



ISSN (E): 2277-7695
ISSN (P): 2349-8242
NAAS Rating: 5.23
TPI 2023; 12(3): 4394-4396
© 2023 TPI

www.thepharmajournal.com

Received: 18-12-2022

Accepted: 27-02-2023

Sawandkar DN

Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Extension Education, Post Graduate Institute, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Wakle PK

Professor and Head, Department of Extension Education, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Lambe SP

Professor (CAS), Department of Extension Education, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Mankar DM

Ex. Director of Extension Education, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Patke NK

Associate Professor, Department of Agronomy, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Walke RD

Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Statistics section, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Corresponding Author:

Sawandkar DN

Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Extension Education, Post Graduate Institute, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India

Identification of the agricultural enterprises undertaken by the farm Women in Western Vidarbha

Sawandkar DN, Wakle PK, Lambe SP, Mankar DM, Patke NK and Walke RD

Abstract

India is celebrating and commemorating the progressive 75 years of India after independence with 'Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and promulgating mission of warranting women as "Empowered women-Empowered Nation". India is an agrarian economy with about 54.60 per cent of total workforce engaged in agricultural and allied sector activities (Census 2011). Women are extensively engaged in the activities pertaining to agriculture and allied sector. The empowerment of women in agriculture is fundamental to reduce poverty, hunger and malnutrition as they play an important role in agriculture not only as agricultural labourers, co-farmers and family labourers but as managers of the farm and farm entrepreneurs. It is essential therefore to recognize that women farmers have the potential and the solution to bring their families out of poverty; and thus women farmers should be at the forefront of agriculture. The present study focuses on farm women as an integral part of rural society; hence the research objective was formulated to identify the agricultural enterprises undertaken by the farm women of, Western Vidarbha region. An exploratory research design of social science was used for the investigation. Study was conducted in Akola and Washim districts in the year 2021, with 240 respondents. In the present study different agricultural enterprises followed by the farm women was identified and recorded. The findings of the study indicated that, as 34.58 per cent of farm women are engaged in agriculture, 23.75 in Agriculture + labour, 30.83 per cent of the farm women are engaged in allied agricultural enterprises.

Keywords: rural women, farm women, women, agriculture enterprise, Agripreneurship

Introduction

Farm women are the backbone of Indian agriculture as women contribute one third labour force required for farming operations and allied enterprises. Growing food has been an interminable saga of her life. There is hardly any farm/household activity without active involvement of Women. They are at their best in agriculture and animal husbandry. Besides they are the manager to the household activities also. They take important decisions in the home and outside the home. Since ancient time women play a pivotal role in agriculture. Women's participation in the family farming system is crucial to the sustenance of rural economy.

There is a great potential to develop women farmers as entrepreneurs through Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME's), Farmer Producer Companies and Start-ups. The promotion of women entrepreneurship through the formation of women cooperatives in farming can be an effective means of helping to alleviate rural poverty. In order to transform women farmers into entrepreneurs, it is important to provide them with access to agricultural technology, credit, product and market information and training in management skills and enterprise development. Along with this effective participation of women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) will go a long way in achieving these goals.

The different agricultural activities taken up by Indian women including the following enterprises:

- Farm Level Producers:** At the individual family point, every family is to be treated as venture to enhance production by making best use of the technologies, possessions and demand in the market.
- Service Providers:** For optimizing agriculture by every family business, there are diverse types of services requisite at the village level. These include the input borrowing and distribution, hiring of equipment like tractors, sprayers, seed drills, threshers, harvesters

dryers and scientific services such as setting up of irrigation amenities, weed curb, plant security, yielding, threshing, conveyance, warehouse, etc. related opportunities exist in the livestock husbandry sector for providing breeding, immunization, disease diagnostic and treatment services, apart from allocation of cattle feed, mineral combination, forage grains, etc.

- c. Input Producers:** There are many flourishing enterprises, which need critical inputs. A few such inputs which can be produced by the home entrepreneurs at the village level i.e. bio pesticides, soil amendments, bio fertilizers, vermin compost, plants of diverse species of vegetables, fruits, ornamentals, root media for raising plants in pots, production of cattle feed concentrate, agricultural tools, irrigation accessories, mineral mixture and complete feed. There are good openings to support, fishery, sericulture and poultry during sponsorship of critical service amenities in rural areas.
- d. Processing and Marketing of Farm Produce:** well organized management of post-production processes requires higher level of knowledge as well as investment. Such venture can be handled by People's Organizations either in the form of co-operatives service joint stock companies or societies. The most successful instances are the dairy cooperatives, sugar cooperatives, and fruit grower co-operatives in lot of States. However, the success of such undertaking is exclusively dependent on the reliability and ability of the leaders involved. Such undertaking needs good specialized support for running the activities as a competitive trade and to contend well with other players in the market, mainly the retail traders and intermediates.
- e. Livestock Rearing:** It is widely accepted that most of the critical roles related to livestock farming are played by the women. Livestock farming has become more attractive for women when they are in cash strapped situation. They have to work harder and more intensive in order to make agriculture economically affordable.

