

IMPACT OF WORKSHOP ON ROLE OF WOMEN IN LIVESTOCK AND FISHERY SECTORS

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ABSTRACT

The impact of workshop was studied on a group of 133 participants from different districts of the State who participated in two days workshop programme on the 'Role of women in livestock & fishery sectors' at West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata. The various socio personal profiles of the participants like credit orientation, social participation, mass media exposure, etc were measured. There was a significant gain in knowledge and attitude of the participants. There was overall high knowledge gain among the participants in some topics such as- 'Role of livestock and fishery in rural economy', 'Use of dairy products technology', 'Women participation' and in the 'Institutional approach', and was least in the 'Rearing of healthy animal' and in 'Use of animal products technology'. After workshop, knowledge gain was high among the young and educated participants, which indicated that these two categories of participants were more interested about participation of women in livestock and fishery sectors for the economic solvency for their own family as well as the country.

Key Words: Livestock; Fishery; Learning; Knowledge; Attitude; Socio-personal; Adoption

INTRODUCTION

Women have a potential role in many aspects of economic development like maintenance of family, production of agriculture and allied fields like animal husbandry practices and fish farming. They work shoulder to shoulder with their men folks in livestock practices and fish farming as both these two enterprises are vital tools for rural livelihood. According to Chakravarty (1975)-the work done by the women in home and on the farms contribute as much as half of the economic development of the country. At present the technology is changing at a faster speed - and new innovations are coming to the field very quickly. To become a progressive one- a farmer has to accept these technologies along with his wife as his wife is not only working with him in the farm but also taking part in decision-making process. Farm women has a great role to play for adoption of any new technology for the whole community. Therefore, the present study has been undertaken to assess the knowledge and attitude of the participants towards the role of women in livestock and fishery sectors. Here an attempt is also being made to have a feedback on the impact of the workshop on the participants and to suggest appropriate modification.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted on a workshop named - 'Role of Women in Livestock and Fishery Sectors', organized by Directorate of Research, Extension & Farms, West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata in which 133 participants attended in a two days workshop during September 2000. Socio-personal, socio-economic and socio-psychological variables were studied by using appropriate tools (Kumaran,

1998) to understand the profiles of the participants and their relationship towards workshop. Pre-workshop and post-workshop evaluation sheets were prepared containing 5 positive and 5 negative statements. Both kind of attitude statements were incorporated to the schedule to minimise the possible response sets of subjects that may be generated if only favourable or unfavourable statements were included (Edward, 1969). The present study was conducted employing 'Before-After' design as recommended by Moser & Kalton (1980). The knowledge level of participants with respect to role of women in livestock and fishery sectors were measured by assigning scores. Attitude scores of the participants were made following the scale recommended by Likert (1932). Based on the total knowledge and attitude scores the participants were classified into low (below-35%), medium (35-40%), high (above 40%) knowledge groups and less (below 40%), moderate (40-50%) and high (above 50%) favourable attitude groups, respectively. Influence of workshop on the knowledge and attitude of the participants by socio-economic characteristics was also evaluated.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The socio personal profiles of the participants indicated most of the participants belong to age groups of above 30 years but less than equal 50 years (52.63%). Majority of the participants were male (56.39%) and most of them were College/University educated (51.13%). There was no illiterate person in the workshop. Most of the participants had medium mass media exposure (67.67%), most of the participants were Service holder (45.11%) and most of the participants (77.44%) were categories to high-income group (Table -1).

Table 1. Socio-personal profiles of the participants (N= 133)

Variables	% of trainees
<i>Age</i>	
<30 years	22.56
< 50 years & > 30 years	52.63
> 50 years	24.81
<i>Education</i>	
Illiterate	0
School education	48.84
College and university	51.13
<i>Occupation</i>	
Service	45.11
Study	4.5
Cultivation	3.76
Cultivation with livestock and fish farming	46.63
Livestock and fish farming	Nil
<i>Category of participant</i>	
Govt. service holder	34.58
Student	4.52
NGO	23.33
Panchayat pratinidhi	37.59
<i>Sex</i>	
Male	56.39
Female	43.61
<i>Annual income</i>	
Less than Rs. 24,000/-	22.56
Rs. 24,000/- and above	77.44
<i>Social participation</i>	
Low	15.04
Medium	52.63
High	32.33
<i>Economic motivation</i>	
Low	7.52
Medium	45.11
High	47.37
<i>Scientific orientation</i>	
Low	33.84
Medium	37.59
High	28.57
<i>Mass media exposure</i>	
Low	11.28
Medium	67.67
High	21.05

The result of mean knowledge score (%) on different topics covered in the workshop is presented in table-2. The overall gain in knowledge was high on 'Role of livestock and fishery in rural economy' and was least on the 'Rearing of healthy animal' and on the 'Use of animal products technology'.

