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## Study on knowledge of rural women for food grain storage practices in Faizabad district

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### Abstract

The study was conducted in Milkipur block of Faizabad district (U.P.) selected purposively. A total number of 100 beneficiaries were selected through random sampling. Five sample villages were selected on the basis of random sampling. The structure schedule was developed keeping in view the objectives and variables under study. The respondents were contacted personally for data collection. The percentage, mean and standard deviation were used for calculation and drawing the inferences. The majority of the respondent 62% were found in categories (31-50) of age group, 61% literate, 48% other backward caste, 62% joint family, 49% small size of landholding, 55% no participation in any organization, 70% economic motivation, 83% scientific orientation was found in medium categories respectively. In case of knowledge level regarding food grain storage practices of respondents the majority number of 79% respondents belongs to medium category.

**Keywords:** scientific orientation, economic motivation, beneficiaries

### Introduction

The post-harvest losses in India amount to 12- 16 million metric tons of food grain each year, an amount that the World Bank stipulates could feed 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of India's poor. The monetary value of these losses amount to more than Rs. 50,000 crores per year (singh, 2010) <sup>[12]</sup>. Losses of food grains are reported due to attack of insects, pests and rats during storage. Therefore, control of rats becomes inevitable in the crop field, godowns, residential premises (Ramesh, 2001) <sup>[11]</sup>. During storage quantitative as well as qualitative losses occur due to insects, rodents and microorganisms. A large number of insect, pest have been reported to be associated with stored grains. As in India, women have a crucial role to play in post-harvest technology particularly that relating to winnowing and grain storage. Thus, Proper handling and management need to teach systematically to rural women in order to prevent or reduce losses to some extent.

### Methodology

This study was conducted at N.D. University of Agriculture & Technology; Faizabad U.P. Faizabad district is selected purposively for the study undertaken. The Faizabad district is located in the eastern plain zone of U.P. A total of 100 women were identified as sample size for the study. Data will be collected through personal interview using with restructured schedule. The variables were selected according to the objectives of the study. For study the different constraints different scales were used. The scale developed by Supe (1969) was used to measure the economic motivation and scientific orientation. Tabulated data were analyzed by using statistical measurement like, standard deviation, mean etc.

### Result and discussion

#### Socio-Economic Profile

Table -1 shows that majority of the respondents (15%) were observed in the category (above to 50) age group following category (up to 23) age group was found (23%) and the category (31-50) age group their percentage was found (62%) respondents. So, it focuses that the rural women of age group (up to 23) and (31-50) age group are mostly engaged in food grain storage practices under the study. In this table majority of the respondents (61%) were found belonging to the literate category and the rest (39%) were illiterate. It also indicates that maximum number of the respondents (48%) belong to backward caste, while the general caste and scheduled caste were 40 percent, respectively. It might to be because of majority of OBC population in Faizabad district was adopted agriculture as their main occupation so they were engaging storage of grains as their farm produce. Thus, it is concluded that majority of respondents (48%) of food grain storage practices were from backward caste.

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It was found that 62 per cent respondents belonged to joint family system followed by 38 per cent who were from to nuclear family system. It shows predominance of joint family system in rural areas. It is evident from this table that 62per cent respondents families were observed such who had 5-8 members followed by 20 per cent families having more than 8 members whereas 18 per cent respondents were found belonging small families having less than 4 members. Maximum respondents (49%) were small farmers (1.0-2.0 ha) and 26 per cent respondents were medium farmers (2-3 ha) while only 19% farmers were having highest land (above 3 ha.) holdings. Most of the respondents (55%) were not participating with any organization. Only 29% respondents were participating with one organization and 16% respondents were participating with two organizations.

**Table 1**

S. No.	Specification	Category	Percentage
1.	Age	Up to 23	23%
		31 – 50	62%
		Above 50	15%
2.	Education	Illiterate	39%
		Literate	61%
3.	Caste	General	40%
		Other back word	48%
		Schedule	12%
4.	Family type	Nuclear	38%
		Joint	62%
5.	Land holding	Below 1 ha.	6%
		1-2 ha.	49%
		2-3 ha.	26%
		Above 3 ha.	14%
6.	social participation	No participation	55%
		With one organization	29%
		With two organization	16%

**Table-2:** Storage facilities of respondents

S. No.	Storage facilities	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1.	Steel bukhari	40	40%
2.	Mud bukhari	26	26%
3.	Wheat straw	92	92%
4.	Storage drum	98	98%
5.	Gagri	76	76%
6.	Paccka kothi	84	84%
7.	Kaccha kothi	82	82%
8.	Plastic bags	100	100%
9.	Gunny bags	100	100%

Table -2 depicted that all respondents were using plastic bags and gunny bags as storage facilities. The rest respondents who had other storage materials were in descending order as storage drum (98%), wheat straw (92%), paccka kothi (84%), kaccha kothi (82%), gagri (76%), steel bukhari (40%) and mud bukhari (26%) respectively. Thus, it can be inferred that plastic bags and gunny bags were main source of getting storage purpose.



**Fig 1**



**Fig 2**



**Fig 3**



**Fig 4**



Fig 5



Fig 6



Fig 7



Fig 8



Fig 9



Fig 10

Table 3: Economic motivation

S. No.	Economic motivation	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1.	Low (up to 20)	15	15%
2.	Medium (21-24)	70	70%
3.	High (above 24)	15	15%

It is apparent from the table-3 that the maximum number of the respondents (70%) was found having medium level of economic motivation, 15 per cent respondents were such who had low level and high level of economic motivation respectively. Hence, it can be concluded that most of the respondents were found having medium level of economic motivation.

Table 4: Scientific orientation

S. No.	Scientific orientation	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1.	Low (up to 22)	16	16%
2.	Medium(23-22)	83	83%
3.	High (above 28)	1	1%

Table-4 revealed that the majority of the respondent 83% were observed in the medium (23-28) category of adoption extent followed by low (16%) and high (1%) respectively.

Table 5: Level of knowledge

S. No.	Knowledge level	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1.	Low (up to 109)	15	15%
2.	Medium (110-125)	79	79%
3.	High (above 25)	6	6%

Majority of the respondent (79%) were observed in the medium (110-125) category of knowledge level followed by low (15%) and high (6%) respectively in table-5

### Conclusion

India produces about 150 million tons of food grains per year. Production has been steadily increasing due to advancement in production technology, but losses have remained static at 10%. Knowledge about storage practice among rural women were maximum i.e. 79%. This study concluded that the loss of food grain is also increasing with the increase in food production. The reason behind that is improper storage practices, high capital cost, no incentive given for farmer's to produce properly dried grains.

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