International Journal of Chemical Studies

P-ISSN: 2349–8528
E-ISSN: 2321–4902
www.chemijournal.com
IJCS 2020; 8(3): 1262-1265

Received: 18-03-2020
Accepted: 20-04-2020

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Knowledge of rural women in animal husbandry practices

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.22271/chemi.2020.v8.i3q.9374

Abstract
A survey based study was carried out to ascertain knowledge of rural women in animal husbandry practices in korba district of chhattisgarh, The socio-personal study revealed that majority of the women were middle aged (69.20%) in illiterate (42.50%), belonged to other backward caste and were engaged in animal husbandry practices. Maximum respondents had nuclear type of family. In the study area, 62.50 per cent respondent landless farmers. majority (57.50%) of them had higher level of annual income. 70.00 per cent respondents had medium level of scientific orientation. (67.50%) had low Cosmopoliteness. majority (95.00%) of the respondents used to contact neighbour/friend/relative for information about animal husbandry practices. majority of the respondents (69.17%) had medium exposure to overall sources of information. most of the respondents (44.17%) had low level of contact with extension personnel. Regarding correlation, out of all selected 10 independent variables, only 5 variables had highly significant correlated with knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices at 0.01 per cent level of significance. Remaining 5 variables did not indicate any significant relationship with knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices. multiple regression analysis was analyzed. The data reveal that out of 10 variables, only 1 variables viz. had highly significant contribution towards knowledge at 0.01 per cent level of significance and 3 variables found positive and significantly contribution towards knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices. remaining 6 variables did not contribute significantly in the knowledge of recommended animal husbandry practices. However, all the selected 10 independent variables in the model shows the 57 per cent contribution in the knowledge of recommended animal husbandry practices.

Keywords: Knowledge; rural women; animal husbandry practices

Introduction
The prosperity and growth of a nation depends on the status and development of its women. women play an important role in animal husbandry activities as manager, decision makers and skilled workers. The Chhattisgarh state is rich in livestock wealth. The total livestock population is over 144.18 lakh. livestock produce about 1120 MT milk production. FYM from dairy animals provides a good source of organic material for improving soil fertility and crop yield. One third of the cattle dung in India is used as fuel in rural areas. women have to be motivated to acquire more scientific knowledge for increasing the livestock production through various extension techniques. knowledge of rural women This effort could be of great utility to the extension managers, policy planners and all those involved in dairy development to devise suitable dairy development activities and also in proper targeting of these activities.

Research methodology
The present study was carried out during 2012-13 in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh state. This study aims to assess knowledge of rural women in animal husbandry enterprise. this study was conducted in randomly selected 8 villages [aayodhapuri, tulsinagar, Nagoyeekhar, Fertilizer, Kharmora, Gokulnagar, Duggupara and Dahiyanpara] of two purposively selected blocks (Korba and Katghora) located in Korba district. The sample size was comprised of 120 respondents. The data collection was done by the use of interview schedule through personal interview. Data were analyzed with help of suitable statistical methods.

Results and discussion

Socio-personal characteristics of the respondents indicated that the majority (69.20%) belonged to middle age group (31 to 45 years) Bellukar *et al.* (2003), Rathod *et al.* (2011), Chand *et al.* (2011) [3], Hai *et al.* (2011) [4], and Lad *et al.* (2012) [9] also noted almost similar findings. Maximum respondents had illiterate Bellukar *et al.* (2003), Khin (2005) [6], Kavitha and Reddy (2007) [5] also observed similar findings in their study. Majority of the respondents (42.50%) belonged other backward caste who were engaged in animal husbandry practices. Maximum respondents had nuclear type of family Savitha (2004) [12], Chand *et al.* (2011) [3], Lad *et al.* (2012) [9] and Koundal (2012) [7] also noted almost similar findings.

