Research Note :

IMPACT OF INSTITUTIONAL TRAININGS ON KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL OF RURAL WOMEN OF RAEBARELI (U.P.)

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Rural women spend much of their time in unpaid activities like working in family farm or receiving income in kind by working for others and in domestic work. Whatever time they get from farm work, they engage themselves in household chores. They are the main responsible person in the family who manage all the domestic chores. Being illiterate and confined to four-walls of the house, they have no knowledge about new technologies which can enhance their productivity and alleviate drudgery. The extension efforts have failed to keep these women abreast with the new technologies, and women failed to get benefit of new technologies. As rural women can not be trained and educated through formal and long term system, it was felt that some professional approach to the task of home making and family management be made through institutions. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dariyapur, Raebareli is one of the institutions which imparts trainings to the rural women in these aspects. Hence, a study was conducted for evaluation of impact of trainings imparted by this Kendra on knowledge and skill of rural women.

METHODOLOGY :

The study was conducted in Rabi block of Raebareli district of Uttar Pradesh where most of the women were trained by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dariyapur, Raebareli. A two-stage random sampling was adopted by selection of five villages and two hundred representative samples. Equal number of trained and untrained women were selected from each selected village. For collection of information schedule was prepared and women were personally interviewed by the authors. Knowledge and skill of respondents regarding five home science practices viz. fruits and vegetable preservation, interior decoration, stitching and embroidery, child care and grain storage were evaluated. The dichotomous scoring method was adopted and the data obtained were statistically analysed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :

Regarding the socio-economic profile of the rural women under study, it was observed that 19 per cent of the total women respondents were below 30 years of age and 59 per cent were between the age group of 30-50 years (Table 1). Of the untrained women, 28 per cent were illiterate, 8 per cent were primary educated and 26 per cent were above primary level educated whereas, among trained women, only 23 per cent were above primary level educated. Majority of trained women (54 per cent) were belonging to schedule castes whereas among untrained women 49 per cent were belonging to forward castes.

Knowledge about home science practices–The study showed that trained women respondents have better knowledge about home science practices in comparison to untrained women respondents Table 2 reveals that there is highly significant difference

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Table 1. Socio-economic profile of respondents

Variable	Number of respondents		Total
	Trained (n_1=1000)	Untrained (n_2=100)	(N=200)
(1) Age (yrs.)			
Below 30	29	9	38
30-40	42	17	59
40-50	20	39	59
Above 50	9	35	44
(2) Caste			
Scheduled caste	54	23	77
Other backward caste	24	28	52
Forward	22	49	71
(3) Education			
Illiterate	20	28	48
Literate	31	38	69
Primary	26	8	34
Middle	16	7	23
Above high School	7	19	26
(4) Occupation			
Farming	30	42	72
Service	1	0	1
Business	7	3	10
Caste occupation	12	3	15
Landless labour	10	1	11
Daily wages	15	4	19
House wife	25	47	72
(5) Family type			
Joint	27	49	76
Nuclear	73	51	124

Table 2. Knowledge about home science practices

Home Science practice	Average score		't' value
	Trained	Untrained	
Fruit & Vegetable preservation	32.40	26.15	3.76**
Interior decoration	22.50	11.45	7.54**
Stitching and embroidery	21.25	14.90	4.02**
Child care practices	17.50	13.30	4.49**
Grain storage	12.80	10.75	4.44**

** Significant at 1 per cent level of probability

in average scores obtained by these women. The highest average score (32.40) was obtained by trained women respondents in fruits and vegetable preservation whereas the lowest average score was obtained by these women in grain storage practices (12.80). The range of scores obtained by untrained women was between 10.75 and 26.15. Bala (1975) and Narsimha and Rao (1982) had also observed that trained women have better knowledge of home science practices in comparison to untrained women.

Skill in home science practices–The practical aspects of knowledge in the form of skill in case of all home science practices was observed. It was revealed that in fruits and vegetable preservation the trained women respondents have shown the highest skill (19.25) in comparison to other home practices (Table 3). The similar trend was observed in case of untrained women respondents. Highly significant difference was observed in case of all but child care practices. This shows that in child care practices women respondents, be they trained or untrained, have almost equal skill.

Table 3. Skill in home science practices

Home Science practice	Average score		't' value
	Trained	Untrained	
Fruit & Vegetable preservation	19.25	14.60	3.54**
Interior decoration	12.25	5.30	7.97***
Stitching and embroidery	15.20	8.60	5.57**
Child care practices	12.90	11.53	1.66
Grain storage	11.50	7.65	10.89***

** Significant at 1 per cent level of probability
*** Significant at 0.1 per cent level of probability

Knowledge and skill gained–Table 4 shows that through trainings imparted by the Kendra women respondents have shown better results over untrained women. The highest percentage change in knowledge (96.51) and skill over untrained women respondents was observed in case of interior decorator. This indicates that through training's imparted by Kendra, women have gained highest knowledge and skill in interior decoration. Prabhu Kumar and Veerahadraiah (1998) have also observed that there were

significant changes in knowledge and attitude of trainees of KVKs.

Table 4. Change in knowledge and skill of respondents (per cent)

Home Science practice	Knowledge gained	Skill gained
Fruit & Vegetable preservation	23.90	31.85
Interior decoration	96.51	131.13
Stitching and embroidery	42.62	76.74
Child care practices	31.58	11.88
Grain storage	19.07	50.33

CONCLUSION :

On The basis of the results, it may be concluded that training's imparted by KVK have enhanced knowledge and skill of rural women of block Rahi of Raebareli district. The highest change in knowledge and skill over untrained women was observed in interior decoration practice. This indicates that trainings imparted by Kendra have enhanced knowledge and skill of rural women.

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