

Indicator Report

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Women's Contribution to Agricultural Activities and Holding of Land and Animals

Women especially in rural areas, contribute in agricultural activity. However, It has been found that a small percentage of women in these areas own plots of land. This is due to habits and traditions which are widespread in these areas. Moreover, despite the numerous social changes the Jordanian community has encountered, women are still in danger of being deprived of their proper ownership in comparison to men. Changes in Jordan such as the improvement of women's status and the rise in land and property prices played a significant role in bringing about crucial and effective changes on the widespread traditions of inheritance. As a result, women have begun to liberate themselves from those traditions, particularly those related to their rights under legitimate inheritance.

The findings of the agricultural census of 1997 demonstrates that females make up a small percentage of the total agricultural plot owners (2.7 percent), while males constituted the great majority of agriculture plot owners (97.3 percent).

Table 6.1 shows the relative distribution for owners of agricultural holdings according to sex and land size. Data indicates that forty percent of female owners own plots less than five dunoms, while 28% of the males own plots of that size. Less than one tenth (1/10) of female owners own plots of 50 dunoms or more compared to 17% of the males.

Table 6.1: Percentage Distribution of Agricultural Landowners by Land Area and Sex, 1997

Land Area (dunoms)	Sex	
	Male	Female
1-2	9.0	14.1
2-5	18.6	25.9
5-10	15.2	17.1
10-20	19.9	18.7
20-30	10.3	7.8
30-40	5.9	4.2
40-50	3.9	2.9
50-100	9.2	6.0
100-200	4.6	2.1
200+	3.4	1.2
Total	100.0 (69841)	100.0 (1940)

Source: Department of Statistics "Agricultural Census, 1979", 1997.

While ownership of agricultural plots affords females with the opportunity to control economic resources and ensure a fixed source of income, the sizes of plots they frequently own are small and more likely to be split up and sold to

males, leading to a decrease in the amount of their ownership. This is most prevalent in rural areas, where women are denied the freedom to dispose of their own property under such justifications as preserving the collective property of the family or fear that their ownership will be transferred to their husbands. This situation puts women who supposedly own property in the same boat as women who do not.

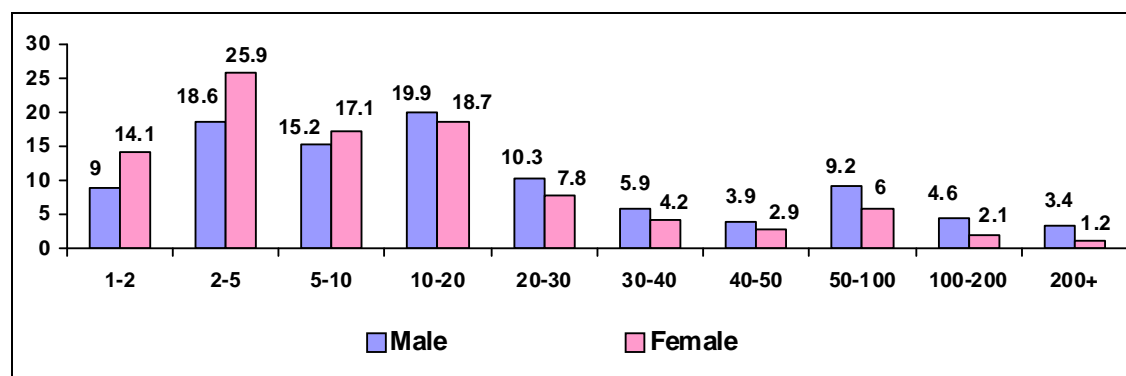


Figure 6.1: Percentage Distribution of Agricultural Landowners by Land Area and Sex, 1997

Source: Department of Statistics "Agricultural Census, 1979", 1997.

Table 6.2 shows the ratio of agricultural plot owners according to sex and plot size. Data clarifies that male ownership dominates all the plot size categories, while females make up a small percentage of agricultural plot owners. The ratio of female owners ranges from 0.9 percent of the total agricultural plot owners for plots of 200 dunoms and above to 4.2% for plots of one to two dunoms.

