



## Decision making of rural women in animal husbandry practices

Preeti Khare

Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur Chhattisgarh, India

### Abstract

A survey based study was carried out to ascertain decision making of rural women in animal husbandry Practices in korba district of chhattisgarh, using a pretested interview schedule by personal interview for sample size of 120 rural women in Korba and Katghora block of Korba district, chhattisgarh (India). In the study area, important independent female decisions up to some extent included breeding of animals(01.67%), selection of animal breed(00.83%), fodder management (01.67%), purchase of feed and fodder(00.83%), feeding of animals (45.00%), grazing of animal (01.67%), sanitary management (25.00%), cattle shed/yard management (29.17), care the sick animal (00.83%), taking the animal for vaccination(00.83%), purchase and sale of animals(00.83%), cleaning of animal and animal sheds (26.26%), milking of animal (00.83%), selling of milk and milk products(12.50%), selling of fym, dung cake and other by products(05.00%), insurance of animals (00.00%), loan for purchase of animal(00.83%) and repayment of loan (5.00%). On an average the decision making process was manly performed jointly by male and female or by male. The female was responsible for deciding up to some extent in few Practices only.

**Keywords:** rural women; decision making pattern; animal husbandry practices

### Introduction

The Chhattisgarh state is rich in livestock wealth. India is predominantly an agrarian society where animal husbandry forms the backbone of national economy. The dairy sub-sector occupies an important position in the agricultural economy. Milk and milk products play a vital role in the country's agricultural economy. It provides sustenance to millions of farmers, particularly the rural poor. Dairy development fits most appropriate in the country's programmes of increasing rural employment and equitable distribution of income with justice. Strong networks of milk co-operatives have been instrumental in this phenomenal performance of dairy sector in the country. In small farm situation also, milk and milk products directly help in increasing crop production through making fluid cash available to the farmers for the purchase of essential inputs. The veterinary and animal husbandry offers a great potential for improvement of rural economy and overall development of state through adoption of improved breeding, feeding, management, healthcare, processing and marketing system. It also offers greater opportunities for generating the employment and women participation in various animal husbandry practices like dairy farming, goat and sheep farming, piggery, rabbitary, poultry and quail farming etc.

Fisheries & Livestock Production focuses on maintaining their role in the balance of species and habitats in the ecosystem. Women play a key role in animal husbandry, they should be the first person's to take decisions makers and make plans. Women independently make decisions regarding calf rearing, and preparing and preserving milk products. However, decisions on feeding, Cleaning of animal and animals shed, Yard management.

### Research Methodology

The present study was carried out during 2012-13 in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh state. This study aims to assess decision making of rural women in animal husbandry Practices. this study was conducted in randomly selected 8 villages [aayodhapuri, tulsinagar, Nagoyeekhar, Fertilizer, Kharmora, Gokulnagar, Duggupara and Dahiyana para] of two purposively selected blocks (Korba and Katghora) located in Korba district. The sample size was comprised of 120 respondents. The data collection was done by the use of interview schedule through personal interview. Data were analyzed with help of suitable statistical methods.

### Results and Discussion

**Table 1:** Distribution of respondents according to their decision making process in different animal husbandry Practices (n=120)

Decision activities	Only men		Only women		Joint	
	f	(%)	f	(%)	f	(%)
Breeding of animals	19	15.83	02	01.67	99	82.50
Selection of animal breed	70	58.33	01	00.83	49	40.83
Fodder management	37	30.83	02	01.67	81	67.50
Purchase of feed and fodder	31	25.83	01	00.83	88	73.33
Feeding of animals	06	05.00	54	45.00	60	50.00

