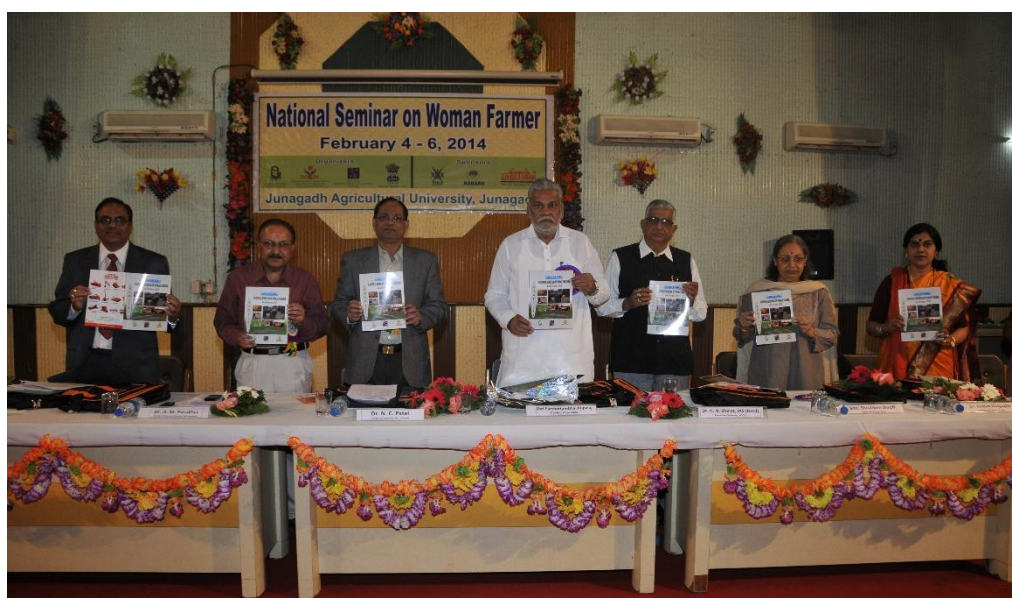


National Seminar on
WOMAN FARMER

NSWF-2014

February 4-6, 2014

RECOMMENDATIONS



ORGANIZED BY



**Junagadh
Agricultural
University,
Junagadh,
(Gujarat)**



**Vigyan Prasar,
Department of
Science and
Technology, NOIDA
(UP)**



**National Council for
Climate Change,
Sustainable Development
and Public Leadership,
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Professor & Head, FMP, CAET, JAU,
Junagadh

Organizing Secretary

Dr. N. K. Gontia,
Principal and Dean, C.A.E.T., JAU, Junagadh



**Address by Shri Parshottam Bhai Rupala,
Hon'ble Member, Rajya Sabha, Gujarat**



**Address by Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice
Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh**



**Address by Dr. K. N. Shelat , Executive
Chairman, NCCSD & Former Principal
Secretary, GoG**



**Address by Dr. N. K. Gontia, Principal
and Dean, CAET, JAU, Junagadh**



Inaugural function





Theme paper presentations



Theme paper presentations



Valedictory Function

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON WOMAN FARMER

Women are playing significant and crucial role in agriculture and allied activities including crop production, livestock production, horticulture, post-harvest operations, agro-forestry, fisheries, etc. It is estimated that women are responsible for 70% of actual farm work and constitute 60% of the farming population. Over the years, women cultivators are typically characterized as economically inactive and they play only a supportive role in agriculture as farmers' wives.

Country appreciates the contribution of rural women in enhancing quality of life especially through rural and agricultural economies in many ways. Women in India constituting the good percentage of agricultural labour-force, women's contributory role in food production, processing and eventual export of agricultural products cannot be underestimated. To increase agricultural production, processing, marketing and generate livelihood opportunities, it is necessary to trained women farmers to use traditional and modern ICT tools to improve their working efficiency.

