

Original Research Article

Opinion and expectations of beneficiaries towards training programmes of KVKs: Gender Analysis

ABSTRACT

Study was conducted to know the opinion and expectations of beneficiaries towards training programmes of KVKs in Haryana. Agro climatically Haryana is divided into two zones i.e., western and eastern zone. Based on the year of establishment, four KVKs two each funded by ICAR from western and eastern zone of Haryana, functioning for the last five years and where maximum number of rural women participated in their training programmes were selected. These KVKs were Bhiwani and Fatehabad from western zone, Rohtak and Jhajjar from eastern zone. The opinion of male and female beneficiaries were studied through five specific aspects of training viz., training programme, course content, time and duration, physical facilities, evaluation and supporting activities. For analyzing the expectations of the beneficiaries, a schedule was developed. Results revealed that out of both the zones, majority of male and female beneficiaries had high opinion level about all the four specific training aspects viz; training programme (26.0% male and 20.5% female), course content (24.0% male and 21.5% female), time and duration (22.5% male, 20.0% female) and physical facilities (26.0% male and 26.5% female). In case of evaluation and supporting activities where they had medium (27.5% male and 19.5% female) level of opinion regarding training programmes. Overall level of

opinion of respondents towards training programmes was medium (26.0% male and 20.5% female) followed by high (24.5% male and 16.5% female) and low (7.0% male and 5.5% female). Whereas, level of expectation of beneficiaries for training programmes was high (33.0% male and 21.5% female) followed by medium (20.5% male and 21.5% female) and low.

Key words: *Opinion and Expectations of Beneficiaries, Training programmes, Krishi Vigyan Kendra and Gender Analysis*

Introduction

Human resource is the most precious resource for any country. It is, however, not the numerical but the qualitative strength of the people, which forges a country ahead towards progress and prosperity. It is basically the development of human resources that brings about socioeconomic or political-cultural transformation of any society. Today the farmers are responsive to new ideas and are willing to take up improved practices. Even then the total production of food and milk production has always been far short of its requirement. Experience with the farmers training centres, showed that by and large, these had failed to have desired impact (Dubey *et.al.*, 2008).

Training plays an important role in the advancement of human performance in a given situation. It provides a systematic improvement of knowledge and skills which in turn helps the trainees to function effectively and efficiently in their given task on completion of the training. The trainings of KVK is a multipurpose one to cover not only the varied needs of a person but also the entire needs of village and community. Majority of the farmers possessed most important

training needs on different aspects as preparation of soil and soil testing, seed rate and seed treatment, sowing of high yielding varieties, application of manures and fertilizers, plant protection measures, harvesting /storage and processing, followed by important and least important training needs as perceived by the farmers. Tomato growers required more training needs in some of crucial area such as transplanting and irrigation management. (Jat *et al.*, 2014).

Women around the world play important roles in planting, weeding, postharvest processing, food preparation, and animal care. They also need equal technical know-how in these aspects (Pagaria and Pradeep, 2012). No doubt men and women participate equally in agricultural activities but still men dominate due to the application of improved technologies by them. Once a new innovation comes out men take it up in agriculture. But women should also be technically educated to adopt the new technologies to improve their status in society (Ratan *et al.*, 1992 and Tripta, 2007). Majority of farm women expressed to undergo training in the area of preparation of farm yard manure followed by storage of food grain, fertilizer application and nursery raising (Thakur and Patel, 1998). Keeping this in view, an attempt was made to ascertain the opinion and expectations of the beneficiaries towards the training programmes.

Methodology

Selection of KVKs

The KVKs which were selected for the objective were considered to study the opinion and expectations of the beneficiaries towards training programmes. These KVKs were Bhiwani, Fatehabad (western zone), Rohtak and Jhajjar (eastern zone).

Selection of beneficiaries

Study the opinion and expectations of the beneficiaries, a list of beneficiaries who had undergone 3-5 days training courses in the last one year was procured from the respective KVKs. Out of that list total sample of 200 respondents i.e., 50 respondents from each four were selected randomly. Comparatively women participation was less in the training programmes organized by Bhiwani and Rohtak KVKs; hence efforts were made to include maximum number of women beneficiaries in these districts.

