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Involvement of rural women in selling of animals products in Kanpur district

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Abstract

India is an agriculture based country and livestock sector is an integral component of it where, livestock production is largely in the hands of women. Most of the animal farming activities such as fodder collection, feeding, watering, and health care, management, milking and household-level processing, value addition and marketing are performed by women. Livestock management has always been considered to be the sole responsibility of women.

Keywords: Livestock management, rural women, performance, Sale & Purchase of Animals, Milk product

Introduction

Livestock management has always been considered to be the sole responsibility of women. India is an agriculture based country and livestock sector is an integral component of it where, livestock production is largely in the hands of women. Most of the animal farming activities such as fodder collection, feeding, watering, and health care, management, milking and household-level processing, value addition and marketing are performed by women. Besides, considerable involvement and contribution of women, considerable gender inequalities also exist in Indian villages. Therefore, there is a need to correct gender bias in livestock sector. Efforts are needed to increase the capacity of women to negotiate with confidence and meet their strategic needs. Both men and rural women are involved in the livestock management, but rural women play an important role in sustainability of livestock through processing of milk, whereas fodder production is usually the responsibility of men. Women are involved not only in household activities as like cleaning of home, cooking, care of children, but also carry out different kind of livestock activities such as watering and feeding of animals, milking, animal shed cleaning, making of dung cakes, taking care of sick animals, calves rearing, production of different dairy products, and treatment of animals (Andaleeb *et al.*, 2017) ^[1]. Kour and Singh (2011) the marketing of milk, low participation was found for selling of milk at home and through milk vendors, whereas marketing of milk through village co-operatives a medium level of participation was seen among rural women dairy farmers.

Research Methodology

In the first stage Kanpur Nagar was selected purposively due to investigator convenience. Kanpur is the biggest city of Uttar Pradesh state. District Kanpur Nagar and Kanpur Dehat are divided in 10 blocks. Three blocks from each district namely Sarsoul, Shivrajpur, Choubeypur from Kanpur Nagar and Amaraudha, Malasha, Sarvankheda from Kanpur Dehat were randomly selected for the study. Two villages from each block in which Ramnagar, Lawakhedha from Sarsoul, Mudaiharpur, Dilipnagar from Shivrajpur and prytappur, tatiyaganj, from Choubeypur were selected randomly from District Kanpur Nagar and Harahara, Rampur from Amaraudha, Andnva, Dhobha from Malasha and Mohanepur and Sayitha from Sarvankheda were selected randomly for the present study. Fifteen respondents were selected randomly from each village. Thus, Total 180 respondents were chosen for the purpose of obtaining necessary information.

Results and discussion

Table 1: Distribution of respondents on the basis of involvement of rural women in Sales of product/Animals management practices livestock

S. No.	Livestock Sales of Product/Animals Management Practices	Kanpur Nagar n=90					Kanpur Dehat n=90					Z
		Fully independent	Partial involvement	Nil	Mean Score	SD	Fully independent	Partial involvement	Nil	Mean Score	SD	
a)	Sale of Milk & its product	25	62	3	2.24	0.50	32	54	4	2.31	0.55	0.849
		(27.78)	(68.89)	(3.33)			(35.56)	(60.00)	(4.44)			
b)	Sale of Calves	7	76	7	2.00	0.39	6	84	0	2.07	0.25	1.355
		(7.78)	(84.44)	(7.78)			(6.67)	(93.33)	(0.00)			
c)	Sale & Purchase of Animals	6	81	3	2.03	0.31	5	79	6	1.99	0.35	0.897
		(6.67)	(90.00)	(3.33)			(5.56)	(87.78)	(6.67)			
d)	Selection of Animal breed	6	73	11	1.94	0.43	7	75	8	1.99	0.41	0.710
		(6.67)	(81.11)	(12.22)			(7.78)	(83.33)	(8.89)			

Sale of Product/Animals

Envisages partial involvement in all most all the decisions related to the sale of product and animal related activities. About sixty nine percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar and 60.00 percent from Kanpur Dehat have partial involvement in making decision regarding sale of milk and its products followed by 35.56 percent respondents from Kanpur Dehat and 27.78 percent from Kanpur Nagar were reported fully independent responsible for taking such decisions while 3.33 percent from Kanpur Nagar and 4.44 percent from Kanpur Dehat were not at all involved in decision for sale of milk and milk products. Majority i.e. little less than ninety five percent respondents from Kanpur Dehat and 84.44 percent from Kanpur Nagar also have partial involvement in taking decision for sales of calves, whereas equal 7.78 percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar were found full and non involvement in such decision respectively. No single respondents from Kanpur Dehat reported her non association in making decision regarding sale of calves but about seven percent reported that they fully independently owe this responsibility. More than eighty five percent respondents

