

## Study on Participation of Farm Women in Agricultural Activities

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### Abstract

*The role of women has always been a multi-dimensional and significant as women have performed well in case of agricultural activities, domestic activities, marketing activities as far as labour requirement is considered.. So, women's involvement in participation and decision-making process has been of great importance because women's play an important role in every household activity and gives excellent performance most of the time. This research was conducted in purposively selected Dhar district because researcher has well acquainted with the area and has limited time to complete her research. Out of 13 blocks in District; Kukshi block was selected randomly. A list of village panchayats comes under the Kukshi block was prepared and 10 village panchayats were selected randomly. A village panchayat wise list of farm women was prepared with the help of RAEO's than 08 farm women was selected randomly from each village panchayat to make 80 sample sizes. From overall participation of farm women, majority of the farm woman 38.75 percent was found in low participated whether 32.50 percent of farm women were found medium participated and 28.75 percent of farm women were found high participated in agricultural activities.*

**Keywords:** Participation, Farm women, Farm, Agricultural activities.

### Introduction

Women play a major role in agriculture and allied activities but extent of women's involvement and the type of activities performed by them in agriculture and allied fields varies from state to state, even within a state. Women perform backbreaking activities both in the field and in their households, thus leading a hard life<sup>[1]</sup>. Women's are key players in agriculture and its allied field therefore rural women play key role by working with full passion in production of crops right from the soil preparation till post harvest activities. Farm women characterize as women who have basic leadership and decision to control over an arable plot of land. These choices or decision may incorporate how to cultivation of land, sowing of crops, weed

management, collection of crops, processing of crops and sell the produces<sup>[7]</sup>. It is noted from the study that scientific orientation of the farm women is an important factor on decision making ability of the farm women. Despite women's critical contribution to the family income through productive activities, no recognition is given to them as an important contributor and their contribution is not recorded. They are still remained invisible workers. Over the years women cultivators are typically and wrongly characterized as economically inactive and women cultivator play only a supportive role in agriculture as farmers' wives (Samanta, 1994). Reported that in the women training programs, it was fundamental to train and motivate adult

women in the primary stages as they were the decision makers in the family<sup>[3]</sup>. Women must given full chance to participate in decision making as they are actively engaged in home and farm activities. The role of women has always been a multi-dimensional and significant as women have performed well in case of agricultural activities, domestic activities, marketing activities as far as labour requirement is considered. In rural society,

**Material and Method**

The study was conducted in purposively selected Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh because researcher has well acquainted with the area and limited time to complete research. Dhar district comprises of 13 blocks out of these, Kukshi block was selected randomly. A list of village panchayats comes under the Kukshi block was prepared and 10 village panchayats were selected randomly. A village panchayat wise list of farm women

**Result and Discussion**

**Extent of participation of farm women in agricultural activities:-**

**Table 1 Distribution of farm women according to their participation in agricultural activities**

S. No.	Agricultural Activities	More Participation	Less Participation	No Participation
1.	Land preparation	25(31.25)	17 (21.25)	29 (47.50)
2.	Selection of seed/variety	18(22.92)	33(41.25)	38(35.83)
3.	Seed treatment	20(24.58)	22(27.92)	38(47.50)
4.	Sowing of seeds	22(27.92)	28(34.58)	30 (37.50)
5.	Transplanting	20(24.58)	32(39.58)	28(35.83)
6.	Gap filling	25 (31.25)	25 (31.25)	30 (37.50)
7.	Plant protection	26(32.92)	29(36.25)	25(30.83)
8.	Irrigation	24(29.58)	29(36.25)	27(34.17)
9.	Weeding	25(31.25)	32(39.58)	23(29.17)
10.	Fertilizer application	26(32.92)	17(21.25)	37(45.83)
11.	Disposal of farm produce	20(24.58)	24(29.58)	36(45.83)
12.	Harvesting	21(26.25)	22(27.92)	37(45.83)
13.	Threshing	24(29.58)	32(39.58)	25(30.83)
14.	Winnowing	25(31.25)	17(21.25)	38(47.50)

there has been noticed a considerable fluctuation regarding the participation and decision-making power of women. To know the actual situation of women, their role in participation and decision-making in different agricultural activities need to be properly looked into. In light with the above facts, the present study entitled as “Study on Participation of Farm Women in Agricultural activities” was undertaken.

was prepared with the help of RAEO’s and than 08 farm women was selected randomly from each village panchayat to constitute 80 sample sizes of respondents. A well-structured and pretested interview schedule was used for data collection through personal interview method. The data was analyzed with the help of Mean, Standard Deviation, Percentage and Frequency.

15.	Packaging	22(26.25)	26(32.92)	32(39.25)
16.	Storage of grains	18(22.92)	32(39.58)	30(37.50)
17.	Care of animals	22(27.92)	24(29.58)	34(42.50)
18.	Milking	21(26.25)	29(36.25)	30(37.50)
19.	Transportation	25(31.25)	30(37.92)	25(30.83)
20.	Marketing	25(31.25)	22(27.92)	33(40.83)

Table 1 show that more participation of farm women in agricultural activities i.e. land preparation 31.25 percent, gap filling 31.25 percent and winnowing 31.25 percent & so on so forth respectively. The less participation of farm women in agricultural activities i.e. selection of seed/ variety 41.25 percent,

storage of grains 39.58 percent, transportation 37.92 percent & so on so forth respectively. Then, no participation of farm women in agricultural activities i.e. land preparation 47.50 percent, seed treatment 47.50 percent, winnowing 47.50 percent & so on so forth respectively<sup>[2,4,5,6]</sup>.

**Table 2 Overall extent of participation of farm women in agricultural activities-**

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (Score up to 7)	31	38.75
2.	Medium (Score 8 to 14)	26	32.50
3.	High (Score More than 14)	23	28.75
	Total	80	100.00

Table 2 shows that majority of the farm woman 38.75 percent was found in low participation category whereas 32.50 percent were found in medium participation category and 28.75 percent were found in high participation category of agricultural activities. Around 60

### Conclusion

It is concluded from research that majority of farm women was found in low participation category of agricultural activities which may be due to male dominated work and household work is compulsory for women. Similarly

percent farm women participated in various activates by inclusion of medium and high participation of farm women which was showing a more participation and need to care of women requirement and decision making power in farm planning and activities.

majority of farm women were not participated in agricultural activities i.e., land preparation, seed treatment and winnowing due to mechanization of agriculture farm & social norms of society.

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