

# Percentage Analysis of Participation of Women in Decision-Making in Animal Husbandry Practices In Rural Areas of Gujarat

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**Abstract:** Animal husbandry is one of the most growing sectors in Gujarat where participation of farmwomen often observed. Participation of farmwomen is decided on the basis of their involvement in different farm management and animal husbandry activities. These activities include maintenance of dairy animal, milking and feeding practices as well as care and management of young ones. Women empowerment and capacity building programmes with special reference to animal husbandry activities are frequently organized by different organizations. It becomes important to know the level of participation of farmwomen in decision-making processes. The present study was undertaken in Anand district of Gujarat state in order to know the percentage level of participation of farmwomen in decision-making processes of farm management and animal husbandry activities. Three talukas of Anand district, viz., Bhanpura, Bhetasi and Khadol were selected for the study and a total of 130 farmwomen were interviewed. Majority of farmwomen were jointly involved in the process of decision-making for home and farm management aspects as well as in fodder management, 53.85% of women agreed to take self-decision regarding purchase of milch animals. The least participation in decision making was noticed in giving veterinary treatment to animals. Results suggest a need of extension education programmes on large scale in order to improve level of participation of women in decision-making processes in animal husbandry sector.

**Keywords:** Farmwoman, Animal husbandry activities, Participation, Decision-making process, Gujarat.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Woman is an integral part of the human society. Women contribute one-third of the labor force required to carry out various farm operations and allied enterprises. They have been playing significant role in home, farm and allied activities. Farmwoman is associated in various activities and has greater role in decision making process. Though illiterate to some extent, farmwomen contribute to a lot to the agricultural development. It is thus imperative to study the pattern of involvement of farmwomen in decision making processes related to home, farm and livestock operations [1]. The study was carried out to identify the active involvement of farmwomen in the process of decision making with special reference to animal husbandry activities. The study also highlighted the involvement of farmwomen in the process of decision making for health care and breeding management.

## II. SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in three talukas of Anand district, viz., Bhanpura, Bhetasi and Khadol. Farmwomen from each village were selected randomly. A total of 130 farmwomen were selected for the study. The data were collected by personal interviews. The prescribed format was prepared to carry out door-to-door interview. The frequencies and percentage were worked out on the basis of their response given.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Percentage analysis of participation of farmwomen in decision making for animal husbandry activities is shown in Table-01. Decision-making by farmwomen was categorized under three categories, viz., (i) Farmwomen taking self-decision, (ii) Participation in decision-making process and (iii) No participation in decision-making process. Amongst different activities, higher percentage (84.62%) of farmwomen agreed to take self-decision to choose the breed of milch animal. Out of 130 women interviewed, 53.85% women agreed to participate in decision-making process with their male coworkers in taking loan for purchase of milch animal. Agreement to take self-decision in culling of uneconomic animals was reported in 69.23% of farmwomen interviewed which shows the awareness of farmwomen regarding the economic consciousness in keeping the animals [2]. All the women were taking decision regarding the purchase of fodder. The artificial insemination was accepted by 61.54% of women while 38.46% of farmwomen agreed to take self-decision in order to breed their animals by natural methods. These findings which suggest that the adoption of artificial insemination in breeding practice is less in rural areas [3]. For prevention of diseases, 53.85% were taking self-decision regarding giving vaccination. Participation by taking self-decision to decide sale rate of milk was reported in 30.77% of farmwomen while 46.15% of farmwomen disagreed to participate in decision-making process for sale rate of milk. A total of 53.85% farmwomen took self-decision to sell milk for customers or societies. Out of all, 69.23% of farmwomen took self-decision for feeding their milch animals, 84.62% of farmwomen took self-decision for cultivation of green crops and preparation of concentrate mixture. These findings suggests that majority of farmwomen are involved in basic animal husbandry activity and actively participate in decision making process.

**Table:-01: Participation of farmwomen in decision making**

Particulars about Decision Making	Decision-making by farmwomen		
	Self	Participation	No Participation
<b>Choosing animals for dairying</b>			
Type of milch animals	53.85	23.08	23.07
Breed of milch animals	84.62	07.69	07.69
<b>Taking loans</b>			
Purchase of milch animals	53.85	23.08	23.07
<b>Purchase and sale of animals</b>			
Purchase of improved/cross breed	38.46	53.85	07.69
Culling of uneconomic animals	69.23	23.08	07.69
<b>Fodder management</b>			
Cultivation of green fodder crops	84.62	07.69	07.69
Purchase of roughages	100.00	-	-
Preparing concentrate feed mixture at home	84.62	7.69	07.69
Feeding of animals	69.23	23.08	07.69
<b>Breeding practices in animals</b>			
Natural service	38.46	07.69	53.85
Artificial Insemination	61.54	07.69	30.77
<b>Healthcare of animals</b>			
Giving veterinary treatments to animals	46.15	07.69	46.16
Giving vaccination	53.85	30.76	15.39
<b>Sale of milk</b>			
Selling rate of milk	30.77	23.08	46.15
Sale of milk for customers/dairy societies	53.85	20.85	25.30

#### IV. CONCLUSION

One-third farmwomen were jointly involved in the process of decision making in management as well as animal husbandry aspects. Amongst farm management activities, more than half women were jointly involved in the process of decision-making. The outcome of the study will be helpful to the selection of areas for the farmwomen training where they involved in decision-making process related to livestock.

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