

PARTICIPATION OF TRIBAL DAIRY WOMEN SPECIAL REFERENCE TO FEEDING AND BREEDING PRACTICES IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRY

S. G. Vahora¹, G. N. Thorat² and D. B. Ramjiyani³

1 Associate Professor, Pashu Vigyan Kendra, TRTC, AAU, Devgadhi Baria - 389 380

2 Assistant Professor, Pashu Vigyan Kendra, TRTC, AAU, Devgadhi Baria - 389 380

3 Research Associate, TRTC, AAU, Devgadhi Baria - 389 380

Email: gunvantthorat@rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT

The role of women in tribal communities is substantial and crucial. They constitute about half the total population but in tribal society women are more important than in other social groups, because they work harder and the family economy and management depends on them. The objectives of the present research were to find out the participation of Tribal Dairy Women (TDW) special reference to nutritional and breeding practices in animal husbandry. The studies involved total of 100 TDW respondents from each 10 villages of selected five talukas of Dahod districts of Gujarat. Related data were collected with the help of personal interview technique. Data were analyzed by appropriate statistical tools. Study revealed that majority of TDW involved, feeding the animal, watering the animals, storage of feed & fodder and fodder collection while according participation in breeding practices, it was concluded that majority of dairy women were participation in giving warm water bath after calving, care during pregnancy, detection of heat and involvement during parturition

Keywords: *tribal dairy women, participation, animal husbandry, breeding and feeding*

INTRODUCTION

Dairying is one of the important enterprises, which supports the rural households by providing gainful employment and steady income. The importance of milk and milk products for the physical development and well-being of human beings is universally recognized. But profitability of dairying depends upon three main factors viz. breed, management and feeding practices followed. Feeding plays a very crucial/important role in growth, development and productivity of dairy animals. Adequate feeding will ensure that animal attains desired body weight, produce more milk and remains healthy. As feeding alone accounts for around 70% of the expenses incurred for dairying it further augment its importance.

In India, women involvement in livestock management is a longstanding tradition and dairy farming has been an integral part of homestead farming system. Many research studies have indicated that responsibilities of dairy are almost completely shouldered by women. There is considerable evidence that livestock and management

related activities continue to be predominately rural women's responsibility and domain. Women are generally responsible for the feeding, grazing, fodder collection, milking, processing, dung management, while men who manage the finances generally sale of milk and milk products (Sethi, 2010). Women are actively participating in various dairy farming practices including harvesting and bringing of fodder from field, care of sick animal, feed preparation, feeding the animal, cleaning of animal shed, milking, cow dung collection and cake making, etc. as reported by Narmatha *et al.*, 2009.

OBJECTIVE

To know the participation of tribal dairy women special reference to feeding and breeding practices in animal husbandry and dairy

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in operational area of Pashu Vigyan Kendra, Limkheda. Out of eight talukas of Dahod district five talukas namely Devgadhi Baria, Limkheda, Dahod, Garbada and Zalod were selected. From each Taluka

two villages were selected randomly and from each selected village, 10 dairy women were randomly selected making the total sample of 100 dairy farmers. Interview schedule was prepared in light of the objectives in consultation with extension experts. The data was collected through personal interview method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The facts and findings of the study are presented under following heads:

(a) Feeding Practices

Data pertaining to participation of dairy women regarding harvesting the fodder crops practices reveal that 44.00 per cent dairy women were grouped into 'fully

participated' category while equally 28.00 per cent were grouped under 'participated' and 'not participated' category.

As far as participation with respect to fodder collection is concerned, slightly less than half (49.00 per cent) of dairy women fell under the category "fully participated", whereas 42.00 per cent and 14.00 per cent of them were found in the "participated" and "not participated" group, respectively.

Further, in case of use of storage of feed and fodder, more than two-fifth (44.00 per cent) of the dairy women belonged to 'fully participated' group while 42.00 per cent and 14.00 per cent dairy women were found under 'participated' and 'not participated' group, respectively.

