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Profile of farm women about improved dairy husbandry practices

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Abstract

The investigation focused on the personal profile of dairy farm women in the jurisdictional area of Jaipur dairy union of Rajasthan state. The data were collected from 120 farm women from two dairy zones Bindayaka and Dudu of Jaipur dairy union. The ex-post facto research design was applied when the independent variables have already acted upon. Different independent variables like age, education, size of land holding, herd size, annual income, extension contact, social participation, dairy cooperative society distance, dairying experience and training exposure were measured and majority of the farm women had moderately perceived about improved dairy husbandry practices. Farm women seem to have gained some confidence in dairy husbandry practices due to the training and marketing support provided by these dairy cooperative societies, but the activities concerning to dairy husbandry production such as training, marketing facilities for dairy products and disease in livestock and reduced prospects of export of livestock products from India may be considered as potential risks coming on the way of expansion of dairy production in the state.

Keywords: Dairy husbandry, farm women, education, herd size, variables

Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy in which dairy husbandry is a significant economic activity in rural areas and that it provides livelihood and economic support to rural families. India is predominately an agrarian country in which more than 70 per cent of the human population in villages depends on agriculture, animal husbandry and allied activities for their livelihood. The dairy and livestock sector in India is crucial to the national economy, contributing 4.5% to GDP and 24% to the agricultural sector, with a value of approximately 10 lakh crore. Between 1970 and 2022, milk production increased more than 10-fold, with India becoming the world's largest milk producer. Over the course of eight years, the amount of milk produced has climbed by 51.05 per cent from 146.3 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 221.10 million tonnes in 2021-22. Rajasthan (15.05%), Uttar Pradesh (14.93%), Madhya Pradesh (8.06%), Gujarat (7.56%) and Andhra Pradesh (6.97%) are the top five milk producing states in India. An estimated 33.3 million metric tonnes of milk was produced in Rajasthan. There are so many factors like age, education, size of land holding, herd size, annual income, extension contact, social participation, DCS distance, dairy experience and training exposure etc. which play a significant role in perception of improved dairy husbandry practices.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in the area of Jaipur dairy union of Rajasthan state. The Jaipur dairy union comprises of nine dairy zones, out of which, two dairy zones Bindayaka and Dudu was selected on the basis of highest registered Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCSs). Therefore, nine DCSs from Bindayaka and eleven DCSs from Dudu dairy zone were selected randomly through proportional allocation to the size of sample. In each DCS 6 registered dairy farm women were selected randomly. Hence, total sample of 120 farm women from 20 DCSs were selected. Personal profile variables were measured using different scales to study the individual profiles of farm women members of DCSs. Age (Chronological age in years); Education (Scale developed by Trivedi 1963 [12] with slight modifications); Size of land holding (Criteria suggested by Revenue Department, Government of India, 2001) [1]; Herd size (Tool was prepared by the investigator in light of suggestion given by experts); Annual income (Tool was prepared by the investigator in light of suggestion given by experts); Extension contact (Procedure followed by Seshachuri 1980c [9] with slight modifications); Social participation (Scale developed by Nirban 2004 [7] with slight modifications); DCS distance (Tool was prepared by the investigator in light of suggestion given by experts); Dairy experience (Tool was

prepared by the investigator in light of suggestion given by experts) and Training exposure (Scale developed by Yadav 2002 [13] with slight modifications). Primary dada were collected from the selected respondents with the help of pre-structured interview schedule. Descriptive statistical tools such as frequency, mean, percentage and standard deviation to analyze and interpret the collected data for familiarize with the profile of farm women towards improved dairy husbandry practices.

Results and Discussion

Profile of farm women according to their selected personal characteristics

The profile of farm women member of DCSs *viz.*, age, education, size of landing holding, herd size, annual income, extension contact, social participation, DCS distance, dairy experience and training exposure were analyzed.

