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Knowledge dissemination by faculties of veterinary science in Maharashtra State

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Abstract

Through workshops, field days, farmer-scientist meetings, media campaigns, and other events, veterinary faculty members engage in teaching, research, and extension activities such as transferring developed technology, offering technical advice, and promoting animal health and husbandry practices to farmers and rural communities. The current study assesses the knowledge dissipation by the veterinary science faculties in Maharashtra State using data from 2010–11 to 2023–24. According to the study, Maharashtra's veterinary science academicians have effectively disseminated their knowledge by holding 705 seminars, workshops, and conferences; 473 scientific trainings for field veterinarians, scientists, and academic officers; 797 short-term trainings for farmers, small business owners, and unemployed youth; and 1957 expert talks on radio and television between 2010–11 and 2023–24.

Keywords: Knowledge, veterinary science, knowledge, dissemination, productivity

Introduction

The Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University (MAFSU), Nagpur is a state-level university with six constitutional colleges of veterinary science: Nagpur Veterinary College (NVC), Nagpur; Mumbai Veterinary College (MVC), Mumbai; College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (COVAS), Parbhani; College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (COVAS), Udgir; Krantisinha Nana Patil College of Veterinary Science (KNPCVS), Shirval; and College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (COVAS), Akola. The University administers the undergraduate (B.V.Sc. & A. H.), master's (M.V.Sc.), and doctoral programs under the faculty of veterinary science through its component Veterinary Colleges. A year of required internship training plus four and a half years of classroom study make up the five and a half-year professional degree program in B.V.Sc. and A.H. The VCI Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education (MSVE) 2016 are adhered to by the university. For I, II, and III professional years, this system requires at least 210 days of instruction, excluding yearly exams; for IV professional years, it requires 315 days. Training for the internship will take twelve months. Those who are admitted into the B.V.Sc. and A.H. programs must complete the necessary internship training program.

While research is the extremely careful, perceptive, and diligent study or investigation of phenomena, particularly to find and uncover new knowledge, information, and facts, productivity is concerned with production or output, generated within a certain time frame. Research productivity in higher education, according to Kpolovie and Dorgu

(2019) ^[2], is an index that best captures the presentation of research papers in conference proceedings that are crucial references to and acknowledgments of other scientists' publications in widely accessible papers and books, as well as the publication of research papers in professional journals as journal articles, book chapters, or books. at a similar vein, Sunday *et al.* (2022) ^[6] investigated how institutional factors affected academic staff members' research production at Nigerian institutions. The productivity of 398 academics and researchers from institutions affiliated with Vietnam National University, Hanoi (VNU) was studied by Nguyen ^[3] *et al.* in 2022. Fulari (2021) ^[1] examined the research output of the faculty at Arts and Commerce College, Taharabad, which is affiliated with SPP University, Pune, using surveys, interviews, and observations. Pal and Sarkar (2020) ^[4] conducted a comprehensive analysis of the literature on research productivity in scientific institutions, including departments and universities, using an informational paradigm. The authors concluded that the essential concept in the socialization of science is the publication of research findings, which enables researchers to exchange ideas and receive reliable critical feedback on their work. Sawai and Chavhan (2019) ^[5] investigated the research output of LIS professionals between 2004 and 2013 using questionnaires, interviews, observations, and their curriculum vitae.

To carry out MAFSU Nagpur's mission, the academic staff of these veterinary colleges engages in teaching, research, and extension activities. A crucial component of any research project is disseminating the findings or knowledge acquired from research outputs for the benefit of

stakeholders. Through workshops, field days, farmer-scientist meetings, media campaigns, and other events, extension efforts convey new technologies, offer technical assistance, and promote animal health and husbandry practices to farmers and rural communities. In order to increase livestock productivity and welfare, it also entails finding and transmitting cutting-edge technology from scientists and academic staff to the final users, such as farmers, through field functionaries. This is done by doing research on practical issues that farmers encounter in order to discover answers. The Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University Nagpur is heavily involved in educating stakeholders, farmers, and small business owners about research findings. Since the fundamental component of academic production is the efficient use of knowledge and research output, the study was carried out to determine how veterinary faculty members communicate knowledge for the benefit of stakeholders.

