THE KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF RURAL WOMEN iN SOME AGRICULTURAL DOMAINS IN AMEDIA DISTRICT IN DUHOK GOVERNORATE, KURDISTAN RIGION OF IRAQ

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural sector constitutes an essential pillar of the economy and is one of the important sources of national income in Iraq and Kurdistan Region. Rural women are key agents for development and play a catalytic role towards achievement of sustainable development. The main objective of the study is determining the knowledge level of rural women in some agricultural domains (kitchen garden management, family poultry breeding, Sheep breeding and food manufactories) in Amedia district- Duhok Governorate. A sample of 287 rural women were chosen randomly, which represent 25% the study population. The research data were gathered using a questionnaire designed specifically to assess the knowledge level of rural women in the targeted area. According to the findings, the majority of respondents (78.397%) had medium to low knowledge of some agricultural domains. A significant correlation was discovered between respondents' knowledge levels (Level of education, sources of information and previous training) while no significant correlationfounded between respondents' knowledge level on some agricultural domainsand following variables (Age, Martial Status, current work, and Satisfaction with village services). In the light of the results of the Study, a number of recommendations were presented; the most important was organizing training programs by agriculture extension and NGOs to increase respondent's knowledge level in the studied agricultural domains.
Key words: Knowledge level, Rural women, Agricultural domains.

INTRODUCTION:

In recent years, interest in rural development programs has increased because a large proportion of natural resources are concentrated in rural areas. Rural development, in its comprehensive content, aims to bring about directed and planned change for the advancement of rural communities economically, socially, culturally and environmentally to ensure the broad participation of the local population. (Ezeano, 2012).

Planners and economists regularly highlight women's involvement in and contribution to social and economic development. The position and productive capacity of women receive more consideration than any other topic when discussing how to eradicate poverty and advance sustainable development in developing countries.

The elimination of poverty and food insecurity depends heavily on agriculture, which is the main economic activity in rural areas. Both the rural poor's income and their access to food entitlements depend on agriculture. More generally, agriculture is the backbone of the economy

in the majority of nations with a high incidence of food insecurity. It contributes significantly to the gross domestic product (GDP), employs a large proportion of the economically active population, represents a major source of foreign exchange and provides the majority of the country's basic food needs (Abod, 2011).

In Iraq and Kurdistan Region, the agriculture sector constitutes an essential pillar of the economy and is one of the important sources of national income. It is responsible for meeting the growing food needs of the population and securing industry requirements.

Rural women have a crucial role in local community development. They act as a catalyst for the transformational economic, environmental, and social changes necessary for sustainable development.. However, limited access to credit, health care and education are among the many challenges they face. These are further aggravated by the global food and economic crises and climate change. Empowering them is essential, not only for the well-being of individuals, families and rural communities, but also for overall economic productivity, given women's large presence in the agricultural workforce worldwide(FAO,2014).

Women in rural areas play a crucial role for the subsistence of their communities, though this role is not always acknowledged. The nature and extent of women involvement in agriculture varies widely from region to region. However, regardless of this variation, rural women perform approximately 70% of the agricultural operations of weeding, grafting, harvesting, picking and other fieldwork, and these works require a lot of patience, endurance and hard work. However, her role is greatly diminished in the marketing process, as it represents only 0.5% of cases, in addition to the tasks of women in field agricultural work and caring for animals and poultry. The woman still performs her full role in the home such as cleaning, taking care of children, preparing bread and all other necessary requirements for the home and food industries. Its contribution amounted to 37% in bringing drinking water, and 32% in purchasing household needs, as it suffers from the multiplicity of roles it exercises, and the prevalence of some customs and traditions that increase its poverty, as well as inequality in decision-making regarding the family (Al-Sagheer, 2011).

Along with agriculture, women also make a significant contribution towards the rearing of livestock. Livestock production requires substantial amounts of time, labourand specialized activities in which women participate considerably side by side with men. Due to a few available studies, the estimated time women spent on activities related to animal breeding ranges from 3 to 5 hours per day. It is widely acknowledged that among all the animal production and management, women perform the most part of them (Tulachan&Karki, 2000).

