

Impact Analysis of Vocational Training Programmes on Knowledge Gain of Ornamental Fish Culture Trainees

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ABSTRACT

Impact of trainings was studied on forty seven trainees comprising farmers, farm women and rural youths in two batches on ornamental fish culture training programmes. The study was conducted to ascertain the impact of trainings on ornamental fish culture among the trainees who attended training at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barnala during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17. The gain in knowledge acquired by the trainees was probed before and after training programmes through knowledge tests. The results reveals that after completion of training, majority (91.48%) of trainees were having high level of knowledge regarding ornamental fish culture followed by 8.51 percent respondents having medium level of knowledge and gain in knowledge among trainees was maximum for Ingredients required to formulate ornamental fish feed (85.11%) and disease prevention in ornamental fish culture (76.6%).

Key words: Ornamental fish, Training, Gain in knowledge, Trainees.

INTRODUCTION

In India, ornamental fish keeping at household level is becoming popular day by day due to aesthetic reasons. The vibrant color of various ornamental fishes attracts everyone and enhances beauty of houses, offices and various clinics etc. Keeping ornamental fishes in aquarium is one of the most popular hobbies with millions of enthusiasts worldwide². The farm science centres known as “Krishi Vigyan Kendras” imparts various types of vocational training programmes for the farmers, farm women and rural youth. Training is the easiest method for transfer of knowledge, skills and new scientific techniques of farming to rural

farmers which helps them to improve their socio-economic status. Trainings help individuals to learn and bring desired standards of efficiency and make the person more proficient which is required for employment in a particular occupation. There is no specific qualification required to participate in the training. Therefore, individuals of any age group, any gender either literate or illiterate could participate in these training programmes. Training uses “Learning by doing” techniques to disseminate knowledge and skills which is easy to understand and have long lasting imprint on the mind of trainees.

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The present study was carried out with the motive to evaluate the impact of training programmes on gain in knowledge of the trainees on ornamental fish culture.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present study was conducted on forty seven trainees of Barnala district to evaluate gain in knowledge after acquiring vocational trainings on ornamental fish culture in two different batches organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barnala during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17. The age group selected for the study varies from less than 25 to more than 35 years. Data for the study was collected through pre and post training tests using questionnaire method comprising of total ten questions and interview method was used for focused group (Illiterate trainees) on ornamental fish culture. For every correct answer score of one was given and zero mark were given for incorrect answer. Therefore, gain in knowledge was calculated from difference between the knowledge on various aspects of ornamental fish culture practices by the trainees before and after the vocational trainings obtained in pre and post knowledge tests. The socio-personal characteristics of trainees were also assessed through age groups, educational status, gender, land holding etc. To assess the knowledge level, the trainees were classified into three categories as low (0 to 35%), medium (36 to 70%) and high (more than 70%) level of knowledge. The data were

tabulated and analyzed using frequency and percentages.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-personal profile of trainees

Depending upon the age trainees were divided in three categories i.e. upto 25, 25-35 and above 35 years. It is clear from the data (Table 1) that maximum trainees were 25-35 years of age with 42.55 percent followed by above 35 years and below 25 years with value 29.78 percent and 27.65 percent, respectively. This finding is in line with the Baraiya and Baraiya¹. Further, scrutinizing the data it was evident that individuals of different caste and occupation participated in these training programmes. However, 51.06 percent trainees belongs to scheduled caste while the difference between backward and others classes was 6.38 percent. Further percentage of the unemployed trainees was 46.80 percent and laborers were 25.53 percent, whereas business man who attended the training was only 10.63 percent. Assessment of trainees with respect to educational qualification illustrates that 34.04 percent up to senior secondary followed by matriculation (25.53%), middle (17.02%), illiterate (10.63%), Primary (8.51%) and graduation (4.25%). It was also inferred that 85.10 percent trainees were landless, while 14.88 percent trainees have their own land. Furthermore, data depicts that percentage of male participants were double than the female participants.

Table 1: Socio-personal profile of trainees (n=47)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Percent
1.	Age		
	Up to 25 yrs	13	27.65
	25-35 yrs	20	42.55
2.	Caste		
	Scheduled Caste	24	51.06
	Backward Caste	13	27.65
3.	Education		
	Illiterate	5	10.63
	Primary	4	8.51
	Middle level	8	17.02
	Matriculate	12	25.53
	Senior Secondary	16	34.04
	Graduate	2	4.25
4.	Occupation		
	Farming	8	17.02
	Unemployed	22	46.80
	Laborers	12	25.53
5.	Landholding		
	Landless	40	85.10
	<5 Acres	5	10.63
6.	Sex		
	Male	33	70.21
	Female	14	29.78

Increase in level of knowledge

The study (Table 2) revealed that in pre-evaluation test, the knowledge range of different participants were 29.78 percent regarding egg laying ornamental fish while 25.53 percent were regarding live bearer ornamental fish. However, the participants had minimum knowledge regarding ingredients required for fish feed (10.63%). Furthermore,

participants have 19.14 percent knowledge regarding materials required to fabricate fish aquarium and disease prevention. Previous knowledge of participants regarding live fish feed, infusoria culture, water color, water quality management and marketing of ornamental fishes were 21.27, 31.91, 27.65, 51.06 and 17.02 percent, respectively.

