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Training Needs Assessment of Dairy Farmers in Morar Block of Gwalior District of Madhya Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted purposively in 12 villages in Morar block of Gwalior district of Madhya Pradesh. 120 farmers were selected randomly for this study. It was seen than out of 120 respondents, (54.17%) had medium, (33.33%) had high and only (12.5%) had low level of training needs. Age and size of herd had no significant association with the training needs of the farmers. There was a significant relationship between personal characteristics like annual income and socio-economic status and their training needs of the farmers. There was high significant relationship between innovativeness, economic motivation, scientific orientation and their training needs of the farmers. There was negative but significant relationship between extension participation, extension contact and their training needs of the farmers. There was negative but highly significant relationship between dairy experience and their training needs of the farmers.

Key words: *Dairy, Milk, Farmers, Animals*

INTRODUCTION

India has emerged as the largest milk producing country in the world with present level of annual milk production estimated as 127.7 million tones with a per capita availability of 291 grams per day. We expect a production level of 135 million tones by the year 2019. India has a large livestock population base constituting 278 million livestock including 180.5 million cattle, 82.8 million buffaloes, 4 million sheep's and 9.2 million goats. The livestock population is projected to increase to 322 million by the year 2019. Demand for dairy products in India is likely to grow significantly in the coming years, driven by more consumers, higher incomes and greater interest in nutrition. In spite of high milk production, the productivity of our milch animals is very low. Lack of awareness of rural farmers about improved animal husbandry practices is one of the reasons for low productivity of animals.

In India, a network of various institutes is involved in conducting various training programmes which are designed based on the clientele problems and their interest and needs.

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Training is also inevitable for imparting new knowledge and updates the skill of the farmers. Therefore the present study was designed to determine the knowledge of dairy farmers for identification; prioritizations of their training needs related to production methods and analyze the relationship between attributes of the dairy farmers and their training need.

The present study was conducted purposively in Gwalior district of Madhya Pradesh. There are 4 blocks in Gwalior district out of which 3 blocks were selected randomly. Four villages from each block were selected among the total blocks. Thus a total of 12 villages will be selected for the present study. After that we prepared a list of farmers who have milch animal. A Sample of 10 dairy farmers of each village will be selected randomly. Hence the total sample of the study will be of 120 respondents. The primary data were collected through personal interview method with the help of pre-tested interview schedule. Variables included in the study were selected on the basis of extensive review of literature and discussion with experts in the field. The statistical tests and procedures were used for analyzing the data with the help of statistical tools like- mean, S.D., percentage, and Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation, multiple correlation and regression analysis were used for analysis of data.

Majority of the respondents (58.40%) were in middle age group of 36-55 years of age, followed by young age group (22.50%) Majority of respondents (75.83%) had medium level of annual income ranging from 35,-55 thousand per annum. Maximum number of respondents (33.33%) was in middle socio-economic status, status followed by 26.67 per cent in upper middle socio-economic status. Out of 120 respondents 48.33% had medium extension participation, whereas 34.17% respondents were having low extension participation followed by 17.50% respondents who had high extension participation. Majority of the respondents (50.83%) were having medium extension contact. Most of the respondents (40%) were having medium innovativeness and 32.50 per cent were having high innovativeness. Most of the respondents (63.33%) per cent were in the medium economic motivation category**.** Most of the respondents (63.33%) were in medium scientific orientation category while 24.17 per cent in high scientific orientation category and followed by only 12.50 per cent in low scientific orientation category. Most of the respondents (63.83%) respondents were found to be in medium dairy experience category. Most of the respondents had medium category (10 to 20 animals).

Assessment of the training needs of the dairy farmers:

Training need assessment process helps determine the priority of changes in knowledge, skill, altitude and behavior that will provide the greatest impact on achieving organizational and individual goals**.** It comprises following fields; training needs in different thematic areas of livestock production activities, training needs in different aspects of livestock feeding activities, training needs in different aspects of livestock breeding activities, training needs in different aspects of livestock Housing and management activities, training needs in different aspects of livestock Health management activities.

As indicate, about half of the respondents i.e., 50.00 per cent determined medium level training needs in "feeding" aspect of livestock production. Similarly, in "Breeding" aspect of livestock production, 40.83% of respondents determined training need in medium level. In "Housing and management" aspect of livestock production, 49.16% respondents determined training need in low level. In case of "Health management" the data indicates maximum number of dairy farmers 60.00% determine training need in high level. Most of the respondents i.e. (45.00%) showed training needs in medium level in "colostrums feeding to new born". Similarly in "Dry fodder", (37.50%) respondents showed low level of training need. In "Green fodder", (39.17%) respondents showed high level of training need. In "Concentrate feeding", most of the respondents (41.67%) were in medium level of training need.

In "Additive (Mineral mixture, salt, vitamin etc)", (37.50%) respondents determined in medium level of training need. In "Knowledge of cross breed animal" aspect, most of the respondents (60.00%) showed high level of training need.

It depicts the categorization according to overall training needs in livestock production activities of respondents on the basis of their training needs. It was seen that out of 120 respondents, 54.17 per cent had medium, 33.33 per cent had high and only 12.50 per cent had low level of training needs. Thus, it can be concluded that majority of respondents were having medium level of training needs.

Table1: Relationship between demographic attributes of the dairy farmers with their training needs

S.N	Attributes	Correlation coefficient "r"
1	Age	-0.06^{NS}
2	Annual Income	0.227*
3	SES	0.231*
4	Extension participation	-0.201*
5	Extension contact	-0.194*
6	Innovativeness	0.235**
7	Economic motivation	0.291**
8	Scientific orientation	0.237**
9	Dairy experience	-0.236**
10	Size of herd	-0.03^{NS}

*significant of p = 0.05, ** Highly significant of p =0.01, ^{NS} Non- significant

The zero order correlation coefficient of demographic attributes of dairy farmers was calculated in relation with training need assessment. The results derived are furnished in table 1. Age and size of herd had no significant association with the training needs of the farmers. There was a significant relationship between personal characteristics like annual income and socio-economic status and their training needs of the farmers. There was high significant relationship between innovativeness, economic motivation, scientific orientation and their training needs of the farmers. There was negative but significant relationship between extension participation, extension contact and their training needs of the farmers. There was negative but highly significant relationship between dairy experience and their training needs of the farmers.

CONCLUSION

The study revealed that highest percentage of respondents were in middle age group within the range 36-55 years, having medium annual income in the range of Rs 35-55 thousand per annum, were in middle socio-economic status. Maximum percentage of respondents were having medium extension contact, medium level of extension participation, medium level of scientific orientation, medium level of economic motivation, medium level of innovativeness, medium level of dairy experience. It was also seen that they possessed 10-20 animals in their herd.

It was also seen that most of the respondents were in medium level of training need assessment for livestock production activities. There is no significant relationship of training need of dairy farmers with their age and size of herd. There is significant relationship of training need of dairy farmers with their annual income and SES. There is negative significant relationship of training need of dairy farmers with their Extension participation and Extension contact dairy experience. There is highly significant relationship of training need of dairy farmers

with their Innovativeness, Economic motivation and scientific orientation. There is negative highly significant relationship of training need of dairy farmers with their dairy experience.

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