STUDIES ON PROSPECTS AND CONSTRAINTS OF DAIRYING IN CHIKHALI

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Chikhali tehsil of Buldhana district of Maharashtra state to identify the problem of dairy farmers in this region. The data were collected randomly from nine villages from this tehsil and 10 farmers from each village were randomly selected having minimum two dairy animals. In this way conducting personal interview collected data from 90 dairy farmers. During present investigation 64.12% dairy farmers found problem of availability of water, 72.23% found problem of getting green fodder round the year, only 14.44% farmers had crossbred animals, 58.89% farmers found the problem of marketing of produced milk, most of the farmers i.e. 57.78% had not house for dairy animals. 72.22% dairy farmers had land to rear animals. Only 18.88% farmers took advantages of veterinary services and rest of them did not want to take such facility or they did not afford or such facility could not reach up to dairy farmers.

Key words: Constraints, Dairy farmer, Green fodder, Crossbred animals.

The feed shortage has been identified the largest factor responsible for low productivity in India (Anandan et al. 2004). Dairy farmers are facing the problem while rearing the dairy animals. In India particularly where, irrigation facility is not available green fodder is available only in monsoon and winter season. Water plays a very important role in dairy farming. On dairy farms water is required to perform various practices i.e. cleaning, milking and washing of dairy animals. Buldhana district falls into low rainfall region, without irrigation facility available hence water supply is not available even in monsoon, Therefore dairy farmers are facing the problem of water supply for agriculture as well as dairying. Every dairy farmer should have a good shelter to protect animal from extreme environmental conditions and to get high productivity from dairy animals and for performing cleaning, milking, feeding comfortably (Sharma, et al. 2006). Dairy animals are homothermous and therefore when the environmental temperature rise or falls abnormally, the animals are in stress. In general for cross breeds the critical temperature leading to a decline in milk yield at higher level ones at about 90-95°F (Banerjee, 1998). Assessment of constraints of dairy farmers in Chikhali tehsil would be more beneficial to tackle out their problem and find out the solution. Hence the present study was conducted to find out the constraints of dairy farmers while rearing the dairy animals in Chikhali tehsil of Buldhana district.

The present study was conducted in chikhali tehsil of Buldhana district of Maharashtra state. The present tehsil was selected due to familiarity of researcher. Nine villages from the tehsil and from each village 10 dairy farmers were selected randomly.

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The dairy farmer having more than two milch animals were selected for present investigation. Adopting personal interview schedule collected the data from each dairy farmer. The questions were asked regarding the type of breed feeding practices, housing, water availability, marketing of milk, land available for cultivation of fodder crops and veterinary services etc.

The perceived constraints of dairy farmers are presented in Table 1. The data presented in Table 1 revealed that dairy farmers facing the problem of availability of green fodder round the year. A very few dairy farmers (27.77%) had green fodder round the year and rest of them had problem of availability of green fodder due to not having water, however all (100%) dairy farmers had dry fodder. Same problem also was reported by Patil et al. (2009). Availability of abundant water round the year found the major constraints of all the dairy farmers. Only 35.88% dairy had available water for dairy farming but they also found problem in last two month of summer. The 72.22 % farmers had availability of land but due to non-availability of abundant water supply they could not rear dairy animals effectively. Main constraint of dairy farmers in this area found non-descripts animals that produce a very low amount of milk. A very few (14.44 %) dairy farmers had crossbred animals. Veterinary service was also not available, 18.88% dairy farmers took the advantages of this facility. To protect the dairy animals from extreme environmental condition and as well as for other management practices house is required. During present investigation it was found that 42.22% dairy farmers had separate constructed house for dairy animals. Majority of the dairy farmers reported that they are facing constraints of marketing of milk (58.89%) because there was no assurance for disposal of milk produced. Rest of the dairy farmers sold milk to hotels and door to door.

**CONCLUSION**

The important conclusions that emerged from the present investigation were as follows.

- Most of the dairy farmers found constraints of availability of green fodder; if water is provided by irrigation, it would be helpful to get the green forage.
- If dairy farmers are provided an assurance to sold the milk it would help to encourage the milk producers.
- Crossbreeds of high productivity and veterinary services should be provided at reasonable rate.

**REFERENCES**