Opinion and expectations of beneficiaries towards specific aspects of training programmes

To explore the opinion of the beneficiaries regarding training programmes organized by KVKs, a list of statements under five training aspects, i.e., training programme, course content, time and duration, physical facilities, evaluation and supporting activities was prepared. The responses received from respondents were recorded on a three point continuum scale, i.e., agree, somewhat agree and disagree with score 3, 2 and 1 respectively. The responses of each respondent under each aspect were counted and divided into low, medium and high categories separately for male and female beneficiaries. To assess the beneficiaries level of opinion, the response of respondents to each statement under specific aspects and overall performance of training were summed up and divided into three categories i.e., low, medium and high. To analyze the expectations of beneficiaries a list of statements was prepared after consultation of literature and the extension personnel. For assessing beneficiaries' expectations, frequency and percentage of respondents regarding each statement was computed, and to assess the

beneficiaries level of expectation, the response of respondents to each statement were summed up and divided into three categories i.e., low, medium and high.

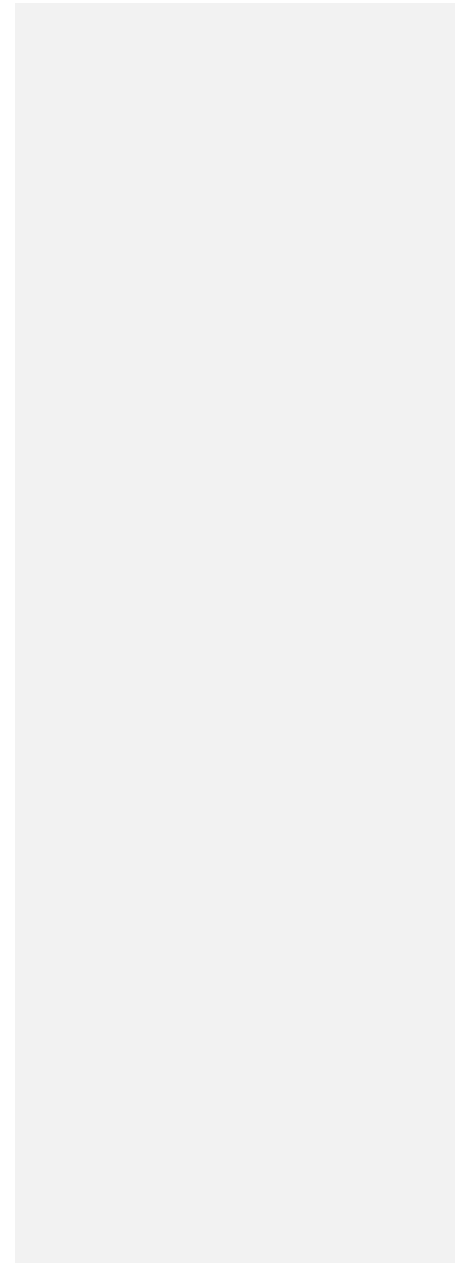
Results and discussion- The opinions of male and female beneficiaries were studied related to different aspects of trainings and level of opinion about the trainings.

Gender-wise opinion of beneficiaries towards specific aspects of trainings

The opinion of male and female beneficiaries were studied through five specific aspects of training viz., training programme, course content, time and duration, physical facilities, evaluation and supporting activities belonging to western (Bhiwani and Fatehabad) and eastern zone (Rohtak and Jhajjar) of Haryana.

Fig 1: Gender-wise opinion of beneficiaries regarding specific aspects of training programme of KVKs. Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

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Gender-wise opinion of beneficiaries towards specific aspects of trainings

Results in the Fig 1 revealed that out of both zones, majority of male and female beneficiaries had high opinion level about all the four specific training aspects viz; training programme (26.0% male and 20.5% female), course content (24.0% male and 21.5% female), time and duration (22.5% male, 20.0% female) and physical facilities (26.0% male and 26.5% female). In case of evaluation and supporting activities where they had medium (27.5% male and 19.5% female) level of opinion regarding training programmes. **Gender-wise level of opinion towards training programmes**

