

Participation of Farm Women in Decision Making Process

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ABSTRACT

Farm women contribute a lot to the agricultural development. It is thus imperative to study the pattern of women in decision making related to home, farm and livestock operations. The study was undertaken in Sabarkantha district. The data were collected by personal interview through the well constructed interview schedule on participation of tribal farm women in decision making. The frequencies and percentage were worked out on the basis of their response given. More than half women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for home management and animal husbandry aspects. As regarding farm management aspects, one third women were jointly involved in the process of decision making.

Keywords : Decision making process, Farm women

INTRODUCTION

Farm woman is an integral part of the human society. They have been playing significant role in home, farm and allied activities. Women contribute one-third labour force required for farm operations and allied enterprises. Farm woman is associated to her husband in various activities and have greater role in decision making process. Women contribute a lot to the agricultural development. It is thus imperative to study the pattern of such women in decision making related to home, farm and livestock operations. Thus the study entitled participation of women in decision making was under taken with the following objectives.

OBJECTIVES

- (i) To identify the involvement of women in the process of decision making for home management
- (ii) To identify the involvement of women in the process of decision making for farm management
- (iii) To identify the involvement of women in the process

of decision making for animal husbandry

METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in Sabarkantha district. Five non tribal talukas viz; Vadali, Idar, Himatnagar, Talod and Prantij were selected randomly. Two villages were randomly selected from each taluka. Ten farm women from each village were selected randomly. Thus, 100 farm women were selected for the study. The data were collected by personally interviewed through the well constructed interview schedule on participation of farm women in decision making. The frequencies and percentage were worked out on the basis of their responses given.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Home Management

The results regarding farm women involvement in the process of decision making for home management are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 : Farm women involvement in the process of decision making for home management

n=100

Sr. No.	Item of home management	Herself only		Husband		Jointly		Not related	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Children education	00	00	10	10	90	90	00	00
2	Children occupation	00	00	20	20	80	80	00	00
3	Children marriage	00	00	10	10	90	90	00	00
4	Construction of new house	00	00	37	37	63	63	00	00
5	House repair	00	00	20	20	80	80	00	00
6	Decoration of house	50	50	08	08	42	42	00	00
7	Purchasing & selling of ornaments	10	10	15	15	75	75	00	00
8	Purchasing of household articles	25	25	30	30	45	45	00	00
9	Selection & preparing of foods	80	80	00	00	20	20	00	00
10	Borrowing money for home management	00	00	45	45	35	35	20	20
11	Manner of saving	00	00	52	52	48	48	00	00
12	Repayment of loan	00	00	45	45	35	35	20	20
Overall Total		165	165	292	292	703	703	40	40
Overall Average		13.75	13.75	24.33	24.33	58.58	58.58	3.33	3.33
Round		14	14	24	24	59	59	03	03

Majority of women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for construction of new house, children education, children occupation, children marriage, house repair, purchasing & selling of ornaments under home management aspects.

Farm Management

It can be concluded that more than half women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for home management aspects.

The results regarding farm women involvement in the process of decision making for farm management are presented in Table 2.

Table 2 Farm women involvement in the process of decision making for farm management

n=100

Sr. No	Item of farm management	Herself only		Husband		Jointly		Not related	
		No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Deciding areas to be grown under different crops	00	00	58	58	42	42	00	00
2	Introduction of new crop varieties	00	00	70	70	30	30	00	00
3	Selection of seeds	00	00	66	66	34	34	00	00
4	When to irrigate the field	00	00	79	79	21	21	00	00
5	Quantity & type of fertilizer to be used	00	00	82	82	18	18	00	00
6	Plant protection measures to be used	00	00	88	88	12	12	00	00
7	Hiring of farm laboures	00	00	64	64	36	36	00	00
8	Buying farm machine & equipments	00	00	68	68	32	32	00	00
9	Installing oil engine & electric motor	00	00	74	74	26	26	00	00
10	Buying & selling of farm land	00	00	12	12	78	78	10	10
11	Borrowing money for farm operations	00	00	86	86	09	09	05	05
12	Selling of surplus farm produces	00	00	38	38	62	62	00	00
Overall Total		00	00	785	785	400	400	15	15
Overall Average		00	00	65.42	65.42	33.33	33.33	1.25	1.25
Round		00	00	66	66	33	33	01	01

Majority of women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for buying & selling of farm land, selling of surplus farm produces under farm management aspects.

Majority of husband alone were involved in the process of decision making for deciding areas to be grown

under different crops, introduction of new crop varieties, selection of seeds, when to irrigate the field, buying farm machine & equipments, installing oil engine and electric motor under farm management aspects.

It can be concluded that one third women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for farm

management aspects.

Animal Husbandry

The results regarding farm women involvement in the process of decision making for animal husbandry are presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Farm women involvement in the process of decision making for animal husbandry

n=100

Sr. No.	Item of animal husbandry management	Herself only		Husband		Jointly		Not related	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Selection of animal breed	08	08	18	18	74	74	00	00
2	Selection of fodder & feed	50	50	10	10	40	40	00	00
3	Sell & purchase of animal	05	05	21	21	74	74	00	00
4	Sell of milk & its products	40	40	10	10	50	50	00	00
5	Keeping size of herd	12	12	24	24	64	64	00	00
Overall Total		115	115	83	83	302	302	00	00
Overall Average		23	23	16.60	16.60	60.40	60.40	00	00
Round		23	23	17	17	60	60	00	00

Majority of women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for selection of animal breed, sell & purchase of animal, keeping size of herd under animal husbandry aspects.

It can be concluded that more than half women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for animal husbandry aspects.

Overall involvement in the process of decision making

Table 4 Farm women overall involvement in the process of decision making (n=100)

Sr. No.	Item of Home Management	Herself only		Husband		Jointly		Not related	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1.	Home Management	14	14	24	24	59	59	03	03
2.	Farm Management	00	00	66	66	33	33	01	01
3.	Animal Husbandry	23	23	17	17	60	60	00	00
Overall Total		37	37	107	107	152	152	04	04
Overall Average		12.33	12.33	35.67	35.67	50.67	50.67	1.33	1.33
Round		12	12	36	36	51	51	01	01

Nearly half of women were overall jointly involved in the process of decision making.

CONCLUSION

Fifty nine per cent and sixty per cent women were jointly involved in the process of decision making for home management and animal husbandry aspect respectively. As regarding farm management aspect, thirty three per cent women were jointly involved in the process of decision making. It can be concluded that overall nearly half women were jointly involved in the process of decision making.

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