

Participation of Women in Commercialised Agriculture and Its Effect on Time Allocation Pattern

K. Sheela¹ and Shashikala Puttaraj²

¹*Department of Rural Home Science, USA, Hebbal Bangalore 560 024, Karnataka, India*

²*Department of Studies in Food Science and Nutrition, University of Mysore,
Manasagangothri, Mysore 570 014, Karnataka, India*

KEYWORDS Agriculture. Commercialization. Women. Time

ABSTRACT Woman's participation in commercialized agriculture has become a reality. Since, women's heavy work load and worktime are seen as crucial factors in de-trimming their own and family nutrition the present study was undertaken to measure the effect of time allocation pattern of farm women. The study covered a random population of 285 households from Bangalore rural district in Karnataka. Two hundred and eighty five women from three different farming groups viz. Commercial group with irrigation (CG-1), without irrigation (CG-W1) and subsistence group (SG). Also based on the nature, type and duration of the work that women were engaged in they were classified into three groups viz. employed women (EW), partially employed women (PEW) and unemployed women (UEW) so as to assess the impact of total working hours spent in agriculture related activities and other household tasks particularly child care. Results of the study indicated that time allocation pattern of women for both agriculture and household related activities were found to be similar in all the farming groups. The characteristic feature appeared to be that time was spent by women of all farming groups on personal careless rest and recreation with no difference in the net total time spent in child care activities, However, by the criteria of work status there appeared to be a significant decrease in child care activities in case of employed women belonging to different farming groups.