



Extent of Participation of Farm Women in Selected Activities Of Dairy Occupation

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ABSTRACT

The present study entitled with "To know the extent of participation of farm women in selected activities of dairy occupation" was conducted in Ashti taluka of Beed district was selected purposively as significant part of farm women were involve in dairy enterprises. This study clearly shows that majority of farm women participated in feeding milch animals as it is day old practice for women. Management practices of milch animals such as watering animals at proper time, preparing cow dung cake, grooming and brooming animals and cleaning byre were largely performed by the farm women. Nearly two third (63.69 per cent) farm women had medium participation in dairy occupation. This indicates that in general farm women had medium to high level of participation in dairy occupation.

Keywords: FAO, WCARRD, Dairy Occupation

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INTRODUCTION

Dairy occupation is well knit to agricultural system and has become an integral part of rural economy. It has emerged as a potential source of gainful employment for the rural poor. Women are playing a pivotal role both in agriculture and dairying. The world conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) sponsored by FAO arrived at a conclusion that women should actively participate and contribute equally with men in social, economic and political process of rural development. The contribution of women in agriculture is roughly estimated to be about 50-60 per cent. In many places, the entire livestock management is looked after by women. They help in farm operations, take their animals on distant lands for grazing, look after the sale of milk, if necessary by taking it to the market and in addition, perform the functions related to house management [1-4]. The knowledge and skill of farm women in dairy occupation and their participation in decision making certainly affects their efficiency in work and in the development of dairy enterprise. It was therefore, felt necessary to determine the extent of participation of farm women in the management of livestock and dairy occupation.

- To know the extent of participation of farm women in selected activities of dairy occupation
- Relationship between socio-economic characteristics of farm women with extent of participation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was conducted in Beed district. Ashti taluka from Beed district was selected purposively as significant part of farm women were involve in dairy enterprises. Ten villages from Ashti taluka were selected by lottery method. Twelve respondents from each village were selected, while selecting the respondents following criteria was followed, 1) Respondents should be female. 2) She should be performing significant role in dairy occupation. The information was collected through personal interview so as to get the required data. Ex-post facto research design was used for the present study.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Extent of participation of farm women in selected activities of dairy occupation

Sr. No.	Particulars of participation	Regularly		Oftenly		Sometimes		Occasionally		Never	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
A	Selection of milch animals										
1	Type of milch animal	5	4.16	8	6.66	40	33.33	54	45.00	13	10.85
2	Selection of breed	3	2.50	4	3.33	35	29.16	20	16.66	58	48.35
B	Taking loan										
1	Purchase of animals	3	2.50	2	5.83	25	20.83	30	25.00	55	45.84
2	Purchase of fodder	20	16.66	22	18.33	32	26.66	35	29.16	11	9.19
3	Construction of byre	30	25.00	25	20.83	28	23.33	20	16.66	17	14.18
C	Purchase and sale of animal										
1	Purchase of improved breed	4	3.33	15	12.50	30	25.00	28	23.33	43	35.83
2	Culling of uneconomic animals	20	16.66	24	20.00	32	26.68	24	20.00	20	16.66
D	Feeding										
1	Bringing fodder	40	33.33	32	26.67	38	31.67	8	6.66	2	1.67
2	Cutting fodder	55	45.84	12	10.00	25	20.83	12	10.00	16	13.33
3	Grazing animals	54	45.00	16	13.33	21	17.50	17	14.17	12	10.00
4	Feeding	66	55.00	12	10.00	24	20.00	9	7.50	9	7.50
5	Preparing feed mixture	69	57.50	12	10.00	21	17.50	9	7.50	9	7.50
6	Purchase of feed	43	37.50	8	6.66	24	20.00	16	13.33	29	24.66
7	Feeding animal according to their status	73	60.85	14	11.66	22	18.33	9	7.50	2	1.66
E	Methods of breeding										
1	Natural service	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	3.33	8	6.67	108	90.00
2	Artificial insemination	0	0.00	0	0.00	13	10.83	24	20.00	83	69.17
F	Care at the time of calving										
1	Giving warm water bath after calving	7	5.84	9	7.50	40	33.33	55	45.83	9	7.50
2	Feeding cooked grains	19	15.84	8	6.66	38	31.66	50	41.66	5	3.33
3	Giving warm water to drink	14	11.66	8	6.66	35	29.16	50	41.66	13	10.86
G	Care of new born calf										
1	Cleaning the calf, tripping hoops and cutting naval cord	15	12.50	9	7.50	40	33.33	50	41.66	6	5.00
2	Feeding colostrum	8	6.66	11	9.16	42	35.00	53	44.16	6	5.00
H	Adopting veterinary aids										
1	Vaccinating	0	0.00	8	6.66	22	18.33	43	33.83	47	39.16
2	Treatment from doctor	4	3.33	6	5.00	24	20.00	45	37.50	41	34.16
3	Providing home used medicine	16	13.33	9	7.50	26	21.66	58	48.33	11	9.16
4	Controlling parasites on animal	6	5.00	12	10.00	25	20.83	48	40.00	29	24.16
I	Care and management										
1	Watering at proper time	71	59.16	22	18.33	19	15.83	5	4.16	3	2.50
2	Grooming and brooming	65	54.16	23	19.16	28	23.33	2	1.66	2	1.66

