

## PARTICIPATION OF FARM WOMEN IN DAIRY OCCUPATION

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### ABSTRACT

*The present study was carried out in Bharuch district of Gujarat state. Considering the vast geographical area under present study the Student Advisory Committee had suggested to restricting the respondent size up to 120. So, total 10 respondents were selected randomly from each village. Thus, total 10 respondents were studied. The data were collected by personal contacts. The data were classified, tabulated and analyzed in order to make the findings meaningful. The statistical measures, such as percentage, Arithmetic mean and correlation of coefficient were used to analysis data. It was observed from the study that majority (68.33 %) of the respondents had medium level of participation in dairy occupation.*

**Keywords:** participation, dairy occupation, farm women, knowledge, livestock

### INTRODUCTION

Livestock sector is performing a momentous role in the economies of many developing countries where it is a source of food (animal protein), income, employment, and monetary exchange, draught power, organic fertilizer for crop production, serves as store of wealth and means of transportation as well. Livestock production is the main source of employment, income and food for over seventy percent of Indian population (Shafi *et al.*, 2021). The livestock sector has been growing at compound annual rate of 7.93 per cent from 2014-15 to 2020-21. The percentage share of livestock sector has increased from 24.38 per cent in 2014-15 to 30.87 per cent in 2020-21 in gross value added of the agriculture and allied sector (Anonymous, 2021). With the increase in population coupled with increased education and awareness about quality food and health, the demand for the livestock products especially milk is also going to rise. India is a leading nation in milk production contributing annual milk production of 209.96 million tonnes during 2020-21, accounting for 21.00 per cent of world production (Anonymous, 2021). Women play crucial role in dairy practices have however, been underestimated and undervalued. The Indian social system is largely a male dominant society. As per tradition, women are to depend on man in every aspects of life. Through dairy occupation women become self dependent, improve their quality life and reduce poverty.

### OBJECTIVES

(1) To study the extent of participation of farm women in

dairy occupation

(2) To ascertain the relationship between profile of dairy farm women and their extent of participation in dairy occupation

### METHODOLOGY

The current investigation was conducted in Bharuch districts. Bharuch district has nine talukas *viz.* Bharuch, Ankleshwar, Amod, Jambusar, Jhagadia, Hansot, Netrang, Vagra and Valia. Out of which two talukas *viz.*, Jambusar and Jhagadia were selected purposively on the basis of maximum number of dairy co-operative societies. Total 120 respondents were selected for the present study. From each village, 10 farm women were selected. Ex-post facto research design was used for study. The data was collected pre-structure interview schedule. The collected data was classified, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted in order to make the findings meaningful. The statistical measures such as frequency, percentage, mean score, standard deviation and coefficient of correlation were used in the study.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Participation of farm women in dairy occupation

Participation can be operationally defined as the act of taking part in an event or activity. In order to find out the extent of participation of farm women in dairy occupation, they were classified into three level of participation:

**Table 1: Distribution of farm women according to their level of participation in dairy occupation**

(n=120)

Sr. No.	Participation	Farm women	
		Frequency	Percent
1	Low < (Mean - SD)	21	17.50
2	Medium Between (Mean ± SD)	82	68.33
3	High > (Mean + SD)	17	14.17

The data of the table 1 concluded that two third (68.33 %) of the farm women had medium level of participation in dairy occupation. However, 17.50 percent of farm women had low participation and 14.17 per cent of farm women had high participation in dairy occupation. This indicated that farm women had medium level of participation in dairy occupation. The probable reason might be that most of the dairy related activities performed by farm women but financial activities performed by men. Another reason is women have less confident to take stand of any situation or problems and most of the decision take by her husband due to male dominant society. This finding was in conformity with the findings of Kaur *et al.* (2019).

**Relationship between profile of dairy farm women and their extent of participation in dairy occupation**

The relationship between the profiles of the farm women viz; age, education, experience, annual income, size of family, social participation, size of land holding, occupation, herd size, mass media exposure, risk orientation and participation in dairy occupation were worked out with the help of coefficient of correlation. The findings are presented in table 2.

The variables like Education (0.323\*\*) and Herd size (0.310\*\*) were found positively and highly significantly associated at 1 per cent level of probability. This finding was in conformity with the findings of Kalsariya *et al.* (2019). Whereas, social participation (0.206\*), occupation (0.179\*), size of land holding (0.167\*), mass media exposure (0.160\*) and annual income (0.154\*) were found positive and significant associated at 5 per cent level of probability while, size of family (0.066<sup>NS</sup>), experience (0.005<sup>NS</sup>) and risk orientation (0.004<sup>NS</sup>) were found positive and non-significant associated at 5 per cent level of probability while, only age (-0.354<sup>NS</sup>) were found negative and non-significant relationship with the participation regarding dairy occupation. This finding was in conformity with the findings of Krishnamurthy (2019), Islam *et al.*(2019), Thorat *et al.* (2016) and Mohanta *et al.* (2017).

**Table 2: Relationship between selected characteristics of farm women and their participation in dairy occupation**

(n=120)

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Participation in dairy occupation
X <sub>1</sub>	Age	-0.354 <sup>NS</sup>
X <sub>2</sub>	Education	0.323**
X <sub>3</sub>	Experience	0.005 <sup>NS</sup>
X <sub>4</sub>	Annual income	0.154*
X <sub>5</sub>	Size of family	0.066 <sup>NS</sup>
X <sub>6</sub>	Social participation	0.206*
X <sub>7</sub>	Size of landholding	0.167*
X <sub>8</sub>	Occupation	0.179*
X <sub>9</sub>	Herd size	0.311**
X <sub>10</sub>	Mass media exposure	0.160*
X <sub>11</sub>	Risk orientation	0.004 <sup>NS</sup>

\*\* Denotes highly significant relationship at 0.01% probability level  
 \*Denotes significant relationship at 0.05% probability level  
 NS= Non- significant relationship

**CONCLUSION**

It can be concluded that two third of the farm women had medium participation in dairy occupation. Education and Herd size were found positively and highly significantly associated at 1 per cent level of probability whereas, social participation, occupation, size of land holding , mass media exposure and annual income were found positive and significant associated at 5 per cent level of probability while, size of family, experience and risk orientation were found positive and non-significant associated at 5 per cent level of probability while, only age were found negative and non-significant relationship with the participation regarding dairy occupation.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No conflict of interest among researchers.

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