Family poultry is an integral component of the livelihoods of poor rural households, and is likely to continue playing this role for the foreseeable future . Chickens can play an important role in providing additional resources to households with people living in rural areas and it makes a significant contribution to poverty alleviation, food security, empowerment of women and wildlife conservation in many countries.

Therefore, providing the necessary support to the development of poultry production in rural areas is essential in order to increase the household income and food security (FAO, 2008).

Home gardens have been documented as an important supplemental source contributing to food and nutritional security and livelihoods and are widely used as a remedy to alleviate hunger and malnutrition in the face of a global food crisis (Galhena et al. 2013).

Rural women perform their many jobs (household work, rural industries, poultry and animal care and fieldwork) in the traditional way, which is far from modern technological Techniques. They perform these jobs with skills that they have acquired through practice within the limits of the educational level they obtained in their life.

So, enabling rural women to perform their tasks efficiently and effectively contribute to the rural development process, it requires organizing intensive Extension programs for them in all the areas mentioned to increase their contribution of food and economic security in their home(Al-Rafiee,1992), thus increasing their bargaining power within household and position within the community.

As there is scarcity of researches and studies which dealt with the rural women in general and the mentioned areas, especially, in Kurdistan Region and Iraq in general, this study is conducted as an attempt to answer the following question: What is the level of Rural women knowledge on some agricultural domains (food manufactories, Kitchen gardens management, poultry breeding and sheep breeding)? What are the variables affecting the rural women knowledge in the mentioned agricultural domains?

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:

The ultimate goal ofthe study is achieved through the following objectives:

1- To identify the knowledge level of Rural women in some agricultural domains in general in Amedia district-Duhok governorate.
2- To determine the knowledge level of Rural women in each of the studied agricultural domains (kitchen garden management, family poultry breeding, Sheep breeding and food manufactories) in Amedia district-Duhok governorate.
3- To determine the correlation between the knowledge level of rural women on some agricultural domains and the following independent variables (Age, Educational level, current work , Marital status, Satisfaction with village services, Sources of Agricultural information, and Pervious Training).

Study hypotheses :

There is no significant correlation between the knowledge level of rural women in some agricultural domains in Amedia district-Duhok governorate as a dependent variable and each of the following independent variables: (Age, Educational level, current work , Marital status, Satisfaction with village services, Sources of Agricultural information, and Pervious Training).

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Target Population and Sample Size

The research population consisted of all rural women in rural areas in the six targeted villages in the sub-districts of (Dirluk, Bamerni and Sersang) in Amedia district in Dohuk Governorate. There are total of (1169) rural women in the three targeted villages. A sample of 287 rural women was randomly

selected representing 25% of the study population.In the first stage, three sub-Districts were selected, and in the second stage, six villages were randomly selected, two villages from each sub-Districts, in the third stage, 287 respondents were selected using area random sample. (Table 1).

Table (1) shows the sample size obtained from the research community

Village Name	No. of rural women in the village	No. of respondent
Shrte	167	42
Ziwa	285	71
Gondk	90	22
Screen	150	37
Gohrazy	234	59
Barche	243	56
Total	1169	287

(Mukhtar records in the villages were used to determine the number of rural women over 18)

The data of the research was collected by using a questionnaire specially prepared to determine the level of knowledge of the respondents in some agricultural areas, it included a parts: the first part included some personal, social, communication and economic characteristics of the respondents, the second part included a scale to assess the level of knowledge of rural women in Family poultry breeding, The number of its items was (22) , a scale of (20) items to assess the level of knowledge of rural women in kitchen garden management, a scale of (20) items to assess the level of knowledge of rural women in sheep breeding and a scale of (25) items to assess the level of knowledge of rural women in food manufacturing .To achieve the face validity the questionnairewas presented to a number of specialists and experts in the field of agricultural extension, educational psychology, Kitchen gardens management and poultry breeding to express their observations related to the type of questions, method of writing, clarity, accuracy of measurement and relevance to the level of the respondents to achieve the face validity.

