A study on level of knowledge of women regarding animal husbandry enterprise in durg district of Chhattisgarh

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Abstract: *This study explores the scientific orientation and knowledge of women regarding animal husbandry enterprise in durg district of Chhattisgarh. The rural women play a significant role in agriculture and other agro based activities. The daily work schedule of rural women is very demanding and arduous. It is very estimated that during peak period women work for 8-9 hours in agriculture and 4 hours in household activities (Bhople and Pathai, 1998). The study was conducted in Durg district of Chhattisghar. The area of study was selected purposively. Data were collected from 120 rural women using structured interview schedule. Majority of the respondents (69.17%) had medium level of scientific orientation. The majority of the respondents (64.17%) had nil cosmopoliteness and (60.00%) of the respondents had medium level of overall knowledge regarding animal husbandry practices.*

Key Words: *animal husbandry, rural women, cosmopoliteness, milch animals.*

1. INTRODUCTION:

The rural women play a significant role in agriculture and other agro based activities. The daily work schedule of rural women is very demanding and arduous. It is very estimated that during peak period women work for 8-9 hours in agriculture and 4 hours in household activities (Bhople and Pathai, 1998). There are certain agricultural operations in which female agricultural workers are considered better than male workers. Dairy, being an occupation, women from these families are also partners in animal husbandry activities management as managers, decision makers and skilled workers. Livestock also provides gainful employment all around the year to over 96 M people. It is generally considered that the environmental impacts of livestock production in India have more positive implication than negative once as the production system is still largely predominated by rural based crop livestock integrated smallholder mixed farming system (Chacko et al., 2006). Manure from dairy animals provides a good source of organic material for improving soil fertility and crop yield. One third of the cattle dung in India is used as fuel in rural areas. The gas from the dung can be used as fuel and the slurry as manure to enrich the soil (Patel, 1993).

The participation of tribal women in decision making was per cent in the areas of care of new born calf and colostrum feeding. In the areas of treatment and care of sick animals, management and marketing activities were decided jointly by the tribal women and spouses. Majority of the respondents were unable to take decision in feeding of balanced ration, concentrates, mineral mixture, green fodder, artificial insemination/natural service, pregnancy diagnosis, deforming, vaccination, disinfection of shed, timing of milking and taking of loans which indicates low level of awareness and knowledge regarding improved feeding, breeding and health care, management and marketing activities of livestock. A positive and significant relationship was observed with respect to age, occupation, herd size and information source utilization of the respondents and decision making pattern (Suman et al., 2012).

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

A study on the scientific orientation and knowledge of women regarding animal husbandry enterprise in durg district of Chhattisgarh. Covering two purposively selected blocks (Durg and Dhamdha), eight purposively selected villages *viz.*Anjora, Anda, Chandkhuri, Nagpura, Borsi, dhaba, funda and hardi. and 120 respondents selected randomly. The data were collected by personal interview method. The collected data were, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted with the help of appropriate statistical tools. The independent and dependent variables were measured by using suitable scales and procedures adopted by various researchers.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Table 1. Distribution of scientific orientation of respondents.

(n=120)

Level of scientific orientation	Frequency	Percentage
• Low (up to 15 score)	23	19.17

• Medium (16 to 30 score)	83	69.17
• High (above 30 score)	14	11.66

Table 1. from the table, it is clear that the majority of the respondents (69.17%) had medium level of Scientific–orientation, followed by 19.17 per cent of the respondents who had low level of scientific–orientation, while, 11.66 per cent of respondents had high level of scientific-orientation. It can be concluded that majority of the respondents came under the medium level of scientific–orientation category. **Bellukar et al., (2003), Rathod et al., (2011)** also observed similar findings in their study.

Table 2. Distribution of cosmopoliteness of respondents.

(n=120)

Level of Cosmopolitness	Frequency	Percentage
• Nil (Never)	77	64.17
• Low (Rarely : 3-4 times in a year)	25	20.83
• Medium (Sometimes : 3-4 times in a month)	15	12.50
• High (Always : 3-4 times in a week)	03	02.50

Table 2. from the table, it is clear that the maximum number of the respondents (64.17%) had nil cosmopoliteness, whereas, 20.83 per cent respondents reported low (3-4 time in a year) cosmopoliteness. About 12.50 per cent of the rural women reported medium (3-4 time in a month) cosmopoliteness and 02.50 per cent of the respondents belonged to high (3-4 time in a week) cosmopoliteness. This indicates that majority of the respondents belonged to very less category of cosmopoliteness. **Kanan et al.,(2004)** also observed similar findings in their study.

