

## Constraints faced and suggestions given by the farm women with reference to food grain storage practices followed in Pune (M.S.)

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### ABSTRACT

The storage of foodgrains is an important aspect in agricultural industry. In order to understand the constraints faced by the women in Pune district, this study was undertaken. Majority (75.88 per cent) of farm women faced constraints in foodgrains storage *i.e.* inadequate space for storage, lack of knowledge regarding the use of chemical fumigant (71.17 per cent), lack of guidance from extension worker (68.82 per cent), high cost of improved storage structure (60.58 per cent), lack of knowledge about proper storage and method of storage (58.82 per cent) and unavailability of storage structures (54.70 per cent). Majority (70.00 per cent) of farm women suggested that information on the use of insecticides to be given for storage of foodgrains. About (66.47 per cent) women expressed that the information on use of insecticides should be provided by the extension agencies.

### INTRODUCTION

Constraints are the circumstances which prohibit the farm women in performing the storage activity about storage of foodgrains. Farm women, while performing the storage activity face many problems like lack of guidance, high cost of improved structures, knowledge constraints. Hence, to overcome these constraints, efforts have been made to identify the constraints which are acting as obstacles in foodgrains storage practices and to improve their skills in order to increase their involvement more efficiently and effectively in the agricultural industry.

Suggestions refer to the idea or information given by the farm women to overcome the constraints faced by them in foodgrains storage activity. Thus the suggestions will be useful to planners, policy makers and administrative officials for deciding future policies and new strategies on storage of foodgrains. An attempt has been made to know the additional methods practiced by farm women, the constraints they face and the suggestions given by farm women to overcome the constraints, which will be helpful to minimize the loss of foodgrains at the time of storage practices.

### METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in the college development block of Agricultural College,

Pune. Out of 112 villages, 10 villages were randomly selected for the purpose of study. A list of farm women who perform the village activities the constraints they face and suggestions given by them for the same purpose were prepared. From the list of 350 farm women, 170 farm women were selected by using random sampling method.

An interview scheduled was prepared in Marathi language in order to get accurate information. Suitable questions were included to determine the constraints and suggestions given by farm women. For analysis of data, the statistical tools and test such as percentages mean, standard deviation and correlation coefficient method were used in study.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The constraints faced by farm women are presented in Table 1. The various constraints were as under:

#### Lack of knowledge:

Table 1 reveals that most of farm women (71.17 per cent) faced constraints about lack of knowledge regarding use of chemical fumigants and 58.82 per cent had no knowledge regarding proper storage and methods of storage. This finding is in the line with Nikhade and Nimje (1988), in which 51.17 per cent of farm women had no knowledge regarding proportion of chemicals to be used for storage

#### Key words :

Constraints,  
Fumigant,  
Guidance,  
Information EDB  
ampules,  
Traditional  
methods,  
Dunnage,  
Rodents

Accepted :  
April, 2010

**Table 1: Constraints faced by the farm women in storage of foodgrains**

Sr. No.	Particulars about constraints	Respondent farm women	
		No. of farm women	Per cent (n=170)
<b>Lack of knowledge about</b>			
1.	Proper storage and method of storage	100	58.82
2.	Proportion of chemicals	87	51.17
3.	Care in using insecticides	74	43.52
4.	Use of chemical fumigants	121	71.17
5.	Identification of common storegrain pest and its damage	88	51.76
<b>Information constraints</b>			
1.	Lack of guidance from extension workers	117	68.82
2.	Care to be taken while using	50	29.41
<b>Unavailability of</b>			
1.	Chemicals used for storage	87	51.17
2.	Different structures for storage	93	54.70
3.	Spray pumps used for spraying	59	34.70
<b>Economical constraints</b>			
1.	High cost of improved storage structure	103	60.58
2.	Lack of finance	40	23.52
3.	High cost of sprayers and dusters	49	28.82
4.	High cost of chemicals	93	54.70
<b>Place</b>			
1.	Inadequate space for storage	129	75.88

of foodgrains.

### Information constraints :

The information in Table 1 indicates that majority (68.82 per cent) of farm women faced constraints like lack of guidance from extension workers. This finding is in line with Antwal and Bharaswadkar (1990), who reported that 29.91 per cent of them were not getting information regarding care to be taken while using insecticides.

### Unavailability of material

Table 1 also reveals that majority (54.70 per cent) of farm women faced constraints like unavailability of different structures for storage. Antwal and Bharaswadkar (1990) reported the unavailability of chemicals used in storage (51.17 per cent).

### Economical constraints:

It is revealed that majority (60.58 per cent) of farm women faced constraints in respect of high cost of improved storage structures. This finding is in the line with that of Soni and Nandapurkar (1990) who reported high cost of chemicals (54.70 per cent) and high cost of sprayers and dusters (28.82 per cent), respectively.

### Constraints regarding place:

Table 1 also reveals that 75.88 per cent farm women faced constraints in foodgrains storage practices due to inadequate space for storage.

**Table 2: Suggestion of the farm women about storage of the foodgrains**

Sr. No.	Particulars about suggestion	No. of farm women	Percent (n=170)
1.	Information should be provided to farm women by extension agencies about storage of foodgrains	113	66.47
2.	Information on the use of insecticides to be given for storage of foodgrains	119	70.00
3.	EDB ampoules should be made available at reasonable rates	93	54.70
4.	Storage structures should be made available at reasonable rates	87	51.17
5.	Finance and subsidies should be provided for purchase of storage structures	39	22.94
6.	Sprayers, dusters, appliances should be made available	47	27.64
7.	Spraying, dusting campaign should be arranged by Government agencies for storage of foodgrains	67	39.41

Table 2 indicates that majority (70.00 per cent) of farm women suggested that the insecticides to be given in case of storage of foodgrains practices. About (66.47 per cent) of them suggested that necessary information should be provided by extension workers.

This finding is in line with Laborius and Harnish (1989) who reported that 54.70 per cent of farm women suggested that EDB ampoules and storage structure should be made available to them at reasonable rates.

### Conclusion:

Based on the study, the following conclusions can be drawn. Majority (75.88 per cent) farm women faced constraints about inadequate space for storage.

Regarding the constraints faced by farm women, majority (71.17 per cent) faced constraints about lack of knowledge of chemical fumigants followed by (68.82 per cent) of them faced constrains of lack of guidance from extension workers, while (60.58 per cent)of them faced constrains in respect of high cost of improved storage structures.

Regarding the suggestions givens by farm women, 70.00 per cent of them suggested that the information on insecticides to be provided in case of storage of foodgrains practices. About 66.47 per cent of them suggested that the necessary information should be provided by Extension agencies.

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