Reliability was measured through the exploratory sample of (60) respondents Using (Cronbach's Alpha) method, this method gives the minimum value of the estimated coefficient of reliability (Al- Abassi, 2018). It appeared that the kitchen garden management, family poultry breeding, food manufactories and sheep breedingscales had a mean value 0.72, 0.76, 0.79 and 0.70 respectively, which are indicating the high reliability.

The research data were analyzed statistically using a number of statistical methods, the most important of which are: arithmetic mean, percentage,Pearson''s correlation coefficient, chi-square and standard deviation.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION:

1.Determining the knowledge level of Rural women in some agricultural domains in general (in Amedia district-Duhok governorate.

The knowledge level scores of rural women in Amedia district –Duhok Governorate, ranged from 32 to 70 against the possible range from 0 to 87.

The rural women surveyed were divided according to their level of knowledge on some agricultural domains (family poultry breeding ,kitchen garden management, Sheep breeding and food manufactories) into three categories, depending on rang and length of the class.

Table (2) Shows knowledge level of the rural women on some agricultural domains in General

Knowledge level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (32-44)	51	17.770%
Medium (45-57)	186	64.808%
High (58-70)	50	17.422%
Total	287	100%

According to the results shown in Table (2), the majority of respondents (64.808%) had medium knowledge level on all studied domains, followed by low (17.770%) and high (17.422%) categories. The findings show that the overall knowledge level of the targeted rural women (82.578%) ranges from medium to low. This could be because the vast majority of respondents in the targeted area (91.3%) have not received training in the studied domain (Table 14). As a result, comprehensive training programs for rural women in the targeted area are required to improve their knowledge and skills in the aforementioned domains.

2.Determining the knowledge level of Rural women in some agricultural domains (family poultry breeding kitchen garden management, food manufactories and sheep breeding) in Amedia district-Duhok governorate.

A.Determining the knowledge level of Rural women family poultry breeding in Amedia district-Duhok governorate.

The rural women surveyed were distributed according to their level of knowledge in family poultry breeding into three categories depending on the extent and length of the category, with a mean of 12.721 degrees and a standard deviation of 2.774 degree.

Table No. (3) Distribution of the respondents according to the level of their knowledge in family poultry breeding

No	Knowledge level	Frequency	Percentage
1	(6-10)Low	67	23.345
2	(11-15)Medium	173	60.278
3	(16-20)High	47	16.377
	Total	287	**%100**
$\bar{X}$=12.721			sd=2.774

According to Table (3) findings, the majority of respondents (60.278%) had a medium level of knowledge on family poultry breeding, followed by low (23.345%) and high (16.377%) categories,

respectively. The results show that the targeted rural women (83.623) had an overall knowledge level that ranged from medium to low. It's possible that the majority of respondents (91.3%) haven't taken part in any activities related to extension training (table 14).

B.Determining the knowledge level of Rural women kitchen garden management in Amedia district-Duhok governorate:

Globally, home gardens have been documented as an important supplemental source contributing to food and nutritional security and livelihoods. To determine the knowledge level of Rural women in kitchen garden management, the respondents were classified into three levels depending on the range as described in table (4).

Table No. (4) Distribution of the respondents according to the level of their knowledge in kitchen garden management.

No	Knowledge level	Frequency	Percentage
1	(5-8) Low	16	5.574
2	(9-12) Medium	158	55.053
3	(13-16) High	113	39.373
	Total	287	100%
$\bar{X}$=11.902			sd=2.172

Table (4) findings reveal, the majority of respondents (55.053%) had a medium degree of knowledge about kitchen garden management, followed by high (39.373%) and low (5.574%) categories. (61%) of the respondents had medium to low knowledge levels in kitchen gardens management, which reflects a clear deficiency in the number of trainings opportunities provided for the rural women in the targeted area.

