



IMPACT OF INNOVATIVE FARMING IMPLEMENTS ON RURAL WOMEN

Aparna S. Dhoble

Sevadal Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur.

Email ID: aparna_dhoble@rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT

Women constitute almost half of the population of Modern India. Eighty percent of the women population of India live in rural areas and most of them engage in agriculture and allied activities. Since independence, women achieved a remarkable process in farming and agriculture is one of the most prominent sectors in the economy. Mostly rural women's life is dependent on farming as it is a major occupation of rural's. Due to traditional practices rotates from generation to generation many rural women simply follow it as it is. Innovative farm implements plays a major role for Indian society but still rural women lack behind it. The changing trend in agriculture technology, use of modern tools, and wider participation of community is crucial in making farming activity as an attractive field of employment. The study focused on to identify the utilization of implements, to analyze the sources of information, the constraints faced to adopt the farm innovations and suggestions to adopt innovative farming equipments. The inferences drawn that though the country is progressing in new era but still rural women utilized traditional farming equipments due to many constraints.

Keywords: Rural women, Knowledge, farming equipments.

INTRODUCTION

Rural women are involved in most of the farming and related activities besides their exclusive involvement in domestic work. The rural women do the extremely tedious, time and labour intensive work from the land preparation, sowing transplanting, weeding and intercultural, harvesting, threshing, posting and post harvest operations.

On the other hand, innovative farming implements are easily available in the market but most of the rural women were unaware about it. Though the country is progressing further, still due to illiteracy the women were busy in following the traditional pattern itself. Awareness of women should be their then only they will adopt the new technology.



During olden era, the active participation of women have not found in the development process. Though she works from “ sun to sun but her work is never done”. There should be the improvement of the atmosphere of women so that she can raised her standard of living especially the economic condition so that she possess happy and healthy life and live satisfactorily forever. A women contribute for solution of man machine and good relationship for improving her economic standard so that her life will be healthy, comfort and efficient. Keeping this in view, this study was designed with the following objectives:

1. To identify the utilization of implements by the rural women.
2. To analyze the sources of information and availability of implements to the rural women.
3. To find out the constraints faced by women to adopt farm innovation.

4. To make the suggestions to adopt innovative farming equipments.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in Adka village, Kharbi road, Tahsil Kamthi situated 14 Km. away from Nagpur of Nagpur district of Maharashtra state. A Structured interview schedule was prepared and a survey was conducted to find out the utilization of implements by rural women. Data were collected from a randomly selected 250 samples and required information were collected by personal interview. The data collected were analyzed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is a fact that all the agriculture activities carried out by the rural women. The rural women are the users of the hand tools and implements possess by the respective families.

The Table 1.1 represents the various equipments utilized by rural women were many. As multiple replies has been received, rank order has been given. Sickle, Khurpi, Phawda, spade are the



basic implements used by rural women and accorded I,II, III, and IV rank order. Sprayer and pump also been utilized by her. Without this implement she cannot do further work. Sprayer, pump, tractor, iron plough has been used for farming purpose. This rank order from V to IX rank order given in Table 1.1. Very few respondents used innovations land rollers, cutting machine, manure spreaders, moldboard plows respectively.

It is indicated from the above table 1.2 that the main sources of information received to rural women through Television and stood in I rank order. Neighbours and friends should be encouraged and stood in II and III rank order. Village level worker(IV) and dealers(V) play a prominent role to give information. Radio(VI) and relatives(VII) found to be of great value as they transfer information. Now-a-days Radio is outdated but still few people received information through it. There are some voluntary organization(VIII) working for

benefit of the people by which rural women received information regarding farming implements.

Rural women faced major constraints regarding farm innovations that there is a lack of knowledge and stood in the I rank order (Table 1.3). Whatever the latest innovations available in the market but there is no timely supply of information about it and stood in II rank order. Though they want to purchase any equipment due to inadequate loan facility (III) they unable to purchase it. Insufficient training to rural women were found.(IV)Whenever there is a new implement there should be ample training which they lack behind(V). Also if more demonstration should be given in front of rural women then the ideas will be clear cut and stood in the rank order V. Every information supplied to the rural women it should be properly guided because most of the women cannot grasp it fastly. Individual's capacity will differ from person to person. Improper guidance was found in the society.



It is observed from the Table 1.4 that 62.4 % of the rural women should be counseled for adopting new technology so that positive attitude towards new technology will be developed. Rural women can act as strong motivating factor to adopt innovations. The facility of the loan should be provided which they lacks reported by 13.6% of rural women. Training should be given adequate as it is received by only 10.0% of the rural women. The causes behind it that she is in comfort by receiving training from male trainers, many a times she hardly gets leisure time. Family is discouraging to impart training. The training are given at far places, it should be held at central place. Few rural women feel that training is not essential for them. The sources need to be strengthening reported by 6.4% of the rural women as there is a need to exploit Television, neighbors and friends for improving the coverage

level and influencing the information seeking behavior of rural women which are personal and sensitive in nature. Reason may be because these persons are from their own village, people rely more on them.

CONCLUSION

The study envisaged that the specific improvements in women's contribution to agricultural production would require lot of advanced knowledge regarding innovative implements. Extension services should be as a urgent necessity reach to rural women directly. On the other hand, rural women should be encouraged to join farm based organizations to enhance their ability and cop up with new technology speedily. This will enable the women to play their role in the main occupation i.e. agriculture more efficiently and effectively and contribute their best for the well being of their family status.

**Table 1.1: Utilization of implements by rural women**

S.No.	Implements used	Frequency	Rank order
1	Sickle	250	I
2	Khurpi	249	II
3	Pharwah	250	I
4	Spade	24	III
5	Trench hoe	175	VII
6	Iron plough	101	VIII
7	Pump	201	V
8	Sprayer	205	IV
9	Tractor	19	VI
10	Cutting machine	08	IX
11	Moldboard plows	02	XII
12	Land rollers	09	X
13	Manure spreaders	04	XI

Table 1.2: Sources of awareness about utilization of implements

S.No.	Sources	Frequency	Rank order
1	Neighbours	198	II
2	Friends	150	III
3	Relatives	20	VII
4	Voluntary organization	15	VIII
5	Television	221	I
6	Radio	25	VI
7	Village level worker	55	IV
8	Dealers	31	V

Table 1.3: Constraints faced by rural women to adopt farm innovations

S.No.	Constraints	Frequency	Rank order
1	Lack of knowledge	65	I
2	Inadequate loan facility	60	III
3	No timely input supply	62	II
4	Insufficient training	55	IV
5	Inadequate demonstration	50	V
6	Improper guidance	49	VI

Table 1.4: Suggestions to adopt innovative farming implements

S.No.	Statements	Frequency	Percentage
1	Counselling of the rural women	156	62.4
2	Accepting of new implements	19	7.6
3	Sources need to strengthen	16	6.4
4	Facility of loan	34	13.6
5	Training should be adequate	25	10.0

**REFERENCES**

- Kumaran,M. 2005, Indian Journal of extension education, Volume 41, Nos. 3 and 4, Orissa society of Extension Education, college of Agriculture, OUAT, Bhubaneshwar PP. 10-15.
- Sabarathnam, V.E.2002 PRA for Agriculture, Vamasaravat publishers, Hyderabad. PP.348-375.
- Singh,A.K. 2008 “Agricultural Extension: Impact and assessment” Agrobias(India), Chopasni road,Jodhpur. PP.243-266.
- Sridhara,S. 2009, “Women in agriculture and rural development”, New India publishing agency, Vikas surya plaza, Pitampura, New Delhi. PP. 95-99.