Methodology

The data regarding dissemination of knowledge to the ultimate users through extension activities were collected from the annual reports of Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur for the period of 2010-11 to 2023-24.

Results and Discussions

Dissemination of research by organizing conferences/seminars / workshops

The scientific societies of various veterinary faculty disciplines host conferences and seminars where research outputs are discussed and presented. The government and policy makers receive recommendations based on these discussions for use in the future. Scientists and researchers participate in workshops to share innovative methods and approaches created by the organizers for future usage.

Table 1: Conference / Seminars / Workshops organized by academic staff of Veterinary Science

Sr. No.	Year	NVC Nagpur	MVC Mumbai	COVAS Parbhani	COVAS Udgir	KNPCVS Shirval	COVAS Akola	Total	%	Cumulative %
1	2010-11	5	12	1	1	12	7	38	5.39	5.39
2	2011-12	3	7	3	0	7	0	20	2.84	8.23
3	2012-13	2	1	5	0	24	5	37	5.25	13.48
4	2013-14	1	4	0	1	9	4	19	2.70	16.17
5	2014-15	4	6	1	1	14	5	31	4.40	20.57
6	2015-16	4	2	0	7	5	3	21	2.98	23.55
7	2016-17	2	4	0	3	5	3	17	2.41	25.96
8	2017-18	5	6	5	7	4	3	30	4.26	30.21
9	2018-19	1	13	7	7	5	3	36	5.11	35.32
10	2019-20	9	14	3	12	10	10	58	8.23	43.55
11	2020-21	17	5	29	14	33	12	110	15.60	59.15
12	2021-22	17	15	14	20	26	29	121	17.16	76.31
13	2022-23	34	7	6	10	38	25	120	17.02	93.33
14	2023-24	6	18	2	8	9	4	47	6.67	100.00
Total		110	114	76	91	201	113	705	100.0	
%		15.60	16.17	10.78	12.91	28.51	16.03			
Cumulative%		15.6	31.77	42.55	55.46	83.97	100.00			

According to Table 1, the college of veterinary science personnel has successfully arranged 705 conferences, seminars, and workshops to share research findings with scientific communities.

KNPCVS, Shirval has organized 28.51% of the 705 conferences, seminars, and workshops, followed by MVC, Mumbai (16.17%), COVAS Akola (16.03%), NVC Nagpur (15.60%), and COVAS Udgir (12.91%). From 2010–11 to 2019–20, the number of conferences, seminars, and workshops that the veterinary faculty conducted varied from a minimum of 17 (2016–17) to a maximum of 58 (2019–20). However, with the start of the COVID-19 epidemic in 2020–2021, the number of conferences, seminars, and workshops has significantly increased. This might be because every conference, seminar, and workshop was conducted virtually. It was intriguing to note that the veterinary faculty held 110, 121, and 120 conferences, seminars, and workshops in 2020–2021, 2021–2022, and 2022–2023, demonstrating the staff's exceptional production even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Data by college likewise showed the same trend. Additionally, there were more seminars and workshops than conferences because the recognized societies of the several veterinary faculty subjects often organize conferences in single digits.

Dissemination of research by organizing scientific trainings for field Veterinarians/ Scientists/ academic officers

Table 2 displays information on scientific training programs for academic officers, scientists, and field veterinarians that are arranged by veterinary college faculty.

