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Adoption of selected technologies among rural women of Udaipur district, Rajasthan

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Abstract

The present study was undertaken with the objective to find out the adoption of selected technologies promoted under AICRP on Home Science by the rural women. The study was conducted in *Badgoan* panchayat samiti of Udaipur district of Rajasthan state. From the panchayat samiti, five villages where the technologies have been promoted by the AICRP since last five year were included in the study. The sample consisted of 100 rural women, 20 from each village. Personal interview technique was used for data collection. Frequency, percentage and mean percent score were used for analysis of the data. The profile of the respondents revealed majority of the respondents (60%) were in the age group of 31-45 years, belonged to OBC caste category (45%), were educated (70%), had agriculture as main family occupation (70%) and belonged to nuclear family (60%). Majority of the respondents (65%) were small and marginal farmers and belonged to low socio-economic status (60%). The finding of the study revealed that in drudgery reduction and protective mask components the respondents had medium adoption with adoption index of 42.66 and 42.33, respectively. In rest of the components viz. vermicompost (12.50%), dying and printing (1.67%), herbal gulal (1.0%) the respondents exhibited poor adoption.

Keywords: Adoption, drudgery reduction, vermi compost, herbal gulal, dying & painting

Introduction

The life of most rural women is characterized by sedulous work, drudgery, lack of access to technological information and poor infrastructural support. Women continue to work in smoky kitchens, live in ill-ventilated homes, consume unbalanced diets, have large families, low educational status, poor health and nutritional profile, few employment opportunities, lower wages and submit themselves to male domination. Although several advancements have taken place but rural women still have poor health and nutritional status. Educating rural women and creating awareness about technologies can go a long way in enhancing their knowledge and skill. In order to equip rural women, they need to have proper training and capacity building programs to compete various challenges in their life. Scientific advancements and their reach to the rural women can result in enhancing women's welfare and their development. But adoption of new technology is not an easy task. Intensive efforts are needed for awareness generation among rural women and to convince them to adopt innovations. The All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Home Science was conceived as an instrument to develop a strong base of research and extension to the State Agricultural Universities for improving the quality of life of rural families. The project is being implemented by ICAR-CIWA (Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Central Institute for Women in Agriculture). The project integrates all the five components of Home Science. Under the project, efforts are being made to develop awareness among rural women about improved technologies and to convince them for adoption of the same. The present study aims to find out adoption of selected technologies promoted under AICRP on Home Science by the rural women.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in *Badgoan* panchayat samiti of Udaipur district of Rajasthan state as AICRP on Home Science, MPUAT is operational in area. From the panchayat samiti, five villages where the technologies have been promoted by the AICRP on Home Science since last five year were included in the study namely *Manpura, Nohra, Bhilwara, Lakhawali and Dangiyu ka Guda*. The sample consisted of 100 rural women, 20 from each village. Number of technologies have been promoted by AICRP among rural women. For the study purpose technologies related to drudgery reduction, Vermicompost, Herbal gulal, Protective mask and

Dying and printing were taken. Personal interview technique was used for data collection. Frequency, percentage and mean percent score were used for analysis of the data. The information pertaining to adoption of different technologies were recorded on a three point continuum namely always, sometimes, never with scores 2, 1, and 0 respectively. Further adoption index developed by was used to quantify the adoption behaviour of the respondents. It is given below:

$$A.I. = \frac{E}{P} \times 100$$

Where

- A.I. = Adoption index
- E = Extent of adoption of a given practice
- P = Potentiality of adoption of a practice

Results and Discussion

Background information of the respondents

Majority of the respondents (60%) belonged to the age group of 31-45 years and were married (95%). Regarding caste, 45 per cent respondents belonged to OBC category, 35 per cent

were from upper caste category whereas, 20 per cent respondents were from ST/SC category. Regarding educational level, nearly one third of the respondents (30%) were illiterate, 21 per cent were educated up to middle level while, 14 per cent had their education up to graduation level and above. Farming was the main family occupation of 70 per cent respondents. All the respondents were also involved in subsidiary occupation like farm labour, business, dairying and service. Majority of the respondents (60%) were from nuclear family. Regarding size of family it was found that equal number of respondents (40%) had small size family. Majority of the respondents (75%) were residing in *pucca* houses and had no organizational membership (98%). Majority of the respondents (60%) were from low socio-economic status whereas, 35 per cent respondents belonged to medium socio-economic status.

Adoption of selected technologies by the respondents Vermicompost

Under AICRP-Home science women were taught about the importance and method of preparing vermicompost. They were also convinced to adopt the technology.