from Kanpur Dehat and ninety percent from Kanpur Nagar were reported their partial involvement in sale and purchase of animal but more than five percent from Kanpur Dehat were found full and non involvement in sale and purchase of animal respectively About three percent from Kanpur Nagar also reported their non involvement in decision of sale and purchase of animal, whereas 6.67 percent from Kanpur Nagar fully owe this responsibility. More than eighty percent respondents from both district have partial involvement in making decisions regarding solution of animal breed followed by 12.22 percent from Kanpur Nagar and 8.89 percent from Kanpur Dehat have no involvement in such decision. About eight percent respondents from Kanpur Dehat and 6.67 percent from Kanpur Nagar have full responsibility of making decision like selection of animal breed. The reason for women low participation in treatment, vaccination, breeding, and marketing of animals may be that women do not have the permission to participate in such activities which can be performed outside of home. This reason also refers to cultural constraints. On the contrary, the observations which are reported by Arshad *et al.* (2013) [3].

Table 2: Distribution of respondents on the basis of performance of milking activities of livestock management

S. No.	Milking of animals Activities	Kanpur Nagar n=90					Kanpur Dehat n=90					Z
		Always	Sometimes	Never	Mean Score	SD	Always	Sometimes	Never	Mean Score	SD	
(a)	Milking of animals	46	19	25	2.23	0.86	34	22	34	2.00	0.87	1.813
		(51.11)	(21.11)	(27.78)			(37.78)	(24.44)	(37.78)			
(b)	Processing of milk for home use	55	26	9	2.51	0.67	74	16	0	2.82	0.38	3.823*
		(61.11)	(28.89)	(10.00)			(82.22)	(17.78)	(0.00)			
(c)	Selling milk & milk products	32	36	22	2.11	0.77	42	39	9	2.37	0.66	2.401*
		(35.56)	(40.00)	(24.44)			(46.67)	(43.33)	(10.00)			

Most of the important tasks in animal husbandry are performed by women and caring and rearing of animal is considered as extension of their home making responsibilities Milking is one of the activity which dominantly performed by the women respondents it is very clear from the table 4.2.4. that more than fifty one percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar ‘always’ perform milking activity whereas 37.78 percent respondents from Kanpur Dehat ‘always’ perform this activity followed by 24.44 percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar whereas twenty one percent reported performing milking activity ‘sometimes’. Approximately twenty eight percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar ‘Never’ perform milking activity but in case of Kanpur Dehat the percentage exactly increased by ten. About thirty eight percent respondents ‘never’ perform milking activity.

As far as processing is concern a great portion i.e. 82.22 percent respondents ‘always’ process milk for home use,

whereas in Kanpur Nagar 61.11 percent respondents reported that they ‘always’ ‘process milk for home use’ followed by 28.89 percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar reported ‘sometimes, whereas 10.00 percent reported ‘never’ performed ‘processing of milk for home use’ activity, but in case of Kanpur Dehat none of the respondents reported ‘never’ while about eighteen percent reported ‘sometimes’ ‘processed milk for home use’. Marketing is generally considered as male activity but in case of milk and milk product it is also female activity. More or less in both the district in ‘selling of milk and milk products’ female dominance was observed. More than forty seven percent respondents from Kanpur Dehat and 35.56 percent respondents from Kanpur Nagar ‘always’ sell milk and milk products was their responsibility followed by 40.00 percent from Kanpur Nagar and forty three percent from Kanpur Dehat reported ‘sometimes’. Only ten percent from Kanpur

Dehat and twenty four percent from Kanpur Nagar reported they never, performed sell “milk and milk products activity”. Rathod *et al.* (2011) ^[4] More than half of the women (58%) participated independently or with support of the female (30%) in processing of milk and milk products. A majority of them (68%) also looked after the processed products at household level independently. But their participation in marketing related activities was less as compared to processing activities was 2.76. The reason behind low participation of women in marketing activities might be due to illiteracy, less mobility, male dominance and social mores and taboos prevalent in the society. Similar findings were revealed that a majority of farm women were involved in sale of milk and milk products and milk processing activities like butter preparation and ghee making.

Conclusion

It can be concluded from the study that no difference has been seen in socio- economic conditions of respondents from Kanpur Nagar and Kanpur Dehat. Significant difference has been observed between respondents of both districts. Respondents from Kanpur Nagar were more concern with disinfecting of cattle shed. Majority of respondents always perform, and care of sick animals, milking activity and selling of milk and milk products activity whereas fodder collection and taking animal out for grazing activities were never performed by rural women of both district. More or less all respondents were partially involved in all decisions like selling of milk and calves etc. but not at all involved in decisions like getting veterinary aids and AI facilities etc. Both men and women are involved in the livestock management, but women play an important role in sustainability of livestock through caring and grazing of animals, fodder collection, cleaning of animal sheds and processing of milk, whereas fodder production is usually the responsibility of men. There is a need to correct gender bias in livestock sector, veterinary education, and research and service delivery systems as to enhance the effectiveness of women-oriented livestock development programs (Anonymous, 2012-17) ^[2]. This review covers the role of women in livestock and dairy sector.

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