3	Allowing animals to move in open air	68	56.66	24	20.00	19	15.83	6	5.00	3	2.50
4	Cleaning byre	78	65.00	19	15.83	15	12.50	5	4.16	3	2.50
5	Preparing cow dung cake	82	68.33	16	13.33	13	10.83	4	3.33	5	4.16
6	Preparing gobar gas mixture	9	7.50	4	3.33	3	2.50	5	4.16	99	82.50
7	Preparing compost	19	15.83	17	14.16	51	42.50	23	19.16	10	8.33
J	Utilization of milk										
1	Household sale of milk	42	35.00	32	26.66	25	20.83	18	15.00	3	2.50
2	Daily sale of milk	25	20.83	18	15.00	30	25.00	12	10.00	36	29.16
3	Sale of milk through co-operative dairy society	48	40.00	11	9.16	26	21.66	23	19.16	12	10.00
K	Preparation of milk product										
1	Curd	69	57.50	22	18.33	12	10.00	10	8.33	7	5.83
2	Butter milk	64	53.33	19	15.83	25	20.83	8	6.66	4	3.33
3	Ghee	62	51.66	26	21.66	24	20.00	6	5.00	2	1.66
4	Khoa	30	25.00	28	23.33	35	20.83	23	19.16	4	3.33

The data from table 1 revealed that near about 48.35 per cent never participated in selection of breed, 45 per cent farm women participated in selection of animal occasionally. The data further indicated that near about half of the farm women (48.35 per cent) did not participated in taking loan for purchase of fodder. In construction of byre considerable proportion, 25.00 per cent farm women participate in taking loan for construction of byre while most of the farm women did not participate in purchase of animal. In purchase and sale of animal 35.83 per cent farm women did not participated. So there was negligible participation of farm women in sale and purchase of animals. The data regarding participation of farm women in feeding of milch animals indicate that majority of farm women regularly participated in feeding animals according to their physiological status (60.85 per cent), preparation of feed mixture (57.50 per cent), cutting fodder (45.84 per cent), grazing animals (45.00 per cent), purchase of feed (37.50 per cent) and bringing fodder (33.33 per cent). This clearly shows that majority of farm women participated in feeding milch animals as it is day old practice for women. The information in respect of participation of farm women in breeding of milch animals that the farm women 90.00 per cent did not participate while giving natural service. Majority (69.17 per cent) of them did not participate in the operation of artificial insemination. It is observed that about adopting veterinary aids giving treatment to animals that is vaccination 36.16 per cent and treatment through veterinary doctors 37.50 per cent of them participated occasionally.

It was further noticed that majority of farm women regularly participated in performing the management practices of milch animals such as watering animals at proper time (59.16 per cent), preparing cow dung cake (68.33 per cent), grooming and brooming animals (54.16 per cent) and cleaning byre (65.00 per cent). Most of the farm women (82.50 per cent) did not participate in preparing gobar gas mixture. However, a slightly large (42.50 per cent) proportion of farm women sometimes participate in preparation of compost. This clearly indicates that management practices of milch animals were largely performed by the farm women. Nearly 40.00 per cent of farm women sold their milk through service co-operatives and 35.00 per cent farm women involved in household sale of milk. The data further revealed that a majority of farm women regularly prepared milk products viz., curd (57.50 per cent), butter milk (53.33 per cent), ghee (51.66 per cent) and khoa (25.00 per cent).

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their participation in dairy occupation

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Per cent
1	Low	21	17.33
2	Medium	76	63.69
3	High	23	18.98
	Total	120	100.00

The data from table 2 indicate that nearly two third (63.69 per cent) farm women had medium participation in dairy occupation while 18.98 per cent had high level of participation and 17.33 per cent

had low level of participation. This indicates that in general farm women had medium to high level of participation in dairy occupation.

Table 3: Relationship between socio-economic characteristics of farm women with extent of participation

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Coefficient of correlation
1	Age	-0.822**
2	Education	0.755**
3	Land holding	0.329**
4	Family size	-0.078**
5	Social participation	0.222**
6	Experience	0.275**
7	Source of information	0.671**
8	Herd size	0.275**

** significant at 0.01 level of significance

From table 3, it is revealed that out of eight independent variables, age and size of family were significant but having negative relationship with participation while, education, land holding, experience, sources of information and herd size had positive and significant relationship with participation of farm women in dairy occupation.

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