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Training need assessment of dairy farmers of Banda district in Bundelkhand Region

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Abstract

Information plays an important role in technology adoption and behaviour change. This may be particularly true for practices and decisions in Dairy Farming, which affect farmer's income and animal's health. Proper Training is the key for precise information and skill delivery to Dairy Farmers which ultimately leads to better milk productivity and enhancement in livelihood of specific rural area. This research was an effort to assess the training needs of Dairy Farmers of Banda District in Bundelkhand region. The sample size of 160 dairy farmers was randomly selected for the study and data were collected through personal interview method during 2019-20. Multi stage random sampling technique was adopted for the study with the Ex-Post Facto research design. Banda consists of eight blocks, out of which two blocks were selected randomly viz. Badokhar Khurd and Tindwari. From the selected blocks, four villages were selected randomly from each and 20 Dairy farmers selected from each selected village. Collectively, 160 respondents were selected randomly. It was also observed that majority of the respondents pointed health care as their training preference. The results of the study will help the extension agencies to develop suitable training modules for the dairy farmers for increasing the livestock productivity and improving the living standards of the farmers.

Key words-Training, extension agencies, livestock productivity

Introduction

Information plays an important role in technology adoption and behaviour change. This may be particularly true for practices & decisions in Dairy Farming, which affects farmers' income and animals' health in dairy sector. Proper training is the key for precise information delivery and imparting skill to dairy farmers which ultimately leads to better milk productivity and enhancement in livelihood of specific rural area. Dairy farming is an integral part of the rural ag-

gricultural economy. The word “training”, is accepted as a synonym for all of the forms of knowledge, skill, and attitudinal development which one need to keep pace with the accelerating life involvement and the enlarging concepts of man’s capabilities. As sudden shifting towards Dairy has been observed over the Globe in the last three decades. Quick return or regular income is the main reason behind this. In India, dairy farming plays significant role in sustaining the rural livelihood of majority of smallholders. Training need in dairy farming practices like breeding, feeding, fodder, management, animal health care, are necessary to improve the productivity of dairy cattle and thereby making dairy-farming a more profitable enterprise. However, the training need in dairy farming practices by the cattle owners does not appear to be satisfactory. Dairy industry is toward modernization since last three decades. However, the livestock production and productivity is yet to be boosted to meet the felt need. As per reports of GoUP (2014–15), among the Bundelkhand districts, Banda and Jaluan are leading in milk which might be due to their higher population of buffaloes and cross-bred cattle. Milk productivity is comparatively low in Banda district. Dairy training provides a systematic improvement of knowledge and skills which in turn helps the trainees to function effectively and efficiently. So, effective training requires a clear picture of how the trainees will need to use information and technology after training in place of such local practices what they have adopted before in their situation (Sharma *et al*, 2017). Indian Dairy industry offers good opportunities to both Indian and foreign investors for entry and expansion (Hemme *et al*, 2015). Hence, a study this was conducted to evaluate the training needs of dairy farmers with respect to scientific animal husbandry practices.

Methodology

The study was carried out to identify the training needs of dairy farmers in Banda district. The sample size of 160 dairy farmers was randomly selected for the study and data were collected through personal interview method during 2019-20. Multi stage random sampling technique was adopted for the study with the Ex-post facto research design. Banda consists of eight blocks, out of which two blocks were selected randomly viz. Badokhar Khurd and Tindwari. From the selected blocks four villages were selected randomly from each and 20 Dairy farmers selected from each selected village. The well structured interviews schedule was used for collection of data and the data was analysed by using appropriate statistical methods such as percentage (%), mean and standard deviation.

