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Role of farm women in livestock management in Burhanpur District of Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract

India occupies the foremost position in the world in respect of livestock contributing nearly about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the world total bovine population and women are the critical input in livestock management. Involvement of women in livestock management is a long standing tradition in India, where domestic animals have been an integral part of the family system. Although most of the work related to dairy farming is carried out by the women there role has been ignored, hence, the study on analysis of different role performed by the rural women and the factor affecting them are of paramount importance to the planner, decision maker. Government & extension worker involved in the presses of rural development keeping this fact in view, the training provided to farm women in 2015-18 and the present study on participation of farm women in livestock management was carried out in 2018-19 total 120 farm women having 5 years of experience in dairy farming were selected from 10 villages of Burhanpur and Khaknar block of Burhanpur district (M.P.) with specify objectives the frequency of involvement of farm women was found in highest in watering & feeding of animal followed by cleaning the cattle shed, cutting and bringing of fodder, compost making & so on. The relationship between independent variable of the respondent & their involvement in livestock management was found negative for all of the independent variable except type of family, sale of milk & its product was dominantly decided by farm women followed by keeping herd size, where as selection of feed & fodder and selection of animal breeds were taken jointly by family member.

Keywords: Participation, farm women and livestock management

Introduction

Women play a major role in shaping the country's economy through their active population in agriculture and allied sector. The census data of 2001 reject the fact that out of the total 496million of rural population 23.9% male worker and about 86.1% female workers are fond in agriculture. India is predominantly an aggression society when animal husbandry farmers were the back bone of national economy and the farm women are the back bone of the Indian agriculture and the animal husbandry enterprises are completely dependent on them. Animal husbandry is an allied activity of agriculture & thus it forms an integral part of the rural economy. It is a potential employment creating additional income to the rural poor particularly small and marginal farmers as well as agriculture laborers. Therefore, a livestock enterprise has provided a strong support to Indian farmers.

India is endowed with the largest livestock population in the world with 55 % buffalo's & 16 % of cattle population. Although most of the world related to dairy farming is carried out by the women, their role has been ignored (Khandari & Rakma, 2004). Hence the study an analysis of different role performed by the rural women & the factor affecting them are paramount importance to the planners, decision makers, extension workers & Government involved in the process of rural development. Keeping this fact in view, the present study has therefore, been premeditated and undertaken in Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh with the following specific objectives

- To analyzed the role performed by rural women in livestock management to examine the relationship with the socio personal variable.
- The role performed by the rural women in livestock management to study the involvement of the rural women in decision making related to the livestock management.

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Material and Methods

Total 30 training programmes were organized by KVK-Burhanpur, 3 training in each village were provided to farm women in 2015-18 and the study was carried out in 2018-19. The 12 milk producing villages i.e. Gulai, Nachankheda, Sirsauda, Jainabad, Chulkhan, Jhiri, Haidarpur, Amulya, Nimandhad, Loni, Sangrampur and Bori from Burhanpur & Khaknar Block of Burhanpur district were selected randomly. For this study 10 farm women from each village who had minimum 5 years of experience in livestock management were selected randomly. Thus the total sample size was confined to 120 farm women. Data were collected through personal interview schedule and telephonic conversation. Ex-post factor research designed was employed to analyze the data. The mean as obtained by the total number of score divided by total number of respondents. Correlation coefficient was computed to find out the relationship between each of the independent variable and the dependent variable.

Result and Discussion

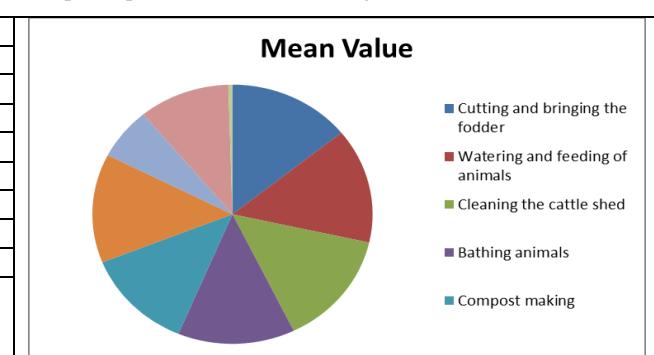
The results of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under following heads:

A. Participation of Farm Women in Livestock Management

Perusal of table 1 clearly reveals regarding the involvement of farm women in livestock management that the highest means score of involvement of farm women was obtained in case of watering and feeding of animal i.e. 3.65 followed by cleaning the cattle shed (3.64), cutting and bringing the fodder (3.61), milking animals (3.46), bathing animals (3.44), Compost making (3.22). The minimum involvement were found in selling of milk & its products (2.68), taking the animals for grazing (1.65) and taking for veterinary service (0.12). The same result also reported by Firdous *et al.* (2002) and Kumar Ujjwal (2011) [4].

