



Research Article

Training needs in sheep husbandry of farm women in Barmer district

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SUMMARY : Women participate in every area of sheep husbandry. More specifically, their participation was high in areas like management of sheep, cleaning and management of sheep, health care, preparation of feeds and feeding and low in areas like construction of sheep yard, breeding and purchasing and procurement of feeds. The study showed that the women need more training in selection of sheep, management of sheep, health care, and cleaning and management of sheep. They preferred training of 2-3 days duration in their home village during the period January to April. Lack of time, inadequate compensation, venue and lack of awareness about training programmes were some of the constraints they faced in attending training courses. Therefore, training programmes may be arranged and conducted based on the needs of the women to enhance their knowledge and confidence in sheep rearing.

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Key Words :

Training needs, Sheep husbandry, Farm women

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Women are playing an important and crucial role in the conservation of basic life support system such as land, water, flora and fauna since the time immemorial. Livestock plays a vital role in the socio-economic and cultural life of the people in Thar desert of Rajasthan the women are actively engaged in every work of livestock rearing. Women participation in livestock rearing is a long standing tradition in Barmer where domestic animals are reared in backyard system. Amongst the livestock, sheep are reared in every household and is an integral part of family farming system. The sheep population is which is highest amongst livestock. Although the women carry out much of the works, development, extension and training programme and are not generally designed for greater involvement of women and extending benefit to them (Laxmi *et al.*, 1999). Therefore, the present study was undertaken with the following objectives:

- To find out the extent of participation of women in sheep husbandry,
- To visualize appropriate training needs of women in sheep farming,

- To determine their preferences regarding time, venue and duration of training
- To find out the constraints faced by the women in attending training programme.

A training need may be described as an actual condition different from a desired condition in the human, or “people”, aspect of organization performance or, more specifically when a change present humn knowledge, skill and attitude can bring about desired performance. Mishra (1990) has defined it schematically in mathematical equation as under:

$$\text{Training needs} = \text{Job requirement} - \text{Present performance} + \text{Development needs}$$

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Barmer Tehsil of Barmer district (Rajasthan). Total samples of 100 women were selected from ten villages namely, Ati, Balera, Bola, Jasai, Daruda, Derasar, Mahabar, Barmer Agor and Para. A structured interview schedule containing total 9 activities in sheep husbandry and 7 major training need areas was used to gather information from respondents

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