

Contraceptive Knowledge and Usage among women famers' in Yewa Division of Ogun State, Nigeria.

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Abstract

The study assessed contraceptives knowledge and usage among women farmers in Yewa Division of Ogun State. Multistage sampling technique was used to select on hundred and twenty respondents for the study. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used in analyzing the collected data on contraceptives use, information source, awareness and personal characteristics. Most of the women (70.0%) were age between 30-49 years, married (71.7%) having between 6-10 household size. Of all the respondents 82.5% have high level of awareness toward contraceptives. The contraceptive use includes condom, abstinence and pills. There is significant relationship between contraceptive use and age ($r= 0.206$; $P=0.025$) of women farmers in the study area. Women farmers' awareness level was high with low usage of contraceptive. It is therefore recommended that adult literacy programme and sexual education should be encouraged and there should be proper information on the importance of contraceptives.

Key Words: Women, Farmer, Knowledge, Usage, Contraceptives.

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria's fertility rate has remained high; from 6.0 children per women in 1990 it recorded only a minimal drop to 5.7 in 2008 National Population Commission and ORC Macro (2008). Although the use of modern contraceptives is an important factor in controlling fertility through prevention of unintended and unwanted pregnancies, contraceptive use is still very low in sub-Saharan African (SSA), where the level of fertility and unmet need for family planning is high Brou et al (2009).

The World Health Organization (2007) reported that pregnant adolescents aged 15-19 years are twice as likely to die in child birth and those under 15 are five times more likely to die in child birth than women in their twenties and that infant and child mortality is also higher among children born to adolescent mothers. Family planning is a significant aspect of reproductive health that concerns women to a great extent. Family planning is used as a synonym for birth control. It is utilized by couples that wish to limit their number of children, to control the timing of pregnancy (also known as child spacing) or both. The idea about family planning is that couple does have at least one child, i.e. they use birth control to plan, not to prevent a family (WHO, 2006).

According to (Olaitan 2009) family planning is the planning of when to have and use birth techniques to implement such plans. Other techniques commonly used include sexual education, prevention and management of sexually transmitted diseases, pre- conception counseling, management and infertility management. Family planning is a step towards better living and development of individuals' family and the nation. This is also a means of handling one of the twenty-one problems in marriage (Nkwocha and Jossy, 2002).

The demand for family planning is low in Nigeria the 2008 Nigeria Demographic and Health survey reported that majority of married Nigeria women have no intention of ever using modern contraceptives National Population Commission and ORC Macro (2008). There is high level of awareness about contraception but very low level of use have been established in studies in Nigeria Obisesan et al (1998) and Okonofua et al (1999). However evidence from the recent Nigeria demographic and health survey (2008) indicates that only 15 percent of sexually active Nigeria women currently practice effective contraceptive though the figure varies from region to region being higher in the southern part of the country with a prevalence of modern contraceptive use of 12.5% among married women compare to a prevalence rate of 5.3% among married women in the Northern part of the country.

Several reports have associated unwanted pregnancy high fertility rates and high parity with the high material mortality rate (MMR) in Nigeria Etuk and Ekanem (2003). Fortunately, contraception when accepted and used by majority of women in any given community has been shown to reduce unwanted pregnancy, high parity and consequently maternal mortality Abasiattai et al (2008) and Oye-Adeniran et al (2005). In view of all these, this study intends to investigate the knowledge and use of contraceptives among women farmers' in Yewa division of Ogun State, Nigeria.

The general objective of the study is to determine the knowledge and use of contraceptives among women farmers' in Yewa Division of Ogun State, Nigeria.

The specific objectives are to

- i. determine the selected personal characteristics of women farmers in Yewa Division of Ogun State.
- ii. ascertain the contraceptives practices use by women farmers in the study area.
- iii. assess women farmers knowledge towards the use of contraceptives.
- iv. identify women farmers sources of information on contraceptives use.
- v. assess women farmers awareness towards the use of contraceptives.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING

There is no significant relationship between selected personal characteristics of the women farmers and contraceptives usage.

METHODOLOGY

The study area is Yewa Area of Ogun State which comprises Yewa North, Yewa south and Imeko/Afon Local Government Areas. The focus of the study was Yewa North and Imeko Afon due to the nature of the area. The target population comprises women farmers in the two Local government areas. Multistage sampling technique was employed. Yewa North Local government Area is made up of 11wards and four wards were randomly selected for the study. From each wards 15 women farmers were selected through systematic sampling procedure on the basis of household to give a sample size of 60 while Imeko Afon local government made up of 10 wards and four wards were randomly selected. From each wards 15 women farmers were selected through systematic sampling procedure. A total of 120 respondents were selected. The major instrument for the collection of the data was by the use of a well-structured questionnaire which was administered to the respondents (Primary data). Secondary data was by use of journals, internets books, bulletins e.t.c.

The dependent variable for the study is contraceptives usage. This was measured based on three points rating scale on the frequency of usage of the practices. There are always = 3, sometimes = 2 and Never =1. These give mean average of 2.0 Usage was then categorized into high, low, using the mean score.

The independent variables include personal characteristics of respondents, sources of information, awareness and knowledge about contraceptives.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows that majority (70.0%) of the respondents were between the age of 30 and 49 years implying that respondents were still in their productive and reproductive age. It is belief that these age groups are responsive to changes. This findings is in line with Akinbile (2007) who reported that population within this age group are productive energetic and constitutes active work force in any community engagement. The table further reveals that majority (71.7%) of the respondents were married, 10% were widowed and 12.5% were separated. Only 5.8 percent were single. This implies that most of the women farmers are married. This shows that women farmers will have additional responsibilities toward their children and spouses.