Table 1: Distribution of farm women according to their participation in livestock management

S. No	Livestock Management Practices	Mean Value	Rank
1.	Cutting and bringing the fodder	3.61	III
2.	Watering and feeding of animals	3.65	I
3.	Cleaning the cattle shed	3.64	II
4.	Bathing animals	3.44	V
5.	Compost making	3.22	VI
6.	Milking	3.46	IV
7.	Grazing	1.65	VIII
8.	Selling of milk & its products	2.68	VII
9.	Taking the animals for veterinary service	0.12	IX



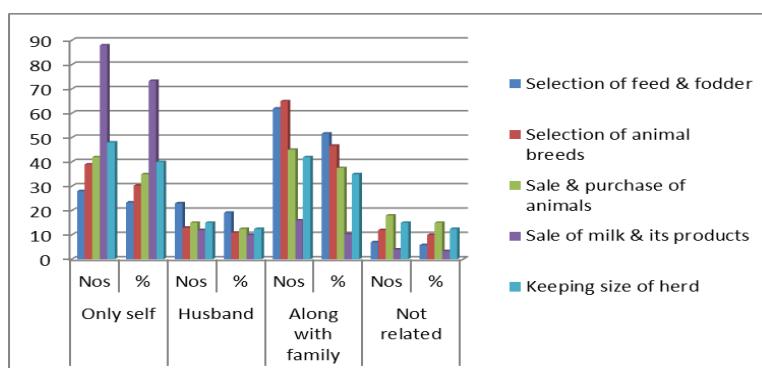
B. Participation of farm women in the process of decision making

A cursory look at the data in table 2 regarding their involvement in decision making for livestock management practices shows clearly that the sale of milk and milk product was dominantly decided by farm women (73.33%) followed by keeping size of herd (40.00%), sale and purchase of animals (35.00 %), selection of animal breeds (30.25%) and selection of feed & fodder is 23.33%. The decision which is dominant by farm women husband's were regarding selection

of feed and fodder (19.17%) followed by sale and purchase of animals (12.50%), keeping size of herd (12.50%), selection of animal breed (10.93%) and sale of milk and its product is 10.00%. Whereas, 51.67% selection of feed & fodder followed by (46.67%) selection of animal breeds, (37.50%) sale & purchase of animals, (35.00%) keeping size of herd and sale of milk and its product (10.33%) decisions were taken jointly by family members. The similar results are also found by Beek & Swanson (2003) [1] and Nataraju (2007) [6].

Table 2: Distribution of farm women according to their participation of decision making in livestock management practices.

Animal Husbandry	Farm Women			Husband			Along with family			Not related		
	Nos	%	Rank	Nos	%	Rank	Nos	%	Rank	Nos	%	Rank
Selection of feed & fodder	28	23.33	V	23	19.17	I	62	51.67	I	07	5.83	IV
Selection of animal breeds	39	30.25	IV	13	10.93	III	65	46.67	II	12	10.00	III
Sale & purchase of animals	42	35.00	III	15	12.50	II	45	37.50	III	18	15.00	I
Sale of milk & its products	88	73.33	I	12	10.00	IV	16	10.33	V	04	3.33	V
Keeping size of herd	48	40.00	II	15	12.50	II	42	35.00	IV	15	12.50	II



C. Relation between independent variable

Data presented in table 3 reflects that the age of the respondent was observed negative significant with their involvement in livestock management. The result indicated that as the age of the farm women increases their involvement in livestock management was decreasing. Whereas, the education of the farm women was negatively significant with their involvement in livestock management which shows that the educated farm women had poor interest in livestock management & related activities such as feeding; care & management of animals as it is time consuming & laborious job. Further, there was negative relationship between occupation of farm women and their involvement in livestock management practices was observed. The same result was reported by Khanduri & Rukma (2004).

A perusal of the data presented in the table indicated that there was negative significant relationship between land holding possessed by farm women and involvement in livestock management. The results are similar with the result reported by Mrinali *et al.* (2004) [5] and Srisankari, Sitaram & Uma (1995) [9]. It is obvious that the farm women had large land holding was more engaged in various agricultural operation & less time avail for livestock management. It is concluded that the farm women having large land holding was less involved in livestock management. There was negative significant relationship of family size with the participation of farm women in livestock management. It was observed that the farm women with large family size were more engaged in house hold activities & they devoted less time in livestock management. A cursory looks at the data in this table show that there was positive significant between type of family of farm women & their participation in livestock management. It means that the less involvement of farm women in livestock management was seen higher in case of joint family & less in case of nuclear family similar findings from Premavothi, Seetharaman & Nathaji (2006) [7] and Yadav (2011) [10].

Table 3: Relation between independent variable of the respondent & their contribution in livestock management practices.

S. No.	Independent Variable	Correlation Coefficient
Personal Variables		
1.	Age	-0.8709
	Education	-0.8868
Economic Variables		
2.	Occupation	-0.6015
	Land holding	-0.8882
Social Variables		
3.	Family size	-0.9332
	Type of family	+0.8646

Conclusion

The frequency of involvement of farm women was seen the highest in watering & feeding of animal followed by cleaning the cattle shed & cutting and bringing the fodder, milking & compost making & so on. The relationship between independent variable of the respondent & there involvement in livestock management was found negative for all of the independent variable except type of family. Sale of milk & its product was dominantly decided by farm women followed by keeping heard size, where as selection of feed & fodder and selection of animal breed were taken jointly by family member.

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