

## RESEARCH NOTE

## Opinion of Farm Women toward Components of TV Programmes

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## ABSTRACT

*The present study was undertaken with the main objective to find out the opinion of respondents about farm and home related programmes. For the investigation only those channels telecast farm and home related programmes were selected i.e. DD Rajasthan, ETV Rajasthan, DD Kisan and Z Khana Khazana. The study was conducted in four villages of Badgaon Panchayat Samiti of Udaipur district, Rajasthan. The total sample comprises of 100 farm women. An interview schedule was prepared by the investigator and interview technique was used for data collection. Frequency distribution, percentage and mean weighted scores were used for analysis of data. Majority of the respondents were in the age group of 30-40 years and 60% had most favourable and 40% had favourable opinion towards the various components of farm and home related TV programmes. None of respondents had unfavourable opinion towards any of the component of TV programmes.*

**Key words:** *Opinion; Farm women; TV programmes; Farm; Home and Components;*

Globally, today the life of man and the society in which he lives has witnessed media and communication explosion. People are information hungry and need timely and updated information for their development. For rapid transfer of any new information, innovation and technology to a large segment in a fraction of time mass media channels plays a crucial role. Mass media offer the great possibilities for effective action through its characteristic of disseminating technical and useful information among millions of people, particularly people living in remote areas. For that purpose television has given new choice to the farming community for watching the different agricultural programmes on different channels. Farmers choose the best way for keeping up to date about different information of agriculture. Apart from the farmers, farm women also indulge in agricultural activities. She is the central figure in the family influencing and serving the social, economic and cultural needs and standards of the family. Access to communication media prepares women for improving their communication and mediation skills to strengthen their capacity to contact and mediate with external world. Today in the era of science and technology, the Indian farm women are required to make many decisions

regarding the acceptance of new technology in the area of farm and home, but because of lack of knowledge and illiteracy, she is not able to take wise decision to use new technology. Farm women should be fully aware of the latest agricultural technologies so as to achieve faster development in agriculture. The transfer of technology approach which mainly includes mass media is not paying much attention towards dissemination of adequate and timely agricultural information to the farm women (*Santra and Kundu, 2001*). With the objective to impart latest & useful agricultural and home making information to rural masses various farm and home related programmes telecast on different channels. The success of programme depends on awareness, preference and opinion of the people for whom the programme is planned. So with this study opinion of the farm women should be analyzed critically.

## METHODOLOGY

For the present investigation one rural panchayat samiti from Udaipur district i.e, Badgaon panchayat samiti was selected randomly. From the selected panchayat samiti four villages namely Iswal, Kavita, Lausing and Kadiya having approximately 20-25 km

distance from district headquarter were selected purposively. For the selection of sample a list of farm families having cable connection was prepared separately for each village with the help of local cable operators. From the list 25 farm women from each village who were the viewers of TV programmes and willing to respond were selected to form a total sample of 100 respondents. The data were collected personally with the help of an interview schedule. The data so obtained were tabulated and analyzed by using the simple statistical techniques of frequency, average, percentage and Mean weighted scores.

*Mean weighted score (MWS):* To measure the overall opinion of the respondents mean weighted scores were calculated. For this a rating scale was developed having 3 point continuum “strongly agree” “agree” and “disagree” with scores 3, 2 and 1 for favourable statements and 1, 2 and 3 for unfavourable statements. For each statement the frequency of respondents under each rating was calculated, multiplied by assigned scores and added. The resulting sum of each statement was divided by total number of respondents (100).

Categories and MWS range i.e.-Most Favourable (2-3); Favourable (1-1.99) and Unfavourable (0-0.99).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data in the Table 1 reflected that more than half of the respondents were strongly agree that programmes are informative and according to their interest and reported that programmes telecast through selected channels provide information on nutrition, health & hygiene, environmental sanitation, consumer awareness and government programmes & policies.

