

NEED OF TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE IN DISTRICT JHELM, PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT: *Pakistan is a country with the population of more than one hundred and sixty two million. It lies under third world countries of the World. Agriculture is Pakistan's main source of economy, eventually the most important sectors of Pakistan. It contributes about 24 percent of the country's GDP. Agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan. It provides living and earning to the most of Pakistan's population. Women are more than fifty two percent population of the country. They are playing an important role for their families. Especially, in rural areas, the role of women is very significant. In poverty stricken families they are the earning hands, sharing the family income by working in the field during harvesting periods and looking after the livestock. Lack of education among women folk is another important factor that demands particular attention. As a result, they remain isolated from the developing world. The present study was thus designed to measure the need of training for women in the field of agriculture in district Jhelum. To identify the need of training for rural women in home administration and agriculture was the 1st objective of the study. The secondary objective of the study was to find out the means of information about agriculture for women of rural area. To identify the hurdles that a rural woman faces in the field of agriculture and to give suggestions and recommendations to minimize these hurdles was the third objective of the study. In the study it is found that short training courses, no literacy, a lot of work for women, less income are the major issues of the women.*

Keywords: Women, training, agricultural education

INTRODUCTION

Traditionally, the role of women in the field of crop is very important. They have been playing their role since the stone-age. In the production of chief crops like wheat, rice, cotton, vegetables and pulses, women are highly involved. [1]

Women take part in all the activities of field workers. They participate in weeding, hoeing, weeding, transplanting, sowing, threshing, winnowing, drying, grinding, storage and husking.[2]

In the early stages of crop cultivation, participation of men is always higher as compared to women. Watering of the fields and other heavy duties, like driving the tractors for field preparation is the job of men. Storage of food and their preparation are the areas in which participation of women is higher than the men's participation. In the field of agriculture both men and women both are equally involved in all the activities. Although women of rural areas work more and do work with more devotion as compare to men they. They give more time to the fields. They do more effort and more struggle for the persistence and for the improvement of their economic condition. But the problem is that women deliberated as unpaid labor. So any government didn't bother for economic reforms for women. They have to face many problems in the activities of crop production. It affects not only their health but on whole life patterns. Labor women have to do more hard work as compare to men. In the areas of Sindh, they have to walk more than ten miles to get water for drinking. Women have more care for livestock as compare to men because of their role of reproductive nature. Link of women with animals, especially with kid animals remained for years. The women of rural areas of Pakistan work more in the field of livestock as compare to the crop field. It is observed, they spend more time to care the animals as compare to their own children.[3].

It is stated that ninety % livestock work of forming families is managed by their women. And it is entirely considered as the domain of women work. Heads of livestock have very important for their families. Keepers of poor family livestock

have to serve their families in several ways like loading, travelling and livestock productions. [4]

In rural areas, small number of families have a little portion of economic activities of livestock while most of the families depend on livestock and it is the only source of their income. [5]

Various tasks are divided in females and males of livestock work. But all the work that is done by males is always dominant over the work of female members of their families. 60 to 80% of women in Pakistan do work regarding milking and feeding animals. They also do the same work of men like caring of sick animals and cleaning the animals. Women also do work and have the responsibility of fertilize collection, cleaning the sheds and selling of products at village level. [6] No doubt women of rural areas are playing their role in agriculture and sacrificing a lot, but the fact is that they have to face many problems due to lack or poor of information about the work. They do not know about the diseases and veterinary usage of animals. They do not have information about processing of milk. Usually they know the traditional treatments for the cure of their sick animals. Shortage of resources of feed is also a problem for them. Through the use of feed management and proper scientific breeding, livestock production can be increased. It is also increased by modern technology in livestock. So there must be programs of special training for the women of rural area. These programs should be arranged by trained women so they can attend easily and without hesitation. It will help to improve the standard of care of animals as well as livestock production. [7]

Studies have also been shown that the contribution of women can be seen in for the storage of food not only through godowning the food but also preparation and processing of food. [8]

Women's education must be increased, because they play an important role in the development of character building. Their education helps for the awareness of the problems of the society and the country. Education of women along with programs of training is highly recommended. Training is

highly necessary because trained women can do their work with more proficiency and can increase the production level of livestock. [9,10]

Objectives of the study

1. To identify the need of training for rural women in home administration and agriculture.
2. To find out the means of information about agriculture for women of rural area.
3. To identify the hurdles that a rural woman face in the field of agriculture.
4. To give suggestions and recommendations to minimize these hurdles.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Research Design

A quantitative descriptive survey approach was developed to collect and analyze the data to find out the need of training for women in the field of agriculture in the district of Jhelum, Pakistan. An interview based self-made questionnaire was demonstrated by the researcher. Questionnaire was used to measure the need of agricultural education for women of rural area..

Population

The present study was conducted in the district of Jhelum. T simple random sampling technique was used for this study. District Jhelum is consisted of five tehsils name as Jhelum, Suhava, Saray Alamgir and Pind Dadan Khan.

Sampling Procedure

Out of five Tehsils of district Jhelum, Tehsil Pind Dadan Khan was selected for the study. Out of five Tehsils, two union counsels were randomly selected for sampling with respect to education . One hundred and fifty women who work for the earning of their family were randomly selected from both of the union councils.

