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RESEARCH PAPER

Time use participation (Pre-harvesting activities) of farm women in Himalayan region North India

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Abstract: The present study was undertaken at Kunzer village located in the district Baramulla of Kashmir valley. A Total of 100 respondents (Farmwomen) actively involved in paddy cultivation were selected to study their involvement and time use pattern in various pre-harvesting activities. The study showed that majority (55%) of the respondents belonged to age group of 25-45 years and could not read and write. Most of them (46%) were living in joint family system, with 46% having 5-10 kanal of paddy land and most of them (36%) having 6-9 members in their family. Pre-harvesting activities include (Cleaning boundaries, collecting stubbles, nursey preparation, seed cleaning seed treatment, sowing, pulling out seedlings, transplanting and weeding). Seed cleaning was done by 61% of respondents for more than 4 hrs during shift one, seed treatment activity was performed by 52% of respondents for more than 4 hrs in shift one and by 52% respondents for less than 2 hrs in shift three. Sowing was done by 46% of the respondents during shift two for about less than 2 hrs with pulling out seedling activity was performed by 76% of the respondents for more than 4 hrs in shift one. Majority of the farmwomen (68%) work for more than 4 hours in shift one for transplanting of the seedlings, while 53% of respondents perform weeding activity for more than 4 hours a day during the shift one. Overall, farmwomen spent 6 hours a day in pre-harvesting activities during farming season, working for more than 4 hours during a shift.

Key Words: Rural, Farmwomen, Farm activities, Sowing, Weeding, Time use

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