Despite the significant role of women in farming, they lack in access to technology and credit covers and above all face social problems due to illiteracy and social structure. However, there is need to focus on woman farmers with view to: (i) identify their needs and ability, (ii) identify already available tools and equipment which suit their needs and can increase efficiency, (iii) conduct research in this field (iv) develop special communication module and (v) capacity Building. In the three days seminar and Capacity Building Training the presentations were made by invited experts in the field of Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Home science, Finance, Manufacturing person, Scientists and Designers working in the field.

INAUGURAL SESSION

Dr. N. K. Gontia, Principal and Dean, College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, welcomed the dignitaries, invitees, women farmers and the delegates of the seminar.

Dr. K. N. Shelat, Executive Chairman, NCCSD & Former Principal Secretary, GoG explained that the "National Seminar on Woman Farmer" shall provide an opportunity to

bring together the Scientific community, policy makers, development agencies and women farmers on a common platform to discuss all dimensions of changing scenario.

Shri Parshottam Bhai Rupala, Hon'ble Member, Rajya Sabha, Gujarat State gave his remark on the role of rural women in Animal Husbandry as women participation. Trained rural women should form a mandatory component for all agencies engaged in rural development. Government and NGOs should be motivated to support activities of women organization for development of livestock entrepreneurship. Region specific suitable training methods should be evolved to train women farmers. Women trainer's training programme could be devised and geared to fully integrate to serve specific need and interest of women in animal agriculture.

Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, explained the role of women in agriculture and allied activities including crop production, livestock production, horticulture, post harvest operations, agro-forestry, fisheries, etc. It is estimated that women are responsible for 70% of actual farm work and constitute 60% of the farming population. Over the years, women cultivators are typically characterized as economically inactive and they play only a supportive role in agriculture as farmers' wives. The use of traditional and modern ICT tools by women farmers may prove successful in the rural areas and can help in increased agricultural production, processing, marketing and livelihood opportunities.

Dr. R. A. Gupta, Professor and Head, Department of Farm Machinery and Power, College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, JAU, Junagadh proposed a vote of thanks to one and all for the success of the seminar.

Plenary Session – I

In this session four informative theme papers were presented by the key note speakers.

Ms. Shruti Shroff, Managing Trustee, Shroff foundation made a very comprehensive, interesting and eye-opening presentation about the various wonderful activities being undertaken by Shroff foundation trust.

Dr. L. P. Gite, Project Coordinator, AICRP on Ergonomics, CIAE (ICAR), Bhopal, gave an excellent presentation along with some very nice photographs of various women friendly equipments used in different agricultural operations. He pointed out that the lack of

anthropometric and strength data of women is the main constraint for women friendly tools / implements developed. Dr. Gite also briefed the house regarding the various technologies developed by CIAE, Bhopal.

Er. Anuj Sinha, Former Director, Vigyan Prasar delivered his expert address on empowering women farmers. The speech covered several important aspects of woman farmers. Prominent issues addressed were rights of women headed households, inheritance and ownership of land, representation in local bodies and quality of life. He advocated one strategy i.e. one social worker and one agricultural engineer (at least one girl) for independent impact assessment.

Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice chancellor, JAU in his key note address gave a very picturesque presentation on various tools / equipments used in agriculture, horticulture, gardening, forestry, animal husbandry and fisheries. Also, he elaborated about the vital role JAU has been playing for women farmer empowerment through training and vocational programmes.

Several important recommendations emerged out in the session.

During interaction in the house, Dr. Ravikala, Assoc. Prof. (A.H.) asked about the disparity in wages of male and female workers and child labour issue. One farmer asked about upgradation of women in tribal area. A women farmer from Talala raised the point of discrepancies in payment. Dr. N. D. Bharad, Assoc. Director, Extension Education, JAU also endorsed her view point.

At the end, Hon'ble VC, JAU, Junagadh, Dr. N. C. Patel resolved:

- The Shroff Foundation Trust is carrying out excellent work for women farmers in the tribal belt of Chhota Udaipur.
- Manufacturers should be encouraged to fabricate women friendly tools / equipments.
- Women should be informed about the new technology.
- Efforts are needed for availability of equipments at village level.
- Training programmes should be designed for women with special reference to reduction in drudgery, more income generation and finalize the policies for better quality of life.
- At the end of session the Chairman of the session Dr. N. C. Patel thanked the co-chairman, rapporteurs, experts and all the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The seminar was subdivided into various technical sessions as below:

Technical Session-1: Concurrent Session – I

Theme:-

- Local action / knowledge Networks/ coalitions: Successes & Information and capacity building needs.
- ICT / IES / extension service: Emerging tools, Technical and Challenges
- Public policy measures to mainstream agriculture as integrated mitigation and adaption tool.

