



## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHARACTERISTICS AND THEIR DECISION MAKING PATTERN OF THE TRIBAL WOMEN IN DAIRY FARMING

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### Abstract

*Women have a high stake in dairying; they account for 93 per cent of total employment in dairy production. A woman plays an important role in dairy enterprises as manager, decision makers and skilled workers in spite of that her hard work is mostly been unpaid and their considerable involvement or contribution in dairy production has been underestimated or ignored. The low participation of farm women was observed in decision making about economic aspects of animal husbandry farming. The knowledge and skill of women dairy occupation and their participation on decision making certainly affects their efficiency work and the development of dairy enterprise. In order to find out the relationship between the selected characteristic of respondents with their decision making pattern regarding overall improved dairy farming practices correlation was worked out. The analysis of data showed that education land holding, herd size and annual income were significant and positively correlated with their decision making pattern.*

### *Introduction*

According to WTO report in 2010 a higher proportion of women relative to men are involved in livestock farming. Women have a high stake in dairying; they account for 93 per cent of total employment in dairy production. A woman plays an important role in dairy enterprises as manager, decision makers and skilled workers in spite of that her hard work is mostly been unpaid and their considerable involvement or contribution in dairy production has been underestimated or ignored. The low participation of farm women was observed in decision making about economic aspects of animal husbandry farming. The knowledge and skill of women dairy occupation and their participation on decision making certainly affects their efficiency work and the development of dairy enterprise. In tribal communities, mostly the work of management in dairy enterprises is looking after by the woman who is also responsible for the bulk of the work as well as for decision making due to migration of men outside the village for their livelihood. Keeping this in view in mind the present study was undertaken with the specific objective "Relationship between characteristics and their decision making pattern of the tribal Women in dairy farming"

### *Research Methodology*

The present study was conducted in dang district of Gujarat. For the purpose of this study, 12 Villages of Waghai, Ahwa and Subir taluka were selected purposively from dang district to conduct the study by following the random sampling methods. A total sample of 120 respondents, 10 from each village dairy women those were engaged in cooperative dairy were selected at random for the study with the help of random sampling methods. The information of each respondents was collected with the help of pre tested, structured interview schedule by personal interview. The collected data were analyzed and interpreted in the light of the objectives with appropriate statistical tools like percentage, rank, mean and standard deviation. Data will be tabulated and analyzed in the light of objectives. For measurement of decision, schedule developed on pattern at every step, an individual has to choose from amongst the many simultaneously available alternatives in the context or with reference to an event or a decision-making situation. Tribal women must decide what to produce, how to produce, how much to produces, and when to produces.

## ***Result and Discussion***

To study the personal profile of the tribal women.

### **Age**

It is clear from the data in the Table 1 that more than two third (68.33 per cent) of the respondents were in the middle age group. While the respondents found in young and old age group were 16.67 per cent and 15.00 per cent, respectively.

*Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their age (n= 120)*

Sr.	Age groups	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Young age	20	16.67
2	Middle age	82	68.33
3	Old age	18	15.00

### **Family size**

The data furnished in Table 2 indicated that majority of the respondents (70.83%) had medium family size whereas, 15.00 per cent of respondents belonged to small family size. Thus, 14.17 percent of respondents belonged to large family size.

*Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their family size (n= 120)*

Sr.	Age groups	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Small size of family	18	15.00
2	Medium size of family	85	70.83
3	Large size of family	17	14.17

### **Education**

The data in this regards were collected and grouped as; Illiterate, primary level of education (1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> standard), secondary and higher secondary level of education (8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> standard) including diploma and college level of education (above 12<sup>th</sup> standard). The data in this regards are presented in Table 3.

*Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their education  
(n= 120)*

Sr.	Level of education	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Illiterate	21	17.50
2	Primary level of education	57	47.50
3	Secondary and Higher secondary level of education	36	30.00
4	College level of education and above	06	5.00

It becomes clear from the data in Table 3 that slightly less than half (47.50%) of the respondents were found to have primary level education. The respondents from secondary and higher secondary level of education and illiterate education category were 30.00 and 17.50 per cent, respectively. Very few respondents (5.00%) were found having college and above level of education.

### **Social Participation**

The respondents were classified in to three categories on the basis of mean and standard.

*Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their social participation  
(n= 120)*

Sr.	Social participation	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Low	03	2.50
2	Medium	108	90.00
3	High	09	7.50

The data furnished in Table 4 indicated that majority of the respondent (90.00%) had belonged to medium level of social participation followed by higher (7.50%) and low (2.50%) respectively.

### **Land holding**

In present study the information was collected from the respondents. They all were grouped into four categories, viz.; (i) Marginal farmer (Up to 2.5 acres) (ii) Small farmer (2.6 to 5.00 acres.) (iii) Medium farmer (5.01 acres to 10.00 acres) and iv) Big farmer (Above 10.00 Acres). The classified data are presented in Table 5.

*Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to their land holding (n= 120)*

Sr.	Land holding	Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Marginal farmer	53	44.17
2	Small farmer	48	40.00
3	Medium farmer	13	10.83
4	Big farmer	06	5.00

The data presented in Table 5 indicated that 44.17 and 40.00 per cent of the respondents belonged to the marginal and small farmer, while only 10.83 and 05.00 per cent respondents belonged to the category of medium farmer and big farmer, respectively.

### **Herd Size**

The data were collected were categorized into small, medium and large herd size on the basis of mean and standard deviation.

*Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to their herd size (n= 120)*

Sr.	social participation	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Low	24	20.00
2	Medium	76	63.33
3	High	20	16.67

The data furnished in Table 6 indicated that less than two third of the respondent (63.33%) had belonged to medium level of herd size followed by higher (20.00 per cent) and low (16.67 per cent) respectively.

### **Milk production.**

The data were collected with the help of a schedule developed for this purposes and these were measure by direct questioning. The respondents were classified in to low, medium and high on the basis of mean and standard deviation.

It becomes clear from the data in Table 7 that majority (70.83 per cent) of the respondents had medium level milk production per day. While 15.00 per cent and 14.17 per cent had high and low level of total milk production per day, respectively.

*Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to their milk production (n= 120)*

Sr.	Milk production	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Low	17	14.17
2	Medium	85	70.83
3	High	18	15.00

### **Annual income**

Respondents were categorized in to the following three categories on the basis of mean and standard deviation.

*Table 8: Distribution of respondents according to their annual income (n= 120)*

Sr.	Annual income	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Low	20	16.67
2	Medium	82	68.33
3	High	18	15.00

It is evident from Table 8 that near about two third 68.33 per cent respondent had medium level of annual income, where 16.67 per cent and 15.00 per cent of them had low and high level of annual income respectively.

### **Economic motivation**

Respondents were classified into low, medium and high on the basis of mean and standard deviation.

*Table 9: Distribution of respondents according to their level of economics motivation n=120*

Sr	Level of economic motivation	Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Low level of economic motivation	17	14.17
2	Medium level of economic motivation	87	72.50
3	High level of economic motivation	16	13.33

It is clear from the data in the Table 9 that near three forth (72.50 per cent) of the respondents were in the middle level of economic motivation, followed by 14.17 per cent of them with low and 13.33 per cent of them were with high level of economic motivation.

### Risk orientation

Risk orientation of respondents related to improved dairy farming practices was measured with the help of using the scale of Hans ram meena (2002), the score 3, 2 and 1 was assigned to the positive statements and vice -versa in case of negative statements, respectively as given below: Respondents were classified into low, medium and high on the basis of mean and standard deviation.

*Table 10: Distribution of respondents according to their level of Risk orientation  
n=120*

Sr.	Level of Risk orientation	Respondents	
		Number	Per cent
1	Low level of risk orientation	11	9.17
2	Medium level of risk orientation	97	80.83
3	High level of risk orientation	12	10.00

A glance at Table 10 revealed that majority of the respondent (80.83%) had medium level of risk orientation, followed by 10.00 per cent and 9.17 per cent had higher and lower level of risk orientation, respectively.

### Extension contact

Respondents were classified in to following three categories by using mean and standard deviation.

*Table 11: Distribution of respondents according to their Extension contact  
n=120*

Sr.	Extension contact	Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	09	7.50
2	Medium	100	83.33
3	High	11	9.17

It is clear from the data in the Table 11 that great majority (92.50 per cent) of the respondents were in the middle to high level of extension contact. Only 7.50 per cent of respondent were low level of extension contact for acquiring information about dairy farming.

### Relationship between the selected characteristic of respondents with their decision making pattern regarding overall improved dairy farming practices

In order to find out the relationship between the selected characteristic of respondents with their decision making pattern regarding overall improved dairy farming practices correlation was worked out the finding are presented in Table 12.

*Table 12: Relationship between the selected characteristic of respondents with their decision making pattern regarding overall improved dairy farming practices*

Sr.No.	Variable	Correlation-coefficient (r – Value)
1	Age	0.12
2	Family size	-0.124
3	Education	0.190*
4	Social participation	0.008
5	Land holding	0.188*
6	Herd size	0.195*
7	Milk production	0.158
8	Annual income	0.185*
9	Economics motivation	0.314**
10	Risk orientation	0.352**
11	Extension contact	0.358**

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

\* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

The analysis of data showed in the Table 12 that education land holding, herd size and annual income were significant and positively correlated with their decision making pattern. While economic motivation, risk orientation and extension contact were positive and highly significant with their decision making pattern. Rest of the variables that is age and social participation and milk production and family size had no any relation with their decision making pattern.

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