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A study on awareness of rural women about technologies promoted under All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on home science

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Abstract

The study was conducted in *Badgoan* panchayat samiti of Udaipur district of Rajasthan state. Under the objective to find out awareness of the sample consisted of 100 of the rural women (20 from each village). Awareness of the respondents was measured in term of technologies heard and seen by the respondents. The finding of the study revealed that majority of the respondents (60%) educated (70%), had agriculture as main occupation (70%) and belonged to nuclear family (60%). Majority of (65%) of the respondents were small and marginal farmers and had low socio-economic status (60%). Majority of the respondents were small and marginal farmer and had low socio- economic status (60%). The respondents had good awareness about technologies promoted under AICRP on Home Science as overall mean percent awareness score was found to be 72.66.

Keywords: Awareness, technologies, rural women, home science

Introduction

Indian rural women who perform multifarious responsibilities daily without any hue and cry, is the mother, wife or sister responsible for family's well-being as well as a farmer producing food for the family. She does not hold any apparent and discrete identity of her own on world platform but undoubtedly perform the most arduous and time consuming work behind the curtain without much resources and technologies at her disposal. Although she does all the multiple productive functions from bearing the children to performing household chores, her role has often been underestimated or ignored. She represents a fundamental pillar for survival and management of the family unit even then she is confronted with real difficulties of over burdening herself. Awareness is the most important component of behavior. It is assumed that if an individual has awareness and adequate knowledge, then may think of adopting that technology. Educating rural women and creating awareness about technologies can go a long way in enhancing their knowledge and skill and ultimately, the productivity of the system and farm income. In order to empower farm women, they need to have proper training and capacity building programs to compete various challenges in their life.

The All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Home Science was conceived as an instrument to develop a strong base of research and extension to the State Agricultural Universities for improving the quality of life of rural families. The project is being implemented by ICAR- CIWA (Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Central Institute for Women in Agriculture). Under AICRP- Home Science intensive efforts have been made to promote technologies among the rural women so that they can be made aware about the improved practices that could increase their work efficiency, reduce drudgery and improve their health and nutritional status. In this paper effort has been made to find out awareness of the women about the technologies promoted under AICRP – Home Science.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Udaipur district, Rajasthan state as five village *badgoan* panchayat samiti AICRP on Home Science, MPUAT is operational in Udaipur district. There are total 17 panchayat samities in Udaipur district. Out of these, *Badgoan* panchayat samiti was purposively taken for the study.

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As *Badgoan* panchayat samiti has been adopted by the AICRP since last five years (2012-2017). In the last five years, the AICRP-Home Science have adopted and dissented technologies in five villages of *Badgoan* panchayat samiti namely *Manpura, Nohra, Bhilwara, Lakhawali and Dangiyo ka Guda*. All five villages were included in the study. Personal interview method was used for data collection. Frequency, and percentage score and adoption index were used for analysis of the data.

Results and discussion

Perusal of Table 1 reveals that cent percent respondents have heard as well as seen technologies viz. handled laddle, compost pit, vermicompost, methods of cleaning water, balance diet, milk & milk products, preserved products of vegetables, jute products, amla products and user friendly storage practices like use of neem leaves, ash, cloves, turmeric etc. All the respondents have also heard about the

double layered filter cloth, covered dustbin and nutrition garden and majority (80-88%) have also seen these technologies. With regard to other technologies viz improved sickle, maize sheller, rake, solar cooker, tie & dye, low cost nutritious recipes (til burfi and laddoo, sprouted chat, poshtik dalia), 70 to 80 percent respondents have heard as well as seen it. In case of hand and block printing 75 percent respondents have heard as well as seen it in the trainings organized under AICRP- Home Science. It was found that 70 percent respondents were aware about vegetable plucker and vegetable picking bag. More than 60 percent respondents were aware about the protective mask used for prevention of body from diet and dust during working in the field. Technologies like sapling transplantor, milking stand with stool, herbal gulal stencil printing were known to relatively less number of respondents (43-50%). Only 20 percent of the respondents reported that they have heard the name of 'soak pit but have never seen it.