Technical Session-1:

Concurrent Session – II Discussion with farmers & Group Formation

Plenary Session – II

Technical Session-2: Concurrent Session - I

Theme:-

Tools, techniques and technologies in agriculture (including crop protection/production), horticulture, forestry, fisheries, livestock management & animal husbandry: Success and Gender specific challenges. Value addition Communication and Marketing, Agril. Engg. / Crop protection / Production / Horticulture / Forestry

Technical Session-2: - Concurrent Session – II

Theme:-

Tools, techniques and technologies in agriculture (including crop protection/production), horticulture, forestry, fisheries, livestock management & animal husbandry: Success and Gender specific challenges. Value addition Communication and Marketing Fisheries/ Livestock Management and Animal Husbandry

Technical Session-2: Concurrent Session –III Farmer’s Presentations

Particulars of Technical sessions

Name of the Sessions and Theme	Chairman/ Chairperson	Co-Chairmen/ Co-Chairperson	Rapporteur
I: Plenary Session – I	Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh	Er. Anuj Sinha, Former Director, Vigyan Prasar, Dept. of Science and Tech., GoI, New Delhi	Dr. K. K. Jain Dr. A. R. Ahlawat
II: Technical Session-1, Concurrent Session – I Local action/knowledge Networks/ coalitions: Successes & Information and capacity building needs. ICT/IES/extension service: Emerging tools, Technical and Challenges Public policy measures to mainstream agriculture as integrated mitigation and adaption tool.	Er. Anuj Sinha, Former Director, Vigyan Prasar, Dept. of Science and Tech., GoI, New Delhi	Dr. A. V. Barad, Principal and Dean, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh	Dr. Chetnaben Mandaviya Dr. M. N. Dabhi
III: Technical Session-1, Concurrent Session – II Discussion with farmers & Group Formation	Dr. K. N. Shelat, Retd. IAS, Executive Chairman, NCCSD, Ahmedabad	Dr. Kinkini Dasgupta, Scientist E, Vigyan Prasar Dr. Ujjwala T. Tirkey, Dept of Science and Technology, New Delhi	Dr. H. D. Rank Er. H. V. Parmar
IV: Plenary Session - II	Dr. L. P. Gite, Project Coordinator AICRP on Ergonomics, CIAE (ICAR) Bhopal	Dr. A. N. Sabalpara, Director of research, NAU, Navsari	Dr. H. D. Rank Er. H. V. Parmar
V: Technical Session-2, Concurrent Session - I Tools, techniques and technologies in agriculture (including crop protection/ production), horticulture, forestry, fisheries, livestock management & animal husbandry: Success and	Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh	Dr. N. K. Gontia, Principal and Dean, College of Agril. Engg. and Tech., JAU, Junagadh	Dr. A. R. Ahlawat Er. H. Y. Maheta

Name of the Sessions and Theme	Chairman/ Chairperson	Co-Chairmen/ Co-Chairperson	Rapporteur
Gender specific challenges. Value addition Communication and Marketing, Agril. Engg./ Crop protection/ Production/ Horticulture /Forestry			
VII: Technical Session - 2 Concurrent Session – II Tools, techniques and technologies in agriculture (including crop protection/ production), horticulture, forestry, fisheries, livestock management & animal husbandry: Success and Gender specific challenges. Value addition Communication and Marketing Fisheries/ Livestock Management and Animal Husbandry	Dr. J. B. Misra, Director, DGR (ICAR) Junagadh	Dr. P. H. Tank, Principal, CoVS and AH, JAU, Junagadh	Dr. K. Ravikala Dr. K. B. Parmar
VIII: Technical Session - 2, Concurrent Session – III: Farmer’s Presentations	Dr. A. M. Parakhia, Director of Extension Edu., JAU	Shri Mayur Vyas, Ex M.D., SDCMPUL, Himathnagar	Dr. V. K. Tiwari Er. P. B. Vekariya
Valedictory Function	Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh	Dr. K. N. Shelat, Retd. IAS, Executive Chairman, NCCSD, Ahmedabad	