Materials and Method

An Exploratory research design of social research was used for the present investigation. The present investigation was carried out in two districts Akola and Washim that were randomly selected from Western Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra state. A total four talukas were selected from these two districts for the study. The purposively selection of talukas were done from the selected districts on the basis of maximum number of farm women. From seven talukas in Akola district, two talukas Akola and Akot and from six talukas of Washim district, two talukas, Washim and Malegaon, were selected for the study. From each of the selected talukas, 6 villages were selected randomly by drawing a lottery. Thus, a total of 24 villages were selected from the 4 talukas. From each of the villages in the selected talukas 10 farm women involved in agricultural enterprises were randomly selected for study. Thus a total of 240 farm women were selected for the study.

In the present study, it is defined as a body of knowledge built by farm women in agriculture through agricultural enterprises. In the present study different agricultural enterprises followed by the farm women were identified and recorded.

Result and Discussion

The findings regarding different agricultural enterprises followed by farm women was identify and recorded as 34.58 per cent of farm women are engaged in agriculture, 23.75 in Agriculture + labour, 30.83 per cent of the farm women are engaged in allied agricultural enterprises in that 11.25 per cent contributed by Agriculture + Dairy, followed by Agriculture + Goat raring 03.75 per cent, Agriculture + Poultry 2.92 per cent, Agriculture + milk processing 00.42 per cent, Agriculture + Dalmill 00.42 per cent, Agriculture + flour mill 00.42 per cent, Agriculture + Shevali making 01.25 per cent, Agriculture + Gulchikki 0.83, Agriculture + Bakery 00.42, Agriculture + Agarbatti making 01.67 per cent, Agriculture + Broom / Whisk making 00.42 per cent and Agriculture + Dairy + Goat raring 2.08. In Agriculture+ business 09.17 per cent of farm women are engaged and in Agriculture +services 01.67 per cent of farm women are involved.

Table 1: Distribution of the Different agricultural enterprises adopted by farm women

Sr. No.	Category	Respondents (n = 240)	
		Frequency	Percent
1.	Agriculture	83	34.58
2.	Agriculture + labour	57	23.75
3.	Agriculture + Allied agricultural enterprises		
	I. Agriculture + Dairy	38	11.25
	II. Agriculture + Goat raring	12	3.75
	III. Agriculture + Poultry	8	2.92
	IV. Agriculture + milk processing	1	0.42
	V. Agriculture + Dalmill	1	0.42
	VI. Agriculture + Flour mill	1	0.42
	VII. Agriculture + Shevali making	3	1.25
	VIII. Agriculture + Gulchikki	2	0.83
	IX. Agriculture + Bakery	1	0.42
	X. Agriculture + Agarbatti making	4	1.67
	XI. Agriculture + Broom/Whisk making	1	0.42
	XII. Agriculture + Dairy + Goat raring	2	2.08
	Total	74	30.83
4.	Agriculture + Business	22	09.17
5.	Agriculture + Services	04	01.67
	Total	240	100.00

Conclusion

The findings of the study indicated that, as 34.58 per cent of farm women are engaged in agriculture, 23.75 in Agriculture + labour, 30.83 per cent of the farm women are engaged in allied agricultural enterprises. In present study it is noted that, slightly more than one third of farm women are engaged in agriculture + agricultural allied occupation it should be maximise for sustainable development of farm women.

References

1. Kumar A. An analytical study on women dairy entrepreneurs in Mandya district of Karnataka. M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis, Univ. Agric. Sci, Raichur (India); c2011.
2. Lavanya DN. Involvement of farm women in different farm enterprises: A critical analysis. Department of agricultural extension education college of agriculture, Raichur University of agricultural sciences raichur; c2016. p. 584 104.
3. Sharma NK. A study on attitude of rural women toward agro-based enterprise under District poverty initiative

- Project (DPIP) in Rewa Block of Rewa district. M.Sc. (Agri.) thesis, Univ. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur (India); c2013.
4. Tologbonse EB, Jibrin MM, Auta SJ, Damisa MA. Factors influencing women participation in women in agriculture programme of Kaduna state agricultural development project. Nigeria. *Int. J Agric. Econ. Ext.* 2013;1(7):47-54.
 5. Tripathi. A critical study on participation of rural women in agriculture activities Gwalior district M.P. M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis (unpublished), JNKVV, Jabalpur; c2007.
 6. Upadhyay, Desai CP. Participation of farm women in animal husbandry in Anand district of Gujarat. *J Community Mobilization and Sustainable Development.* 2011;6(2):117-121.