Instrument of the Study

A comprehensive and well-designed interview based questionnaire was developed by the researcher as a sample of the study.

Data Collection

An interview based self-made questionnaire was used by the researcher for the collection of data to measure the need of agricultural education for women of rural area from the selected sample of the study. The selected sample of the study was the 150 women from the two USc of the Tehsil Pind Dadan Khan of District Jhelum.

DATA ANALYSIS

SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences), version 16 was used. Descriptive and chi-square analysis was applied for the analysis of data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data were collected and analyze to assess the need of agricultural education for the women of rural area of Tehsil Pind Dadan Khan of District Jhelum.

Table 1: Work of labor and need of training.

Sr	Statements	Mean	SD
1	I have less sources of income	1.00	.000
2	I think if I was more educated, I can earn more	1.00	.000
3	I face deficiency of technical abilities	1.28	.450
4	I face deficiency of information	1.00	.000
5	I think male persons don't allow women training	1.68	.977
6	I think if women have the decision power she would attend training	1.00	.000
7	I have TV at my home	1.00	.000
8	Women use to watch TV	1.56	.497
9	I have radio at home	1.00	.000
10	I use to listen radio	1.59	.568
11	I have facility of daily news-paper	2.00	.000
12	Woman use to read news-paper.	1.00	.000
13	Social welfare organizations work in my village	1.74	.440

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows the problems that laboring women have to face in their work. 150(1.00, .000) agreed with the statement that they have less sources of income. Second problem they face is the education. Respondents were agreeing that if they were more educated, they can earn more. They have the deficiency of technical and professional information. They do not have proper sources of information and that is why they don't get the proper information. Respondents have also shared the problems that their male family members don not allow them to go for training. The majority of the respondents have the facility of TV and radio at their homes, but they do not watch TV or listen radio. So they are not aware about the use of modern techniques and technology in the field of agriculture. Another problem that was observed is that none of them have the newspaper facility at their homes.

As low as 150(1.74, .440) no of respondents avail the opportunity for social welfare organizations work in their village.

The data of Table 2 shows the requirements that respondents need. All laboring women need training regarding their work. All of the 150 (1.00, .00) respondents were involved in labor work. And all of them 150 (1.00, .00) spend their salary and earning for their home expenditures and very less (1.95, .211) respondents who spend their income on themselves.^{3rd} statement shows that most of the respondents agree with the that they do not get accurate returns of their work as the mean

is (2.04) and standard deviation is (.345). Majority of women (1.00, .00) do not have any issue from their family to work because they add in home income. They don't have the opportunities of labor as the mean and standard deviation shows (2.00, .00). 8th statement shows that the respondents are not satisfied with their workplace and the do not agree with the statement (1.50, .501)

Table 2: Problems/hurdles that working women of rural area face in their work of agriculture.

Sr	Statements	Mean	SD
1	I do labor work	1.00	.000
2	I spend my salary on household work	1.00	.000
3	I get accurate returns of my work	2.04	.345
4	I spend my salary on myself	1.95	.211
5	My family has no issue of women work.	1.00	.000
6	I have control on my household salary.	1.90	.301
7	I have labor opportunities	2.00	.000
8	I am satisfied with my work place.	1.50	.501
9	I am satisfied with my working hours.	2.03	.29
10	There are low salary jobs for women.	1.00	.000
11	There are training opportunities for women.	1.98	.231
12	I need training for my work.	1.00	.000
13	Men and women should get equal education.	1.00	.000
14	Educated women can manage the family in better way.	1.00	.000
15	Girls should get professional and technical education.	1.00	.000
16	Educated girls can increase family income.	1.00	.000
17	Educated women can create fewer encounters in family.	1.00	.000
18	If training would be organized in any other place of the village (except your house), will you come?	1.56	.510
19	If male persons organize a training session, would your family head permit you to attend?	2.00	.000
20	A woman training is a hurdle in household work?	2.00	.000

N=150

Statement no 9 with the mean and standard deviation (1.00, .501) shows that respondents are not satisfied with their workplace. The 10th statement “ reveals hat there are low salary jobs for women” indicating that all the respondents agree with it, with the mean and standard deviation (1.00, .00).

With the 11th statement about the training opportunities for women, respondents do not agree with it 150(1.98, .231). 12th statement “I need training for my work” with mean (1.00) and SD (.00) shows that all the respondents agree with it. Statement no 13 about the equality of education, all the respondents agree with it as its mean is (1.00) and SD is (.000). 14th statement with the mean and standard deviation of

(1.00, .00) shows that all the respondents agreed with that educated women can manage family in a better way.

All the 150 (1.00, .00) respondents, however, agreed that women should get technical and professional education. All of them were also of the opinion that the women can increase family income. And educated women create fewer encounters in the family.

When the respondents were asked about to attend the training session majority (1.56, .510) disagreed as they will not be allowed from their male members of the family. And if male persons organize the training session they will never permit to attend it as the results are (2.00, .000). Respondents were disagreeing with the statement that women training is a hurdle in household work. It mean is (2.00) and standard deviation is (.000).

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