

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS: PREVALANCE OF DERMATITIS

4.1 Prevalence of Dermatitis

Since the four villages are located next to each other and they are using the same water sources for both farming and domestic usage, therefore the whole population of the four villages will be taken as a single population (N=2081) in our analysis. The prevalence is calculated as a percentage ([affected population/total population] x 100). The prevalence of dermatitis according to occupation is shown in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1. The Prevalence of Dermatitis according to Occupation

Occupation	Affected with Dermatitis		Total	Prevalence (%)
	No	Yes		
Below 6 years old (not in school)	319	-	319	-
Student	761	2	763	0.3
Farmer (paddy field)	187	172	359	47.9
Businessman	47	-	47	-
Government sectors	40	-	40	-
Teacher	29	-	29	-
Private sectors/ factory workers	46	-	46	-
Labourer	47	-	47	-
Jobless/Not Working	115	-	115	-
Housewife	227	1	228	0.4
Retired	36	1	37	2.7
Others	50	-	50	-
Total	1904	176	2080*	8.5

*The total 2080 and not 2081 due to a missing data for occupation.

Pearson Chi-Square test of association (see Section 2.4 and 2.5) was used to determine whether there is any association between the populations affected with dermatitis and the type of occupation. It was found that there is a significant association between the prevalence of dermatitis and the type of occupation ($\chi^2 = 872.599$, $df = 12$, $p < 0.000$). Table 4.2 shows the relationship between the types of occupation, dermatitis and paddy planting seasons (Questionnaire no 16. in Appendix A). The result shows that 96.6 per cent of the affected cases are related to the planting season.

Table 4.2. The Affected Population According to Occupation and the Relationship with the Paddy Planting Season.

Affected with Dermatitis	Related to Paddy planting Seasons	
	Yes	No
Paddy Field Farmers	168	4
Students	2	-
Housewife	-	1
Retired	-	1
Total	170	6

Tables 4.1 and 4.2 show that paddy field farmers are the main people affected by dermatitis (97.7 per cent). Since 170 out of 176 infected cases are paddy field related hence further analysis of the factors associated with dermatitis will be based on the paddy field farmers only (Chapter 5). The other four cases who are two students, one retired man and one housewife will be left out of the study. The housewife and the retired man (both from the same family) were diagnosed as having Leprosy (kusta). The two students who have dermatitis were infected because they were playing in paddy field, but since they are not paddy field farmers they will be excluded from the analysis in Chapter 5.