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Impact of KVK on Knowledge level of farm women

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Abstract

The study was undertaken with 90 farm women spread among ten purposively selected villages under five blocks under the domain of KVK Jodhpur. The trainees were selected randomly from each selected villages. Two variables namely, level of knowledge about the Home science technologies of the selected KVK and its impact were measured by utilizing pre-structured and pre-tested interview schedule. Findings of the study showed that majority of farm women (55.55%) had medium knowledge level with 28.08 average knowledge score. About 21.11% of them had low knowledge level with 16.52 average knowledge score. Whereas 23.33 % had high knowledge level with 41.95 average knowledge score. It was also revealed that 77.77% respondents showed that KVK made an impact in the villages where it functions. The impact was seen in the programme like smokeless chullah, supplementary nutrition, balanced diet & immunization campaign. Some activities conducted by KVK like demonstrations, training camps and exhibitions, had great to moderate impact on the respondents.

Key words: Training; impact; Knowledge; home science technologies

Introduction

In the era of technological development, Home Science technologies are advancing at high speed. The progresses in any field depend to a large extent on quick and effective dissemination of new practices or technologies among the beneficiaries and bring back of their problems to the research labs for their solution.

Knowledge may be defined as those behaviour and test situations, which emphasize upon memorization the remembering, either by recognition or recall of ideas. One of the main tasks of Krishi Vigyan Kendra is to provide and improve the level of knowledge of the trainees about the improved farm practices, because knowledge is cognitive component of individual's mind and plays an important role in covert as well as overt behavior. Therefore the individuals with a greater technical knowledge of improved practices would lead to a high adoption possibly because knowledge is not inert. Once knowledge is acquired and retained, it undergoes and produces changes in the thinking process and of mental alchemy. This study was, therefore, conducted to ascertain the impact of home science technologies among farm women as well as their prevailing level of awareness knowledge of the home science technologies.

Methodology

The study was conducted in the KVK hosted by CAZRI Jodhpur. The accessible population for this descriptive study was ninety (N=90). Random sampling technique was applied to draw the samples of 90 women farmers from three villages of two panchayat samitis i.e. Luni & Mandore of Jodhpur district. The data were collected through personal interview method using structural schedule. The bench mark survey data of the KVK was used as the baseline for the existing knowledge score of the farmwomen while the degree of impact of KVK in terms of gain in knowledge of farm women was measured with the help of schedule developed for the study purpose. To collect the data, the respondents were individually interviewed by the investigator herself after making good rapport with them. The entire data were transformed into normal scores. The level of knowledge was categorized as low, medium, and high on the basis of scores obtained.

Selection of Home Science technologies

This research was to determine the impact of home science activities in terms of behavioral changes of beneficiaries by way of adopting the home science technologies being carried out by KVK hosted by CAZRI Jodhpur. A list of home science technologies which are generally diffused by KVK was taken and the following five technologies were selected randomly for evaluation in the study for assessing the gain in knowledge and its adoption –

1. Supplementary food (Poshak) and balance diet.
2. Improvement in local diet by different methods such as mixing, sprouting etc.
3. Smokeless Chullah.
4. Improvement in existing storage bins for safe grain storage.
5. Immunization of children & pregnant ladies.

Results and Discussion

Knowledge levels of farm women as a result of KVK

An attempt was made to find out the knowledge

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of farm women about Home science technology transferred by the KVK under study.

The maximum and minimum score a respondent can secure on the knowledge test was 45 and 15 respectively, whereas the maximum and minimum knowledge scores obtained by the respondents were 45 and 15 respectively. The mean knowledge scores revealed that average farmwomen had good knowledge about home science technology .The standard deviation discloses that there was a large variation in the knowledge of the farm women regarding improved home science technology.

Based on the knowledge scores, three levels of the farm women were made as under:-

1. Low Level Less than 20.16 (A.M – S.D.)
2. Medium Level 20.16-38.28 (A.M ± S.D.)
3. High Level More than 38.28 (A.M + S.D.)

Table 1: Knowledge of farm women about Home Science Technology

S. No.	Knowledge Level	Adopter farm Women Frequency	%tage	Average knowledge Score
1.	Low Level	19	21.11	16.52
2.	Medium Level	50	55.55	28.08
3.	High Level	21	23.33	41.95
	Mean Score			28.85

Table 1 shows that majority of farm women (55.55%) had medium knowledge level with 28.08 average knowledge score. About 21.11% of them had low knowledge level with 16.52 average knowledge score. Whereas 23.33 % had high knowledge level with 41.95 average knowledge score.

From the data mentioned in the table 1, it may be found that the adopter farm women had 28.85 mean knowledge score. It means those farm women who were adopted by KVK appeared to possess more knowledge about new and improved Home Science Technology which is transferred by KVK.

From the findings mentioned above, it may be observed that majority of farm women had medium to high knowledge regarding Home Science Technology transferred by KVK. It may be said, thus, that knowledge of new technology exerts its influence on the adoption of new and more improved Home Science Technology transferred by KVK through different and varied educational activities.

The knowledge level of the farm women regarding home science technology transferred by KVK is illustrated diagrammatically in the fig.1

The findings are in line with the findings of Nagnur *et. al.* (2012) and Khandelwal *et. al.* (2010) where they found that majority of farmers possessed high knowledge regarding new farm technology as a result of extension activities.

