

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

An acquaintance with related literature is a must to develop sound research methodology and to operationalize the selected concepts. With these ideas taken in to consideration, the literatures on different aspects of the problem under study have been reviewed and are presented in this chapter under the following sub heads.

- 2.1. Socio -Economic Profile of Farm Women.
- 2.2. Awareness level of modern technologies by farm women.
- 2.3. Knowledge level of farmwomen in farming.
- 2.4. Adoption of technologies by farmwomen.

2.1 Socio -Economic Profile of Farm Women

Palmurugan (2002) observed that 43.20 per cent of the farm women belonged to middle aged group, followed by 36.50 per cent and 20.33 per cent who belonged to young and old age groups respectively.

Saravanakumar (2000) reported that 38.03 per cent of farm women completed their secondary education and equal per cent of them (32.40%) had completed their middle school level education. Nearly 26.77 per cent had completed their primary level of education.

Grover *et al.*, (1991) found that majority (53%), of the farm women were having nuclear type of family and 47per cent were having joint type of family.

Sreedevi (1996) stated that 64.17 per cent of the farm women belonged to medium size families, 20.83 per cent to small families and 7.50 percent were distributed under large and very large family size respectively.

Perumal (1994) found out that half of the TANWA trainees (50.83%) had low level of farming experience, followed by high (42.50%). Medium level farming experience was found with 6.67% respondents.

Dubey (1988), assessing the extent of involvement of women in agriculture, reported that women break the clods, prepare the land, carry manure, sow seeds, transplant seedlings, pull out weeds, attend hoeing, harvest crops, thresh and pound -the grains and stack the hay.

Bhople *et al.*, (1992) comparing the role performance concluded that participation was lower in activities related to land preparation (70.67%) and plant protection (68.00%). Medium level of participation was found in respect of inter cultural operations (60.67%). Activities connected with manuring and pre-sowing, harvesting and grain storage were performed to a higher extent.

Kaur *et al.*, (1993) revealed that 61 per cent of farm women were frequently engaged in maintenance of agricultural implements and 64.50 per cent were frequently engaged for preparation of compost, whereas only 5.50 per cent of the farm women were engaged in scaring of birds.

Parvathi *et al.*, (1993) studied the involvement of marginal farm women in paddy cultivation and reported that majority (86%) of the respondents were involved in winnowing and only 14 per cent of them were reported to be seldom involved.

Jane Sujatha *et al.*, (1999) reported that about 84 per cent of farmers and 93 per cent of the farm women worked more than 8 hours in farming activities during peak season.

Krishnaveni (2001) stated that in landless families, all the women were working in crop production activities, but in families owning their land only a negligible percentage of women participated in agriculture. All the women of landless families and some of the women of marginal farm families devote about 6-7 hours/day in agricultural operations. Higher the socio economic status, lower the participation in agricultural operations.

Perumal (1994) opined that majority of the TANWA trainees (74.17%) had low level of social participation followed by high level (25.83%).

Premavathi *et al.*,(2002) revealed that majority of the TANWA women had high level of contact with extension agency.

Perumal (1994) concluded that majority of farm women had only low mass media exposure followed by high and medium categories.

Saravanakumar (2000) found that nearly two-third of the rural women was found to have a medium level followed by high and low level of exposure respectively towards media like radio, TV and newspapers.

Sophia (1991) stated that more than two-fifth (45.33%) of the dry land farmwomen were with medium level of scientific orientation followed by 34.45 per cent and 20.20 per cent with low and high levels of scientific orientation respectively.

Saravanakumar (2000) reported that 52.11 per cent of the TANWA participants had medium level of scientific orientation, followed by 29.58 and 18.31 per cent of participants with low and high levels of scientific orientation respectively.

Palmurugan (2002) reported that almost half (51.30%) of the farm women had medium level of economic motivation, followed by 32.40 and 16.30 per cent of farm women who had high and low levels of economic motivation respectively.

Jegannathan (1984) reported that women took part in decisions on what crops to grow, in selection of plants, stock and seed, organizing of operations like seed selection, planting, weeding, fertilizing, plant protection, harvesting and the equipments involved in production for farming and care of livestock.

Kaur (1988) revealed that husbands played a dominant role in farm related decisions in small and medium farm size categories. Joint decisions were more in large farm households.

Nand et al., (1988) reported that women were consulted in connection with marketing and storage of farm produce, sale and purchase of animals, purchase of fertilizers, sowing time and method of sowing and intercultural operations.

