



Socio-economic profile of Tribal Farm women and its relationship towards involvement in Agriculture Practices in Chhotaudepur District of Gujarat State

Kiran Chandravadia, Minaxi Bariya and Sandip Kumbhani

College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Jabugam-391 155
(Gujarat)

ABSTRACT

The present investigation was carried out to investigate Tribal farm women's profile and its relationship towards involvement in agriculture practices in chhotaudepur district of Gujarat state. For the study total 90 tribal farm women were selected randomly. The personal interview technique was used for collecting information from respondents. The results revealed that majority of the farm women were in middle aged group, educated up to primary level, had 6 to 10 yr experience in agriculture practices, animal husbandry plus farming as their occupation, small size of land holding, annual income up to Rs. 50,000/-, belonged to joint family, having membership in one organization, medium mass media exposure, medium extension contact and medium cosmopolitans. Significant correlate was observed with education, experience in agriculture practices, occupation, land holding, annual income, family type, social participation, mass media exposure, extension contact and cosmopolitans in agriculture practices.

Key Words: Age, Education, Occupation, Land holding, social participation.

INTRODUCTION

The prosperity and growth of a nation depends on the status and development of its women, as they not only constitute nearly half of its population, but also positively influence the growth of remaining half of the population. Rural women are engaged in farm operations as cultivators, assistants to male cultivators and agricultural labourers. Women are involved in pre and post sowing, harvesting and post-harvesting operations as well as allied activities. They also show their involvement in planning, decision-making and supervisory activities. However, despite this major role, men have been reported to dominate farm decision making, even in areas where women are the largest providers of farm labour. This could be counter-productive because there is bound to be conflict when women, as key players, carry out farm tasks without being part of the decision process. Many

times the women in the houses are consulted before undertaking important financial transactions. Though, women are playing a very important role in innovation decision process yet they are not allowed to try and see whether they are capable of managing farm and family affairs independently or with the help of family members. Keeping in view, present study was undertaken to study the profiles of the farmwomen and ascertain the relationship between profiles of the farm women with their extent of involvement in agriculture practices.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The proposed investigation was carried out in Pavi-Jetpur and Bodeli taluka of chhotaudepur (Gujarat) district. Three villages were selected from each taluka. Thus total six villages were selected for the study and from each selected villages, 15 farm women involved in agriculture were selected,

making a total sample of 90 farm women. To assess the participation of farm women, a well structured interview schedule was prepared in consultation with agriculture, veterinary and extension experts and was pre tested. To find out mass media exposure, extension contact and cosmopolitans, the respondents were classified into three categories based on mean and S.D into Low level group = $< \text{mean} - \text{S.D.}$, Medium level group = $\text{mean} \pm \text{S.D.}$ and High level group = $> \text{mean} + \text{S.D.}$ To ascertain the relationship between involvement of the respondents and their selected socio-economic characteristics frequency, percentage, correlation co-efficient and multiple regression test was applied.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Age and Education

The data (Table 1), revealed that more than half (53.3%) of the dairy farm women belonged to middle age group followed by 30.0 per cent belonged to old age group and 16.6 per cent belonged to young age group. It was evident that tribal women had education up to primary level, while 23.3 per cent of them were illiterate. Further, 18.8 per cent of the respondents studies up to secondary level whereas 22.2 per cent of them had higher secondary to graduation level of education.

Occupation and Experience

The data (Table 1) reveal that majority (40.0 %) of the farm women had 6 to 10 yr experience in agriculture practices, followed by 33.3 and 26.6 per cent of the farm women who had 1 to 5 yr and above 10 yr experience, respectively. Further, 57.7 per cent of the farm women had agriculture and animal husbandry as main occupation whereas 23.3 per cent of the farm women had agriculture plus animal husbandry plus others as their occupation and only 18.8 per cent of the respondents had animal husbandry alone as main occupation.

