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Gender perspectives in livestock development activities

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ABSTRACT

Present investigation was carried out in Yavatmal district of Central Vidarbha Zone of Maharashtra State to study the gender perspective in livestock activities. The data were collected from Yavatmal, Ner, Kalamb and Babhulgaon blocks of Yavatmal District. From these selected blocks 300 respondents (150 male and 150 female) were selected randomly for the study. The data were analyzed by using frequency and percentages and correlation. Independent participation of rural women was found to be negligible, whereas independent participation of rural men was noticed in procuring fodder, procuring and repayment of credit / loan, growing fodder and engagement of labour. Joint participation of rural women with female was also observed in excreta management - fresh, processed, processing of produce, retention of produce for household, consumption, care of livestock / poultry shed management and care of sick animals, whereas joint participation of rural men with female was noticed in excreta management – fresh, processed, processing of produce, retention of produce for household consumption. A huge majority of rural women were jointly participating with male in the areas of care of livestock / poultry / cattle, poultry shed management, care of sick animal, processing of produce and retention of produce for household consumption. Joint participation of rural men with male was recorded in breeding of animal, grazing of animal and marketing of produce. As regards responsibility of livestock management activities, rural women had complete responsibility in fresh and processed excreta management, retention of produce for house hold consumption and processing of produce, where as rural men were completely responsible for procuring and repaying of credit / loan, procuring fodder, marketing of produce and management of cash earned from sale of produce and fodder storage. It was further noticed that rural women were partially responsible for care of livestock / poultry, cattle / poultry shed management and care of sick animal and fodder storage, while rural men were partially responsible for fresh and processed excreta management, retention of produce for house hold consumption and processing of produce and grazing of animal. Occupation, education and socio-economic status of male were found to be positively and significantly related with participation, responsibility, access and control over livestock development activities. Socio-economic status of female was found to be positively and significantly related with female's responsibility and control over livestock development activities.