

TRAINING NEED OF DAIRY FARM WOMEN IN DAIRY FARMING PRACTICES

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ABSTRACT

Rural women play a great role in decision making process of farm matter, performed many of the farm operations and undertaken many responsibilities concerning care and management of farm animals. Keeping in view in mind, the study entitled “Training need assessment in dairy farming among farm women of adopted villages under RKVY project” was undertaken with an objectives to determine the training need of dairy farm women in dairy farming practices. On the basis of mean score obtained for various areas of dairy farming, the dairy women showed interest in various aspects of dairy farming practices. For breeding practices, selection of breed and selection of adult and dairy heifer were the main aspects need to be training. With respect to feeding practices, feeding schedule of pregnant animal and time were the major sub-areas of training. In fodder production, silage making is the important sub-area in which women demanded training. In management practices, raising the replacement stock at home by artificial system, individual housing, were most important. In animal health care practices precaution against parasitic diseases and vaccination schedule were the important areas for which women asked for training.

KEY WORDS: Breeding, dairy, feeding, management, Training

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.

In India, women’s involvement in livestock management is a longstanding tradition and dairy farming has been an integral part of homestead farming system. Although much of the work related to livestock farming is carried out by women. The word “training”, is accepted as a synonym for all of the forms of knowledge, skill, and attitudinal development which one need to keep pace with the accelerating life involvement and the enlarging concepts of man’s capabilities. Training need in dairy farming practices like breeding, feeding, fodder, management, animal health care, are necessary to improve the productivity of dairy cattle and

thereby making dairy-farming a more profitable enterprise. However, the training need in dairy farming practices by the cattle owners does not appear to be satisfactory. Therefore livestock production and productivity is yet to be boosted to meet the felt need. There is a considerable gap between the present practices of dairy farming and available dairy farming technologies. Therefore research study entitled "Training need assessment in dairy farming among farm women of adopted villages" under RKVY project was undertaken with an objective to determine the training need of dairy farm women in dairy farming practices.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out under RKVY project in sixteen villages of Dantiwada block of Banaskantha district. All the villages were selected purposively. One hundred forty dairy farm women were selected in proportion with number of dairy farm women in each village at random. They were interviewed personally with the help of pre-tested structured schedule.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained under the present study are described below under different heads:

Training Need in Breeding Practices

Data pertaining to training need of the dairy farm women with respect to breeding practices are presented in Table 1 revealed that the milk production depends largely on type of breed and breeding practices. According to the need hierarchy, the respondents assigned first rank to 'selection of breed' (2.58 mean score) followed by 'selection of adult and dairy heifer' (1.96 mean score) and 'heat detection' (1.92 mean score). The sub-items viz., 'rearing the calves' (1.73 mean score), 'reproductive efficiency of dairy animal' (1.64 mean score), and 'pregnancy diagnosis' (1.61 mean score) was ranked fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively. Remaining sub-items of the breeding practices were perceived by the dairy farm women as less important as their mean scores were less than average mean score 1.50. This finding is in line with those of Fulzele and Meena (1995) and Durga Rani and Subhadra (2009), who reported that selection of breed was a most needed area of training and Raju *et al.* (1999) who reported that selection of animals was one of the most needed areas of training.

Training Need in Feeding Practices

Feeding practices play a vital role in dairy farming, as feeds affected the milk production. So far as training need is concerned with respect to this aspect, some of the items are utmost important. The data depicted in Table 2 revealed that the highest mean score for training need as desired by dairy farm women was 'feeding schedule of pregnant animal' (2.16 mean score) ranked first followed by 'time and frequency of feeding' (1.90 mean score) and 'feeding schedule of dry animal' (1.77 mean score). The mean score for the sub-items 'compounded homemade livestock feed' and 'manufactured by district union' was 1.72 and 1.69, respectively. Similar results were reported by Durga Rani and Subhadra (2009).

Training Need in Fodder Production

Fodder crops are the important sources of animal food supply. The data presented in Table 3 revealed that among the various sub-items of fodder production, 'silage making' was the most important item and ranked first by respondents for the purpose of training (mean score 2.94). The second rank was assigned by the respondents to the sub-area of 'selection of fodder crops' with a mean score of 1.37 followed by cultivation of fodder crops, selection of varieties of fodder crops and drying of fodder crops with a mean score of 1.30, 1.25 and 1.22, respectively. Thus, it can be concluded that 'silage making' was the major area in which respondents asked for training. Durga Rani and Subhadra (2009) stated the need to the dairy women for training to fodder production.