Table 6.2: Percentage Distribution of Agricultural Landowners by Land Area and Sex, 1997

Land Area (dunoms)	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
1-2	95.8	4.2	100.0
2-5	96.3	3.7	100.0
5-10	97.0	3.0	100.0
10-20	97.5	2.5	100.0
20-30	98.0	2.0	100.0
30-40	98.0	2.0	100.0
40-50	97.9	2.1	100.0
50-100	98.2	1.8	100.0
100-200	98.7	1.3	100.0
200+	99.1	0.9	100.0
Total	97.3	2.7	100.0
	(69841)	(1940)	(71781)

Source: Department of Statistics "Agricultural Census, 1979", 1997.

Woman and Livestock Ownership

Data obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture indicates that males outnumber females in livestock ownership (97.5 % for males compared to 2.5 % for females).

Table 6.3 shows the percentage distribution of livestock owners by sex and Governorate. Data indicates that female owners are significantly low compared to male owners in all Governorates. The average rate for males range from 92.8. % in Ajloun Governorate to 99.3.% in Zarqa and Madaba Governorate.

Table 6.3: Percentage Distribution of Livestock Owners by Governorate and Sex, 2005

Governorate	Livestock Ownership by Sex	
	Male	Female
Amman	97.2	2.8
Balqa	98.2	1.8
Zarqa	99.3	0.7
Madaba	99.3	0.7
Irbid	97.6	2.4
Ma'raq	99.0	1.0
Jerash	98.0	2.0
Ajloun	92.8	7.2
Karak	94.3	5.7
Tafila	97.5	2.5
Ma'an	95.6	4.4
Aqaba	97.2	2.8
Total	97.5	2.5

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, 2005

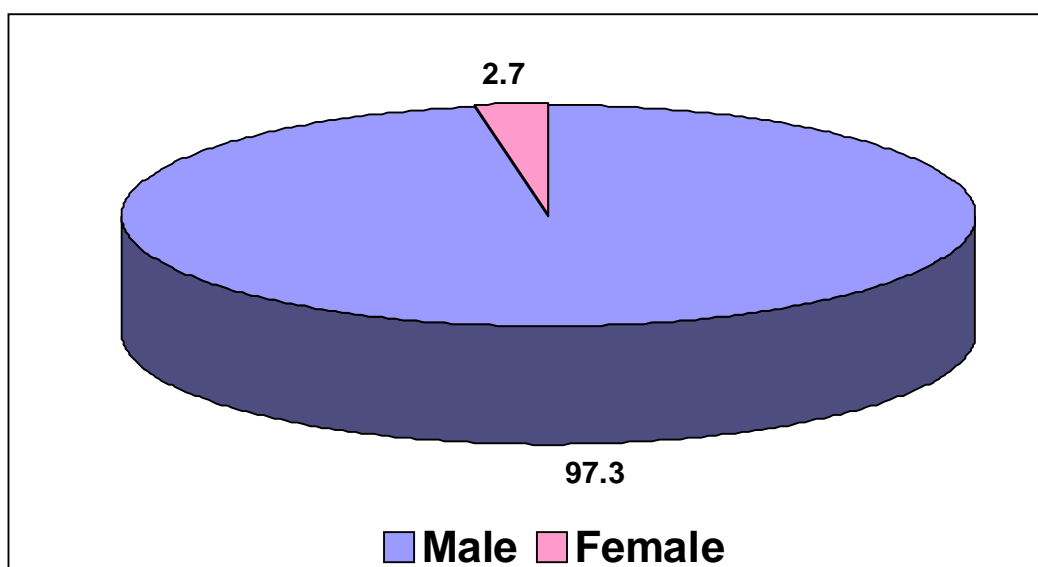


Figure 6.2: Percentage Distribution of Livestock Owners by Sex, 2005

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, 2005

Loan Accessibility

Income generating projects are considered among the main tools to assist women's economic status, particularly in rural areas. However, women's lack of acquisition of the tools of production and lack of regular income preclude their utilization of services provided by financial institutions, which link funding to traditional guarantees.

