

Posture gives feel of pain to rose and marigold harvesters

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■ **ABSTRACT** : This topic describes the study of rose and marigold flower harvester's as the same is also known as drudgery prone activity which affects their body as well as feel some kind of painful posture in Allahabad city. We have collected required data during survey and presented here in table and graph in part of result and discussion. This topic explain the postural problem while doing rose and marigold activities. The harvesting processes of rose and marigold crops are very drudgery prone. Since India being an agricultural country, where both men and women work very hard in the fields also majority live in the rural areas. The harvesting of rose comes under the severe drudgery prone activity (Ergonomic practices, 2003) and marigold is an annual flower plant. The harvesting of the marigold flower is painstaking as the severe most drudgery prone activity (Ergonomic practices, 2003) where women have to keep their posture in bending position from the back facing the ground for the harvesting of flowers found that rose and marigold are the main cash crops of Allahabad that involves farmers at great number.

■ **KEY WORDS**: Drudgery, Ergonomic, Anthropometry, Bending

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All India Co-ordinated Research Project (AICRP) in Home Science, Department of Family Resource Management, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar (2000) endeavored to conduct technological interventions for reducing drudgery of farm women as women holds the key to rural prosperity and improved livelihood security.

India being an agricultural country, where majority live in the rural areas, both men and women work very hard in the fields. The present study will be taken in Allahabad's rural areas where the men and women are engaged in harvesting of roses and marigolds. These two flowers are very much in demand in Allahabad. Harvesting of these is a very drudgery prone activity for the rural women because of the posture of body. At the time of harvesting of flowers is done by harvesters in standing, sitting and also in bending posture which are not comfortable for them because bending during harvesting causes pain. These are major drudgeries of harvesting the rose and marigold for these rural women. These two flowers are planted frequently because Allahabad is a holy and religious city but the pain comes because of wrong posture

no one can understand accept flower harvesters. Women which are more drudgery prone operations but people rarely recognize the drudgery involved in these activities. They silently bear heavy fatigue, muscular pain and postural problem developed from hard labor. To their relief, it is expected that this kind of drudgery will be reduced not be simple feat by the introduction of 'Ergonomical Study'.

Theory, principles, data and methods designed in order to optimize human well-being and overall system performance.

Ergonomics is the study of designing equipment and devices that fit to the human body, its movements, and its cognitive abilities. Ergonomics is employed to fulfill the two goals - health and productivity. Proper ergonomic design is necessary to prevent repetitive strain injuries, which develops and can lead to long-term disability.

All the posture are sometime painful specially bending and sitting posture of harvesting of rose and marigold. Standing is also affect their body but less than other posture, farmer feel easy to plucking rose and marigold. They feel pain at back in bending posture and feel pain at thighs because of sitting posture at the time of harvesting of rose and marigold.

The harvesting processes of these crops are very drudgery prone which is being described below:

India has a long tradition of floriculture. References to flowers and gardens are found in ancient Sanskrit classics like the Rig Veda (C 3000-2000 BC), Ramayana (C 1200-1300 BC), Mahabharata (prior to 4th Century BC), Shudraka (100 BC), Ashvagodha (C 100 AD), Kalidasa (C 400 AD) and Sarangdhara (C 1200 AD). The social and economic aspects of flower growing were, however, recognized much later. The offering and exchange of flowers on all social occasions, in places of worship and their use for adornment of hair by women and for home decoration have become an integral part of human living. With changing life styles and increased urban affluence, floriculture has assumed a definite commercial status in recent times and during the past 2-3 decades particularly. Appreciation of the potential of commercial floriculture has resulted in the blossoming of this field into a viable agri-business option. Availability of natural resources like diverse agro-climatic conditions permit production of a wide range of temperate and tropical flowers, almost all through the year in some part of the country or other. Improved communication facilities have increased their availability in every part of the country. The commercial activity of production and marketing of floriculture products is also a source of gainful and quality employment to scores of people.