A total of 473 scientific trainings were delivered by the faculty of different veterinary colleges between 2010–11 and 2023–24, according to the statistics (table 2). A total of 150 trainings (31.71%) have been done by MVC Mumbai, followed by NVC Nagpur (89 Nos. & 18.82%), COVAS Parbhani (66 Nos. & 13.95%), COVAS Akola (64 Nos. & 13.53%), and COVAS Udgir and KNPCVS, Shirval (52 Nos. & 10.99%). The number of trainings for field veterinarians, scientists, and academic officials varied from 11 (2013–14) to 57 (2022–23), according to data on total trainings completed on an annual basis.

In order to improve animal welfare, it is crucial that field veterinarians, scientists, and academic officers receive scientific training. In order for scientists and researchers to use newly discovered laboratory techniques in their research, they should receive hands-on training.

Table 2: Scientific trainings for field Veterinarians/ Scientists/ academic officers organized by academic staff of Veterinary colleges under faculty of Veterinary science

Sr. No.	Year	NVC Nagpur	MVC Mumbai	COVAS Parbhani	COVAS Udgir	KNPCVS Shirval	COVAS Akola	Total	%	Cumulative %
1	2010-11	15	5	0	10	8	10	48	10.15	10.15
2	2011-12	3	9	9	5	4	14	44	9.30	19.45
3	2012-13	5	2	12	0	2	0	21	4.44	23.89
4	2013-14	6	4	1	0	0	0	11	2.33	26.22
5	2014-15	12	12	2	3	4	0	33	6.98	33.19
6	2015-16	5	26	3	4	5	5	48	10.15	43.34
7	2016-17	4	19	0	5	3	3	34	7.19	50.53
8	2017-18	3	3	5	6	5	1	23	4.86	55.39
9	2018-19	2	14	3	5	4	0	28	5.92	61.31
10	2019-20	10	9	0	0	0	8	27	5.71	67.02
11	2020-21	2	4	12	0	0	5	23	4.86	71.88
12	2021-22	11	5	9	4	8	10	47	9.94	81.82
13	2022-23	7	20	10	5	8	7	57	12.05	93.87
14	2023-24	4	18	0	5	1	1	29	6.13	100.00
Total		89	150	66	52	52	64	473		
%		18.82	31.71	13.95	10.99	10.99	13.53			
Cumulative%		18.82	50.53	64.49	75.48	86.47	100.00			

Dissemination of knowledge by delivering scientific talk on radio and television

The Table 3 presents information on how academic staff in veterinary science disseminates knowledge by giving scientific talks on radio and television. Television and radio are crucial media for spreading the skills and knowledge created by any institution. These media have been widely used by the MAFSU, Nagpur faculty of veterinary science. Table 3 showed that between 2010–11 and 2022–2023, the veterinary faculty staff gave a total of 1957 expert talks on

radio and television. With the exception of the years 2016–17 and 2023–24, when only 95 speeches each were given, the veterinary faculty staff's annual radio and television appearances ranged from 113 to 192. Regarding veterinary faculty colleges, KNPCVS Shirval has produced the most talks (636 talks), followed by MVC Mumbai (423 talks), COVAS Akola (358 talks), NVC Nagpur (234 talks), COVAS Parbhani (193 talks), and COVAS Udgir (113 talks).

Table 3: Scientific talk delivered on radio and television by academic staff of Veterinary Science

Sr. No.	Year	NVC Nagpur	MVC Mumbai	COVAS Parbhani	COVAS Udgir	KNPCVS Shirval	COVAS Akola	Total	%	Cumulative %
1	2010-11	6	47	7	15	66	51	192	9.81	9.81
2	2011-12	10	22	15	5	50	30	132	6.75	16.56
3	2012-13	10	58	15	0	32	25	140	7.15	23.71
4	2013-14	22	75	38	0	26	10	171	8.74	32.45
5	2014-15	22	29	7	5	35	15	113	5.77	38.22
6	2015-16	22	37	7	2	76	24	168	8.58	46.81
7	2016-17	21	18	7	1	33	15	95	4.85	51.66
8	2017-18	9	45	14	10	64	17	159	8.12	59.78
9	2018-19	35	18	11	7	58	15	144	7.36	67.14
10	2019-20	13	12	18	4	80	25	152	7.77	74.91
11	2020-21	11	3	14	33	50	38	149	7.61	82.52
12	2021-22	18	15	3	10	34	41	121	6.18	88.71
13	2022-23	15	31	26	12	17	25	126	6.44	95.14
14	2023-24	20	13	11	9	15	27	95	4.85	100.00
Total		234	423	193	113	636	358	1957		
%		11.96	21.61	9.86	5.77	32.50	18.29			
Cumulative%		11.96	33.57	43.44	49.21	81.71	100.00			