The results in table 1 further reveals that (52.5%) of the respondents had no formal education, 9.2% had primary education, 37.5% had secondary education. This implies that half of the respondents had no form education. This finding may have negative effect on the use contraceptives since education is one of important factor in determining farmers' ability to understand and use new technology. Majority (62.6%) of the respondents have household size of 6-10, this implies that large family size overtime may lead to poverty since dependency ratio will be high, Half (52.5%) of the respondents were Christians and (53.3%) of them earned more than N61,000 per annum.

Awareness of contraceptives in the study Area

Table 2 Shows that majority (82.5%) of the respondents were aware that there is contraceptives, while only 17.5% of the respondents claimed they are not aware. This percentage may be single among the women farmers. This finding implies high level of awareness about contraceptives.

Knowledge of Respondents about contraceptives practices

Table 3 shows knowledge of respondents about contraceptives practices. Majority (71.7%) of the respondents understood contraception to mean prevention of sexually transmitted diseases when use condom, 62.5% of the respondents understood contraception to mean prevention of unwanted pregnancy while only 46.7% of the respondents believe it is for child spacing. Half (55.3%) of respondents believe contraceptives use will make a women barren. This finding shows that despite high level of awareness there is still myths and misinformation about contraceptives practices.

Sources of Information to women farmers

The results in Table 4 shows that most important sources of information to women farmers on use of contraceptives is Health centre (80.8%), Radio (71.7%) friends/neighbors (66.7%). The result shows that spouses should be part of information dissemination i.e. spousal communication.

Contraceptives Practices use/adopted by women farmers

Table 5 shows the mean score of contraceptives use. Use of male condom is $x = 2.52$ used by women farmers this is closely followed by withdrawal method $x = 2.20$ and injectable $x = 1.80$, abstinence ($x = 2.42$), pills ($x = 1.80$) while IUD is $x = 0.70$ and Norplant ($x = 0.00$).

Despite the high level of awareness of contraceptives there is low level usage of some of these contraceptives among women farmers. This result implies that women farmers need to be enlightened on the importance of contraceptive usage. However use of male condom, abstinence and pills has high level usage among women farmers based on the mean score. The use of male condom has also been reported from other studies to be the most popular method probably due to the frequent advertisement on the media as regards both family planning and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases Olugbenga Bello et al (2011).

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

The hypothesis was analyzed using the Pearson correlation analysis. Results of the analysis shows significant relationship between contraceptive use with age ($r = 0.206$; $P = 0.05$). The implies that the older the women farmers the more the usage of contraceptives.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study the following conclusions were made; women farmers' awareness level is high, with different knowledge about contraceptives practices and also low usage of contraceptives. The study revealed that age has significant relationship between contraceptive use in view of the findings from this study the following recommendations are made.

- i. There should be proper information on the importance of contraceptive use.
- ii. Interpersonal communication should be encouraged.
- iii. Family planning education should be aggressively disseminated through different medium of communication.
- iv. Health education on importance of use contraceptives should be encouraged among rural dwellers.
- v. Adult literacy and sexual education programme should be encouraged.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents Personal Characteristics

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
20-29	7	5.8
30-49	37	30.8
40-49	47	39.2
Above 50	29	24.1
Marital Status		
Married	7	71.7
Widowed	86	10.0
Separated	15	12.5

Level of education		
No formal education	63	52.5
Primary Education	11	9.2
Secondary Education	45	37.5
Tertiary	1	0.8
House hold Size		
1-5	39	32.5
6-10	75	62.6
≥ 11	6	4.9
Religion		
Christianity	63	52.5
Islam	49	40.2
Traditional	18	15.3
Annual income ₦		
≤ 20,000.00	19	15.5
21,000 - 40,000	13	10.8
41,000 – 60,000	22	18.3
≤ 61,000	66	55.3

Source: Field survey 2014

Table 2 Frequency distribution of women farmers' awareness of contraceptives use

Awareness	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	99	82.5
No	21	17.5
Total	120	100.0

Source: Field survey 2014

Table 3: Frequency distribution of women farmers about knowledge about contraceptives

Knowledge about contraceptive	Frequency	Percentage
Limit family Size	63	52.5
Prevent Sexually transmitted diseases	86	71.7
Prevention of unwanted pregnancy	75	62.6
For child spacing	56	46.7
For making women barren	66	55.3
For mothers health	45	37.5

Source: Field survey 2014
Multiple responses recorded.

Table 4: Frequency distribution of respondents Sources of information

Sources of information	Frequency	Percentage
Friends/ Neighbors	80	66.7
Health Centers	86	71.7
Radio	97	80.8
Television	38	31.7
Bill Board/ Hand bills	30	25.0

Sources Field survey 2014
Multiple responses recorded

Table 5 Frequency distribution of women farmers by contraceptives used/ adopted

Contraceptives Use	Mean Score
Injectable Contraceptive	1.80
Use of male condom	2.52
Abstinence	2.42
Intrauterine device	0.70
Norplant	0.00
Pills	2.10
Withdrawal	2.20

Source Field Survey 2014
Average Mean Score 2.00

Table 6: Pearson's Correlation between selected personal characteristics and level of use of contraceptives

Variables	R value	P value
Age	0.2.6	0.025
Household size	0.176	0.859
Education	0.056	0.603
Annual Income	0.008	0.559

Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level/ 2 tailed.

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