Rose is planted commercially by women in Allahabad city and nearby areas. The women are facing lot of difficulties in the cultivation of rose flowers. Rose thorns keep hurting them to their hands and other parts of body (that are in the contact with thorns) start bleeding and their clothes get torn as well. Rose is grown in the city of Allahabad throughout the year. The Farm women have to harvest rose flower in standing posture by hand and collect them in a cloth wrapped around the waist, which result in decreasing the commercial value of flowers. The harvesting of rose comes under the severe drudgery prone activity (Ergonomic practices, 2003).

Marigold is an annual flower plant. The harvesting of the Marigold flower is considered as the severe most drudgery prone activity (Ergonomic practices, 2003) where women have to keep their posture in bending position from the back facing the ground for the harvesting of flowers. It leads them to severe pain in their backbone, leg, and thigh and feet etc. To reduce such problems, the 'hybrid variety of tall plant' of Marigold as well as rose can help reduce or completely abandon the bending position of women while the harvesting process goes on (Ergonomic practices, 2003).

India has a long floriculture history and flower growing is an age old enterprise. What it has lacked is its commercialization. The growing demands of flowers in the domestic as well as the export market will require a concerted effort on the part of the government as well as the private entrepreneurs to develop floriculture on scientific lines. Paying

attention to the input needs, better resource management and making various policies entrepreneur friendly would lead to a balanced growth of the industry

Objective :

The major objective of the study is to know which posture is more painful for the harvesters of rose and marigold.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

The research procedure and technique used in arriving at :

Location of the study :

- District -Allahabad,
- Block- Chaka,
- Villages of Block-Chaka

Sampling procedure :

Sample selection and size –A sample of 106 farmer, 53 from each harvesting of rose and marigold, respectively will be selected for the study.

A village inventory and interview schedule will be developed and administered with the BDO, Sabhapati and farm women, respectively.

Tools for the data collection :

The following tools will be selected for the data collection:

Interview schedule :

An interview schedule will be prepared to know there posture which give them feel of pain at the time of flower picking.

■ RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Result and discussion is defined by these two tables:

According to Table 1 standing position is preferred by 37.74 per cent female and 60.38 per cent male then bending position is preferred by 20.75 per cent female and 11.32 per cent male than sitting position is preferred by only 5.66 per cent female, standing and bending position is preferred by 15.09 per cent female and 28.3 per cent male, 7.55 per cent female proffered standing and sitting as well as bending and sitting is also only 7.55 per cent female and only 5.66 per cent female proffered all position standing+sitting+bending.

According to the Table 2, 37.74 per cent female and 33.96 per cent male felt more tired in bending position, 52.83 per cent female and 49.06 per cent male felt tired in bending + sitting position, 9.43 per cent female and 13.21 per cent male felt tired in sitting position and 3.77 per cent male felt tired in standing and bending position.

Table 1 : Position they use to pick flower				
Position	Female	Percentage	Male	Percentage
Standing	20	37.74	32	60.38
Bending	11	20.75	6	11.32
Sitting	3	5.66	–	0
Standing and bending	8	15.09	15	28.3
Standing and sitting	4	7.55	–	0
Bending and sitting	4	7.55	–	0
Standing + sitting + bending	3	5.66	–	0
Total	53	100	53	100