Paper Presentations in the National Seminar on Woman Farmer

The technical presentations were made in different technical sessions and the discussions were held on different topics as given below:

Technical Session-1: Concurrent Session – I

The points discussed in this technical session are as below:

- Women can play a significant role if they are kept abreast of the latest information on farm technologies through computer based information technology.
- Lots of farm implements are developed keeping in view the involvement of women in farm related work.
- Despite increase in girl students and faculty members in the National Agricultural Research System (NARS), still gender issues persist. The solution is to engender agricultural education.
- Agricultural extension also needs to be engendered. Training programmes should have flexible hours for women farmers and women extension workers should train women farmers.
- Appropriate policies should be framed and legislated for rural women empowerment.
- Self-help groups effectively play role in empowerment of women farmers.
- Floriculture and agro based processing could serve as income generation activities for rural women.

Technical Session-1:

Concurrent session-II Discussion with farmers and Group formation

The following points were presented and discussed during the session.

Women Empowerment in Gujarat

South coastal belt:

- Integrated farming (1-Pond+ Duck+ Fisheries + Poultry, 11 hens + 2 Cows +3 Honey bee rearing boxes)
- Om Papad, Tiffin Udhyog, Beautification, Mukhwas packing, Paper dish making, Sewing, Women milk cooperatives

Central Gujarat, Green belt:

- Interior decoration
- Agriculture
- Animal husbandry

Eastern hilly track:

- Kitchen gardening
- Vegetable processing in small scale

The experiences shared by the women farmers:

- Empowerment of widow women particularly of Darbar communities.
- Introduction of women's name in Land and house properties.
- The importance of women involvement in social and economic activities was explained by the slogan: One plus one women are not equal to two women but it is equivalent to output of eleven women.
- Women are more sound in the social and economical management as well as decision power as compared to men.
- The success story of the market linkage for higher return to farming.
- The working of RUDI model for the farm labour in which the agricultural produce is graded, cleaned, packed and sold direct to the consumer at door step by making the SHGs.
- The importance of animal husbandry to make the agriculture sustainable.
- The adoption of agriculture with horticulture and animal husbandry.
- The irrigation area under cotton was increased by 3 times by adopting the ground water recharge and drip irrigation.
- The live demonstration of Improved and drudgery reducing equipments/tools for women farmers like hand held cotton picking machine, maize Sheller.
- Vegetable drying devices and its economics and solar cooker.
- Paper making from agricultural waste cellulose.
- The success of the sanitary napkin disposal tank which is very effective for environment pollution control.

- The demonstration of different hand tools which reduces the women drudgery like manual groundnut decorticator, double reflector solar cooker, multi fuel cooking stove, maize dehusker, dibbler, weeder and interculturing tools.

Plenary Session – II

In the plenary session different presentation were made and the discussion was held on different topics as mentioned below:

Role of women in fisheries.

- The various activities of fisheries like pre harvest, feed preparation, sea weed removal, pearl collection, shorting, grading, drying of fish and oil extraction, value addition, etc. in which women can play a great role for economic empowerment of women.
- The success stories of aquarium making and selling by women group in one village of Tamilnadu near Chennai.

Role of women in agriculture and horticulture

- The success example of women like Queen of Jhanshi, Meerabai and Kalpana Chavala from whom the women can be self empowered.
- The constraints of women empowerment like lack of unity, confidence lacking, fear, economic dependency on others were given.
- The scope of women in horticulture like nursery, floriculture, value addition from flowers and its marketing, etc.

Transfer of science and technology to end users.

- The purpose of the extension of science and technology, its various target groups and ways and means of extension.
- The community tools like mass communication radio, TV and demonstration as well as training of tools.