Regarding relevancy, accuracy and reliability of the programme data in the table reflect that the majority of the respondents were not in the favour of inaccuracy of message (77%), irrelevancy (70%) and unreliable information (60%) in the programme. They perceived that the information is helpful in their day to day activities.

A perusal of the Table 2 also indicate that more than half (50%) of respondents were agree that information is applicable & phone-in-live programme is also not properly maintained under the programme. However, 42 per cent respondents perceived that phone-in-live programme is helpful in clarifying their doubts by satisfying their queries on toll- free number and 36 per cent respondents opined that information about local

**Table 1. Opinion of the respondents towards content of the TV programmes (N=100)**

Components	SA	Af	DA	MWS
Programmes are informative	56	30	14	2.42
Content of programme is according to viewer's interest	52	34	14	2.38
Information aren't relevant	0	30	70	2.70
There is clarity in the messages	30	34	36	1.94
Information has practicability	30	58	12	2.18
Lack of accuracy in the messages	1	21	77	2.75
Information is according to the season	24	52	24	2.0
Information is not reliable	15	25	60	2.45
Title of the programme is attractive	34	30	36	1.98
There is lack of information about govt. programme & policies	12	68	20	2.08
Advertisement make aware about new technologies & products of home and agriculture	45	25	30	2.15
Programme on phone-in-live is not properly maintained	0	58	42	2.42
Local market information is not given in the programme	12	52	36	2.24
Repetition of important programmes at weekends	48	30	22	2.26
Technologies are cost effective and can be easily adoptable	42	31	27	2.15

market is provided under Krishi Darshan programme of DD Rajasthan channel.

Less than half of the respondents were strongly agree that information about appropriate farm & homestead technologies, advertisement makes them aware and repetition of the programme at weekend is helpful in getting the information. On contrary, nearly 27 per cent of the respondents were disagree that technologies are cost effective and inclined that information was quite difficult to understand & expensive so that it is not easily adopted by them and 30 per cent respondents were not in favour that advertisement make them aware about new technologies. The reason for such findings might be that generally people switched to different channel during advertisement or doing other work. Nearly an equal number of respondents were strongly agree, agree and disagree that messages are clear and titles of the programmes are attractive.

Findings of the study are in line with the results of *Deshmukh & Wattamwar (2010)* and *Devendrapp (2014)*

**Table 2. Opinion of the respondents towards content utility of the TV programmes (N=100)**

Components	SA	Af	DA	MWS
Helps to know about balance diet and new recipes	74	26	0	2.74
Helps in improving the cooking methods	64	35	0	2.62
It gives information about nutrition, health & hygiene and environmental sanitation	48	30	22	2.26
Success stories are motivational	44	31	25	2.19
Provides information about livestock management	41	44	15	2.26
It provides information about improved farm and home related practices	31	45	24	2.07
Helped to know about current affairs	20	22	58	1.62
Gives information about initiatives of government for rural development	18	25	57	1.61
Helped in getting to know rights for women	10	21	69	1.41
It makes aware about importance of organic foods	4	20	76	1.28
Consumer awareness	2	27	71	1.31

revealed that majority of the respondents perceived that farm TV programmes are useful, effective, motivating, clear and suitable for its adoption.

An overview of MWS with range 1.28-1.62 reflects that respondents had favorable opinion towards the information about importance of organic foods, current affairs, government initiatives, women rights and consumer awareness are useful to them. It is also appreciate to note that respondents had most favourable opinion towards the utility of content of farm & home related TV programmes as indicated by MWS 2.13-2.89. During the informal discussion with the respondents it has been observed that the farm women were not aware about these programmes and they were mostly viewed the entertainment programmes on Colours, Zee TV and Star Plus channels.