Table 1: Distribution of the dairy women according to their item wise participation in feeding practices

n=100

Sr. No.	Feeding practices	Fully participated	Participated	Not at all	Total score	Mean Score	Rank
1	Harvesting the fodder, crops	44 (44.00)	28 (28.00)	28 (28.00)	216	2.16	V
2	Fodder collection	49 (49.00)	30 (30.00)	21 (21.00)	228	2.28	IV
3	Storage of feed & fodder	44 (44.00)	42 (42.00)	14 (14.00)	230	2.30	III
4	Chaffing fodder	09 (9.00)	35 (35.00)	56 (56.00)	153	1.53	VIII
5	Feeding the animals	62 (62.00)	32 (32.00)	06 (6.00)	256	2.56	I
6	Taking animals for grazing	35 (35.00)	31 (31.00)	34 (34.00)	201	2.01	VII
7	Soaking of concentration	03 (3.00)	47 (47.00)	50 (50.00)	153	1.53	VIII
8	Offering the concentrate to animals	07 (7.00)	37 (37.00)	56 (56.00)	151	1.51	IX
9	Feeding of young calf	36 (36.00)	43 (43.00)	21 (21.00)	215	2.15	VI
10	Watering the animals	45 (45.00)	47 (47.00)	8 (8.00)	237	2.37	II

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

Participation of the dairy women regarding chaffing fodder revealed more than half of the dairy women were in the category of 'not participated'

With regard to feeding the animals, it was found that 62.00 per cent tribal dairy women participated fully and 32.00 per cent participated. Only 6.00 per cent were found having no participation which is in consonance with the findings of Gupta *et.al.* (1986) and Toppo *et.al.* (2004).

It is evident from Table 1 that equal percentage of the dairy women fell under 'fully participated, not participated and participated group for taking animals for grazing by dairy women

In soaking of concentration, 56.00 per cent of dairy women were found in the category 'not participated', whereas 47.00 per cent were found 'participated' group. Only 3.00 per cent of dairy women were fully participated.

Same as review in offering the concentration to animal that exactly half (50.00 per cent) of the dairy women were felt under 'not participated' whereas 37.00 per cent and 7.00 per cent of respondents were in the group of 'participated' and 'fully participated', respectively.

In case of feeding of young calf, 43.00 per cent of dairy women were found in the category "participated" followed by 36.00 per cent with "fully participation" and 21.00 per cent with "not participated".

In the activity of watering animals, it was found that 47.00 per cent tribal dairy women were in the group of participated and 45.00 per cent were fully participated. Only 8.00 per cent women found having no participation.

According to item wise participation related to nutrient practices feeding the animal ranked first with mean score 2.56 followed by watering the animals(2.37), storage of feed & fodder(2.30), fodder collection(2.28), harvesting

the fodder crops(2.16), feeding of young calf(2.15), taking animals for grazing(2.01), chaffing fodder(1.53) and soaking of concentration (1.53) and offering the concentrate to animals(1.51) with ranked II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX, respectively.

(b) Breeding Practices

Proper and better care of breeding stock helps in developing good dairy herd and getting good returns too. Rural women participation in breeding activities was found to be least among all the selected activities of animal husbandry due to social moves and taboos in society.

The roles of toda women in the context of genetic resources include exotic breeds husbandry (4.52) (for example Toda buffalo, a unique buffalo breed named after toda community), livestock maintenance (4.50) and cultivating domesticated crop varieties (4.03).

