

## **Women Empowerment in Dairying in Agra district of western U.P.**

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### **Abstract**

*The study was conducted in Akola block of Agra district. Study covered 120 cases viz 40 small, 40 marginal and 40 landless labourers. The major work was done by woman labour being about 50 percent. The income earned by women is more than 50 % from dairying. Thus women played a leading role in dairying.*

Key world: Block, woman labour, dairying, income,

### **Introduction**

Indian women have a multi-factual personality. She is the pivot around whom the whole household revolves. She shares most of the duties and responsibilities of a family. Though women make a substantial contribution to the family income through home based activities, these are treated as supplemental and hence it goes unnoticed. Since a long time, it is generally believed all over the world that the place of a women is at home. Besides agriculture, dairy production is one of the profitable and popular enterprises for the farmers of all categories. It is observed that small and marginal families are mostly engaged in this enterprise for smoothing their livelihood. Even women in rural areas are also well acquainted with dairy farming. It proves to be one of the key positions in the Indian rural economics after launching of Operation Flood-I, government of India had initiated Operation-II. In this, women had to play key role in operation of dairy cooperatives. One of the most challenging tasks in our country is to provide adequate opportunities for self employment which ensures proper monetary returns for the women workers.

### **Methodology**

The present study covered Akola block of Agra district and ten villages. The total number of cases under study was 120(40 small, 40 marginal and 40 landless labourers). The small farmers, marginal farmers and landless labourers were classified in to three herd size groups viz I herd size- (having one milch animal), II herd size-(having two milch animals) and III herd size-(having three and more milch animals).

Table 1: Male, female and children hours used in different herd size groups  
 (Hours in percentage)

Herd size	Small farmers			
	Male	Female	Children	Total
I	44.99	50.07	4.94	100
II	33.71	55.71	10.58	100
III	32.09	50.71	17.23	100
Overall	34.63	51.76	13.61	100
	Marginal farmers			
I	40.37	41.46	18.17	100
II	30.18	59.70	10.12	100
III	28.41	52.22	19.37	100
Overall	31.99	51.92	16.09	100
	Landless labourers			
I	31.32	55.16	13.52	100
II	28.94	64.41	6.65	100
III	24.47	48.44	27.09	100
Overall	27.58	55.59	16.83	100

The table 1 reveals that overall average per family work in hours. In case of small farmers by male labour came to 34.63 percent. While the female labour use came to 51.76 percent and children hrs use came to 13.61 percent in Upkeep of milch animals. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family hours came to 44.99, 33.71 and 32.09 percent for male and for female came to 50.07, 55.71 and 50.68 percent in I, II and III herd size groups respectively.

In case of marginal farmers, the overall average per family of male labour hours came to 31.99 percent. While the female labour hours came to 51.92 percent and children hours came to 16.09 percent. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family hours for male came to 40.37, 30.18 and 28.41 percent and female came to 41.46, 59.70 and 52.22 percent I, II and III herd size groups respectively.

In case of landless labourers, the overall average per family of male labour hours came to 27.58 percent. While the female labour hours came to 55.59 percent and children hours came to 16.83 percent. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family hours for male came to 31.32, 28.94 and 24.47 percent and for female came to 55.16, 60.69 and 48.44 percent in I, II and III herd size groups respectively.

Table 2: Family labour use per family in different herd size groups on small, marginal farmers and landless labourers.

(converted man days in percentage)

Herd size	Small farmers			
	Male	Female	Children	Total
I	50.93	45.34	03.73	100
II	39.50	52.23	08.27	100
III	38.15	48.20	13.65	100
Overall	40.69	48.65	10.66	100
Marginal farmers				
I	47.13	38.72	14.15	100
II	35.64	56.40	07.96	100
III	34.19	50.27	15.54	100
Overall	37.98	49.30	12.72	100
Landless labourers				
I	37.08	52.25	10.67	100
II	34.09	60.69	05.22	100
III	30.11	47.68	22.21	100
Overall	33.12	53.42	13.46	100

F.N. – woman = 10 hours = 1 man day, children = 12 hrs 1 man day, adult male = 8 hrs = 1 man day

The table 2 reveals that overall average per family worked by male labour 40.69 percent. While the female labour use come to 48.65 percent and children men days use came to 10.66 percent in Upkeep of milch animals in case of small farmers. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family men days for male came to 50.93, 39.50 and 38.14 percent and for women came to 45.34, 52.23 and 48.20 percent in I, II and III herd size groups

respectively.

