

TIME CONSUMPTION AND CONSTRAINTS REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE OF DAIRY ACTIVITIES

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ABSTRACT

The role of dairying has for a long time been considered as a potential means of alleviating large scale unemployment, ensuring from population explosion, especially in the rural areas. It is revealed that maximum average (86.2 min.) time consumption was found in the activity of processing of milk into milk products in the age group of 30-60 years. It was further observed that as the level of education and income of rural women increased, the time consumption in sanitation activity decreased. It was found that most (51.7%) of the rural women faced constraint in feeding of animals due to non availability of high yielding fodder seeds.

Key words : Rural women, time consumption, constraints, dairy practices.

Successful dairy husbandry practices not only improve the socio-economic status of the rural population, but also assure a sustained and assured means of income to supplement their income from the main enterprise they follow, i.e. crop husbandry. Most of the agricultural and animal husbandry activities are performed by the farm women. On an average, females spent about 294.34 minutes and 87.17 minutes daily for large and small ruminants keeping, respectively of the time spent for large ruminants, they spent about 46 per cent of the time for feeding, 21 per cent for milking and 12 per cent for marketing the milk and milk products, while for small ruminants, they spent about 74 per cent in feeding tasks and around 7 per cent each for watering, housing and hygienic maintenance.

METHODOLOGY

The descriptive research design was used for the selection of blocks, villages and respondents. Kalyanpur and Sarsaul blocks were selected for the present study. Total 120 respondents were randomly selected from four villages. The data was collected with the help of structured interview schedule and analyzed with the help of statistical tools like percentage, arithmetic mean, weighted mean, rank order and correlation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Table 1 elicits that highest mean score of time consumption (86.2min.) was found in the activity of processing of milk into milk products upto 30 years of age followed by 85.6min. and 72.6min. in the age group of 30-45 years and 45-60 years, respectively. Minimum mean score of time consumption (18.9 min.) and (20.4min.) was found in milking activity in the age group

Table 1: Mean distribution of the respondents on the basis of time consumption (min./day) in dairy activities according to their age

S.No.	Age in years	Dairy activities				
		Sanitation (min.)	Feeding (min.)	Care (min.)	Milking (min.)	Processing of milk (min.)
1.	up to 30	57.7	38.2	49.9	18.9	86.2
2.	30-45	51.0	40.7	47.2	20.4	85.6
3.	45-60	58.7	37.4	42.8	18.9	72.6
4.	Above 60	57.9	37.9	36.1	18.9	52.9

Table 2: Correlation coefficient between independent variables (age, education, income) and time consumption in selected dairy activities

S.N.	Dairy Activities	r (correlation coefficient)		
		Age	Education	Income
1.	Sanitation of cattle shed	0.0441	-0.3179*	-0.2800*
2.	Feeding of animals	-0.0161	0.1677	-0.0143
3.	Caring of animals	-0.1994	-0.0032	-0.0204
4.	Milking	0.0502	-0.1850	-0.0956
5.	Processing of milk into milk products	-0.2156	0.2277*	0.0329

(*Significant at 5% level)

of upto 30 years, 45-60 years, above 60 years and 30-45 years, respectively.

The Table 2 depicts the correlation coefficient between education and time consumption in sanitation of cattle shed was found negatively significant at 5% level of significance. The correlation value is -0.3179. This shows that as level of education increases, the time consumption in sanitation practice decreases whereas education was positively correlated with the time consumption in processing of milk into milk products at 5 per cent level of significance (0.2277) because as the

women are becoming more educated they take much interest in processing of milk and making milk products. Income was found negatively correlated with sanitation practice (-0.2800) at 5% level of significance which indicates that as the income increases, the time consumption in sanitation of cattle shed activity decreases because most of the respondents of higher income group prefer servants for performing this activity.

The Table 3 shows that maximum (41.7%) respondents "Always" faced problem in cattle shed arrangement due to inadequate space whereas 44.2 per

Table 3 : Distribution of the respondents on the basis of constraints in dairy practices

S.N.	Constraints	Always	Sometimes	Never	Score	Rank
1.	Inadequate space	50 (41.7)	40 (33.3)	30 (25.0)	2.2	II
2.	High construction cost of cattle shed	39 (32.5)	53 (44.2)	28 (23.3)	2.1	III
3.	Non-availability of fodder seeds of high yielding varieties	62 (51.7)	38 (31.6)	20 (16.7)	2.4	I
4.	Non-availability of mineral mixture	32 (26.7)	69 (57.5)	19 (15.8)	2.1	III
5.	High cost of mineral mixture	42 (35.0)	57 (47.5)	21 (17.5)	2.2	II
6.	Ignorance of animal health care centre	30 (25.0)	40 (33.3)	50 (41.7)	1.8	IV
7.	Non-availability of veterinary aid	36 (30.0)	60 (50.0)	24 (20.0)	2.1	III
8.	High cost of treatment	43 (35.8)	56 (46.7)	21 (17.5)	2.2	II
9.	Non-availability of loan facilities	16 (13.3)	39 (32.5)	65 (54.2)	1.6	V
10.	Non-availability of finance for purchase of animals	10 (8.3)	38 (31.7)	72 (60.0)	1.5	VI

(Figures in parentheses indicate percentage)

cent respondents “Sometimes” faced the problem due to the high construction cost of cattle shed.

It is clear from the data that maximum (51.7%) respondents “Always” faced constraint in feeding of animals due to non-availability of fodder seeds of high yielding varieties followed by 35 per cent respondents had difficulty due to high cost of mineral mixture. It was also observed that 57.5 per cent respondents “Sometimes” faced the problem of non-availability of mineral mixture for feeding the animals. Similar results were also given by Sharma (1980).

It is evident from the Table that maximum (35.8%) respondents “Always” faced difficulty in disease control due to high cost of treatment and minimum 25 per cent respondents were unaware of facilities available for animal health care whereas 50 per cent respondents had “Sometimes” faced constraint due to non-availability of veterinary aid. Similar results were also given by Pondikunju *et al.* (2001). The Table indicated that (13.3%) respondents “Always” faced difficulty due to the non-availability of loan facilities whereas 31.7 per cent respondents “Sometimes” felt difficulty due to non-availability of finance for purchase of animals. The study was also supported by Dabas *et al.* (2004).

The Table depicts that non-availability of fodder seeds of high yielding varieties ranked Ist followed by inadequate space, high cost of mineral mixture and high cost of treatment ranked IInd whereas ignorance of animal health care centers, non-availability of loan facilities and non-availability of finance for purchase of animals ranked IVth, Vth and VIth, respectively as evidenced through its score.

Thus, it may be concluded that rural women consumed more time in processing of milk into milk

products in the age group of 30 to 60 years, as this activity is home based and women took much interest in it. Education and income was found negatively correlated with the time consumption in sanitation activity which depicted that as the level of education and income increased, the time consumption in sanitation activity decreased because most of the highly educated and of higher income group respondents preferred servants for performing this activity. It is also found that non-availability of high yielding fodder seeds, inadequate space and high cost of treatment were the major constraints faced by the rural women.

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