Table 3. Distribution of respondents according to their level of knowledge about selected animal husbandry practices

(n=120)

Practices	Level of knowledge		
	Nil f/(%)	Partial f/(%)	full f/(%)
Knowledge about AI	**58 (48.33)**	**62 (51.67)**	**00 (00.00)**
Knowledge about animal breed	**84 (70.00)**	**36 (30.00)**	**00 (00.00)**
Knowledge about nutrient of animal	**42 (35.00)**	**73 (60.83)**	**05 (04.17)**
Knowledge about how much nutrient to be given to pregnant and milch animals.	**01 (00.83)**	**118 (98.34)**	**01 (00.83)**
Knowledge about how much nutrient to be given to new born calf	**00 (00.00)**	**115 (95.84)**	**05 (04.16)**
Knowledge about suitable management for animal	**10 (08.33)**	**105 (87.50)**	**05 (04.17)**
Knowledge about animal diseases	**68 (56.67)**	**52 (43.33)**	**00 (00.00)**
Knowledge about different medicines for animal's treatment	**115 (95.83)**	**05 (04.17)**	**00 (00.00)**
Knowledge about animal vaccines	**120 (100)**	**00 (00.00)**	**00 (00.00)**
Knowledge about insurance related to animal.	**120 (100)**	**00 (00.00)**	**00 (00.00)**

Table 3. from the table, it is clear that most of the respondents (51.67%) had partial level of knowledge about artificial insemination, followed by 48.33 per cent respondents were having no any knowledge about artificial insemination, whereas, none of the respondents belonged to category of full knowledge about artificial insemination.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (70.00%) had no any knowledge about animal breed, followed by 30.00 per cent respondents were having partial knowledge about animal breed, whereas, none of the respondents belonged to category of full knowledge about animal breed.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (60.83%) had partial level of knowledge about nutrition of animal, followed by 35.00 per cent respondents were having no any knowledge about nutrition of animal, whereas only 04.17 per cent respondents belonged to category of full knowledge about nutrition of animal.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (98.34%) had partial level of knowledge about nutrition to be given to pregnant and milch animals, followed by 00.83 per cent respondents were having full and nill knowledge about nutrition to be given to pregnant and milch animals, whereas, none of the respondents belonged to category who have no knowledge about nutrition to be given to pregnant and milch animals.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (95.84%) had partial level of knowledge about nutrient to be given to new born calf, followed by 04.16 per cent respondents were having full knowledge about nutrient to be given to new born calf, whereas, none of the respondents belonged to category of no knowledge about nutrient to be given to new born calf.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (87.50%) had partial level of knowledge about suitable management for animal, followed by 08.33 per cent respondents were having nil knowledge about suitable management for animal, whereas, 4.17 per cent respondents belonged to category of full knowledge about balance nutrient of animal.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (56.67%) had no any knowledge about animal diseases, followed by 43.33per cent respondents were having partial knowledge about animal diseases, whereas, none of the respondents belonged to category of full knowledge about animal diseases.

It was observed that majority of the respondents (95.83%) had no any knowledge about different medicines for animal treatment, followed by 4.17 per cent respondents were having partial knowledge about different medicines for animal treatment, whereas, none of the respondents belonged to category of full knowledge about different medicines for animal treatment. Also it was observed that cent per cent respondents (100%) had no any knowledge about animal vaccines.

It was observed that cent per cent respondents (100%) had no any knowledge about insurance related to animal followed by none of the respondents belonged to partial and full knowledge about insurance related to animal.

Table 4. Distribution of respondents according to their overall level of knowledge regarding animal husbandry practices.

(n=120)

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
Low (Up to 33.33%)	23	19.16
Medium (33.34 to 66.66%)	72	60.00
High (above 66.66%)	25	20.84

Table 4. from the table, it is clear that majority (60.00%) of them had medium level of knowledge regarding animal husbandry practices, whereas, 20.84 and 19.11per cent of the respondents were having high and low level of knowledge. **George et al., (2000) Raval et al., 2011.** also noted almost similar findings.

4. CONCLUSIONS:

It is concluded from the present study Socio- economic background of respondent that Majority of the respondents (70.33%) belonged other backward castes who were engaged in animal husbandry practices, and (61.20%) belonged to middle age group (31 to 45 years) and maximum of them were illiterate having medium level of knowledge in animal husbandry. Majority of the respondents (69.17%) had medium level of scientific orientation. The majority of the respondents (64.17%) had nil cosmopoliteness and (60.00%) of the respondents had medium level of overall knowledge regarding animal husbandry practices.

5. SUGGESTIONS:

Rural women should be encouraged regarding clean milk production and preparation of value added products so that productivity of milk and their income can be enhanced. Thus it can be said optly that women should be made more aware about the animal husbandry practices so as to increase their participation in decision making process.

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