

## ATTITUDE OF FEMALE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS TOWARDS THE EMPLOYMENT

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### ABSTRACT

Random samples of one hundred and two female agricultural labourers from seven identified farms of Marathwada Agriculture University of Maharashtra were selected. All the female respondents were forced to take up employment as agricultural labourer for supplementing their family income. All of them were found to have spent most of their time on farm work and household task.

**Key words :** Female agricultural labourers, Employment attitude.

Agriculture in India is becoming increasingly a female activity. One third of agriculture labourer's force and nearly half of self employed farmers are women. Total female work forced in rural areas 89.50 per cent are employed in agriculture. (Sundaram, 2001). Generally women take up employment for various causes like economic need, unemployment of their husband, for avoid social isolation, desire for independence, avoiding loneliness and boredom, building up career and desire to use special abilities. Besides them now a days due to marital disruption and for having social identity many women are also seen in employment field (Ramanamma and Usha 1978) whatever the reason consequently women has to shoulder dual responsibilities as a mother in home and as a worker in field. Attitude of female agricultural labourers towards the employment was studied to understand their condition.

### METHODOLOGY

Random samples of one hundred and two female agricultural labourers from seven identified farms of Marathwada Agricultural University of Maharashtra State were selected. Out of the hundred and two female agricultural labourers fifty of them were in the age group of 30-35 yrs included in group 1 while the rest of the fifty two of them in the age group between 35 and 40 years were included in group 2. All the sample female

agricultural labourers were personally interviewed based on structural open ended interview schedules to elicit the information, pertaining to the study. The collected data were pooled, tabulated and analyzed by using 't' test.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Employment and other details of the female agricultural labourers are shown in Table 1. About the type of employment, a large majority of sample respondents of both the groups (100% and 93%, respectively) were found to have been working as agricultural labourers on farms on daily wage basis, while only 7 per cent of group 2 of the respondents were working in the same field on permanent basis. The activities done by all these women on the agricultural farms were weeding, harvesting, plucking cotton, watering the fields, supervision on farms and cleaning of grains. Regarding to earnings, all of group 1 and 92 per cent group of 2 female agricultural labourers monthly earnings were around Rs. 12000 if they work for whole month, where as the rest of them had their monthly earnings of above Rs. 4000.

About the mode of conveyance for plying to work majority of the female agricultural labourers (61% and 84%, respectively) from both the groups mostly used to come to working place by walking along with their coworkers sometimes 16% and 23%, respectively women used to come to the working place with their husbands or elder children on bicycle. A small percentage of group 2 female agricultural labourers used to come to working