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Research Article

Training needs of rural women regarding animal husbandry

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Article Chronicle:

Received: 23.11.2011; Revised: 18.12.2011; Accepted: 29.12.2011 **SUMMARY:** The present study was conducted in Anand and Borsad Talukas of Anand District. Total 100 rural women having minimum 5 years of experience in dairy farming were selected from 10 villages. The data were collected by personal interview method. Findings of the studyrevealed that majority of the dairy farm women have expressed their maximum training need regarding individual housing, replacement of stock at home, pregnancy diagnosis, reproductive efficiency of dairy animals, precaution against parasitic diseases, selection of varieties of fodder crops, selection of fodder crops, time and frequency of feeding, homemade livestock feed and feeding schedule of dry animals.

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Key Words:

Training needs, Rural women, Animal husbandry

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

India occupies the foremost position in the world in respect of livestock contributing nearly about one fourth of world's total bovine population. India maintained its position as largest producers of milk, with achievement of around 104 million tons during 2007-08 and its contribution to the GDP has 4.36 per cent share in 2007-08 (Anonymous 2008).

The recent advances in dairy technology have demonstrated that adoption of improved dairy farming practices has great potential for increasing the quality of milk production. It is considered as one of the important factors in economy of Gujarat state. The dairy farm women can increase production of milk by adopting improved dairy farming practices and it is not feasible unless rural women are trained in scientific dairy farming. For making training more effective, it should be based on the felt needs of trainees. The training without need based, may have a little impact on bringing desirable change in the clientele system. So, present study was planned to identify the training needs of rural women regarding animal husbandry.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The present investigation was carried out in Anand and Borsad Taluka of Gujarat. Ten milk producing villages were randomly selected from these Talukas. For this study, total 100 dairy farm women who had minimum 5 years of experience in dairy farming were selected randomly from those 10 villages *i.e.* ten dairy farm women from each village.

The training needs of the dairy farm women were availed on a three-point continuum ranging from Most needed' 'Needed' and 'Not needed'. The three categories were assigned with 3 score, 2 score and 1 score, respectively. The training needs were worked out for each of the major areas considering the total score for training need acquired by the respondents. On the basis of the mean score, the ranks to the major areas of training needs were assigned. The data were collected with the help of well-structured, pre-tested, Gujarati version interview schedule through personal contact and data were compiled, tabulated and analyzed to get proper answers for objectives of the study. The statistical tools used were percentages and mean score.

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