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Adoption of selected home science technologies by the women self-help group members in Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

Home Science is education for home life. It has been dedicated to women's development since women shoulderd the family responsibilities. The present study was taken up with the objective to introduce selected home science technologies and to see the adoption pattern in 2015-16 in six northern Karnataka districts comprising 180 respondents. The technologies selected for the study were developmental milestones of children (0-3 years) and stimulating play materials for children (0-3 years), importance of food, different food groups and food pyramid, consumer education and standard signs used for products and stain removal. In case of the technology on milestone development and stimulating play materials overall adoption level index increased by 22.17 per cent. In case of nutrition increase was 15.25, in consumer education 28.67 and in case of stain removal 36.11 per cent.

Keywords: Adoption; home science technologies; children; adoption

INTRODUCTION

Home science is the education for home life. Goal of this education is prosperous living and highest happiness. Since women are the backbone of family, home science is dedicated to overall development of women folk and certain low cost technologies have been developed which are suitable for alleviating drudgery of women. Home science technologies can be viewed as a complex blend of scientific information, materials, technical methods and processes that require the art of systematically using them for improving skills and task performance. Technologies related to drudgery reduction, simplification of working pattern, consumer education, educating about health and hygiene, introducing improved equipments etc are developed by the scientists across the country. Home science colleges are located in agricultural universities with the purpose of benefiting rural women folk besides giving education to rural girls in the colleges. Therefore home science colleges

has the major responsibility of disseminating or popularizing home science technologies to the concerned or needy rural women folk.

Hence present study was carried out with an objective to study the adoption of selected home science technologies and to study the reasons for non-adoption.

Prathap and Ponnusamy (2006) conducted a study on mass media and symbolic adoption behaviour of rural women in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu. The results indicated that all the four mass media viz radio, television, newspaper and internet formats were effective enough in convincing the respondents to mentally adopt the technologies related to rabbit farming.

Mohanty and Mohanty (2008) conducted a study on adoption of solar cookery by rural women in Puri and Khurda districts of Orissa. About 57.10 per cent of the respondents expressed favourable attitude towards the future acceptability of solar cooker.

Pillegouda and Narayanagowda (2009) conducted a study on impact of group discussion meeting on symbolic adoption level among dairy farm women in northern Taluk of Bangalore Rural district in Karnataka state with a sample of 179 farm women. The results revealed that higher percentage of symbolic adoption of almost all the dairy management practices was noticed in all the treatment groups compared to control group.

Khambra et al (2011) conducted a study on adoption feasibility of clothing related technologies in Kaimari village of Hisar district, Haryana. Technologies were transferred through trainings, demonstrations, field days, campaigns and lectures to the rural women in identified areas viz tie and die, embroidery, crochet, stitching, knitting etc. It was revealed that women were interested in using those techniques which had acceptance in their cultural environment and had utility for them.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in 2015-16 in six northern Karnataka districts under the jurisdiction of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. Villages selected were Muddapur (Bagalakot district), Honnalli and Hunshyal (Bijapur district), Gundenatti (Belgaum district), Bada (Dharwad district), Naragunda (Gadag district) and Kaginele (Haveri district). From each village 30 SHG members were selected thus total sample constituted 180 SHG members.

The list of SHG members was obtained from the respective Anganwadi teachers. Pre- and post-test data were collected from the respondents with the help of structured pre-tested schedule through personal interview. Before intervention of

the programme, adoption pattern of selected technologies was gathered. In the intervention programme, subject matter specialists introduced the technologies through lecture cum discussion method and demonstrations using teaching aids like charts, flashcards, live samples, specimens etc. After a gap of six months adoption level of introduced technologies was collected using the same schedule which was used for collecting pre-test data.

The technologies selected for the study were developmental milestones of children (0-3 years) and stimulating play materials for children (0-3 years), importance of food, different food groups and food pyramid, consumer education and standard signs used for products and stain removal.

RESULTS and DISCUSSION

Table 1 (Fig 1) shows adoption index level of the respondents about home science technologies. The increase in adoption index level in four technologies viz developmental milestones and stimulating play materials, importance of food and food pyramid, consumer education and standard signs and stain removal was 22.17, 15.25, 28.67 and 36.11 per cent respectively.

The data given in Table 2 depict that the adoption of developmental milestones and stimulating play materials was highly significant (12.27) followed by importance of food and food pyramid (8.65), stain removal (6.48) and consumer education and standard signs (5.02) meaning thereby that all the introduced technologies were significantly related to the adoption level.