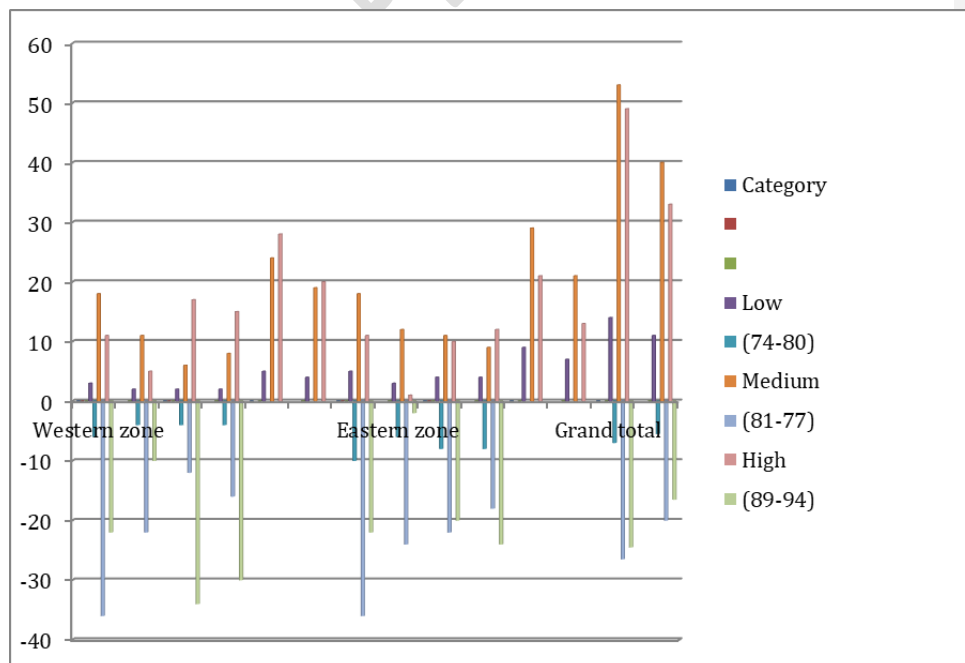
To assess the beneficiaries level of opinion, the responses of the respondents to each statement under opinion regarding specific aspects of trainings and overall performance of training were summed up and divide into three categories: low, medium and high (fig 2). **Western zone** Results highlighted that 28.0 and 20.0 per cent male and female beneficiaries from western zone KVKs had high level followed by medium (24.0% male and 19.0% female) and low (5.0% male and 4.0% female) level of opinion towards training programmes. **Eastern zone** In respect to eastern zone KVKs, where comparatively more number of respondents (29.0% male and 21.0% female) had medium followed by high (21.0% and 13.0% for male and female) and low (9.0% for male and 7.0% for female) level of opinion. Overall 26.5 and 20.0 per cent male and female beneficiaries had medium followed by high (24.5% and 16.5%) and low level of opinion (7.0% and 5.5% male and female) towards training programmes of KVKs (Fig. 1)

Comment [A1]: Make an implication of these data (percentage and training programs)

Fig 2: Gender-wise level of opinion towards training programmes (Krishi vigyan kendras)

Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

M= Male, F= Female



Expectations of the beneficiaries regarding training programmes

To analyze the expectations of the beneficiaries, a list of statements was prepared after consultation with extension personnel and literature. Statement-wise as well as overall level of expectations of the beneficiaries from the training programmes were analyzed separately and results have been highlighted in Fig 3.

Statement-wise expectations of the beneficiaries

Western zone

It is evident from the data presented in Fig 3 that nearly half of the male respondents from western zone KVKs were of the view that during training programme, complete information regarding e-marketing should be provided to the farmers and extension personnel should guide and help the farmers to sell their products online (52.0%). Further, they wanted that each KVK should select the participants as per their need not just to complete the required number of participants for the training (51.0%) and after training follow-up visits of subject matter specialists should be there to solve the constraints experienced by the farmers in the adoption of the technology (50.0%).

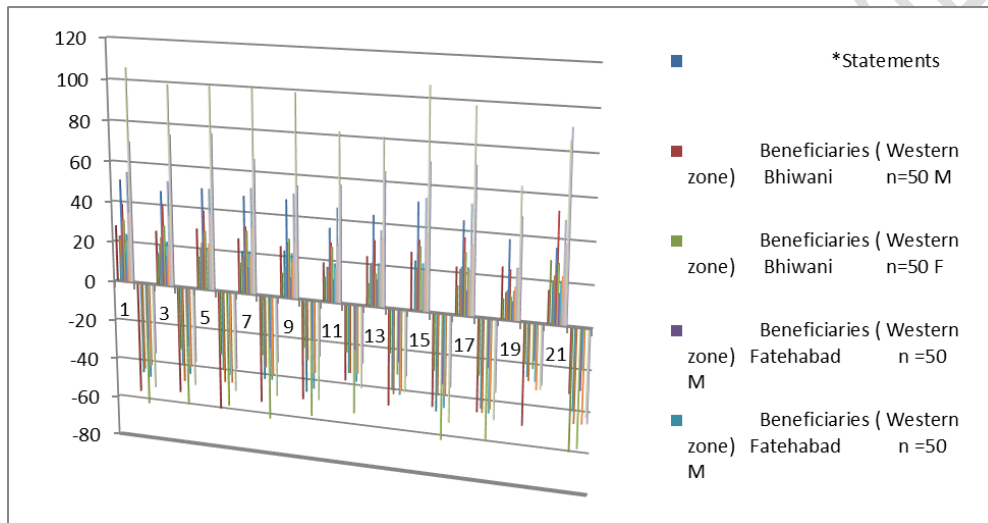
In case of female participants, they were of the opinion that extension personnel should identify and train young educated local leader for further communication of information to the rural women (53.0%). They should also properly guide and help them to get loan and subsidies after training (40.0%) and after training follow up visits should be conducted by the extension personnel to solve the constraints in adoption of technology by the trainees (39.0%).