In case of marginal farmers, the overall average per family of male labour men days came to 37.98 percent. While the female labour men days came to 49.30 percent and children men days came to 12.72 percent. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family men days for male came to 47.13, 35.64 and 34.19 percent and for women came to 38.72, 56.40 and 50.27 percent in I, II and III herd size groups respectively.

In case of landless labourers, the overall average per family of male labour men days came to 33.12 percent. While the female labour men days came to 53.42 percent and children men days came to 13.46 percent. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family men days of male came to 37.08, 34.09 and 30.11 percent and for women came to 52.25, 60.69 and 47.68 percent in I, II and III herd size groups respectively. Thus in all size groups the major work was done by women.

The table 3 reveals that overall average per family income of male in case of small farmers came to Rs. 10717.37. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family income for male came to Rs. 4967.02, Rs. 9213.57 and Rs. 16112.91 in I, II and III herd size groups respectively and average per family income of female came to Rs. 12813.95. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family income for female came to Rs. 4421.84, Rs. 12182.91 and Rs. 20357.60 in I, II and III herd size groups respectively.

In case of marginal farmers, the average per family income of male in came to Rs. 7811.32. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family income for male came to Rs. 4288.72, Rs. 7838.62 and Rs. 13400.92 in I, II and III herd size groups respectively. and average per family income of female came to Rs. 10139.51. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family income for female came to Rs. 3523.43, Rs. 12404.54 and Rs. 19703.55 in I, II and III herd size groups respectively.

In case of landless labourers, the overall average per family income of male in came to Rs. 6659.03. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family income for male came to Rs. 3254.67, Rs. 7098.83 and Rs. 11401.42 in I, II and III herd size groups respectively and average per family income of female came to Rs. 10740.50. The herd size group wise analysis indicates that the per family income for female came to Rs. 4586.23, Rs. 12637.96

Table 3: Total income in dairying and contribution of women in income through dairying  
(Income in Rs.)

Herd size	Male	Female	Children	Total income
Small farmers				
I	4967.02(50.93%)	4421.84(45.34%)	36.77(0.73%)	9752.63
II	9213.57 (39.50%)	12182.91(52.23%)	1929.02(08.27%)	23325.50
III	16112.91(38.15%)	20357.60(48.20%)	5765.17(13.65%)	42235.68
Overall	10717.37(40.69%)	12813.95(48.65%)	2807.75(10.66%)	26339.09
Marginal farmers				
I	4288.72(47.13%)	3523.43(38.72%)	1287.63(14.15%)	9099.78
II	7838.62(35.64%)	12404.54(56.40%)	1750.71(07.96%)	21993.87
III	13400.92(34.19%)	19703.55(50.27%)	6090.97(15.54%)	39195.44
Overall	7811.32(37.98%)	10139.51(49.30%)	2616.11 (12.72%)	20566.94
Landless labourers				
I	3254.67(37.08%)	4586.23(52.25%)	936.55(10.67%)	8777.45
II	7098.83(34.09%)	12637.96(60.69%)	1087.00(05.22%)	20823.79
III	11401.42(30.11%)	18054.46(47.68%)	8410.02(22.21%)	37865.91
Overall	6659.03(33.12%)	10740.50(53.42%)	2706.23(13.46%)	20105.76

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage)

and Rs18054.46 in I, II and III herd size groups respectively. It indicates that women contribute more income in almost all farm size groups. While it was maximum income of landless labourers. thus women are playing lead role in dairying.

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