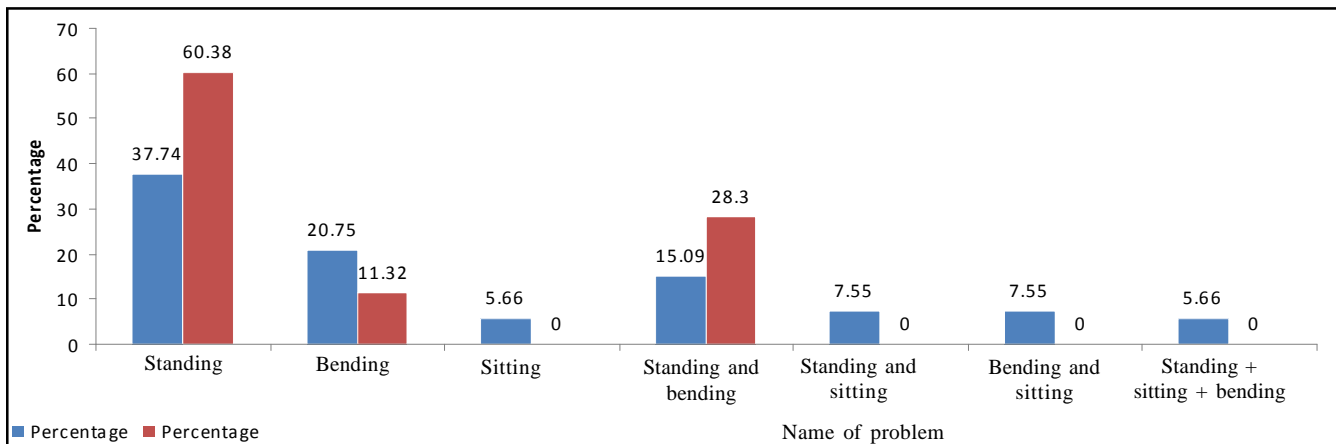


Fig. 1 : Positions they use to pick flower

Table 2 : Position in which they feel more tired				
Position	Female	Percentage	Male	Percentage
Standing	–	0	–	0
Bending	20	37.74	18	33.96
Sitting	5	9.43	7	13.21
Standing and bending	–	0	2	3.77
Standing and sitting	–	0	–	0
Bending and sitting	28	52.83	26	49.06
Standing + sitting + bending	–	0	–	0
Total	53	100	53	100

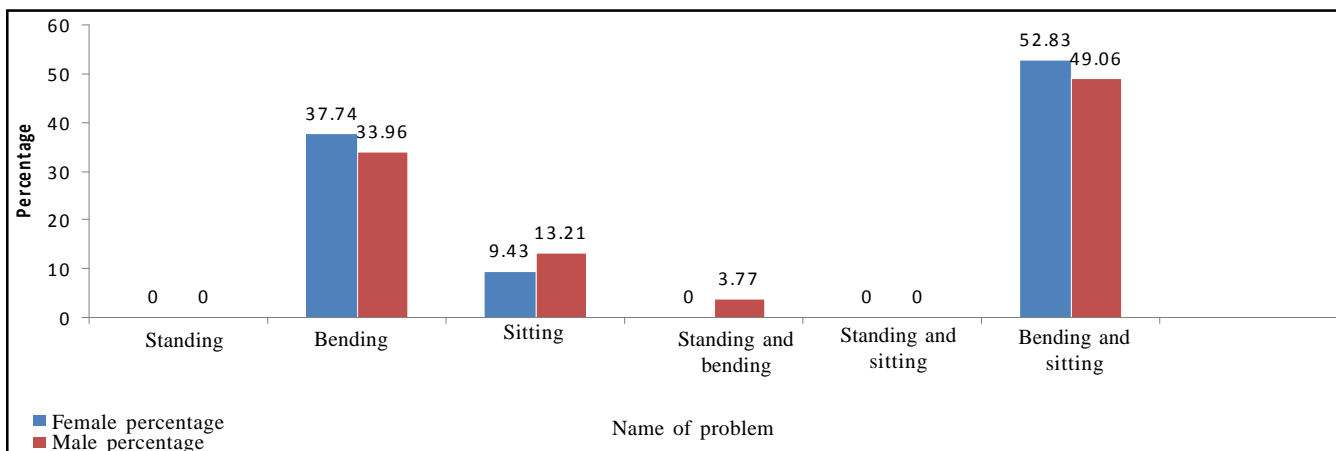


Fig. 2 : Positions in which respondents felt more tired

Conclusion :

In this paper author had shown that rose is while doing these day to day activities for these flowers where 210 female harvesters are working in compare of only 120 male for both flowers in Allahabad and found that they feel postural problem hence, need of awareness about different types of tools and others required special clothes which will also help them in avoiding relaxation on postural pains in Allahabad city as well due high Tech labors technique, the labors also get recognized in India level means to say both the ways will improve their qualities /technique in National and International market from Rose and Marigold flowers.

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