

Knowledge of farm women about recommended crop production technology

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Parbhani and Hingoli districts of Maharashtra state. Purna and Parbhani Tahasils of Parbhani district and Aundha and Basmat Tahasils of Hingoli district were selected randomly for the study. Sample of 120 respondents were selected randomly from 8 villages and information pertaining to objective was collected with the help of interview schedule. The simple percentage was worked out to describe profile of farm women. From the study it was observed that majority of respondents had medium age, educated upto Primary level, lower caste, agriculture as main occupation, small land holding, medium farm experience, medium annual income, nuclear type of family, medium level of social participation and medium level of knowledge about recommended crop production of *Kharif* jowar, pigeonpea and soybean. As regards relationship, the characteristics viz., education, occupation, land holding, farm experience, annual income, type of family, size of family and social participation established positive and significant relationship with knowledge.

KEY WORDS : Farm women, Production technology

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INTRODUCTION

It was felt necessary to determine the knowledge of farm women about recommended crop production technology with this broad objective in view the following specific objectives in focus to study the personal and socio-economic characteristic of farm women, to study the extent of knowledge of farm women about recommended crop production technology and to study the relationship of personal and socio-economic characteristics with knowledge of recommended crop production technology.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Parbhani and Hingoli districts of Maharashtra state. Eight villages were selected randomly and from each village, 15 respondents were selected for the study. Thus, total 120 respondents were selected. The statistical methods like percentage, frequency and co-efficient of correlation were employed for the analysis of data.

OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

The results are summarized below according to objectives of the study :

Personal and socio-economic characteristics of farm women:

A close perusal of the Table 1 indicates that majority of the respondents (78.33%) were from middle age group, while 17.50% and 04.17% were from young and old age groups, respectively. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier reports of Vidhate (2007).

It is depicted from Table 1 that 64.16% farm women were educated upto Primary School followed by 20% upto Secondary School. About 13.34% were illiterate and 2.60% were of higher secondary level. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier reports of Vidhate (2007).

It was noticed from Table 1 that 50% of farm women belonged to high caste category, followed by 40.83% and 9.17% lower and middle category, respectively. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier reports of Manpadlekar (2006).

A look at Table 1 indicates that most of the farm women 88.34% had agriculture as main occupation and (11.66%) had agriculture with subsidiary as their occupation. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier information of Manpadlekar (2006).

The data from Table 1 revealed that 41.66% of farm women were small land holders, while 37.50% and (16.66%) had marginal and semi medium land holdings,

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Table 1 : Profile of selected farm women

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Age			
1.	Young	21	17.50
2.	Middle	94	78.33
3.	Old	05	04.17
Education			
1.	Illiterate	16	13.34
2.	Primary School	77	64.00
3.	Secondary School	24	20.00
4.	High secondary	03	2.60
Caste			
1.	Higher	60	50.00
2.	Middle	11	9.17
3.	Lower	49	40.83
Occupation			
1.	Agriculture	106	88.34
2.	Agriculture+Subsidiary	14	11.66
Land holding			
1.	Marginal	50	37.50
2.	Small	45	41.66
3.	Semi medium	20	16.66
4.	Medium	02	1.66
5.	Large	03	2.52
Farm experience			
1.	Less	14	11.66
2.	Medium	62	71.67
3.	High	23	16.67
Annual income			
1.	Low	35	29.16
2.	Medium	62	51.66
3.	High	23	19.18
Type of family			
1.	Nuclear	106	88.33
2.	Joint	14	11.67
Size of family			
1.	Small	28	23.33
2.	Medium	68	56.66
3.	Large	24	20.01
Social participation			
1.	Low	31	25.83
2.	Medium	74	61.67
3.	High	15	12.50

respectively. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier observations of Manpadlekar (2006).

It is also depicted from Table 1 that 71.67% farm women had medium level farm experience while 16.67% and 11.66% had high and low level of farm experience respectively. The present finding is in confirmation with the earlier reports of Dalvi (2009).

The data from Table 1 revealed that majority of farm women 51.66% had medium level of annual income while 29.16% and 19.18% had low and high level of income, respectively. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier reports of Manpadlekar (2006).

It is noticed from Table 1 that majority (88.33%) of farm women had nuclear type of family followed by 11.67% had joint type of family. This finding is in confirmation with the earlier reports of Manpadlekar (2006)

It is revealed that from Table 1 that 61.67% of farm women had medium level of social participation while 25.83% and 12.50% had high and low level of social participation, respectively. This finding was in confirmation with the earlier reports made by Vidhate (2007)

Extent of knowledge of farm women:

It was observed from Table 2 that 67.50% had medium level of knowledge, while 18.33% and 14.17% had high and low level of knowledge about recommended *Kharif* jawar production.

The data observed from Table 2 indicate that 61.67% of farm women had medium level of knowledge while 22.50% and 15.83% had low and high level of knowledge about recommended tur production technology, respectively.

As Table 2 depicts that 73.34% had medium level of knowledge, 14.16% respondents had low level of knowledge and 12.50% had high level of knowledge about soybean production.

Table 2 : Extent of knowledge of crop production technology

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Kharif jawar			
1.	Low	17	14.17
2.	Medium	81	67.50
3.	High	22	18.33
Tur			
1.	Low	27	22.50
2.	Medium	74	61.67
3.	High	19	15.83
Soyban			
1.	Low	17	14.16
2.	Medium	88	73.34
3.	High	15	12.50
Average knowledge			
1.	Low	19	15.83
2.	Medium	87	72.50
3.	High	14	11.67

The overall average knowledge of farm women was that most of respondents 72.50% had medium level of knowledge while 15.83% and 11.67% had low and high level of knowledge of recommended crop production technology, respectively.

Relationship of personal and socio-economic characteristic of farm women :

It was observed from Table 3, that education, occupation, land holding, farm experience, annual income, type of family, size of family, social participation were positively and significantly related with knowleds of age

Table 3 : Relationship of personal and socio-economic characteristics of farm women

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Coefficient of correlation
1.	Age	0.002
2.	Education	0.547**
3.	Caste	-0.240*
4.	Occupation	0.317**
5.	Land holding	0.274**
6.	Farm experience	0.219*
7.	Annual income	0.371*
8.	Type of family	0.272**
9.	Size of family	0.239*
10.	Social participation	0.230*

* and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively

where as age had not shown relationship with knowledge.

Conclusion:

It is concluded from the findings that as women is equally participated in farming activity and role of women in production and management is distinguishable. It is important aspect how much knowledge women having about recommended production technology. Women were suggested that for increasing their knowledge there must be different type of exhibitions, farm and home visits, method and result demonstrations, training programmes and appointment of women extension worker for giving information to them. So it is essential to bring rural women in mainstream for improving knowledge status of women.

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