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their socio-personal characteristics

(n=120)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
Young (up to 30 years)	21	17.50
Middle (31 to 45 years)	83	69.20
Old (above 45 years)	16	13.30
Education		
Illiterate	51	42.50
Only signature	09	07.50
Primary school (1st to 5th)	26	21.70
Middle school (6th to 8th)	18	15.00
High School (9th to 10th)	09	07.50
Higher Secondary School (11th to 12th)	05	04.13
Graduate and above	02	01.67
Caste		
Scheduled caste	00	00.00
Scheduled tribes	00	00.00
Other backward class	82	68.30
General	38	31.70
Type of family		
Nuclear	96	80.00
Joint	24	20.00

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to their socio-economic characteristics

(n=120)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Land holding		
Landless farmer	75	62.50
Marginal (up to 1 ha)	45	37.50
Small (1.1 to 2 ha)	00	00.00
Medium (2.01 to 4 ha)	00	00.00
Big (above 4 ha)	00	00.00
Annual income		
Low (up to Rs. 32,500)	07	05.83
Medium (Rs.32,501 to Rs.65,000)	44	36.67
High (above Rs.65,000)	69	57.50

Table 2 Show that Socio-economic characteristics of the respondents indicated that the maximum number of respondents belonged to landless category. Kumari (1999) [8] and Balasubramanian (1995) [1] also observed almost similar findings. majority of the respondents belonged to above Rs.65,000 annual income group. Pushpa (2006) [11] also noted similar findings in her study.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their scientific orientation and Cosmopoliteness

(n=120)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Level of scientific orientation		
Low (up to 15 score)	22	18.30
Medium (16 to 30 score)	84	70.00
High (above 30 score)	14	11.70
Level of Cosmopoliteness		
Nil (Never)	81	67.50
Low (Rarely: 3-4 times in a year)	28	23.30
Medium (Sometimes: 3-4 times in a month)	11	09.20
High (Always: 3-4 times in a week)	00	00.00

Table 3 Show that (70.00%) had medium level of scientific orientation. The majority of the respondents (67.50%) had nil Cosmopoliteness.

The data presented in Table 4 reveal that amongst the sources of information, majority (95.00%) of the respondents used to contact Neighbour/Friend/Relative for information about animal husbandry practices and 91.67 per cent of the respondents contacted with Milk Seller, followed by 88.33 per cent of the respondents contacted with Medicine Shopkeepers and Veterinary Doctors. About 14.17 per cent of the respondents contacted with Progressive Farmers and, 9.17 per cent of the respondents contacted with Rural Agriculture Extension Officer. About 08.33 per cent of the respondents had obtained information from Television, 07.50 per cent from Radio, 09.17 per cent were using Newspaper for seeking information regarding animal husbandry practices and none of them used Veterinary Scientists as their sources of information

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their use of sources of information

(n=120)

Sources of information	Frequency	Percentage*
Neighbour/Friend/Relative	114	95.00
Progressive farmer	17	14.17
Rural Agriculture Extension Officer	11	09.17
Medicine shopkeeper	106	88.33
Veterinary doctor	106	88.33
Veterinary Scientists	00	00.00
Milk seller	110	91.67
Radio	09	07.50
Television	10	08.33
News paper	06	05.00

Data are based on multiple response

Table 5: Distribution of the respondents according to their extent of utilization of sources of information and contact with extension personnel

(n=120)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Utilization of information sources		
Low utilization (up to 3 sources)	10	8.33
Medium utilization (4 to 6 sources)	83	69.17
High utilization (above 6 sources)	27	22.50
Contact with extension personnel		
Low (up to 5 score)	53	44.17
Medium (6-10 score)	52	43.33
High (above 10 score)	15	12.50

Table 5 reveals that (69.17%) had medium exposure to overall sources of information. Most of the respondents (44.17%) had low level of contact with extension personnel.

Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to their level of knowledge about selected animal husbandry practices

(n=120)

Practices	Level of knowledge		
	Nil f/ (%)	Partial f /(%)	Full f/ (%)
Knowledge about AI	59 (49.17)	61 (50.83)	00 (00.00)
Knowledge about animal breed	85 (70.83)	35 (29.17)	00 (00.00)
Knowledge about nutrient of animal	41 (34.17)	74 (61.66)	05 (04.17)
Knowledge about how much nutrient to be given to pregnant and milch animals	00 (00.00)	119 (99.17)	01 (00.83)
Knowledge about how much nutrient to be given to new born calf	00 (00.00)	116 (96.67)	04 (03.33)
Knowledge about suitable management for animal	11 (09.17)	104 (86.66)	05 (04.17)
Knowledge about animal diseases	69 (57.50)	51 (42.50)	00 (00.00)
Knowledge about different medicines for animal's treatment	117 (97.50)	03 (02.50)	00 (00.00)
Knowledge about animal vaccines	120 (100)	00 (00.00)	00 (00.00)
Knowledge about insurance related to animal	120 (100)	00 (00.00)	00 (00.00)

f- Frequency; (%) - Per cent

Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to their overall level of knowledge regarding animal husbandry practices