Dissemination of research to benefit farmers/ unemployed youths/ small entrepreneurs by organizing short term trainings

Table 4 lists the number of short-term training sessions that the faculty of veterinary science at MAFSU, Nagpur has arranged to educate farmers, young people without jobs, and small business owners.

According to Table 4, between 2010–11 and 2023–24, the Veterinary Faculty staff performed 797 short-term trainings. The number of trainings organized by the faculty of

veterinary science staff ranged from 36 to 85 between 2010–11 and 2023–24. The lowest number of trainings (36 Nos.) was held in 2011–12, while the highest number (85 Nos.) was held in 2016–17. According to data broken down by college, the NVC Nagpur staff has conducted 182 more trainings than other colleges with a veterinary faculty. COVAS Akola, NVC Nagpur, MVC Mumbai (139 Nos.), KNPCVS Shirval (138 Nos.), COVAS Udgir (105 Nos.), and COVAS Parbhani (77 Nos.) have all completed 156 short-term trainings. According to the percentage

distribution of short-term training programs offered by various veterinary colleges, NVC Nagpur has performed 22.84% of all training programs for veterinary teaching staff. During the study period, COVAS Parbhani has only

held 9.66% of trainings. COVAs Akola has contributed 19.57% of all short-term trainings conducted by the Veterinary Science faculty, second only to NVC Nagpur.

Table 4: Short term trainings organized for farmers/unemployed youths / small entrepreneurs by academic staff of Veterinary Science

Sr. No.	Year	NVC Nagpur	MVC Mumbai	COVAS Parbhani	COVAS Udgir	KNPCVS Shirval	COVAS Akola	Total	%	Cumu-lative %
1	2010-11	6	10	0	18	13	5	52	6.52	6.52
2	2011-12	10	2	2	1	7	14	36	4.52	11.04
3	2012-13	12	10	1	1	18	3	45	5.65	16.68
4	2013-14	9	6	5	8	7	22	57	7.15	23.83
5	2014-15	9	11	0	3	8	22	53	6.65	30.48
6	2015-16	17	18	6	3	11	12	67	8.41	38.89
7	2016-17	22	15	1	12	17	18	85	10.66	49.56
8	2017-18	26	10	3	3	8	5	55	6.90	56.46
9	2018-19	16	14	2	5	5	9	51	6.40	62.86
10	2019-20	13	11	8	5	12	9	58	7.28	70.13
11	2020-21	2	5	13	18	8	14	60	7.53	77.66
12	2021-22	7	9	22	11	8	8	65	8.16	85.82
13	2022-23	17	9	6	8	8	10	58	7.28	93.09
14	2023-24	16	9	8	9	8	5	55	6.90	100.00
Total		182	139	77	105	138	156	797		
%		22.84	17.44	9.66	13.17	17.31	19.57			
Cumulative%		22.84	40.28	49.94	63.12	80.43	100.00			

The findings indicate that the personnel associated with the Veterinary Science faculty in Maharashtra have effectively orchestrated 705 seminars and workshops, alongside several conferences; 473 scientific training sessions for field veterinarians, scientists, and academic officials; 797 short-term training programs for farmers, small business owners, and unemployed youth; and 1957 expert discussions on radio and television from 2010-11 to 2023-24, aimed at disseminating knowledge among stakeholders, farmers, and small entrepreneurs.

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