Technology communication interventions for women farm workers – overcoming challenges and drudgery.

The action points through Science & Technology communication:

- The farmer should be prepared to adopt the information
- To prepare the information on need base

- To create the environment to adopt the tools and equipments

Rural women empowerment through education in agriculture

- The overview of various education programs running in JAU, Junagadh like Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Fisheries, Veterinary science, Agro processing, along with vocational training on drip irrigation, seed processing, onion cultivation, greenhouse, etc.

Technical Session-2: Concurrent Session – I

At the onset of the session the chairman of the session Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh welcomed all the delegates and the scientists. Dr. N. K. Gontia, Principal and Dean, CAET, JAU, Junagadh has co-chaired the session. In this session three lead papers and five theme papers were presented by the speakers.

Several important recommendations emerged from the session

- There is an urgent need to tailor the technologies to be woman friendly, Keeping in mind the Ergonomic data evaluation of Women.
- Use of nutrient dense varieties, rich in micronutrients for alleviating malnutrition.
- Crop diversification should be followed to increase the micro nutrient concentration in human being.
- Floriculture offers a wide range of opportunity for women livelihood improvement. Woman farmers supported by SHG and NGO's can opt for floriculture as a means of subsidiary income.
- Training programmes and package of services should be provided with special reference to Agro processing operations

The chairman of the session made note of some important points/ areas that need to be addressed

- A package of practices should be developed for Woman entrepreneurs.

At the end of session the Chairman of the session Dr. N. C. Patel thanked the co- chairman, rapporteurs, experts and all the participants.

Technical Session -2: Concurrent Session – II

The papers presented in this technical session on different topics like Role of Fisherwomen in Kashmir, Time Utilization and Spending Pattern of Fisher Women in House Hold Task and Subsidiary Occupation and Constraints faced by Farm Women in Agro-Forestry and Livestock Management: A Case Study. The following conclusions were drawn from the presentations:

- The effect of climate change on dairy animals and need to take care of shelter, breeding, feeding practices to reduce heat stress on animals to maintain their milk production.
- The role of women in fisheries, contribution to pre-harvest and post-harvest technology.
- The role of women in live stock management and Animal Husbandry. The lecture covered the detailed presentation of woman in day to day management of animals and they are considered as woman live stock entrepreneurs.
- The “Role of Fisher women in Kashmir” and expressed the need of short duration course to train the fisher women of Kashmir.

Technical Session -2: Concurrent Session – III Farmer’s Presentations

- Dr. A. M. Parakhia, Director Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh welcomed to all and explained about the traditional and improved techniques/methods of agriculture, Agricultural engineering, Veterinary science, Fisheries etc. He gave emphasis on system of milk production and other agriculture related system. He felt that there is a need to change existing social living of women and empowerment of women.
- Ms. Nandita Bhattacharya, Scientist, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, explained about the user friendly tools/ implements: an ergonomic approach. She showed there is much need of ergonomically designed tool and implements so that there should not be health problem/stress problem on agriculture workers both for women and men. She also showed some improved tools/implements designed and developed by the institute.
- Mr. Ram Kumar Singh, Bardoli, Gujarat, explained about the working of his institution that are designing, developing, repairing and popularizing the hand tools with farmer participatory approach.

- Shri Mayur Vyas, Ex. MD, SDCMUL, gave emphasis on increasing earning through milk production, for that he explains some points like selection of animals, animal shed, proper feeding to animal, and breeding that are necessary to improve milk production, economy of farmer family and upliftment of social status.

