

Original Research Article

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Constraints Faced by Farm Women in Participation in Agricultural Activities in Udaipur District of Rajasthan, India

Shanabanu H. Malek* and S.S. Sisodia

Department of Extension Education, MPUAT, Udaipur (Rajasthan), India

*Corresponding author

ABSTRACT

Keywords

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A study was conducted in Udaipur District of Rajasthan state. The purpose was to know constraints faced by farm women in participation in agricultural activities in Udaipur District of Rajasthan. The diagnostic study was confined to 2 Tehsil of Udaipur District and from these two Tehsils 10 Villages was selected for study. The findings of the study revealed that majority of farm women faced constraints in participation in agricultural activity like “Dual responsibility of work at farm and house hold work” (WMS 1.990) ranked first.

Introduction

Women constitute almost half of the work force engaged in agriculture. Rural women constitute the most important productive work force in the Indian economy. In rural India, the percentage of women who depend on agriculture for their livelihood is as high as 84.00 per cent. Agriculture in India contributes about 18.00 per cent GDP and is predominantly a female activity. The rural women participate in a broad range of agricultural activities such as production, processing, preservation and utilization of food. They play a key role in the entire food system starting from the selection of seed, sowing, manuring, weeding, drying, stacking

storing and feeding the family from the harvested produce. Further, they play a major in the decision making process at household level.

Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Udaipur district of Rajasthan State. For this study, two tehsils namely Girwa and Vallabhnagar were purposively selected on the basis of the maximum female population in the district, from each tehsil 5 villages were selected on the basis of maximum female population so, total 10 villages from both tehsils were selected and from each tehsil 10 respondents were randomly selected. Total 100

respondents selected from villages, they were interviewed, personally to collect the data with the help of pre structured interview schedule. Thereafter, data were tabulated, analysed and inferences were drawn in light of the objective.

Results and Discussion

Constraints faced by farm women in participation in agricultural activities

Farm women were asked to mention their constraints faced in participation in agricultural activities. They were asked on three-point rating i.e., mostly, some times and never faced the constraints in participation in agricultural activities and accordingly scores were given as 2, 1, and 0, respectively. Mean score was calculated for each constraint to assign them rank. The data regarding the constraints faced by farm women in participation in agricultural activities are presented in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 reveal that farm women experienced some constraints at major level. These constraints were: “dual responsibility of work at farm and home work” ranked first and with weightage mean score 1.990 followed by “non availability of suitable farm implements and machinery for women” with rank second (WMS 1.896) and “lack of physical abilities” to carry out some agricultural works rank third (WMS 1.693).

Farm women faced the constraints on moderate level were i.e. “Difficulties in some agricultural work” with rank fourth and weightage mean score 1.669 followed by

“social barriers”(WMS 1.527), “lack of interest to participate in agricultural work” (WMS 1.510), “lack of female extension workers for imparting training to women” (WMS 1.342), “lack of experience about agricultural works” (WMS 1.086) and “lack of extension contact” (WMS 0.692) with rank fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively.

The constraints which were less experienced by farm women were: lack of specific skill for agricultural works (WMS 0.667) rank tenth followed by “lack of knowledge about latest agricultural technology” within weightage mean score 0.523, “lack of land holding power” (WMS 0.357), and “lower consideration in decisions related to farming” (WMS 0.325) with rank eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth, respectively.

Out of 13 constraints identified in the participation in agricultural activities, the most important constraints faced by farm women were:

- Dual responsibility of work at farm and home
- Non availability of suitable farm implements and machinery for women
- Difficulties in some agricultural works
- Lack of physical abilities to carry out some agricultural works
- Social barriers
- Lack of interest to participate in agricultural works

Table.1 Constraints faced by farm women in participation in agricultural activities

(n= 100)

Sr. No	Constraints	Mean Score	Rank
1	Lack of experience about agricultural works	1.086	VIII
2	Non-availability of suitable farm implements and machinery for women	1.896	II
3	Social barriers	1.527	V
4	Lack of physical abilities to carry out some agricultural works	1.693	III
5	Lack of female extension workers for imparting training to women	1.342	VII
6	Dual responsibility of work at farm and household work	1.990	I
7	Lack of interest to participate in agricultural work	1.510	VI
8	Difficulties in some agricultural work	1.669	IV
9	Lower consideration in decisions related to farming	0.325	XIII
10	Lack of land holding power	0.357	XII
11	Lack of extension contact	0.692	IX
12	Lack of knowledge about latest agricultural technology	0.523	XI
13	Lack of specific skill for agricultural works	0.667	X

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