



## Research Article

# DECISION MAKING PATTERN OF TRIBAL WOMEN ENGAGED IN DAIRY ENTERPRISE

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**Abstract:** Women have a high stake in dairying; they account for 93 percent 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. The data shows that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding overall integrated dairy farming practices.

**Keywords:** Decision making, tribal, dairy enterprise

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## 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 percent 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 "decision making pattern of tribal women in dairy enterprise."

## 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 objective with appropriate statistical tools like percentage, rank, mean and standard deviation. Data were tabulated and analyzed in the light of objective. 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

### 1.0 Decision making pattern of tribal women engaged in dairy farming

Decision - making pattern is at the root of all the human activities. Every individual is concerned with the problem of decision making in all walk of life decision making itself is management. 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. Farmers must decide what to produce, how to produce, how much to produce and when to produce. The attempt in this study is to document, what is the decision making pattern *i.e.*, pattern of decision making prevailing within a particular tribes household, related to the selected dairy farming practices. The selected practices were grouped under the following categories: a) breeding (b) feeding (c) health- care (d) management and production practices. The section presented the different pattern of decision making regarding integrated dairy farming practices among respondent of dang district. To ascertain it, five major areas *viz*, Breeding, Feeding, Health care, management and fodder production practices selected.

Table-1 Distribution of respondents according to their decisionmaking pattern regarding breeding practices, n=120

SN	Level of source of information	Number	Percent
1	Head of family/Husband	61	50.83
2	Wife	30	25.00
3	Son/Daughter	11	9.17
4	Whole family	12	10.00
5	Any others	06	5.00

The data pertaining to the decision making pattern of the tribal respondents according to their decision making pattern regarding breeding practices is presented in [Table-1] indicated that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding breeding practices. As higher as 50.83 percent followed by wives (25.00 %), whole family (10.00 %), son or daughter (9.17 %) and any others only 5.00 percent.

Table-2 Distribution of respondents according to their decision-making pattern regarding feeding practices

SN	Level of source of information	Number	Percent
1	Head of family/Husband	46	38.33
2	Wife	41	34.17
3	Son/Daughter	11	09.17
4	Whole family	19	15.83
5	Any others	03	02.50

The data pertaining to the decision-making pattern of the tribal respondents regarding feeding practices are presented in [Table-2] indicated that head of the family or husband and wives were dominating in taking decision regarding feeding practices. As higher as 38.33 percent by husband followed by wives (34.17 %), whole family (15.83 %), son or daughter (9.17 %) and any others only 2.50 percent respectively. It is evident from the same Table that decision making pattern of tribal women respondent as head of family or husband and wives both are dominating.

Table-3 Distribution of respondents according to their decision making pattern regarding health care practices

SN	Level of source of information	Number	Percent
1	Head of family/Husband	61	50.83
2	Wife	24	20.00
3	Son/Daughter	11	09.17
4	Whole family	21	17.50
5	Any others	03	2.50

The data pertaining to the decision-making pattern of the tribal respondents regarding health care practices are presented in [Table-3] indicated that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding health care practices. As higher as 50.83 percent followed by wives (20.00 %), son or daughter (9.17 %) whole family (3.50 %) and any others only 0.50 percent respectively. It is evident from the same Table that decision making pattern of tribal women respondent as head of family or husband are dominating

Table-4 Distribution of respondents according to their decision making pattern regarding management practices

SN	Level of source of information	Number	Percent
1	Head of family/Husband	55	45.83
2	Wife	31	25.83
3	Son/Daughter	14	11.67
4	Whole family	17	14.17
5	Any others	03	02.50

The data pertaining to the decision making pattern of the tribal respondents regarding management practices are presented in [Table-4] indicated that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding management practices. As higher as 45.83 percent followed by wives (25.83 %), whole family (14.17 %), son or daughter (11.67 %) and any others only 2.50 percent respectively. It is evident from the same Table that decision making pattern of tribal women respondent as head of family or husband are dominating

Table-5 Distribution of respondents according to their decision making pattern regarding fodder production practices

SN	Level of source of information	Number	Percent
1	Head of family/Husband	48	40.00
2	Wife	29	24.17
3	Son/Daughter	16	13.33
4	Whole family	26	21.67
5	Any others	01	0.87

The data pertaining to the decision-making pattern of the tribal respondent's fodder production practices are presented in [Table-5] indicated that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding fodder production practices. As higher as 40.00 percent followed by wives (24.17 %), whole family (21.67 %), son or daughter (13.33 %) and any others only 0.87 percent respectively. It is evident from the same Table that decision making pattern of tribal women respondent as head of family or husband are dominating

Table-6 Distribution of respondents according to their decision making pattern regarding overall dairy farming practices

SN	Level of source of information	Mean Percent score
1	Head of family/Husband	45.16
2	Wife	25.83
3	Son/Daughter	10.50
4	Whole family	15.83
5	Any others	2.77

The data pertaining to the decision-making pattern of the tribal respondents regarding overall improved dairy farming practices are presented in [Table-6] indicated that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding overall integrated dairy farming practices. As higher as 45.00 MPS followed by wives 25.83 MPS, son or daughter 10.00 MPS whole family 15.83 MPS and any others only 3.34 MPS respectively. It is evident from the same Table that decision making pattern of tribal women respondent as head of family or husband are dominating

### Conclusion

It can be concluded that the decision making pattern of the tribal respondents regarding overall improved dairy farming practices on the basis of data shows that head of the family or husband were dominating in taking decision regarding overall integrated dairy farming practices.

### Implications

The educated women from the rural background should be involved in the training programme, workshops to motivate the tribal women for enhancing their role in decision making and management of the farm.

The involvement of tribal women should be increased at every level of planning and decision-making to exploit the potential of the full population of India.

**Application of research:** Tribal women are actively involved in dairy farming practices, so they should also involve in decision making process related to dairy enterprise. The policy makers can formulate policies on the basis of such research data outputs and this type of research also can be taken in other area of tribal community.

### Research Category: Agricultural Extension

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