Some women farmers have shared their experiences:

- Hirbaiben Lodhi, Gir Somanath, Gujarat, showed concerned over the existing design of some hand tools like sickles, spade etc that needed to be redesign for stress free and comfort use.
- Ashmita Shah, Bharuch, Gujarat, explained about the health problems resulted from using traditional tools/implements (Sickles, weeder, sprayers) require to be ergonomically improved so that back pain and other stress that are big problems in that region can be reduced. She also showed concerned over the daily paid labour charges that are very low.
- Suribai, Dev Bhumi Dwaraka, and Gujarat: The cost of cultivation that is very high.
- Ramaniben Rekhaben, Madavi, and Gujarat: Sickle designed should be improved.
- Vilashben, Radadiya, Junagadh, Gujarat : Need of Garlic and Onion harvesting machines
- Jayshreeben, Junagadh, Gujarat: Need of Groundnut pod picking machine.
- Majulaben, Mandavi, and Gujarat: Cotton picking machine does not give clean cotton that is why selling income is low.
- Kundanben Amipara, Junagadh, and Gujarat: There is need of reaper cum binder machine for wheat and coriander.
- Mansukhbhai, Junagadh, and Gujarat: He gave the information regarding the availability of the different type of nursery tools and implements.
- In the last Dr. L. P. Gite, CIAE, Bhopal, gave the detailed information about user friendly tools/implements which have been designed and developed ergonomically in CIAE Bhopal. Using these types/tools implement we can reduce health and other stresses problem. He also gave the information that in near future Government is launching a scheme on custom hiring that will reduce cost of cultivation and improve the mechanization level.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The most important recommendations emerged during the seminar are given hereunder along with the brief description as well as actions to be taken by the concerned organizations.

1. Women can play a significant role if they are kept abreast of the latest information on farm technologies through computer based information technologies.
2. There is a need to develop farm implements keeping in view the involvement of women in farm related work.
3. Despite increase in girl students and faculty members in the NARS system, still gender issues persist. The solution is to engender agricultural education.
4. Agricultural extension also needs to be engendered. Training programmes should have flexible hours for women farmers and women extension workers should train women farmers.
5. Appropriate policies should be framed and legislated for rural women empowerment.
6. Self-help groups effectively play role in empowerment of women farmers.
7. Floriculture and agro based processing could serve as income generation activities for rural women.
8. The large scopes of women empowerment lies in integrated farming (1Pond+ Duck+ Fisheries + Poultry (11 hens + 2 Cows + 3 Honey bee rearing boxes)
9. The asset / properties from which the economic returns are obtained should be on the name of women member of the family.
10. The women empowerment can be achieved through agro-processing center at small scale in village.
11. The market linkage should be strengthened for the sustainable agriculture.
12. The agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry should be adopted to prevent the over flooding of urban area.
13. Improved and drudgery reducing equipments/tools for women farmers like hand held cotton picking machine, maize Sheller, etc should be subsidies for its speedy adoption.
14. Small scale vegetable dryer should be introduced for women farmer and landless women labour for better economic benefits.
15. The transfer of science and technology to its end user can be achieved easily and speedy through Mass communication media like Radio, TV, and Mobile.

16. Establish and deliver through mutually reinforcing top down and bottom up approaches.
17. Rural women can be empowered through education in agriculture
18. Looking to the effect of climate change there is a need to educate women live stock keepers to make changes in the shelter as regards to roof, floor to reduce the heat stress on animals.
19. Woman acts as household entrepreneur in Animal Husbandry.
20. Education of fisheries is required to remove social evils against fisher women.
21. Fisher women Co-operatives are needed to educate against new technologies related to value addition and marketing.
22. There is an urgent need to tailor the technologies to be woman friendly, Keeping in mind the Ergonomic data evaluation of Women.
23. Use of nutrient dense varieties, rich in micronutrients for alleviating malnutrition.
24. Crop diversification should be followed to increase the micro nutrient concentration in human being.
25. Floriculture offers a wide range of opportunity for women livelihood improvement. Woman farmers supported by SHG and NGO's can opt for floriculture as a means of subsidiary income.
26. Training programmes and package of services should be provided with special reference to Agro processing operations.

Committees for the various activities NSWF-2014

Name of Faculty	Designations	Name of Faculty	Designations
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Dr. P. Mohnot, Associate Director of Research, JAU	Co-convener	Prof. J. N. Nandasana, Asstt. Prof., Polytechnic in Agro Processing	Co-convener
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Er. K. J. Vaja, Tech. Asstt. RERE Dept., CAET	Member	Er. D. B. Barad, Tech. Asstt., FMP Dept., CAET	Member
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