Data from the Agricultural Credit Corporation ACC (an institution that helps, support, develop and improve agriculture as well as increasing production both qualitatively and quantitatively. In addition, ACC seeks to help increase living standards of farmers by means of credit programs especially those targeting certain community members and groups. Such programs include loans of several types, terms and aims; they are rendered in accordance with laws and by-laws ruling over the Corporation mandate), shows that male farmers benefit more from loans. For example, the number of female farmers who benefited from loans were 35.4% in 2004 compared to 64.6 for male farmers and this number dropped to 30.3% for female farmers in year 2006. Furthermore, female farmers obtained 25.8 of the total loans granted in 2004 and this amount dropped to 22.2% in year 2006(Tables 6.4 and 6.5). It may be useful to note that the emergence of small loans programmes funded by Non-Governmental Organizations NGO's who perform the same task were the main reason for the this reduction.

Table 6.4: Percentage Distribution of Borrowers by Sex, 2004-2005

Years	Sex of Borrowers		
	Total	Male Farmers	Female Farmers
2004	100	64.6	35.4
2005	100	68.7	31.3
*2006	100	69.7	30.3

Source: Agricultural Credit Corporation, 2004-2006

Table 6.5: Percentage Distribution of Granted Loans by Sex, 2004-2006

Years	Population by Sex		
	Total	Male Farmers	Female Farmers
2004	100	74.2	25.8
2005	100	76.2	23.8
*2006	100	77.8	22.2

Source: Agricultural Credit Corporation, 2004-2006

Availability of Public Amenities and Durables

Public amenities in Jordan developed markedly in the final decades of the past century. Table 2.20 illustrates that the majority of households who rely on Public water network as the main source for drinking has dropped from 92.93% to 82.4%. This substantial decrease is due to the drop in the quality of water.

For example, The percentage of non-conforming samples (the germs wise) was 2.1%. However this percentage dropped to 0.76% in year 2004, which indicates the existence of control and follow up on the quality of used water. It is noted also that attention is paid to the chemical features of water more than the physical features. Laboratory results have shown that most of the contradicting samples are concerning physical features of water such as color, turbidity and total water hardness.

Table 2.20: Percentage Distribution of Private Households by Availability of Public Amenities 1994, 2000, 2004

Availability of Public Amenities	Years		
	1994	2000	2004
Public water network.	92.93	88.7	82.4
Sewage Network	49.0	52.3	57.3
Public electricity network	97.4	98.4	99.0

Source: 1994 & 2004 Censuses

Furthermore, data in **Table 2.20** shows that almost all households (99%) used public electricity and only 57.3% of household are connected to the sewage network.

Regarding the possession of durable goods, the recent years have witnessed rises in the ratios of households owning relatively-new commodities, such as air condition, cellular phones, satellite receivers, computers and connection to internet against decreases in the ownership of some traditional commodities, such as the connection to the ground telephone network. Data in Table 2.21 illustrates these results.

The change in the traditional and new durables that a Jordanian family owns is attributable to the fact that as income increase, households tend to expand their consumption on non—primary commodities, having covered their basic needs at lower levels of income. This is a natural trend witnessed by all the societies during the various stages of their growth and development.

Table 2.21: Percentage Distribution of Private Households by Availability of Public Amenities 2002-2006

Household durables	Year	
	2002	2006
Private car	35.9	37.1
Ground telephone network	62	46
Cellular phone	36.8	84.1
Air condition	4.9	6.4
Refrigerator	93.1	97.1
Washing machine	95.1	97
Satellite dish	37.7	76.2
Internet	4.5	6.5
Computer (PC)	14.7	32.2

Source: Households Expenditure and Income Survey 2002-2006