Training Need in Management Practices

Management practice is one of the important aspects of dairy farming. The data presented in Table 4 revealed that among the various sub-items of management practices, raising the replacement stock at home by 'artificial system' was the most important areas ranked first by the respondents for the purpose of training. The mean score for the item was 2.87. The second rank was assigned to the sub-area of 'individual housing' with a mean score of 2.81. The third and fourth ranked items were dehorning and 'replacing the stock through purchase' with a mean score of 2.67 and 2.07, respectively. Rest were considered least important by the respondents and their mean score was below average mean score of 1.82.

Training Need in Animal Health Care Practices

Animal health care practice plays a vital role in dairy farming. Parasites and various diseases affected the health of animals, which influence the quality and quantity of milk. The data depicted in Table 5 indicated that according to need hierarchy, among the various sub-items of animal health care, 'precaution against parasitic diseases' was assigned first rank with a mean score of 2.10 followed by 'vaccination schedule' and 'treatment against contagious diseases' with mean score of 2.05 and 1.71, respectively. The rank assigned to the sub-items, viz., sterility treatment, and control of parasites were fourth and fifth were considered least important for training. The results are in par with the findings of Fulzele and Meena (1995), Raju *et al.* (1999), Lalitha and Seethalakshmi (1999), Sujaths and Nanjaiyan (1999), Umarani and Thangamani (2000), Das and Mishra (2002), Gupta and Tripathi (2002) and Durga Rani and Subhadra (2009).

CONCLUSION

From the above study, it can be concluded that in various breeding practices, selection of breed and selection of adult and dairy heifer were the main aspects need to be training. With respect to feeding practices, feeding schedule of pregnant animal and time were the major sub-areas of training. In fodder production, silage making is the important sub-area in which women demanded training. In management practices, raising the replacement stock at home by artificial system, individual housing, were most important. In animal health care practices precaution

against parasitic diseases and vaccination schedule were the important areas for which women asked for training.

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Table 1: Training need of the dairy farm women with respect to breeding practices (N=140)

Sr. No	Sub – items of Training	Mean Score	Rank
1	Selection of breed	2.58	I
2	Selection of adult animal and dairy heifer	1.96	II
3	Breeding programme	1.36	VII
4	Reproductive efficiency of dairy animal	1.64	V
5	Heat detection	1.92	III
6	Artificial insemination	1.27	VIII
7	Pregnancy diagnosis	1.61	VI
8	Post – partum coverage	1.12	XI
9	Rearing the calves	1.73	IV

Table 2: Training need of the dairy farm women with respect to feeding practices (N=140)

Sr. No	Sub – items of Training	Mean Score	Rank
1	Selection of feed	1.47	VI
2	Feeding schedule of young calves	1.47	VI
3	Feeding schedule of young heifer	1.55	VIII
4	Feeding schedule of pregnant animal	2.16	I
5	Feeding schedule of dry animal	1.77	III
6	Feeding of milch animal	1.45	IX
7	Time and frequency of feeding	1.90	II
8	Advantage of compounded		
	(a) Home made	1.72	IV
	(b) Manufactured by district unions	1.69	V

Table 3: Training need of the dairy farm women with respect to fodder production (N=140)

Sr. No	Sub – items of Training	Mean Score	Rank
1	Selection of varieties of fodder crops	1.25	IV
2	Selection of fodder crops	1.37	II
3	Cultivation of fodder crops	1.30	III
4	Drying of fodder crops	1.22	V
5	Silage making	2.94	I

Table 4: Training need of the dairy farm women with respect to management practices (N=140)

Sr. No	Sub – items of Training	Mean Score	Rank
1	Animal housing		
	(a) Individual housing	2.81	II
	(b) Group Housing	1.15	VIII
	(c) Café pen	1.19	VII
2	Replacement stock		
	(a) Through Purchase	2.07	IV
	(b) Raising the replacement stock at home		
	(i) By natural system	1.07	XI
	(ii)Artificial system	2.87	I
3	Other management practices		
	(a) Dehorning	2.67	III
	(b) Castration	1.31	V
4	Upkeepment of the various records of animal husbandry	1.31	V

Table 5: Training need of the dairy farm women with respect to animal health care practices (N=140)

Sr. No	Sub – items of Training	Mean Score	Rank
1	Treatment against contagious diseases	1.71	III
2	Precaution against parasitic diseases	2.10	I
3	Vaccination schedule	2.05	II
4	Sterility treatments	1.61	IV
5	Control of Parasites	1.42	V

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