

**PREFERENCE OF DAIRYWOMEN OF HIMACHAL PRADESH FOR TRAINING PROGRAMME**

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**ABSTRACT:**

The present study was conducted with the objectives to know the duration, place and season needed for training programmes as expressed by the dairywomen in Solan district of Himachal Pradesh. A total of 1000 respondents of Self Help Groups (SHGs) were selected from 50 villages, 20 each from 10 selected villages of five blocks of Solan district. It was observed that more than 60% of the trainees preferred two-week duration of training at the training centre at Solan. More than 90% preferred summer season for training programme.

**KEYWORDS:** dairywomen, training, milk, self help groups,

**INTRODUCTION**

Women contribute 71% of labour force in livestock farming (Singh, 1999); about 75 million women are engaged in dairying in India as against 15 million men (GOI, 2001). Women accounted for 93% of the total employment in dairy production in India. The dairy farming is the main occupation of women in H.P. Around 80% of women population is engaged in dairy sector in H P particularly in Solan. Himachal Pradesh (H. P.) stands fourth in national map regarding per capita milk availability. Per capita milk availability in Solan is about 450 gm. Dairywomen are organized in the form of Self Help Groups (SHGs) which is the best medium to disseminate technological interventions of dairy farming to remote villages and give a future boost resulting into a new look to the dairy sector. This can be achieved by arranging training programmes.

Training is an overt process, a sequence of experiences, a series of opportunities to learn, in which the trainee is exposed in a systematic way to certain material or events. Keeping the importance of training in view, the present study was conducted to know the duration, place and season needed for training programme as expressed by the dairywomen

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The present study was carried out in five blocks of Solan district in Himachal Pradesh. Fifty villages were selected randomly and from each village, samples of 20 dairywomen having at least two numbers of cross-bred cows were selected. Thus, a total of 1000 samples were included for the present study. Keeping in the view the objectives of the study, an interview schedule was developed and used for interviewing the respondents personally.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The study showed that 63.5% respondents preferred two-week duration of training while 24.5% respondents preferred one-week and 12% respondents preferring one month training (Table-1). However, Lahoti and Chole (2009) reported that 32%, 48%, and 4% respondents preferred two-week, one-week and one month duration of training, respectively. Baynazir (2006) noted 43.33 % of the respondents preferred training course of one-week duration and only 3.33% preferred training of one-month duration.

More than half of dairywomen (58.5%) preferred training center while 22.3% and 19.2% preferred their own village and own block as training place, respectively (Table-2). However, Lahoti and Chole (2009) reported that 30.66%, 53.33%, and 13.33% dairymen preferred their own village, training centre and taluka, respectively. Baynazir (2006) Observed among 83.88 % of the dairy farm women the most preferred place for training was their village.

Significantly larger number of respondents preferred summer season (90%) for training while very smaller number of women expressed rabi season (7%) and kharif season (3%) for training, respectively (Table-3). Majority of respondents expressed that training should be arranged in summer season as they have leisure time available during that period. Our findings collaborate with findings of Lahoti and Chole (2009) .Training

of dairywomen is an important aspect regarding improvement of dairy scenario in H .P. as well as at the national level. Proportionately, greater number of involvement of women in dairy sector vis-à-vis their lack of know-how about general practices of dairy must be a great concern for the policy makers. The dairy farming can be converted into a lucrative business and can be developed as a means of growth in countryside through timely arrangement of training programmes on dairy for women.

<b>Table-1. Preference of Respondents to Duration of Training</b>			
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Duration of training</b>	<b>Frequency (N=1000)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	One week	245	24.5
2	Two week	635	63.5
3	One month	120	12.0

<b>Table-2. Preference of Respondents to the Place of Training</b>			
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Place of training</b>	<b>Frequency (N=1000)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Training Centre	585	58.50
2	Own village	223	22.30
3	Own Block	192	19.20

<b>Table-3. Preference of Respondents to the Season for Training</b>			
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Frequency (N=1000)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Summer	900	90
2	Rabi	70	7
3	Kharif	30	3

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