C.Determining the knowledge level of rural women on food manufactories in Amedia district-Duhok governorate

The rural women in Amedia district were divided into three categories, according to their knowledge level on food manufactories Table (5).

Table (5) Shows distribution of respondents, according to the degree of their knowledge level on food manufactories.

No	Classes	Frequency	Percentage
1	(9-12) Low	67	23.345
2	(13-16) Medium	161	56.097
3	(17-20) High	59	20.558
	Total	287	%100
$\bar{X}$ =14.38			Sd=2.51

The results reveal that the highest ratio of the respondent (56.097%) came with the medium category, they are followed by (23.345 %) of the respondent, who belong to the low category and (20.558%) of the respondent came with the high category. The results clearly show that (79.4%) of the respondents had medium to low the knowledge level. Rural women's knowledge level in the targeted area can be improved, through different training and awareness programs and through

the active role of the agriculture extension organization and women, Civic and non-Government institutes.

D.Determining the knowledge level of rural women on sheep breeding inAmedia district-Duhok governorate.

Livestock is a vital part of agriculture and plays a significant role in the rural socio-economic development by providing livelihood to the rural poor in the country. It is also only a mean of direct income for most marginal people in rural areas. The rural women in the targeted areas, are divided into three categories according to their level of knowledge on sheep breeding (High, Mid and Low), as shown in Table(6).

Table (6)Shows distribution of respondents, according to the degree of their knowledge level on sheep breeding.

No	Knowledge Level	Frequency	Percentage
1	(9-5)Low	64	22.4
2	(10-14)Medium	191	66.5
3	(15-19) High	32	11.1
	Total	287	%100
$\bar{X}$= 11.571			Sd=2.557

According to Table(6) findings, the majority of respondents (66.5%) had a medium level of knowledge of sheep breeding, followed by low (22.4%) and high (11.1%) categories. The results show that the targeted rural women's overall knowledge level (88.9%) ranges from medium to low. The respondent's lack of exposure to training opportunities and other extension educational activities related to sheep breeding may be the cause. As a result, thedirectorate of agricultural extension in the targeted area needs to provide training opportunities for rural women in relation to sheep breeding.

Table (7) according to the respondent's knowledge level ranking the studied agricultural domains

No.	Agricultural domains	Actual range	mean	Rank
2	Family poultry breeding	0 – 22	12.72	1
4	Kitchen garden management	0 – 20	10.93	2
1	Food manufactories	0 – 25	14.39	3
3	Sheep breeding	0 – 20	11.57	4

According to Table (7), respondents had little knowledge in the all of the studied domains. This shows that respondents can be lacking in training and further educational activities. As a result, the

targeted area's agriculture extension department should endeavor to enhance training opportunities in the studied domains. The findings also reveal that food manufacturers, with a mean of (14.39), have the highest knowledge levels, and then followed by family poultry breeder domain with mean (12.72). This can be because rural women have more expertise in these two fields. Effective extension activities in the targeted areas are required.

3. Determining thecorrelation between social and personalcharacteristics of therural women and their level of knowledge on some agricultural domains (kitchen garden management, family poultry breeding, Food manufactories and sheep breeding).

1- Age

The respondents were divided according to the age variable into three categories depending on the actual range (18-67) years old.

Table (8) Shows distribution of respondents according to age

No	Age	Frequency	Percentage %	Pearson's correlation
1	(18-34)Years	101	50.345	
2	(35-51) Years	163	29.965	0.095
3	(52-68) Years	23	19.86	N.S.
	Total	287	%100	

Table (8) demonstrates that a high proportion of the targeted rural women (50.345%) came with (18 -34) year old category, followed by (29.965%) of rural women came with (35 -51) years old category, and only (19.86%) of rural women belong to (52 -68) years old category. This result revealed that the majority of respondents in the studied area are young. This group of respondents is ideal for training and is willing to participate in extension activities. As given in Table (8), it is imperative that the rural women's organization, the agriculture extension department, and other development organization focus on rural women in target area. Simple correlation was used to test the null hypothesis that "there is no correlation between respondent's age and knowledge level of the respondents". With value (0.095), the null hypothesis will accept. Perhaps the necessity for training among all respondents, regardless of age. The outcomes support with (Al-Hafidh and Al-Leela, 2011) study.