Impact of KVK

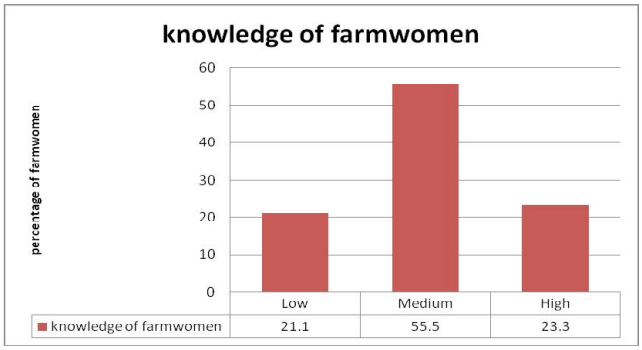

Fig.1 Knowledge of farm women regarding home science technology transferred by KVK, Jodhpur

Training and guidance given to trainees play prime role in influencing technological changes, besides management orientation. The concept of KVK is quite new and practically no research is done or literature developed in this field to assess its impact. It is right time that researches must be conducted on various aspects of KVK and the finding must be validated to generalize the future action. Thus an attempt has been made to ascertain the degree of impact of different activities of KVK on the farm women (Table 2). 77.77% respondents showed that KVK made an impact in the villages where it functions. The impact was seen in the programme like smokeless chullah, supplementary nutrition, balanced diet & immunization campaign. Above table also reveals that some activities conducted by KVK like demonstrations, training camps and exhibitions, had great to moderate impact on the respondents.

The table 2 shows that the smokeless chullah campaign of the KVK had an impact on the respondents. Out of 90 respondents, 70 farm women (77.77%) reported to have a great impact, 15 (16.66) reported to have moderate effect and only 5 (5.55%) have shown a little impact of the programme From the above table it comes out that supplementary nutrition programme of KVK had an impact on the beneficiaries. Out of 90 respondents 65 (72.22%) indicated a great impact, 20 (22.22%) reported to have moderate impact while only 5 (5.55%) showed a little impact of the programme.

Similarly, balanced diet development programme of KVK had great impact shown by 65 (72.22%) farm women with 15 (16.66%) respondents indicating moderate impact and 10 (11.11%) showing little impact of the programme.

The remaining activities were considered less important by the respondents and obtained weighted mean scores of 1.27 to 2.55 and were categorized in rank 5 to 15 as under:

The findings are in line with the findings of Patel (1991) and Sheikh (1994), who concluded technical guidance, demonstration, institutional training

Table 2: Degree of Impact of KVK on the farmwomen as perceived by themselves (N=90)

S.No.	Items/Activities	Degree of impact G.E	M.E	L.E	Mean score (weighted score)	Rank
1	How far the services of KVK of your locality have been useful to you.	45(50)	30(33.33)	15(16.66)	2.33	8
2	How much you learnt from the training organized by KVK.	40(44.44)	35(38.88)	15(16.66)	2.27	9
3	To what extent the off campus one day immunization camp organized by KVK were useful to you.	50(55.55)	25(27.77)	15(16.66)	2.38	7
4	To what extent the field days conducted by KVK were useful to you.	15(16.66)	20(22.22)	55(61.11)	1.55	15
5	To what extent the farm women guidance programme carried out at the KVK headquarters were useful to you.	35(38.88)	20(22.22)	35(38.88)	2.00	11
6	To what extent the exhibitions conducted by KVK were useful to you.	35(38.88)	35(38.88)	20(22.22)	2.16	10
7	To what extent the kisan melas organized by KVK acted as a source of learning new technology for you.	5(5.55)	15(16.66)	70(77.77)	1.27	19
8	To what extent the film shows conduct by KVK were source of learning for you.	10(11.11)	10(11.11)	70(77.77)	1.33	18
9	To what extent your participation in the educational tour has been beneficial to you.	15(16.66)	30(33.33)	45(50)	1.66	13
10	How far the demonstrations organized by KVK have been useful to you in acquiring new knowledge about improved technology.	60(66.66)	20(22.22	10(11.11)	2.55	5
11	To what extent you feel that supply of storage bins through KVK have been beneficial to you.	20(22.22)	15(16.66)	55(61.11)	1.61	14
12	To what extent you have been beneficiated by the safe grain storage campaign organized by KVK.	10(11.11)	15(16.66)	65(72.22)	1.38	17
13	To what extent you gained through advice of KVK scientist about application of new methods for improvement in local diet.	25(27.77)	30(33.33)	35(38.88)	1.88	12
14	To what extent you learnt about eradication of childhood diseases through KVK scientist.	60(66.66)	15(16.66)	15(16.66)	2.50	6
15	To what extent the local diet improvement programme has been beneficial to you.	15(16.66)	15(16.66)	60(66.66)	1.50	16
16	To what extent you have been benefited on supplementary nutrition measures as a result of activities conducted by KVK	65(17.22)	20(22.22)	5(5.55)	2.66	3
17	To what extent KVK has helped you in using smokeless chullah.	70(77.77)	15(16.66)	5(5.55)	2.72	2
18	To what extent the KVK has helped you in development of balanced diet.	65(72.22)	15(16.66)	10(11.11)	2.61	4
19	On the whole to what extent the KVK has made an impact in the villages where it functions.	70(77.77)	20(22.22)	0(0.00)	2.77	1

G.E- To a great extent, M.E- Moderate extent, L.E- Little extent.

Table: 3 Rank orders given to various Activities

Name of Activity	Rank Order
Demonstration	5
Immunization programme / camps	6
Training camps	7
Exhibition	8
Farm women guidance at head quarter	9
Improvement of local diet programme	10
Educational tour participation	11
Safe grain storage campaign	12
Field days	13
Film shows	14
Kisan Melas	15

(Ranks given on the basis of weighed mean scores)

programmes, home science activities insecticides, seed treatment nursery raising, smokeless chullah, tailoring and cleanliness of home as major activities carried out by KVKs.

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