Pattnaik (1996) reported that the participation of women in farm management and other areas of decision making varied in relation to their status in the family and the size of the holding.

Kumari Baby (1998) reported that 12.50 to 15 per cent of the farm women had taken their own decisions, while 45 to 47.50 per cent of them had consulted their spouse/elders to take decisions regarding all the cultural activities of the farm. About 18 per cent of the farm women had consulted all their family members and

had taken decisions and 20 per cent of the farm women had never been involved in decision making. She indicated that 60 per cent of farm women consulted their spouse/elders and 20 per cent consulted all their family members in decision making on the storage activities. She also reported that 40 and 20 per cent of farm women in wet land consulted the spouse/elders and all their family members, respectively in various farm investment activities since these activities are mainly men oriented.

Premavathi *et al.*, (2002) reported that about one-third of the farm women had taken self - decisions on thinning, gap filling and weeding operations, while 48 per cent of them had taken decisions on the above said activities in consultation with spouse / elder. Majority of the farm women stated that they were not at all participating in decisions on fertilizer dose, time of application, using herbicide and pesticides.

Saravanakumar (2000) reported that farm women in general had high level of innovativeness. About seventy percent of the participants had high level of innovativeness and 19.72 per cent had low level of innovativeness.

Paimurugan (2002) observed that majority (87.80%) of the TANWA farm women had medium level of innovativeness, followed by 10.80 and 1.40 per cent of farm women who had low and high levels of innovativeness respectively.

2.2. Awareness Level of modern technologies by farm women

Snehalatha (1991) reported that seed treatment with azospirillum had the maximum level awareness (62.50%) among the farmers. The use of light traps for leaf hopper was known to 75 per cent of the respondents.

The findings of Santha Govind (1992) revealed that a majority of the farmers (48%) was under the high awareness category on cultural methods of IPM, while 22.50 and 22 per cent belonged to low and medium level categories respectively. In general, most of the IPM respondents belonged to high awareness category, while only one-fourth of the non - IPM farmers were in the high awareness category.

2.3. Knowledge Level of Farmwomen in Farming

Raji *et al.*, (1992) found that trained farmwomen had significantly higher knowledge than untrained farmwomen about irrigation management practices. More than half of the trained farmwomen had high knowledge level, while 25 per cent possessed medium knowledge level. Only 21 per cent of the trained respondents had low level of knowledge.

Rajasekaran *et al.*, (1999) stated that knowledge level of TANWA women beneficiaries, when arranged in the descending order was planting technique (91.28%), soil testing (90.33%), bio-fertilizer (86.28%); neem cake blended urea application (81.66%), weedicide application (76.56%), seed treatment with fungicide (74.04%) and integrated rat control (66.46%). Their knowledge score was found to be less in the two major areas viz., integrated pest management (43.68%) and zinc sulphate application (37.92%).

Lalitha *et al.*, (2002) found that a majority of farm women (60%) had high knowledge score regarding the recommended practices of rainfed ragi cultivation in Women Youth Training Extension Project (WYTEP).

2.4. Adoption of Technologies by Farm Women

Kumari (1999) found that percentage adoption of the technologies increased with the increasing land holding status of the farm women.

Tamilselvi et al., (2000) found that a positive and significant relationship of extension contact and mass media participation exists with adoption of cultivation practices among wet land and dry land farm women.

Sakunthalai et al., (2001) found that in rain-fed agriculture system, TANWA women adopted pre monsoon sowing cent percent, summer ploughing (80%), seed treatment (75%), integrated pest management (65%), Di-ammonium phosphate spray (50%), enriched farm yard manure application (35%).

Vetriselvan et al., (2003) found that majority of the groundnut growers (70.56%) was found to be medium adopters followed by high (16.66%) and low (12.78%) levels. Optimum seed rate was followed by majority of the small (61.66%) and big (76.67%) farmers as against just 30 per cent of marginal farmers.

Issues for Investigation

An in-depth evaluative study of 'Women in Agriculture' should cover their role of women in different farming systems like Dry, Wet and Hill farming systems. Such a study will have to take into account the differences in Awareness, Knowledge and Adoption practices of farm women in both participant and non-participant category - under different types of farming systems. In the above analysis no study has covered the Awareness, Knowledge and Adoption of respondents in different types of farming system. The present study has been taken up to fill the gap in the literature.

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