

Role perception of women extension workers of the state agricultural department

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ABSTRACT

The present study on role perception of women extension workers of the state agricultural department was conducted in the year 2015-16 in four talukas of Amravati district. Result obtained after analysis have been summarized as below. Findings of relational analysis observed that education, training received, type of family, family background, land holding, annual income and job satisfaction were positive and significant correlation with role perception. Whereas marital status, distance from home and length of service experience had shown non-significant correlation with role perception. More quantum of office work than the technical job, non-availability of audio-visual aids, lack of co-operation from other department, non-availability of financial incentives for additional work and non-availability of require input were the major constraints faced by women extension workers.

INTRODUCTION

Women extension workers of the State Agriculture Department play significant role in agriculture development and transfer of new technology towards the farmers. The role of women extension workers can be broadly classified as the change agent, teacher, leader, programme planner, etc.

In India, nearly 87 per cent of the female workers from rural masses are dependent upon agriculture, livestock, forestry, etc. Accordingly, young girls in rural areas encouraged by their elder to carry out the farm responsibilities. Therefore, to encourage the rural girls, Government of Maharashtra decided to give free

agricultural education to girls from agricultural universities at graduate, post graduate and Ph.D. level since 2003. Government of Maharashtra has also declared 50 per cent reservation for girl students in agricultural education. Therefore, sizable number of girls from rural side give first choice to agricultural education which is their interesting field, and thus, there is great scope for transfer of technology amongst rural masses because girls are easily mingle with farmers.

Objective :

- To study socio-economic status of women extension workers.
- To study role perception of women extension

workers.

– To study relationship of selected socio-economic characteristics of women extension workers with their role perception.

– To study constraints faced by women extension workers of the State Agricultural Department.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Amravati district was purposively selected for the study. The study was conducted in Amravati, Tiosa, Bhatkuli and Nandgaon (Kha.) of Amravati district. The women extension workers were interviewed with the help of structured interview scheduled personally. From four taluka 50 respondents were selected. The interview schedule was constructed by formulating relevant questions in accordance with objectives of the study. The schedule included question pertaining to education, training received, type of family, family background, marital status, land holding, annual income, distance from home, length of service experience, social work aptitude, job satisfaction as well as role perception.

The information from the respondent was collected by personal interview methods and their responses were considered for the purpose of present study. Data was collected. Mean, S.D. and co-efficient of correlation methods were used for analysis of the data.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The findings of the study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under the following heads:

Relation analysis :

In order to find out the relationship of the selected characteristics of respondents with their role perception, co-efficient of correlation were worked out. The finding are presented in this chart.

Relationship of selected characteristics of respondents with their role perception :

The co-efficient of correlation of role perception with profile of the respondents have been furnished in Table 1.

It is evident from Table 1 that education, training received, type of family, family background, land holding, annual income and social work aptitude were positively and significantly correlated with role perception at 0.01 level of probability. The variables job satisfaction was positively and significantly correlated with role perception at 0.05 level of probability.

The finding of present study is in accordance with the findings reported by Ingle *et al.* (2000).

Conclusion:

Findings revealed that maximum per cent of the respondents were educated up to agricultural diploma holders. The majority of the respondents regarding training received had low category, majority of the respondents regarding type of family had nuclear family. Half of the respondents of family background having urban category, majority of the respondents of marital status had married category, maximum per cent of the respondents were landless category, majority of the respondents had annual income in between Rs. 4,00,001 to 9,00,000. Majority of

Sr. No.	Variables	'r' values
1.	Education	0.3130 **
2.	Training received	0.2897 **
3.	Type of family	0.3614 **
4.	Family background	0.3713 **
5.	Marital status	0.0857 NS
6.	Land holding	0.3007 **
7.	Annual income	0.3715 **
8.	Distance from home	0.0251 NS
9.	Length of service experience	-0.1119 NS
10.	Social work aptitude	0.3408 **
11.	Job satisfaction	0.3910 *

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

NS=Non-significant

the respondents of distance from home had medium level, majority of the respondents had high level of length of service experience, majority of the respondents had medium level of social work aptitude and majority of the respondents had medium level of job satisfaction. Maximum per cent of the respondents had medium level of role perception.

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