertility and type of semen abnormality in the farmer couple attending our infertility outpatient clinic.

**Method**- Database of 3100 patients with male factor infertility were retrospectively reviewed. Patients were divided in two groups for analysis: group 1 – farmer , group 2 – non farmer. Records of semen analysis and serum FSH (Follicle stimulating hormone) were analyzed for two groups. Appropriatestatically test was done to study the difference in two groups.

**Results** –Out of 3100 patients, there were 18.6% patients in farmer group 1 and -81.4%in group 2. Prevalence of semen abnormality was 33.3% of total semen abnormality which showed farmer are having higher prevalence of semen abnormality (p<0.005). Age of males presenting to infertility clinic is significantly less in farmers (p<0.005). Farmers are having higher prevalence of severe semen abnormality and also higher prevalence of non-obstructiveazoospermia.

**Conclusion**- Farmers are increased risk of severe male factor infertility. This is likely attributed to pesticides exposure.

**Keywords**: farmers, pesticides, semen abnormality, FSH