Results and discussion

For examining the training needs of dairy farmers, selection of suitable variables is very important. List of areas are selected by proper consultation from Dairy Department, review papers and KVK, Banda which also leads to proper understanding of farmers. Distributions of dairy farmers according to their subject-wise training need are given Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of respondents according to their subject-wise training need

	Training Needs Areas	Degree of Training Needs		
		Must needed	Needed	Not needed

		Freq.	%	req.	erc.	req.	erc.
	Feeding						
	Balanced feed and its composition.	56	97.5%		2.5%		
	Feeding of new born calves	9	43.13%	1	56.9%		
	Feeding strategies and feeding schedule	48	92.5%	2	7.5%		
	Feeding of pregnant animals	1	50.6%		49.4%		
	Feeding of minerals mixtures and green fodder Management	53	95.6%		4.4%		
	Care at time of calving	6	35%	02	3.8%		.2%
	Care of new born calf	5	34.4%	03	64.4%		.2%
	House of sanitation	9	43.1%	8	55%		.9%
	Weaning of new calves	7	29.4%	4	46.3%	9	4.3%
	Cutting of navel	9	30.6%	3	20.6%	8	8.8%
	Dehorning of the calf	5	5.6%	1	1.9%	4	2.5%
	Keeping record of the milk production	1	38.1%	6	53.8%	3	.1%
	Deworming of the calves	9	4.4%	4	3.8%	7	1.8%
	Care of pregnant animals Health and Care	12	0%	3	6.9%		.1%
	Knowledge and diagnose of common diseases of calves	52	95%	8	5%		
	Vaccination against disease	54	96.25%	6	3.75%		
	Treatment of various diseases of Calves	50	93.75%	0	6.25%		
	First aid treatment of common ailments of calf	04	65%	55	34.4%		.6%
	Ectoparasite and endoparasite control in calves	30	81.25%	0	18.75%		

The degree of training (table 1) need in the specific areas which includes feeding, management and health care. In case of feeding, 97.5 per cent respondents strongly need training on balanced feed and its composition which is followed by feeding of minerals mixtures and green fodder with 95.6 per cent response. 92.5 per cent of the respondent prioritize feeding strategies and feeding schedule as training need. In case of Management, 70 per cent of the respondents admitted their training need on care for pregnant animals which is followed by training need in house of sanitation with 43.1 per cent. Keeping record of the milk production as training need is

admitted by 38.1 per cent respondents. In case of health and care, majority of the respondents i.e. 96.25 per cent respondents admitted their training need on treatment of various diseases of calves which is followed by knowledge and diagnose of common diseases of calves by 95 per cent of the respondents.

Table.2 Training needs pertaining to the major farm operations in dairy farming for knowledge and skill

S.No.	Training Area	Score percentage	Rank
1.	Feeding	87.94	2
2.	Management	58.02	3
3.	Health Care	92.87	1

From Table 2, it is reported that majority (92.87 %) of the respondents pointed Health Care as their Training Preference which is followed by the 87.94 percent respondents training preference in feeding. Least (58.02%) respondents mentioned their Training Preference on Management. It is evident that Majority (92.87 %) of the respondents preferred training over health care most.

Table 3. Classification of Overall training need

S.No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low(<24)	23	14.37
2.	Medium(24-34)	104	65.00
3.	High(>34)	33	20.63
	Total	160	100

Mean: 29.43, SD:5.02

From Table 3, it is evident that majority (65%) of the respondents need medium training which is followed by the 20.63 percent respondents, which need high level training on their specific aspects. Only 14.37 percent of the respondents had lower training need.

It is very clear from study that majority (65%) of the dairy farmers in medium training need category similar finding have been given by Sharma *et. al* (2020).

Conclusion

Health is the most popular area of training, there was an inadequacy in terms of frequency of training imparted by dairying extension agencies. Therefore, in order to accelerate the success of this area, there is a need for conducting more number of needs based and well tailored training programme suited to dairy farmer which would in turn help them to have more extension contacts. Training regarding Vaccination against disease at proper time is most felt and observed in the research which is followed by training need on knowledge and diagnose of common diseases of calves. The results of the study will help the concerning line Departments along with ex-

tension agencies to develop suitable training programmes for the dairy farmers in improved dairy farming practices to improve their milk production and make the dairying a successful enterprise.

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