Table 3 indicates that majority of the respondents had favourable opinion towards language, time and duration of TV programmes as reflected by MWSs ranging from 1.92-2.01. An in-depth analysis of the table indicate that 35-42 per cent respondents agreed that language of the programme content is simple, easy to understand and sentences are short that helps in better understanding of the information. Apart from that one third of the respondents perceived that language is

**Table 3. Opinion of the respondents towards language, time & duration of the TV programmes (N=100)**

Components	SA	Af	DA	MWS
Language is simple and understandable	25	42	33	1.92
Sentences are short	31	35	34	1.97
Technical words used are not easy to understand	82	18	0	1.18
Morning telecast time is not suitable	64	32	4	1.40
Evening telecast is suitable	59	30	11	2.48
Schedule of the programme is intimated well in advance	32	35	33	1.99
Duration of farm programmes is appropriate	18	60	22	1.96
Duration of home related programme is not sufficient to cover the programme	32	35	33	2.01

difficult to understand & sentences are long and opined that programmes should be telecast in regional language “*Mewari*”. Data also exhibit that 82% perceived that most of the time technical words in the programmes are used that hinders their understanding.

With regard to information pertaining to time and duration of TV programmes data state that more than 50 per cent respondents were strongly in favour that programmes telecast in the evening are suitable for them and reported that they are free from the farm and household work, 30 minutes duration of home related programmes (Rasoi se, Kalyani and Chat par bagwani) are appropriate to cover the content of the programme and one third of the respondents agreed that information about the schedule programme is intimated well in advance.

The result of study is supported by the findings of the study conducted by *Nazir & Hassan (2011)*, *Saibaba et. al (2011)* and *Lal (2012)*, reported that majority of the respondents (80%) opined that language of farm TV programme is suitable and programmes telecast during 6:00-8:00 pm is able to catch the interest of the viewers rather than programmes telecast on other timings.

Data in the Table 4 reveal that nearly one third of the respondents were strongly agree, agree and disagree with the programme formats and synchronization of audio & visuals in the programme and nearly 40 per cent respondents perceived that there is lack of combination of different methods. With regard to toll

**Table 4. Opinion of the respondents towards mode of presentation of the TV programmes (N=100)**

Components	SA	Af	DA	MWS
Mode of presentation				
Appropriate selection of mode of presentation	31	32	37	1.94
There is combination of different methods of presentation in the programme	20	42	38	1.82
Audio and visuals are well synchronized	34	32	34	2.00
Toll free phone-in-facilities helps in clarifying the doubts	18	60	22	1.96
Traditional media are used	00	00	100	1.00
Background music distract the attention	00	00	100	1.00

free phone-in facility, use of traditional media and background music majority of the respondents agreed that it helps in clarifying their doubts and all the respondents were not in favour of use of traditional media and background music as it distract the attention. From the finding it could be concluded that respondents were in the favor of mode of presentation of programmes telecasted on selected channels.

*Overall opinion of farm women towards various components of the farm & home related TV programmes:* On the basis of overall opinion of respondents in various components of farm & home related TV programmes, they were categorized into three equidistance categories as most favourable, favourable and unfavourable. The results are presented in Table 5.

**Table 5. Overall opinion of the respondents toward various components of the TV programmes**

Categories and MWS	Scores range	No./%
Most favourable	(2.35-3)	51
Favourable	(1.68-2.34)	39
Unfavourable	(1-1.67)	10

Visualization of Table 5 show that 51 per cent were in the category of most favourable opinion, 39 per cent were in the category of favourable opinion and only 10 per cent respondents had unfavourable opinion towards different components of TV programmes.

## CONCLUSION

From the findings it can be concluded that farm women had favourable opinion towards the various components of TV programmes as content, content utility, time, duration and mode of presentation. Programme producers make full efforts to produce that programmes which disseminate useful, authentic and economic information to the viewer's. As farm women are busy in doing their farm and household works so the important message should be telecast at evening time when almost all the work came to an end. Farm women have been long accorded as invisible workers in Agriculture, and their contribution for agricultural development is tremendous. Hence, organizing and promoting effective use of media forums in radio, television and print media would play a vital role in enlightening farm women for agricultural development. Thus, there is a need to make about the farm and home related programmes telecast on different channels.

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