2- Level of Education:

Education level influences rural women access to information as well as their ability to understand technical aspects of innovations, which largely affects crop production decisions (Rahman, 2003).

Table (9) Shows distribution of respondents according to their level of education

No	Education level of respondents	Frequency	%	Chi-square
1	Illiterate	100	34.8	
2	Read and write	24	8.4	
3	Primary	43	15	0.245**
4	Middle school	36	12.5	
5	Secondary	31	10.8	

6	Diploma	31	10.8	
7	Bachelor	22	7.7	
Total		287	100	

Table (9) reveals that the majority of rural women in the targeted area (34.8%) were illiterate; 15% of those, had completed elementary school, followed by 12.5% by middle school, 10.8% by secondary school and a diploma, and 8.4% by bachelor's degrees. This suggests that the greatest percentage of respondents (34.8%) are not literate. The findings demonstrate that the research hypothesis (H_0) will reject. Due to the significant correlation between rural women's knowledge level in some agricultural domains and their level of education, at the 0.01% level of significance(r = 0.245). Perhaps the reason is that rural women with higher levels of education are more likely to comprehend extension instructions in the researched agricultural areas. The outcome is consistent with Al Taiy (2012), Al Kashab (2013), and (Al-doski and Hasan ,2016).

3. Marital status

Table (10) Shows distribution of respondents according to their marital status

Knowledge level / Marital Status	32-44 Low	%	45-57 Medium	%	58-70 High	%	X^2	rc
Single	20	6.969	69	24.042	12	4.181		
Married	27	9.408	100	34.843	36	12.544	5.58	0.138
Widow	4	1.394	17	5.923	2	0.697		N.S
Table rc 1%= 0.2324 5%=0.1654								

According to Table (10), the majority of respondents in the targeted area (56.79%) were married, followed by single respondents (35.192%) and widows (8.014%). The findings support the research hypothesis (H_0), which states that there is no significantbetween respondents' knowledge of some agricultural domains and their married status (rc=0.138), This may be because rural women consistently work to raise their economic standing and income by expanding their knowledge and utilizing it in their own domestic production. This result conflicts with the research conducted by (Chacmore et al., 2015) and (Al-doski and Ismail, 2018).

4.Current work

Table (11) Shows distribution of respondents according to their current work

Knowledge level / Current work	32-44 Low	%	45-57 Medium	%	58-70 High	%	X^2	rc
House keeper	41	14.286	169	58.885	45	15.679	7.905	0.1643

								N.S
Governmental job	7	**2.439**	15	**5.226**	5	**1.742**		
Private job	3	**1.045**	2	**0.697**	0	**0.000**		
Table rc 1%= 0.2324 5%=0.1654								

The findings in table (11) shows that the majority of respondents (88.9%) belong into the housekeeper category, followed by those with government jobs (9.4%) and those with private jobs (1.7%) category . The findings show that the research hypothesis, is accepted . According to this, there may there is no significant correlation between rural women's knowledge in some agricultural domains and their current work (rc = 0.1643). This demonstrates how having more work experience in agriculture helps rural women learn more and raise their level of knowledge. The fact that housekeepers make up the bulk of responders (88.85%) could be the cause. Which led to the absence of differences in their knowledge level

5- Satisfaction with services in the village

Table (12) Shows distribution of respondents according to their Satisfaction with services in the village

No	Satisfaction with services in the village	Frequency	Percentage	Pearson correlation
1	(10-13) Low	147	51.22	
2	(14-17)Medium	122	42.51	0.055
3	(18-21) High	18	6.27	N.S.
	Total	287	%100	

The results in table (12) reveal that the majority of the respondents were came with the low satisfaction with village services category (51.22%), followed by mid satisfaction with village services group (42.51%) and (6.27 %) were within high satisfaction with village services group. The research hypothesis "that there is no significant correlation between the knowledge level of the respondent and satisfaction with village services group "is accepted, with (r = 0.055). May the reason is that the majority of the respondents (93.73%) are belong to the low and medium level of knowledge categories.

