

# Imparting training to rural women of fertilizer bags products

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■ **ABSTRACT :** Fertilizer bags are package material used for carrying the fertilizer from the manufacturing point to place of use *i.e.* factory to field. These bags are not recollected and reused for that vary purpose or otherwise. The present study was conducted to investigate to impart technical knowhow of making diversified products of fertilizer bag material. 10 women respondents of Harita village were selected due to easy approachability. The knowledge related to reuse of fertilizer bags, sizes and method of making utility articles, for making of diversified products was imparted to these women by organizing a training of ten days. Use of fertilizer bag material for making shopping bag, wall pocket, foot mat, mobile phone cover, hand fan were taught to the trainees. Each trainee stitched one article using fertilizer bag for making shopping bag, wall pocket, stool mat, mobile phone cover and hand fan. So there was an immense impact of the trainings on the trainees.

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Fertilizer bags are not recollected and reused for that vary purpose or otherwise. Moreover, these are not biodegradable also. Diversification means original form or the traditional use of material is modified and changed by incorporating variety of characters and components for increasing its utility. Sometimes the women try to utilize empty fertilizer bags in other forms. They cut-open the bag to make it just a rectangular piece and then join such pieces to make coverlets for animals, or a big floor covering for sitting purposes at occasions of gathering in family. Punia (2004) studied the value addition of village *Durrie* and found a scope for change in its quality, innovative use, surface embellishment

technique, designs and colour combinations. The possibility of making changes in existing village *Durries* in the research work was arrived at in terms of design development, quality improvement, in application of surface embellishment techniques and use of *Durrie* material for other purposes on the basis of the consumer preferences and skill of rural weavers. The developed products were preferred and appreciated both by the experts and the consumers.

The rural women will also be able to utilize their free time and enjoy the preparation of diversified products as leisure time activity to express their potentiality for their personal use. The rural women belonging to the

families having no land holding can utilize their seasonal slack period by making fertilizer bags a fancy and competitive commodity in the local market. Therefore, there seems to be a lot of scope for further improvement in technical aspects to make these fertilizer bags marketable by diversifying from traditionally used method of utilization through innovative products.

Keeping in view the importance of self employment for women the present study was conducted to impart training to rural women on fertilizer products and study their knowledge gain.

### ■ RESEARCH METHODS

The present study was conducted in Hisar city of Haryana state. Villages of Hisar district *i.e.* Harita are selected. To impart technical know how of making diversified products of fertilizer bag material 10 women respondents of Harita village were selected due to easy approachability. The knowledge related to reuse of fertilizer bags, sizes and method of making utility articles, for making of diversified products was imparted to these women by organizing a training of ten days. Use of fertilizer bag material for making shopping bag, wall pocket, foot mat, mobile phone cover, hand fan were taught to the trainees. Each trainee stitched one article using fertilizer bag for making shopping bag, wall pocket, stool mat, mobile phone cover and hand fan.

### ■ RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The foremost reason found for attending training was 'to learn something new' and 'preparing of diversified articles as the best way to utilize this left over fertilizer bag material' as it ranked 1<sup>st</sup> with score 3.0 followed by 'to develop confidence in making such articles' with score 2.8 and II<sup>nd</sup> rank. The trainees also gave the reason 'enjoyments and find scope of creativity' and 'to make best use of time by making articles from the material of fertilizer bag which is available at home' with score 2.7, and 2.6 scores and III<sup>rd</sup> and IV<sup>th</sup> rank. 'To pass spare time' was ranked V<sup>th</sup> with 2.3 score. The others reasons given by trainees were 'on request of peer group' with (2.0, VI) and 'to increase income by acquiring skill' with 1.7 score and VII<sup>th</sup> rank. It can be concluded from the data that the trainees attended the training to learn something new and preparing diversified articles as the best way to utilize this left over fertilizer bag material. Gulati *et al.* (2002) conducted a study to assess the impact of clothing and textiles training to rural women. Most of the respondents had favorable attitude. The overall impact of clothing and textile training was found to be high level.

From this Table 1 it can be concluded that training has helped trainees in making these articles.

Table 2 depicted that the trainees had high opinion about the training weighted mean score because 'the training has helped trainees in making these articles' was

Table 1 : Reasons for attending training		(n=10)	
Sr. No.	Statements	W.M.S.	Rank
1.	To pass spare time.	2.3	V
2.	To learn something new.	3.0	I
3.	To make best use of time by making articles from the material of fertilizer bag which is available at home.	2.6	IV
4.	Preparing diversified articles is the best way to utilize this left over fertilizer bag material.	3.0	I
5.	To increase income by acquiring skill.	1.7	VII
6.	On request of peer group.	2.0	VI
7.	Enjoyment and find scope of creativity.	2.7	III
8.	To develop confidence in making such articles.	2.8	II

WMS = Weighted mean score

Table 2 : Opinion regarding training technique		(n=10)	
Sr. No.	Statements	W.M.S.	Rank
1.	The trainees acquired sufficient skill to use fertilizer bag for making different articles.	2.8	II
2.	The training has helped trainees in making these articles.	3.0	I
3.	Due to problem of making availability of material trainees did not want to make articles.	1.3	III
4.	This training was just wastage of time and money.	1.0	IV

WMS = Weighted mean score

ranked I<sup>st</sup> with 3.0 weighted mean score. The trainees also opined that ‘the trainees acquired sufficient skill to use fertilizer bag for making different articles’ ranked II<sup>nd</sup>, 2.8 weighted mean score. ‘Due to problem of making availability of material trainees did not want to make articles’ was ranked III<sup>rd</sup> with 1.3 weighted mean score. Very few trainees were of the opinion that ‘this training was just a wastage of time and money’ as indicated by its low score *i.e.* 1.0 and IV<sup>th</sup> rank. Dashora and Sharma (2003) reported that with the help of training agencies, women earning power can be developed. Entrepreneurship on small scale is the only solution to the problems of unemployment and proper utilization of both human and non human resources and improving the living condition of the poor people. The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Union ministry of MSME are running entrepreneurial development courses for empowering women. Many women working as skilled embroiderers are earning handsome money. Similar work related to the present investigation was also carried out by Jaiswal (2000); Kaur (2004); Punia (2004); Saini (2008); Sharma and Rawat (2006); Sharma (2007) and Sindhu and Kaur (1998).

### Conclusion :

It is concluded that attending training was ‘to learn something new’ and ‘preparing diversified articles as the best way to utilize this left over fertilizer bag material’. It can be concluded that training has helped trainees in making the diversified products of fertilizer bag material.

The trainees attended the training to make best use of time by making articles from diversified fertilizer bags.

Women can earn money by making the diversified fertilizer bags products. Also they can supplement their family income.

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