(n=120)

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
Low (Up to 33.33%)	24	20.00
Medium (33.34 to 66.66%)	70	58.33
High (above 66.66%)	26	21.67

Table 6 &7 reveals that 58.33per cent of the respondents had medium level of overall knowledge regarding animal husbandry practices. In case of practice wise level of knowledge of respondents it was found that 50.83 per cent of the respondents had partial level of knowledge about artificial insemination, 70.83 per cent of the respondents had no knowledge about animal breed, 61.66 per cent of the respondents had partial level of knowledge about nutrition of animal, 99.17 per cent of the respondents had partial level of knowledge about nutrition to be given to pregnant and milch animals, 96.67 per cent of the respondents had partial level of knowledge about nutrition to be given to new born calf, 86.66 per cent of the respondents had partial level of knowledge about suitable management for animal, 57.50 per cent of the respondents had no knowledge about animal diseases, 97.50 per cent of the respondents had no knowledge about different medicines for animal treatment and cent per cent of the respondents had no knowledge about animal vaccines and insurance related to animal.

Table 8: Correlation and multiple regression analysis of independent variables with the knowledge of recommended animal husbandry practices followed by rural women

Independent variables	Correlation coefficient 'r' value	Partial regression coefficient	
		'b' value	't' value
X_1 Age	0.127555	0.020791*	2.347882
X_2 Education	0.170166	0.065912	1.858791
X_3 Caste	0.10297	0.820813	0.227078
X_4 Type of family	0.015744	0.80893	0.242429
X_5 Land holding	0.070309	0.094759	1.686329
X_6 Annual income	0.363183**	0.001804**	3.204102
X_7 Scientific orientation	0.499666**	0.024378*	2.284746
X_8 Cosmopoliteness	0.23866**	0.022114*	-2.32355
X_9 Source of information	0.331283**	0.25377	1.147655
X_{10} Contact with extension personnel	0.375036**	0.172216	1.374673
** Significant at 0.01 level of probability		Multiple R2 =0.571694	
* Significant at 0.05 level of probability		F value = 9.24	

Table 8 reveals that out of all selected 10 independent variables, only 5 variables *i.e.* annual income, Scientific orientation, Cosmopoliteness, Source of information, contact with extension personnel had highly significant correlated with knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices at 0.01 per cent level of significance correlated with knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices. Remaining 5 variables did not indicate any significant relationship with knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices. To determine the predicting ability of various independents variables, multiple regression analysis was analyzed. The data reveal that out of 10 variables, only 1 variables *viz.* Annual income highly significant contribution towards knowledge at 0.01 per cent level of significance and 3variables age, Scientific orientation, Cosmopoliteness, found positive and significantly contribution towards knowledge of women in animal husbandry practices remaining 6 variables did not contribute significantly in the knowledge of recommended animal husbandry practices. majority (95.00%) of the respondents used to contact Neighbour/Friend/Relative for information about animal husbandry practices However, all the selected 10 independent variables in the model shows the 57 per cent contribution in the knowledge of recommended animal husbandry practices.

Conclusions

It was concluded that majority of the women were middle aged (69.20%) in illiterate (42.50%), belonged to other backward caste and were engaged in animal husbandry practices. Maximum respondents had nuclear type of family.

In the study area, 62.50 per cent respondent landless farmers. majority (57.50%) of them had higher level of annual income. 70.00 per cent respondents had medium level of scientific orientation. (67.50%) had low Cosmopoliteness. majority (95.00%) of the respondents used to contact neighbour/friend/relative for information about animal husbandry practices. majority of the respondents (69.17%) had medium exposure to overall sources of information. most of the respondents (44.17%) had low level of contact with extension personnel. had medium level of overall knowledge regarding in animal husbandry practices. However, all the selected 10 independent variables in the model shows the 57 per cent contribution in the knowledge of recommended animal husbandry practices.

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