6. Sources of Agricultural information

The targeted rural women were distributed into three categories according to what sources of information they use (High, Midume and low). (Table 13).

Table (13) Shows distribution of respondents according to the sources of information.

No	Sources of Agricultural information	Frequency	Percentage	Pearson Correlation
1	(15-17)Low	119	41.5	
2	(18-20) Medium	137	47.7	
3	(21-23)High	31	10.8	0.226**
	Total	287	100%	
$\bar{X}$=18.115			Sd=1.802	

The findings in table (13) shows that, when it came to accessing agriculture information sources, the majority of respondents (47.7%) belong into the medium category, followed by (41.5%) in the low category, and only (10.8%) came with the high category. The findings show that the research hypothesis that "there is no significant correlation between knowledge level of respondent and the agricultural information sources " is rejected , (r=0.226) significance at the 5% level of significance. The reason for this may be that the greater the number of sources of information used, the greater the variety of knowledge related to the agricultural studied domains and the expansion of its information in all dimensions of these domains . This result dose agrees with (Al-leela and Al-Hafidh ,2011).

7. Pervious training

The respondents were divided into two groups according to their participation in extension training courses (trained and not trained) table (14).

Table (14) Shows distribution of respondents according to previous training (number of sessions)

No	Pervious training	Frequency	Percentage	Pearson Correlation
1	Not-participated in pervious training	262	91.3	
2	Participated in pervious training	25	8.7	0.460**
	Total	287	%100	

Table (14) clearly shows that the majority of respondents, (91.3%), have not participated in any extension training activities, while only (8.7%) have attended extension-training activities. The results in table (14) show the vast majority did not take part in any training, indicating a dearth of training possibilities for rural women in the targeted area. The research hypothesis "that there is no significant correlation between respondent knowledge level and training "is rejected, with (r=0.460). The ability of rural women to execute particular duties as well as their knowledge and skills can both be improved through training. This outcome is inconsistent with the study (Al-Samawi, 2005).

CONCLUSIONS:

1.The study findings revealed that a high proportion of rural women in the targeted area had a medium level of knowledge in all of the studied agricultural domains . This implies that respondents lack fundamental knowledge on the studied agricultural domains , particularly kitchen garden management and sheep breeding, and that effective training courses are required to improve their knowledge and skills in the aforementioned agricultural domains.

2.The variables (Level of education, sources of information and previous training) were discovered to be important factors that were significantly related to the respondent's knowledge level. As a result, these factors should be considered when developing effective extension training programs for rural women in the Amedia district, as well as increasing their participation in agricultural extension activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1- In view of the average level of knowledge tending to low among the surveyed farmers, we recommend intensifying extension efforts in the region and organizing specialized

extension courses for targeted rural women in order to raise the level of their knowledge in All the studied domains kitchen garden management, family poultry breeding, food manufactories and sheep breeding

2- Conducting similar studies to identify the level of knowledge and implementation of modern technologies by rural women in the fields studied and other fields in the targeted area and other areas in the region.

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CONFLICT TO INTEREST:

The authors state that they have no conflicts of interest.