Land holding and Annual Income

It was found that more than two-fifth (46.6 %) of the farm women had small land holding *i.e.* up

to 1.01 to 2.0 ha followed by 28.8 per cent with marginal land holding and 22.2 per cent with medium size of land holding. Only, 02.2 per cent belonged to large size of land holding *i.e.* above 4.00 ha. Likewise, half per cent of the farm women had annual income up to Rs. 50,000/- followed by 27.7 per cent of them had annual income ranging from Rs. 50,001/- to Rs. 1,00,000/- and 13.3 per cent had annual income ranging from Rs. 1,00,001/- to Rs.1,50,000/- . Only 8.8 per cent of the dairy farm women had annual income above Rs. 1, 50,000/-.

Types of family and Social participation

It was evident (Table 1) that slightly more than two-third (62.2 %) of the farm women belonged to joint family, while 37.7 per cent of them belonged to nuclear family. More than half (64.4 %) of farm women had membership in one organization, whereas 22.2 per cent and 11.1 per cent of them had no membership and membership in more than one organization, respectively. Only 2.2 per cent of them was a position holder.

Table 1. Profile of the tribal farmwomen. (n=90)

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Percentage
1.	Age (Years)	
	Young age (up to 25)	16.6
	Middle age (26 to 50)	53.3
	Old age (above 50)	30.0
2.	Education	
	Illiterate	23.3
	Primary (1st to 7th std.)	35.5
	Secondary (8th to 10th std.)	18.8
	Higher Secondary Education (11th to 12th std.)	16.6
	Graduation and above	05.5
3.	Experience in agriculture practices	
	1 to 5 yr	33.3
	6 to 10 yr	40.0
	Above 10 yr	26.6
4.	Occupation	

Socio-economic profile of Tribal Farm women

	Agriculture alone	18.8
	Agriculture + Animal husbandry	57.7
	Agriculture + Animal husbandry + others	23.3
5.	Land holding	
	Marginal (up to 1.0 ha)	28.8
	Small (1.01 to 2.0 ha)	46.6
	Medium (2.01 to 4.0 ha)	22.2
	Large (Above 4.0 ha)	02.2
6.	Annual income	
	Up to Rs. 50,000/-	50.0
	Rs.50,001/- to Rs. 1,00,000/-	27.7
	Rs. 1,00,001/- to Rs. 1,50,000/-	13.3
	Above Rs.1,50,000/-	08.8
7.	Family Type	
	Nuclear family	37.7
	Joint family	62.2
8.	Social Participation	
	No membership	22.2
	Membership in one organization	64.4
	Membership in more than one organization	11.1
	Position holder	02.2
9.	Mass Media Exposure	
	Low (below 6.32 score)	24.4
	Medium (In between 6.32-14.18)	56.6
	High(Above 14.18)	18.8
10.	Extension Contact	
	Low (below 8.02 score)	27.7
	Medium (In between 8.02-19.14)	51.1
	High (Above 19.14)	21.1
11.	Cosmopolitans	
	Low (below 8.32 score)	31.1
	Medium (In between 8.32-21.41)	43.3
	High (Above 21.41)	25.5

Mass media exposure and Extension contact

It was evident (Table 1) that more than half (56.6 %) of the farm women had medium mass media exposure whereas 24.4 per cent of them had low and 18.8 per cent of them had high mass media exposure. Slightly more than half (51.1 %) of the tribal women had medium level of extension contact, whereas 27.7 per cent and 21.1 per cent of the respondents had low and high level of extension contact, respectively. The results showed that more than two-fifth (43.3 %) of the farm women had medium level of cosmopolitanness followed by low and high level of cosmopolitanness with 31.1 and 25.5 per cent, respectively.

Correlation between socio-economic characteristics of the tribal women with their Involvement in agriculture practices

To ascertain the relationship between participation of the respondents and their selected socio-economic characteristics, the correlation coefficient test was applied.

It was evident (Table 2), out of 11 independent variables, 10 variables *i.e.* education, experience in agriculture practices, occupation, land holding, annual income, family type, social participation, mass media exposure, extension contact and cosmopolitans had significant association with the involvement in agriculture practices.