Table 2: Gain in knowledge after acquiring training with respect to different operation. n=47

Sr. No.	Parameter	Pre-evaluation (%)	Post-evaluation (%)	Gain in knowledge
1.	Variety of egg laying ornamental fish	29.78	89.36	59.58
2.	Variety of live bearer ornamental fish	25.53	87.23	61.7
3.	Materials required to fabricate fish aquarium	19.14	93.61	74.47
4.	Live food organisms used as fish feed	21.27	91.48	70.21
5.	Materials used to culture infusoria	31.91	87.23	55.32
6.	Ingredients required to formulate ornamental fish feed	10.63	95.74	85.11
7.	Water quality management for ornamental fishes	51.06	100	48.94
8.	Water color indicates	27.65	93.61	65.96
9.	Disease prevention in ornamental fish farming	19.14	95.74	76.6
10.	Marketing of ornamental fishes	17.02	78.72	61.7

The gain in knowledge (%) was calculated with substitution of post and pre knowledge percentage. The maximum gain in knowledge was regarding ingredients required to formulate fish feed (85.11%). Gain in knowledge regarding disease prevention, material required to fabricate fish aquarium, live food organisms used as fish feed was almost same with 76.6, 74.47, and 70.21 percent, respectively. The trainees gained equal knowledge (61.7%) about the variety of live bearer ornamental fishes and marketing of ornamental fishes. Data also demonstrates that knowledge acquired regarding water color, variety of egg laying ornamental fish and

infusoria culture was 65.96, 59.58, and 55.32 percent respectively. The minimum gain in knowledge was observed with respect to water quality management (48.94%). The reason for the minimum gain is due to pre-evaluation knowledge among the trainees was higher.

Extent of knowledge about ornamental fish culture

The data presented in table 3 reveals that before the training program on ornamental fish culture, majority of the trainees had low level of knowledge (70.21%) followed by medium level knowledge (29.78%) while none of the trainees obtained high level of knowledge.

Table 3: Pre-training knowledge score of trainees

Knowledge Level	No. of trainees (N=47)	Percentage
Low level (0 to 35%)	33	70.21
Medium level (36 to 70%)	14	29.78
High level (more than 70%)	0	0

The data in Table 4 depicts that 91.48 percent of the trainees gained high level of knowledge followed by medium level of knowledge

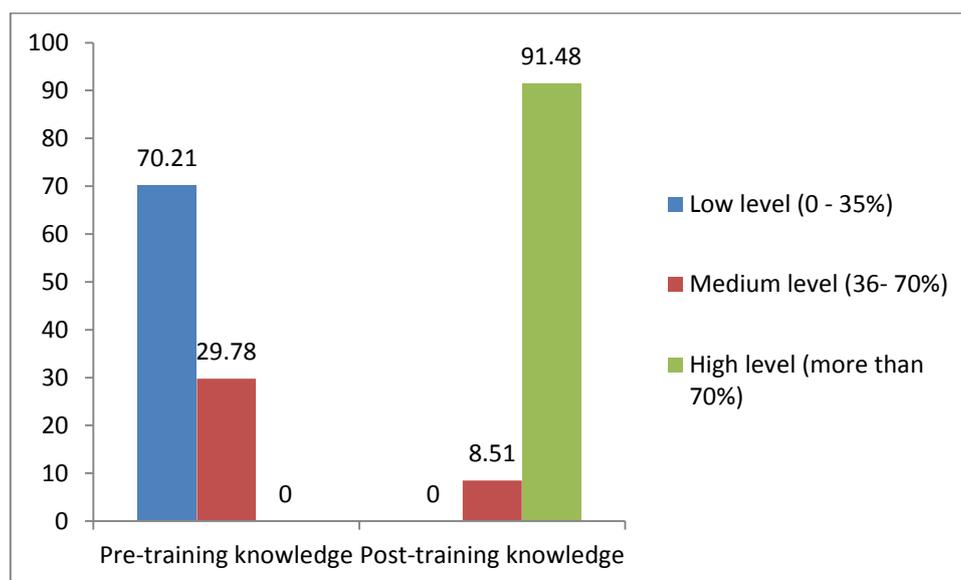
(8.51%) after the training program. These findings are in line with Pandey, *et al.*³.

Table 4: Post-training knowledge score of trainees

Knowledge Level	No. of trainees (N=47)	Percentage
Low level (0 to 35%)	0	0
Medium level (36 to 70%)	4	8.51
High level (more than 70%)	43	91.48

A comparative analysis about the extent of knowledge on ornamental fish culture before

and after the training programmes was shown in Fig. 1.

**Fig. 1: Extent of knowledge about ornamental fish culture**

Overall analysis makes it clear that there was significant increase in knowledge and favorable attitude among the trainees after successful completion of Ornamental fish culture trainings.

CONCLUSION

From the above mentioned study it can be concluded that irrespective of the gender and education significant number of women and illiterate farmers had gained knowledge through training programmes. The results clearly indicate the significant impact of ornamental fish culture training programmes in gain on knowledge among trainees. Ornamental fish culture is such type of enterprise in which land is not a major factor. Thus, landless farmer, laborers, women,

unemployed youth could earn income through ornamental fish culture.

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