Table 2: Distribution of the dairy women according to their item wise participation in breeding practices

n=100

Sr. No.	Breeding Practices	Fully participated	Participated	Not at all	Total score	Mean Score	Rank
1	Detection of heat	25 (25.00)	54 (54.00)	21 (21.00)	204	2.04	III
2	To call AI Worker for AI	15 (15.00)	45 (45.00)	40 (40.00)	175	1.75	V
3	Taking animals for A.I./ Natural service	14 (14.00)	35 (35.00)	51 (51.00)	163	1.63	VI
4	Taking animal for pregnancy diagnosis	19 (19.00)	48 (48.00)	33 (33.00)	186	1.86	IV
5	Care during pregnancy	46 (46.00)	40 (40.00)	14 (14.00)	232	2.32	II
6	Involvement during parturition	34 (34.00)	36 (36.00)	30 (30.00)	204	2.04	III
7	Giving warm water bath after calving	48 (48.00)	39 (36.00)	13 (13.00)	235	2.35	I

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

With regards detection of heat from data presented in Table-2, it is observed that majority of the dairy women(54.00 per cent) were grouped in 'participation' while 25.00 per cent and 21.00 per cent of the dairy women were categorized under 'fully participation' and 'not participation' group.

The data with respect to call AI Worker for AI, 45.00 per cent of dairy women were participated followed by 40.00 per cent with 'not participation at all' and 15.00 per cent with fully participated.

Data presented in Table-2, reveal that more than half

(51.00 per cent) of dairy women were not taking animal for AI/ Natural Services while less than half (48.00 per cent) of dairy women participated in the activity of taking animal for pregnancy diagnosis.

With regards to care during pregnancy, it was found that 46.00 per cent dairy women were having fully participated, whereas 40.00 per cent participated and only 14.00 per cent were fully not participated.

The data presented in Table-2, revealed that 36.00 per cent of dairy women have participated during parturition, while

34.00 per cent and 30.00 per cent with fully participated and not participated during parturition, respectively.

Majority (48.00 per cent) of dairy women fully participated in giving warm water bath after calving, followed by 39.00 per cent with participation and 13.00 per cent with not participation.

According to item wise participation on breeding practices, giving warm water bath after calving ranked first with mean score 2.35 followed by care during pregnancy (2.32), detection of heat and involvement during parturition(2.04), taking animal for pregnancy diagnosis (1.63), to call AI Worker for AI (1.75) and taking animals for A.I./ Natural service (1.63) with rank of II, III, IV, V and VI, respectively. These findings are in conformity with Tripathi and Bhanja (2000), Singh (2003) and Rathod *et al.* (2011).

CONCLUSION

It is necessary that encourage of tribal farm women for development of his family by appropriate decision and it is a task for government, policy makers and for all to empower the tribal farm women from each and everywhere. Overall observation on participation of tribal farm women in animal husbandry and dairy farming with special reference to feeding practices, majority of tribal dairy women were most important areas ranked first and second, respectively. In breeding related activities, majority of women were more participated in giving warm water bath after calving and care during pregnancy with first and second rank.

REFERENCES

- Narmatha, N.; V. Uma.; L. Arun and R. Geetha (2009). Level of participation of women in livestock farming activities. *Tamilnadu J. Veterinary and Ani. Sci.*, 5 (1):4-8
- Prajapati R.R., Thakkar K.A. and Prajapati M.R. (2010). Participation of tribal farm women in Dairy and poultry farming. *Gujarat J. Ext. Edu.* 11 : 91-94
- Rathod, P. K., Nikam, T. R., Landge, S., Vajreshwari, S. and Hatey, A. (2011). Participation of rural women in dairy farming in Karnataka. *Ind. Res. J. Ext. Edu.* 11(2): 31-36
- Sethi, N. (2010). Factors affecting adoption of scientific technologies by dairy women in buffaloes. Proc. of International Buffalo Conference, Vol. II, 1-4 Feb, New Delhi. : 166-67
- Singh, S. P. (2003). Performance of rural women in dairy management practices in Haryana. *Indian J. Dairy Sci.* 56 (2): 100-106
- Toppo, A., Trivedi, M. S. and Patel Ashok (2004). Participation of farm women in dairy occupation. *Guj. J. Ext. Edu.* 15 (2) : 15-21
- Tripathi, H and Bhanja. (2000). Women's role in small holder production. Proceeding of the international conference on small holder production system in developing countries held in Thissur : 550-556

Received : August 2016 : Accepted : October 2016