Table 1: Adoption of vermicompost technology by the respondents

S. No.	Particulars	Extent of use (f/%)			Adoption Index (%)
		Always	Sometime	Never	
1.	Preparation of vermicompost	10	0	90	10
2.	Considerations in preparation of vermicompost	10	0	90	10
	(a) Select shaded place	10	0	90	10
	(b) Keep the vermibed moist	10	0	90	10
	(c) Ensure continues availability of FYM	10	0	90	10

n = 100

Table 1 divulges that only 10 per cent respondents were preparing vermicompost, out of which 6 were preparing the compost for commercial purpose and were using the manure in their own field. Majority of the respondents (90%) did not prepared vermicompost due to non availability of adequate space and limited number of animal (cow/buffalo) for dung. The results are in contrast with the findings of Vyas (2007) [1] who reported that majority of the respondents (79.25%) had high adoption level regarding vermicompost technology while 20.75 per cent had medium adoption and none of the respondents were in the category of low adoption.

Drudgery reduction technologies

Rural women are involved in multifaceted work in the farm as well as home which leads to drudgery on part of women. Use of drudgery reduction technologies like maize sheller, improved sickle and vegetable picking bag can simplify work of women and also save her time and energy. Perusal of Table

2 indicates that 55 per cent of the respondents were using improved sickle for cutting fodder. More than 58 per cent respondents used maize sheller for dehusking of cobs. Vegetables picking bag was used by 15 per cent respondents. Adoption index clearly indicates that the adoption level of drudgery reduction technologies was found to be medium. During discussion with women they reported that under intervention programme of AICRP improved sickle and maize sheller were given to the women for a period of six month. This has given them an opportunity to practice the use of implements and has convinced them to adopt the same. The findings are supporting by the results of Neetu and Batra (2012) [2] who observed that serrated sickle and tubular maize sheller were adopted as drudgery reducing implements by majority of the respondents. Less than half of the respondents (46.67%) perceived the improved sickle as highly acceptable, 40 per cent found it moderately acceptable and 13.33 per cent as least acceptable.

Table 2: Adoption of drudgery reduction technologies by the respondents

S. No.	Particulars	Extent of use (f/%)			Adoption Index (%)
		Always	Sometime	Never	
1.	Maize Sheller	58	0	42	58
2	Improved sickle	55	0	45	55
3	Vegetables picking bag to collect vegetables	15	0	85	15

n = 100

Protective mask, Herbal gual and Printing & dying technology

Under the project, the women were taught about income generating activities so that they can earn some additional income along with agriculture to support family income. The

women were also trained about preparation of protective mask and were motivated to use the same during working in the field. In this section findings pertaining to adoption of these technologies is presented.

Table 3: Adoption of protective mask, herbal gual and printing & dying technology by the respondents

n =100

S. No.	Particulars	Extent of use (f%)			Adoption Index (%)
		Always	Sometime	Never	
1.	Protective mask	20	44	34	10
2.	Preparation of herbal gual for household use	0	2	98	1
3.	Tie and dye	0	5	95	2.5
4.	Stencil printing	0	5	95	2.5
5.	Block printing	0	0	100	0

Perusal of Table 3 reveals that only 20 per cent respondents were using protective mask always while working in the field and 44 per cent respondents were using it sometimes. When inquired from the women they reported that protective mask were stitched by themselves during trainings organized by AICRP personnel. Finding further reveal that only two respondents prepared herbal gual for household use and none of them adopted block printing technology. Similarly tie & dye and stencil printing were adopted by only 5 per cent respondents. Low adoption of these technologies among women was due to lack of time and non availability of raw material in the village.

Component wise adoption of technologies by the respondents

Review of Table 4 clearly depict that in drudgery reduction and protective mask components the respondents had medium adoption with adoption index of 42.66 and 42.33, respectively. In rest of the components viz. vermicompost (12.50%), dying and printing (1.67%), herbal gual (1.0%) the respondents exhibited poor adoption.

Table 4: Component wise adoption of technologies by the respondents

n=100

S. No.	Components	Mean per cent adoption score
1	Vermicompost	12.50
2	Drudgery reduction	42.66
3	Protective mask	42.33
4	Herbal gual	1
5	Dying and printing	1.67

Conclusion

It can be concluded that in drudgery reduction and protective mask components the respondents had medium adoption while in case of vermicompost, dying and printing and herbal gual the respondents exhibited poor adoption. Hence, there is a need to pay more emphasis on these aspects during the trainings.

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