In case of multiple regressions analysis out of 11 variables, only 4 variables *i.e.* age, education, experience in agriculture practices and family type had significant contribution in the participation of tribal women in agriculture practices, remaining 7 variables *i.e.* occupation, land holding, annual income, social participation, mass media exposure, extension contact and cosmopolitans did not indicate any significant contribution in involvement of tribal women in agriculture practices. However, all the 11 variables fitted in the model show 54.10 per cent contribution in the participation of tribal women in agriculture practices.

Table 2. Relationship between respondent's participation and independent variables. (n=90)

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Co-efficient of correlation value 'r'
1	Age	0.0530NS
2	Education	0.5220**
3	Experience in agriculture practices	-0.3560**
4	Occupation	-0.2790**
5	Land holding	0.2330*
6	Annual income	-0.2090*
7	Family type	-0.2440*
8	Social participation	-0.3970**
9	Mass media exposure	0.2960**
10	Extension contact	0.2830**
11	Cosmopolitans	0.2920**

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed); *Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed); NS = Non significant

Table 3. Multiple regression analysis between the involvement of tribal women and independent variables. (n=90)

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Regression co efficient "b" value	Standard error of regression co efficient	" t" value for partial 'b'	Standard regression co efficient "β" value	Rank
1	Education	4.539	1.341	3.384**	0.374	I
	Age	0.282	0.095	2.970**	0.294	II
2	Experience in agriculture practices	-4.747	1.849	-2.567*	-0.257	III
3	Family type	-5.432	2.298	-2.364*	-0.185	IV
4	Land holding	0.910	0.484	1.879	0.155	V
5	Social participation	-3.029	1.969	-1.539	-0.137	VI
6	Occupation	-2.681	1.792	-1.496	-0.122	VII
7	Annual income	-1.411	0.000	-1.405	-0.112	VIII
8	Extension contact	0.236	0.230	1.025	0.092	IX
9	Mass media exposure	0.141	0.323	0.436	0.039	X
10	Cosmopolitans	0.061	0.192	0.319	0.028	XI

* 5 Per cent level of significant ; ** 1 Per cent level of Significant. $R^2 = 0.5410$

CONCLUSION

It can be epitomized that majority of the farm women were in middle aged group, educated up to primary level, had 6 to 10 yr experience in agriculture practices, animal husbandry plus farming as their occupation, had small size of land holding, had

annual income up to Rs. 50,000/- belonged to joint family, having membership in one organization, had medium mass media exposure, had medium extension contact and had medium cosmopolitans. In context with relationship between involvement of the tribal women and their selected socio-economic

Socio-economic profile of Tribal Farm women

characteristics; education, experience in agriculture practices, occupation, land holding, annual income, family type, social participation, mass media exposure, extension contact and cosmopolitans were found to be significant correlated with involvement in agriculture practices. In case of multiple regressions analysis out of 11 variables, only 4 variables *i.e.* age, education, experience in agriculture practices and family type had significant contribution in the involvement of tribal women in agriculture practices.

REFERENCES

- Chauhan N M, Chauhan N B and Thakor R F (2006). Participation of tribal farm women in decision making. *Gujarat J Extn Edn XVI-XVII*: 55-57.
- Naik R M and Tandel B M (2014). Farm women participation in vermicompost production. *Gujrat J Ext Edu 25*: 178-180.
- Toppo A (2005). *A study of participation and decision making of farm women in dairy occupation in Anand district of Gujarat state*. M.Sc. (Ag.) Thesis, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat (India).
- Upadhyay S (2010). *Participation of dairy farm women in animal husbandry occupation*. M.Sc. (Ag.) Thesis, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat (India).
- Vohra, S G, Thorat G N and Ramjiyani D B (2016). *Economic status and participation of tribal dairy women in animal husbandry*. *Gujarat J Ext Edu 27*: 145-148.

Received on 04/10/2018 Accepted on 10/12/2018