Table 3 indicates the reasons for non-adoption of home science technologies by the respondents. Under developmental milestones and stimulating play materials technology the most important reason for non-adoption was- expensive sophisticated toys for 60.00 per cent respondents, under importance of food and food pyramid technology- lack of storage facilities for perishable food (60.00% respondents),

Table 1. Adoption index level of respondents (n= 180)

Technology	Adoption index level		Difference (%)
	Pre-test (%)	Post-test (%)	
Developmental milestones and stimulating play materials	59.23	81.40	22.17
Importance of food and food pyramid	55.17	70.42	15.25
Consumer education and standard signs	40.26	68.93	28.67
Stain removal	35.04	71.15	36.11

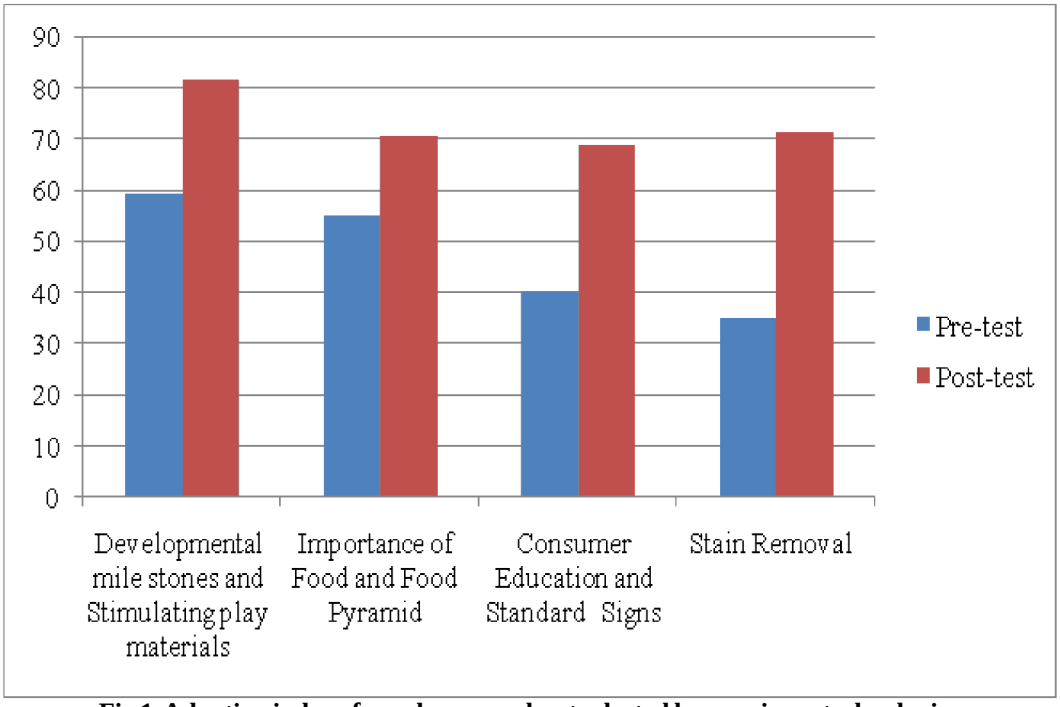

Fig 1. Adoption index of rural women about selected home science technologies

Table 2. Impact of technologies (n= 180)

Technology	Mean		Paired t-test	Tabulated t-value
	Pre-test	Post-test		
Developmental milestones and stimulating play materials	33.27	41.51	12.27	1.97
Importance of food and food pyramid	11.04	13.38	8.65	
Consumer education and standard signs	8.97	10.34	5.02	
Stain removal	6.39	7.83	6.48	

under consumer education and standard signs technology- difficulty in understanding the signs and symbols used on products (48.00% respondents) and under stain removal- soaps and detergents were easy to use and less time consuming (64.00% respondents).

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Table 3. Reasons for non-adoption of the introduced home science technologies

Reason	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percentage
Developmental milestones and stimulating play materials (n= 19)		
Expensive to purchase sophisticated toys	11	60
Not safe for children (may hurt them)	7	40
Wrong notion that child is unable to differentiate between different toys	6	30
Importance of food and food pyramid (n= 30)		
Lack of storage facilities for perishable food	18	60
Non-availability of fruits and vegetables in local market	13	50
Expensive to buy vegetables and fruits	11	40
Consume only the foods grown on own farm	11	36
Consumer education and standard signs (n= 31)		
Difficulty in understanding the signs and symbols used on products	15	48
Not purchased by self	12	40
No choice but to purchase from local shops	12	40
Stain removal (n= 29)		
Lack of time	19	55
Soaps and detergents are easy to use and less time consuming	16	64

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