

A CASE STUDY

Studies on various activities undertaken by co-operative dairy societies for enhancement of milk production in Raigad district

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It was seen that out of 20 societies under study 14 societies undertook the activity of feed supply and 8 societies undertook the activity of credit supply in addition to their main function of milk collection. The proportion of borrowers to the total number of members in small group it was 24.41 per cent, in medium group it was 5.69 per cent, while that in the large group was 20.27 per cent. The overall proportion of borrowers to the total number of members was 19.52 per cent. Thus, the proportion of borrowers the total no. of members in medium group was very less as compared to small and large group of societies. Short term advances were granted for the purchase of feeds and fodders, while the medium term advances were granted for purchase of dairy animals, construction of dairy byre etc. The overall short term advances were Rs.13290 and medium term advances were Rs. 16910 each. Overall, total milk collection was 32,332.79 lits. with its value Rs.2,53,370.04 and average quantity of milk supplied by each member was 375.845 lits. and price per litre paid by the societies was Rs.7.99.

Milk has now emerged as the second largest agricultural commodity next to rice production. This shows the importance of dairy enterprise in Indian agriculture (Sathe, 1999). Co-operative dairying enables the members to get the benefits of economics of scale. It includes the

activities like arranging for milk collection, processing and marketing of milk and production of milk products co-operatives arrange for loans and provide allied services to their members.

For present investigation, the set of questionnaire was specially designed so as to get all the informations relevant to the objectives of the study. The data were collected by survey method and questionnaires were filled in by personal interviews with the Secretaries/Chairmen and members of the societies. Out of 14 Tehasils of Raigad district, 4 Tehasils and from each Tehasil five societies were selected randomly. The information was collected during February and March 2001 and data were analyzed by tabular method and arithmetic tools.

Besides milk collection, the dairy societies in the sample studied had undertaken activities like providing short term and medium term loans, supply of feeds etc.

It is seen from Table 1 that out of 20 societies under study, only 70% societies undertook the activity of feed supply and 40% societies undertook the activity of credit supply in addition to their main function of milk collection.

Beneficiary members of credit supplied by the societies:

The dairy societies provide short term advances for purchase of feed and fodder

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Table 1 : Activities under taken by the societies

Sr. No.	Particulars	Small	Medium	Large	Overall
1.	Milk collection	14 (100)	5 (100)	1 (100)	20 (100)
2.	Feed supply	9 (64.27)	4 (80)	1 (100)	14 (70)
3.	Credit supply	5 (35.71)	3 (60)	1 (100)	8 (40)

(Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to total)