



Mobilizing Women Farmers Against Pesticide Risks: An Action Research on Community Health and Rights in Kenya

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Abstract

Pesticide use in agricultural settings poses significant health risks to women farmers in Kenya, particularly affecting their reproductive health and community well-being. Action research methodology was employed, involving interviews, focus group discussions, and surveys conducted among Kenyan women farmers to understand their experiences with pesticides and identify strategies for collective action. Women farmers reported a 70% increase in health issues related to pesticide exposure compared to pre-implementation levels. Community health screenings revealed higher rates of reproductive disorders among women farming in high-risk areas. Empowering women farmers through collective advocacy significantly reduced their vulnerability to pesticide risks, leading to improved community health and rights recognition. Policy makers should prioritise training programmes for women farmers on sustainable agricultural practices that minimise pesticide use. Community-based health initiatives are essential in addressing the pervasive pesticide-related health issues. women farmers, pesticide risk, participatory action research, reproductive health, community advocacy

Keywords: *African geography, feminist anthropology, community mobilization, participatory action research, public health activism, environmental justice, reproductive rights*

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