Table 1: Awareness of the rural women about technologies promoted under AICRP on Home Science, n =100

| S. No. | Technology | Heard about technology f/(%) | Seen the technology f/(%) |
|--------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Improved sickle | 80 | 75 |
| 2. | Maize sheller | 75 | 75 |
| 3. | Rake | 72 | 72 |
| 4. | Saral khurpi | 60 | 40 |
| 5. | Battery operated sprayer | 70 | 50 |
| 6. | Sapling transplantor | 50 | 40 |
| 7. | Milking stand with stool | 43 | 33 |
| 8. | Vegetable plucker | 70 | 60 |
| 9. | Vegetable picking bag | 70 | 50 |
| 10. | Solar cooker | 77 | 70 |
| 11. | Handled ladle | 100 | 100 |
| 12. | Compost pit | 100 | 100 |
| 13. | Soak pit | 20 | 0 |
| 14. | Double layered filter cloth | 100 | 88 |
| 15. | Covered dustbin | 100 | 80 |
| 16. | Nutrition garden | 100 | 60 |
| 17. | Vermi compost | 100 | 75 |
| 18. | User friendly storage practices (used of neem leaves, ash, cloves, turmeric, etc) | 100 | 100 |
| 19. | Method of cleaning water (boil, use of alum, double layered filter cloth). | 100 | 100 |
| 20. | Harble gulal | 60 | 50 |
| 21. | Tie -dye | 80 | 70 |
| 22. | Stencil printing | 50 | 30 |
| 23. | Hand printing | 75 | 75 |
| 24. | Block printing | 75 | 75 |
| 25. | Jute product | 100 | 100 |
| 26. | Sun hemp products | 40 | 40 |
| 27. | Protective mask | 75 | 75 |
| 28. | Combating Malnutrition | 80 | NA |
| 29. | Balance diet | 80 | 75 |
| 30. | Milk & milk products | 100 | 100 |
| 31. | Preserved product of vegetables | 100 | 100 |
| 32. | Low cost nutritious recipes (til burfi &laddoo, sprouted chat, poshtik dalia) | 70 | 70 |
| 33. | Blanching | 80 | 65 |
| 34. | Products of Aloe Vera | 75 | 70 |
| 35. | Products of Amla | 100 | 100 |

Overall awareness of the respondents about selected technologies

To know the level of awareness of the respondents about technologies, they were grouped into three categories of knowledge namely poor, average and good on the basis of their mean percent scores. Perusal of Table 2 and Fig. 1 highlights that the respondents had good awareness about

technologies promoted under AICRP on Home Science as overall mean percent awareness score was found to be 72.21. Distribution of the respondents in different categories of awareness depicts that majority of them (70%) were in the category of good awareness whereas, 30 percent belonged to the average awareness category. None of the respondents had poor awareness regarding the technologies.

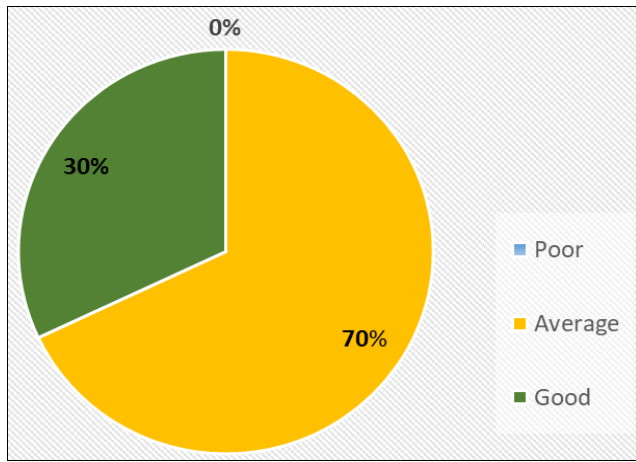


Fig 1: Overall awareness of the respondents about selected technology

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents by their overall awareness about selected technologies promoted under AICRP- Home science, n=100

| S. No. | Awareness category | f/ % |
|--------|--------------------|------|
| 1. | Poor | 0 |
| 2. | Average | 30 |
| 3. | Good | 70 |

Mean percent awareness score: 72.21

Conclusion

It can be concluded that majority of rural women were aware about the technologies promoted under AICRP –Home Science technologies with the overall awareness score of 70 percent while 30 percent respondents had average awareness about the technologies. So there is a need to provide proper education and knowledge about these technologies to rural women.

References

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