Age

The data presented in Table 1 reveal that out of total 120 dairy farm women, 67.50 per cent (81) dairy farm women were found in middle age group whereas 18.33 per cent (22) and 14.17 per cent (17) were found in young and old age groups, respectively.

The findings of this study are also supported by the findings of Rathod *et al.* (2014) [8], Javeed *et al.* (2020) [4], Naidu and Subrahmanyeswari (2021) [6].

Table 1: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their age n=120

S. No.	Age category (Years)	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Young (below 34 years)	22	18.33
2.	Middle (from 34 to 51 years)	81	67.50
3.	Old (above 51 years)	17	14.17
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=42.63 S.D.=8.57

Education

The data given in Table 2 show that 21.67 per cent (26) farm women member of DCSs were found in "middle education" where as 20.83 per cent (25) farm women member of DCSs upto "primary" and 18.33 per cent (22) farm women member of DCSs were found in category of "can write only", 14.17 per cent (17) farm women member of DCSs were found in category of "high school", 10.83 per cent (13) "can read only" and 6.67 per cent (8) "illiterate", 5.83 per cent (7) "Hr. secondary/sr. secondary" and 1.67 per cent (2) farm women member of DCSs were found in group of "graduate/above" education.

These findings are in supported of the findings of Javeed *et al.* (2020) [4] and Naidu and Subrahmanyeswari (2021) [6].

Table 2: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their education n=120

S. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	8	6.67
2.	Can read only	13	10.83
3.	Can write only	22	18.33
4.	Primary	25	20.83
5.	Middle	26	21.67
6.	High school	17	14.17
7.	Hr. Secondary/ Sr. Secondary	7	5.83
8.	Graduate/Above	2	1.67
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=4.14 S.D.=1.67

Size of land holding

The data given in Table 3 show that out of 120 farm women member of DCSs, 27.50 per cent (33) farm women member of DCSs had semi-medium land holding, 23.33 per cent (28) farm women member of DCSs had Medium and 22.50 per cent (27) farm women member of DCSs possessed small land holdings, 19.17 per cent (23) and 7.50 per cent (9) farm women member of DCSs were having large and marginal land holdings, respectively.

These findings are in accordance with the findings of George and Chauhan (2004) [2] and Tanwar and Kumar (2014) [11].

Table 3: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their size of land holding n=120

S. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Marginal farmer (Up to 1 ha)	9	7.50
2.	Small farmer (1.01 to 2.00 ha)	27	22.50
3.	Semi-medium farmer (2.01 to 4.00 ha)	33	27.50
4.	Medium farmer (4.01 to 10.00 ha)	28	23.33
5.	Large farmer (above 10.00 ha)	23	19.17
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=3.24 S.D.=1.21

Herd size

The data given in Table 4 indicate that 75.00 per cent (90) farm women member of DCSs were having medium herd size while 13.33 per cent (16) and 11.67 per cent (14) farm women member of DCSs were having large and small herd size, respectively.

The findings of this study are also supported by the findings of Rathod *et al.* (2014) [8].

Table 4: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their herd size n=120

S. No.	Herd size (no. of milch animals)	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Small (below 8)	14	11.67
2.	Medium (from 8 to 14)	90	75.00
3.	Large (above 14)	16	13.33
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=8.46 S.D. =5.77

Annual Income

Income refers to the total amount obtained by the farm women member of DCSs from dairy husbandry, agriculture and other sources. From the data collected, the farm women member of DCSs were categorized into three groups on the basis of Mean and S.D.

It is evident from the data given in Table 5 indicate that majority of the farm women member of DCSs were having medium level of income (63.33%), followed by high level of income (20.00%) and low level of income (16.67%) of farm women member of DCSs.

The findings of this study are also supported by the findings of Rathod *et al.* (2014) [8].