Table 3 represents the data on the influence of workshop on participant's knowledge and attitude. Among the participants- 43.61% had medium and 31.68% had low level of knowledge about the role of women in livestock and fishery sectors. Regarding the favourable attitudes- 31.68% had moderate favourable attitudes towards the role of women in livestock and fishery sectors prior to workshop. There was a highly significant influence of the workshop on the knowledge and attitude as favourable knowledge and attitude have increased significantly.

Table 2. Mean knowledge score on different topics covered within the workshop

S. No.	Name of the Topic	No of questions	Before training	After training
1.	Women participation in livestock & fishery.	2	20	60
2.	Future strategic approach	2	20	40
3.	First aid of livestock diseases	2	30	50
4.	Rearing of healthy animal	2	20	30
5.	Parasitic diseases of animal and their control	2	30	50
6.	Use of animal products technology	2	20	30
7.	Use of dairy products technology	2	30	70
8.	Marketing of fishery products	2	20	40
9.	Role of livestock and fishery in rural economy.	2	30	80
10.	Institutional approach for women	2	30	60

Table 3. Influence of workshop on the knowledge and attitude of Participants

Knowledge	Before training		After training	
	No.	%	No.	%
Low	42	31.58	5	3.76
Medium	58	43.61	53	39.85
High	33	24.81	45	56.39
Total	133	100	133	100
Attitude	Before training		After training	
	No.	%	No.	%
Less	30	22.56	0	0
Moderate	42	31.58	40	30.08
High	61	43.86	93	69.92
Total	133	100	133	100

Table 4 represents the influence on the knowledge and attitude of the participants by socio-economic characteristics. The mean percentage of knowledge and attitude score of the participants at the time of workshop and immediately after workshop was high among relatively young, college/university educated person and in high-income group people. The mean percentage of knowledge was high among the male participants in comparison to female participants before and immediately after workshop. The gain in knowledge and favourable attitude due to workshop in all categories was significant. In the present study high knowledge and favourable attitude was noticed among majority of the participants before workshop.

The reason might be that most of the participants were either technical person in this field or 'Jan Pratinidhi' who were always aware about these facts due to their own activities or interests. High level of knowledge was also noticed among the young, educated and high-income group people before and after workshop, which indicate that above categories of participants were more keen about the fact and had high degree of perception to acquire knowledge and favourable attitude.

The workshop implied that the participants irrespective of their socio-economic characters had showed greater interest in the

role of women in livestock and fishery sectors as well as in extension methods used in the workshop.

Table 4. Influence of workshop on the knowledge and attitude of the participants by socio-economic characteristic

Characteristics/ categories	No. of trainees	Mean Knowledge Score (%)		Mean Attitude Score (%)	
		Before training	After training	Before training	After training
Age					
* 30 years	30	40.5	70.5	45.2	60.2
* 50 years & > 30 years	70	45.2	60.2	50	58.49
> 50 years	33	35	44.1	47.2	51.50
Education					
Illiterate	0	-	-	-	-
School educated	65	36.20	56.1	47.1	58.20
College/ University educated	68	46.77	60.86	46.15	56.13
Annual income					
Less than Rs. 24,000/-	30	30.10	40.50	38.20	51.20
Rs. 24,000/- and above	103	44.95	63.78	49.06	58.87
Sex					
Male	75	43.06	58.5	47.4	56.90
Female	58	39.73	58.57	45.60	57.45

CONCLUSION

In the present study high knowledge and favourable attitude was noticed among majority of the participant after

workshop. Significant gain in role of livestock and fishery in rural economy, use dairy products technology was found. Socio-economic characters had showed greater interest in role of women in livestock and fishery sectors.

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