



Dairy management practices followed by the farmers in Kolhapur district of western Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT : All the respondents had complete knowledge about buffalo breeds hybrid cow, judging of milch animals, heat symptom and its detection, insemination, management of pregnant animal, management during and after parturition, management of newly born calves, hygienic milk production, foot and mouth disease and feed supplements like mineral mixture. All the respondents completely adopted the management practices like judging of milch animals, insemination, management of pregnant animals, drinking water for animals. Though the knowledge about hybrid cow Phule Triveni was comparatively high, it was not adopted by 99.09 per cent of respondents. The reasons quoted was unavailability of semen straws at local level. All the respondents focused the constraints of lack of high cost of milch cattle, unavailability of true to type hybrid and local breeds, lack of guidance about preparation and use of value added feeds.

KEY WORDS : Dairy management practices, Dairyman, Farmers

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INTRODUCTION

Dairy is main secondary occupation for majority of farmers from Kolhapur district. Strong roots of this enterprise are found in the well developed milk unions structure established in area and inheriting the revolution started by Amul. Dairy as an enterprise provides for the daily assured income for the small and marginal farmers. Besides, milk and its byproducts dairy enterprise provides for an important agricultural input like manures, thus having complimentary relationship with agriculture. Energy starving India is largely dependant on other countries for its hunger of energy Bio gas a by produce of dairy enterprise as an energy resource can sufficiently provide the energy need of country. Considering the importance of dairy enterprise in livelihood security of small and marginal farmers, Government and Agriculture Universities had taken tremendous efforts in its development. The efforts are taken to bring about awareness among the farmers about the advances

in this sector. In this context study was carried in Kolhapur district by taking into consideration of the following objectives to study the knowledge and adoption of dairy management practices followed by the respondents and to study the constraints faced by the respondents and suggestions made by them.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Radhanagri, Hatkanangale and Bhudargarh Tahsil of Kolhapur district purposively. In all 11 villages from Kolhapur district were selected randomly. From these selected villages, 10 respondents from each village were selected randomly. The respondents were interviewed with the help of structured interview schedule personally. In all 110 respondents were interviewed for this study.

The data were tabulated and processed through the primary and secondary tables. The statistical tools like frequency, percentages, and means of the averages were used for interpreting the data and inferences were drawn.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data regarding management practices followed by the respondents are given below:

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