Table 5: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their annual income n = 120

S. No.	Category (₹)	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (below ₹ 152032)	20	16.67
2.	Medium (from ₹ 152032 to ₹ 409486)	76	63.33
3.	High (above ₹ 409486)	24	20.00
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=280758.57 S.D.=128727.05

Extension contacts

The data given in Table 6 reveal that majority (72.50%) of the farm women member of DCSs had medium level of extension contact followed by low (16.67%) and high (10.83%) level of extension contact, respectively.

The findings of this study are also supported by the findings of Singodia *et al.* (2019) [10].

Table 6: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their extension contact n = 120

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (below 9.29 score)	20	16.67
2.	Medium (from 9.29 to 16.61 score)	87	72.50
3.	High (above 16.61 score)	13	10.83
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=12.95, S.D.=3.66

Social participation

The distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their social participation has been done into 3 categories *viz.* low, medium and high as given in (Table:7)

The data presented in Table 7 show that out of 120 farm women member of DCSs, 85.83 per cent (103) of farm women member of DCSs had medium social participation while, 9.17 per cent (11) farm women member of DCSs had high social participation and 5.00 per cent (6) farm women member of DCSs had low social participation.

The findings of this study are in support of the findings of Singodia *et al.* (2019) [10].

Table 7: Distribution of farm women of Dairy Co-operative Society according to their social participation n=120

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (below 8.25 score)	6	5.00
2.	Medium (from 8.25 to 14.21 score)	103	85.83
3.	High (above 14.21score)	11	9.17
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=11.23 S.D.=2.98

Distance of dairy co-operative society from women dairy farm

The data given in Table 8 indicate that 77.50 per cent (93) farm women member of DCSs were having short distance and 20.83 per cent (25) and 1.67 per cent (2) respondents were having medium and long distance, from the DCSs, respectively.

Similar results were also reported by Jara (2023) [3].

Table 8: Distribution of women dairy farm according to their distance from dairy co-operative society n= 120

S. No.	Distance of dairy farm from DCSs	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Short (below 2.00 KMs)	93	77.50
2.	Medium (from 2.00 to 5.00 KMs)	25	20.83
3.	Long (above 5.00 KMs)	2	1.67
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=1.24 S.D.=0.46

Dairying experience

The data given in the Table 9 represents the dairying experience of the farm women. Which reveal that 62.50 per cent of farm women member of DCSs were belonged to medium dairying experience, 20.83 per cent were having high experience and 16.67 per cent were low dairying experience.

The findings of this study are also supported by the findings of Singodia *et al.* (2019) [10], Javeed *et al.* (2020) [4].

Table 9: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to their dairying experience n = 120

S. No.	Category of dairying experience (in years)	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (below 7.00)	20	16.67
2.	Medium (from 7.00 to 21.00)	75	62.50
3.	High (above 21.00)	25	20.83
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=14.00, S.D.=7.37

Training received

The data in Table 10 indicate that 72.50 per cent (87) farm women member of DCSs had received one day short duration on/off campus where as 27.50 per cent (33) of farm women had received short duration on campus (2-6 days) trainings while none of farm women member of DCSs had received long duration (more than 6 days) trainings about improved dairy husbandry practices. Similar results were also reported by Meena *et al.* (2013) [5]

Table 10: Distribution of farm women member of DCSs according to trainings received by them n = 120

S. No.	Type of training	Frequency	Percentage
1	One day short duration on/off campus	87	72.50
2	Short duration on campus (2-6 days)	33	27.50
	Total	120	100.00

Mean=1.27, S.D.=0.44

Conclusion

In conclusion the majority of the farm women belong to the middle age group (67.50%) with middle school education level (21.67%) and had semi-medium land holding (27.50%), had medium herd size (75.00%) with medium

level annual income (63.33%) and had medium extension contact (72.50%), majority of farm women (85.83%) had medium category of social participation. 77.50 per cent farm women were having short distance. 62.50 per cent farm women belong to medium dairying experience and 72.50 per cent farm women had received one day short duration on/off campus trainings about improved dairy husbandry practices.

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