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مستوى معارف المراة الريفية في بعض المجالات الزراعية في قضاء العمادية بمحافظة دهوك باقليم كردستان العراق

الخلاصة

يشكل القطاع الزراعي ركناً أساسياً من أركان الاقتصاد ويعد احد الموارد المهمة للدخل القومي وتقع على عاتقه تلبية الاحتياجات الغذائية المتزايدة للسكان وتأمين مستلزمات الصناعة، وتمثل المرأة الريفية ركناً أساسياً وطاقة لا يستهان بها في عملية الإنتاج من خلال أنشطتها الزراعية المتعددة على صعيد العائلة أو على صعيد القرية.يهدف هذا البحث اساسا الى تحديد مستوى معارف المرأة الريفية في قضاء العمادية بمحافظة دهوك في بعض المجالات الزراعية بشكل عام, و تحديد مستوى معارف المرأة الريفية في كل مجال من المجالات التالية (تربية الدجاج المنزلي وادارة الحدائق المنزلية وتربية الاغنام والصناعات الغذائية)، وكذلك تحديد العلاقة الارتباطية بين مستوى معارف المرأة الريفية بشكل عام وكل من العوامل المستقلة التالية: العمر, المستوى التعليمي للمبحوثة، العمل الحالي والحالة الزوجية ودرجة استخدام مصادر المعلومات الزراعية و الرضا عن الخدمات في القرية والتدريب السابق.اختيرت عينة عشوائية تتكون من 278 إمرأة يمثلن ما حوالي 25% من مجتمع البحث، وقد تم جمع بيانات البحث باستخدام استمارة استبيان أعدت خصيصاً لتحديد مستوى معارف النساء المبحوثات،وتضمنت الاستمارة جزئين: الجزء الأول تضمن بعض الخصائص الشخصية والاجتماعية والاتصالية والاقتصادية للمبحوثات، والجزء الثاني تضمن اختبار لمستوى معارف المرأة الريفية في بعض مجالات الصناعات الغذائية، وبلغ عدد فقراته 87 فقرة وتم عرضها على الاختصاصيين و الخبراء في مجال الإرشاد الزراعي وعلم النفس التربوي لإبداء ملاحظاتهم المتعلقة بنوع الأسئلة وأسلوب كتابتها ومدى وضوحها ودقة قياسها وملاءمتها لمستوى المبحوثات لتحقيق الصدق الظاهري، كما تم حساب ثبات الاختبار بأستخدام معامل الفاكرونباخ 0.وتم معالجة بيانات البحث إحصائياً باستخدام عدد من الوسائل الإحصائية أهمها: المتوسط الحسابي, النسبة المئوية، معامل ارتباط بيرسون، مربع كاي و الانحراف المعياري. وأوضحت النتائج أن نسبة 78.397% من النساء الريفيات المشمولات بالبحث يمتلكن معلومات متوسطة او منخفضة في في جميع المجالات الزراعية المدروسة. وكان ترتيب مجالات البحث وفقاً لامتلاك المبحوثات للمعارف هي: تربية الاغنام ، تربية الدجاج المنزلي وادارة الحدائق المنزلية و الصناعات الغذائية. كما أوضحت النتائج أن مستوى معارف المرأة الريفية في المجالات الزراعية لايرتبط معنوياً بكل من: العمر والرضا عن الخدمات، والحالة الزوجية والعمل الحالي ، بينما يوجد علاقة ارتباطيه موجبة ومعنوية مع كل من المستوى التعليمي ودرجة استخدام مصادر المعلومات والتدريب السابق .وفي ضوء ما توصلت إليه الدراسة من استنتاجات قُدمت مجموعة من التوصيات أهمها إقامة دورات تدريبية وبرامج تعليمية متخصصة للنساء الريفيات تختص كل منها بواحد من المجالات الزراعية الأربعة المدروسة و بالتنسيق مع المنظمات الاهلية

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والاتحادات النسائية التي تهتم بامور المرأة، وضرورة توفير المرشدات الزراعيات بمنطقة البحث حتى تستفيد منهن النساء الريفيات في كافة النواحي الزراعية والمنزلية والرعاية الاسرية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: مستوى معرفة,المرأة الريفية,مجالات الزراعية.

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