Eastern zone

Like western zone, male farmers from eastern zone KVKs also expected that for every training, the beneficiaries should be selected as per their needs (55.0%) followed by during training, complete information regarding e-marketing should be provided and extension personnel should help the farmers to sell their products online (54.0%) and farmers should have prior information about the visit of extension personnel in the field and also about the training schedule (53.0%).

Fig 3: Expectations of beneficiaries from training programmes organized by KVKs

Multiple response
 Figures in parentheses indicate percentages
 M=Male, F=Female



Irrespective of zones more than half (53.0% each) of male beneficiaries expected that the beneficiaries should be selected as per their needs and during training complete information regarding e-marketing should be provided and extension personnel should help the farmers to sell their products online. It was followed by follow up visits by scientist to solve the constraints in adoption of technology and for on campus trainings, to save the time of farmers, KVKs should arrange transport facilities (50.0% each). In case of female beneficiaries 45.5 per cent wanted that extension personnel should identify and train young educated local leaders, for further guidance to farmers followed by follow up visits by scientist to solve the constraints in adoption of technology (38.5%).

Gender-wise level of expectations from training programmes

Data presented in Fig4 depicted that when zones were taken into consideration it was found that 33.0 and 21.0, 33.0 and 22.0 per cent male and female respondents from western and eastern zone respectively had high followed by medium (20.0% and 17.0%, 21.0% and 15.0% male and female) and low (4.0% and 7.0%, 5.0% and 4.0% male and female) level of expectation from training programmes organized by respective KVKs.

Irrespective of zones, majority of male and female beneficiaries had high (33.0 and 21.5 percent) followed by medium (20.5% male and 15.0% female) and low level of expectations (Fig. 2).

Conclusion

Overall level of opinion of respondents towards training programmes was medium (26.0% male and 20.5 female) followed by high (24.5% male and 16.5% female) and low (7.0% and 5.5% male and female). Whereas level of expectation of beneficiaries for training programmes was high (33.0% male and 21.5% female) followed by medium (20.5% male and 21.5% female) and low.

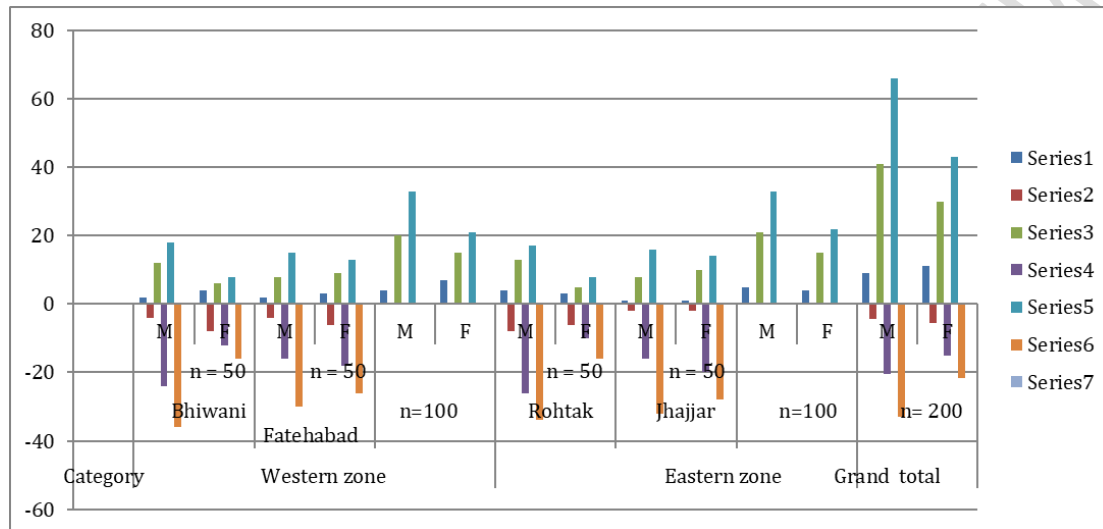
Comment [A2]: Make sentences about the expectation relating to training programs

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Fig 4: Gender- wise level of expectations of the beneficiaries from training programmes

Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

M =Male, F= female



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