GENDER ROLES IN THE FOOD SAFETY IMPLEMENTATION IN FISH PROCESSING TECHNOLOGY

GAF7

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- World Health Organization is promoting efforts to improve food safety, from farm to plate and everywhere in between, on WH Day, 2015, "From farm to plate, make food safe"
- In the Philippines, women form a large part in agricultural workforce and are involved in the preparation, processing and marketing of agricultural commodities (Gaerlan et al. 2012)

- Bohol Aqua Marine Development Corporation (BAMDECOR)
 - one of the Hazard Analysis
 Control Critical Point (HACCP)
 accredited industry workers
 - observed good manufacturing practices (GMP) to ensure food safety

• Porter, 2012

- Food safety should be applied to fish processing industries producing chilled deboned milkfish and dried fish
- In processing, salting through brining is the preparatory step in fish handling and drying
- Further, it was emphasized that men
 dominated in harvesting sector of fisheries,
 while, women are usually the majority workers
 in fisheries services and post harvest sectors

CTU researchers - extensionists collaboration with the DTI, Cebu Province conducted a training on fish processing particularly salted and bottled fishery products integrating the patented method of using low temperature pretreatment with coconut water with the two cooperatives in Bantayan Island, Cebu with the emphasis of GMP and HACCP as a basis for gender roles on food safety.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the study was to determine the gender roles in the food safety implementation in fish processing technology.

METHODOLOGY

Descriptive method of research using survey questionnaire on implementation of GMP and HACCP in fish processing technology integrating the research technology output of coconut brine solution in chilled condition application of salted fish and bottled sardines.

METHODOLOGY

- A modified questionnaire was prepared based on one developed by Lolita V. Villareal and Jeremy M. Turner (Villareal and Turner, 2014)
- Research subjects were the fish processors from Poblacion, Sta. Fe Cooperatives (POSTAFE) and Madridejos Fish and Food Processing Association (MAFFA)
- Administered by the CTU researchers to the two trained groups
- Data gathered were subjected to descriptive statistics particularly percentage, range and weighted mean

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

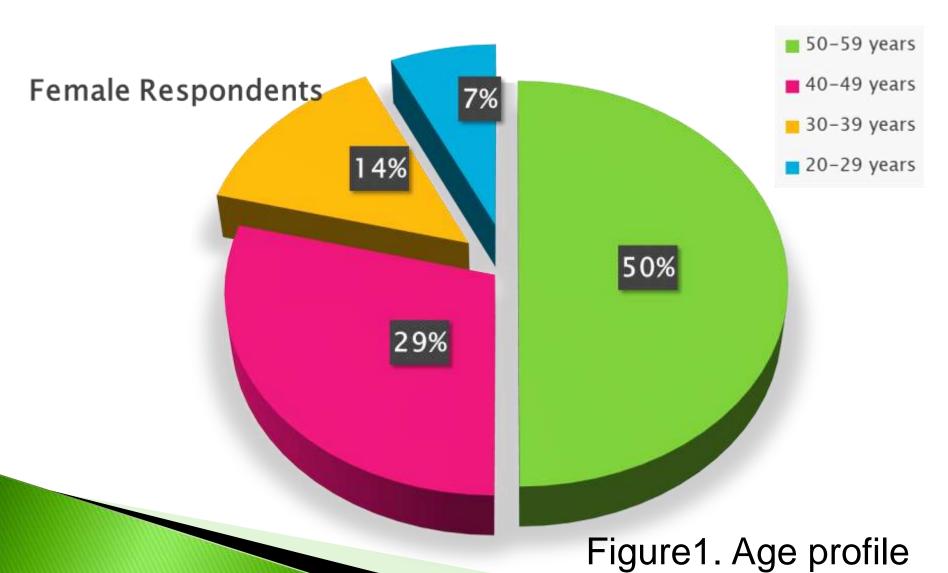
Respondents Background

| Gender | Percentage | | |
|--------|------------|--|--|
| Men | 7% | | |
| Women | 93% | | |
| Total | 100% | | |

Table 1. Gender profile

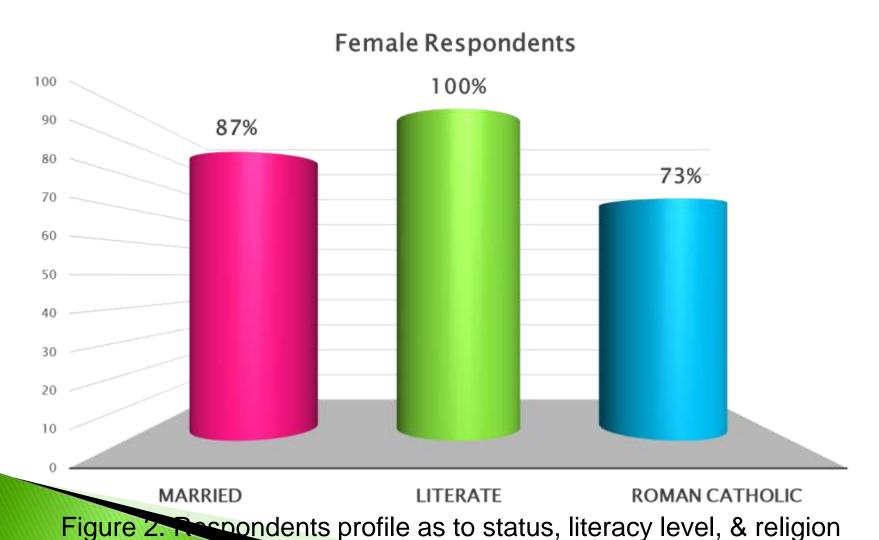
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Respondents Background



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Respondents Background



| Work/Occupation | Main | | Subsidiary | |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|------------|---------|
| | No. Women | No. Men | No.Women | No. Men |
| Fish Processing | 20 | 0 | 8 | 2 |
| Fish/Food Marketing | 8 | 2 | 16 | 0 |
| Food Catering | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Total | 28 | 2 | 28 | 2 |

Table 2. The main and subsidiary work/occupation of the men and women in fish processing.

Men Women Preparation of Fish as Raw Materials for Processing Port fish samplers Select and buy the fresh fish from the fishermen Chill the fish using chilled brine solution Select and buy the fresh fish from the fishermen Chill the fish using chilled brine solution Proper fish handling and delivery to processing Proper fish handling and delivery to processing area area Observing GMP practices, ie proper personal hygiene and sanitation Pre-treatment of fish using chilled coconut water based brine solution below 5 degrees Celsius Cutting the fish into jar sizes Cleaning the fish by removing the gills and **Processing** internal organs and washing with chilled coconut Loading the bottled fish into the pressure cooker water based brine solution Exhausting, venting and processing of bottled fish Packing the brined fish into the preserving jars for 90 minutes at 240 degrees Fahrenheit and steaming for 30 minutes Observing the constant temperature for the within Preparing the sauce and adding into the steamed the required processing time fish in jars Complete sealing and cooling of bottled products at Loading the bottled fish into the cooker ready for room temperature processing Marketing the finished bottled products.

Table 3. The roles of women and men in food safety implementation in fish processing.



Figure 3. Men and women in the food safety implementation of fish processing industry in the provinces of Cebu-Bohol, Philippines

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- Women dominated the post-harvest processing of salted and bottled fish products of the two identified fish associations.
- Both women and men were actively engaged in the implementation of food safety during the fish processing.
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation in the integration of GMP and HACCP in fish processing industry in order to ensure safe processed foods are recommended.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Thank you for listening