Grazing of animal	21	17.50	02	01.67	97	80.83
Sanitary management	18	15.00	30	25.00	72	60.00
Cattle shed/Yard management	10	08.33	35	29.17	75	62.50
Care the sick animal	20	16.66	01	00.83	99	82.50
Taking the animal for vaccination	85	70.83	01	00.83	34	28.33
Purchase and sale of animals	49	40.83	01	00.83	70	58.33
Cleaning of animal and animals shed	06	05.00	32	26.26	82	68.34
Milking of animal	42	35.00	01	00.83	77	64.16
Selling of milk and milk products	55	45.84	15	12.50	53	44.16
Selling of FYM, dung cake and other by products	38	31.67	06	05.00	76	63.33
Insurance of animals	08	06.67	00	00.00	112	93.33
Loan for purchase of animal	10	08.33	01	00.83	109	90.83
Repayment of loan	21	17.50	06	05.00	93	77.50

Table 1 reveals that animal husbandry related decision were independently taken by male members, such as, taking the animal for vaccination (70.83%), selection of animal breed (58.33%), selling of milk and milk products (45.83%) and purchase and sale of animals (40.83). The involvement of female in these activities was quite low. Insurance of animals (93.33%), loan for purchase of animals (90.83%), breeding of animals and care the sick animal (82.50%), grazing of animals (80.83%), repayment of loan (77.50%), purchase of feed and fodder (73.33%), fodder management (67.50%), cleaning the animals and animal shed (68.34%) and selling of FYM, dung cake and other by products (63.33%) are some of the important areas were jointly decided by male and female members. The important independent female decisions up to some extent included feeding of animals (45.00%), cattle shed management (29.17), sanitary management (25.00%) and cleaning of animal and animal sheds (26.26%). On an average the decision making process was manly performed jointly by male and female or by male. The female was responsible for deciding up to some extent in few activities only.

### Conclusions

In the study area, important independent female decisions up to some extent included breeding of animals(01.67%), selection of animal breed (00.83%), fodder management (01.67%), purchase of feed and fodder (00.83%), feeding of animals (45.00%), grazing of animal (01.67%), sanitary management (25.00%), cattle shed/yard management (29.17), care the sick animal (00.83%), taking the animal for vaccination (00.83%), purchase and sale of animals (00.83%), cleaning of animal and animal sheds (26.26%), milking of animal (00.83%), selling of milk and milk products(12.50%), selling of fym, dung cake and other by products(05.00%), insurance of animals (00.00%), loan for purchase of animal(00.83%) and repayment of loan (5.00%). On an average the decision making process was manly performed jointly by male and female or by male. The female was responsible for deciding up to some extent in few activities only.

### References

1. Arshad MS, Randhawa S, Ashraf MA, Khalid MIC. Rural Women's Involvement in Decision-Making Regarding Livestock Management. *Pakistan Journal of Agricultural Sciences*. 2010; 47(2):162-165.
2. Bellurkar CM, Wakle PK, Gholve MA. A Study on Decision Making Pattern and Participation of Rural Women in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Enterprise. *Maharashtra Journal of Extension Education*. 2003; 22(3):81-85.
3. Cherian A, Vats A. Decision Making Pattern of Rural Women Regarding farm, Animal Husbandry, Home and Family Related Decisions of Hill, Bhabur and Tarai Zone of Uttar Pradesh State. *Rural India*. 2001; 64(11-12):228-234.
4. Chhayadevi LB. A Study on the Participation of Farm Women in Decision-Making on Farm and Home Aspects in Dharwad District of Karnataka State. M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, 1979.
5. Lad AS, Wattamwar VT, Bothikar GR. Correlates of Participation of Farm Women in Decision Making. *Agri. Sci. Digest*. 2012; 32(1):52-54.
6. Savitha SS. Role of Rural Women in Animal Husbandry. M.Sc. (Ag.) Thesis, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, 2004.
7. Sharma S, Rao PK, Sharma R. Role of Women in Decision-Making Related to Farm: A Study of Jammu District of J&K State. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*. 2013; 3(1):1-4.
8. Suman S, Mandal MK, Kirar NK, Baghel RPS. Participation of Tribal Women in Decision Making Related to Animal Husbandry Practices. *Environment and Ecology*. 2012; 30(4):1294-1298.