

Constraints faced by the dairy farmers of Wai tahsil of Satara district

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ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out to analyse the constraints faced by the dairy farmers from Wai Tahsil of Satara district. The study was conducted in 10 villages from Wai Tahsil of Satara district by personally interviewing 120 dairy farmers. Majority of the respondents stated lack of veterinary services (64.17 per cent), low productivity of cows (71.67 per cent) and lack of technical knowledge (85 per cent). The overall observations indicated that scientific feeding and better management conditions to exploit the inherent capacity of crossbred cattle was not followed by the livestock owners. The constraints faced by the dairy farmers from study area were lack of technical knowledge, provision of loans. A lot of improvement is necessary to change the present situation of the dairy business.

KEY WORDS : Constraints, Dairy farmers, Satara district

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INTRODUCTION

Keeping in mind, the situation of dairy farming in India and its need to boost the milk production, the Government of India has introduced several schemes and programmes but the results are not so encouraging. Majority of the farmers are unaware about facilities provided by the Government. The farmers are facing several problems in the adoption and rearing of crossbred cows. Many farmers are still doing the dairy farming by using their traditional views, which result in lowering down the milk production. Keeping these problems in view, the present study was taken up with the specific objectives to identify the constraints faced by the dairy farmers while rearing crossbred cattle.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Location of the study:

The present study was conducted in Wai Tahsil of Satara District of Maharashtra state. Satara district is centrally located in western part of Maharashtra.

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Method of sampling:

For the study, villages having more milk production mainly from crossbred cattle were selected. These villages were arranged in descending order according to quantity of milk produced and first 10 villages were selected.

Selection of respondents:

For the study, in all 120 farmers were interviewed. The selected farmers comprised of four farmers producing more milk (more than 20 kg), four farmers producing medium quantity of milk (11-20 kg) and remaining four were low milk producer (below 10 kg).

Tools and techniques of data collection:

The basic instrument used for the study was the interview schedule. The questions were related to different constraints faced by the farmers in rearing crossbred cattle.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints faced by the dairy farmers in rearing crossbred cattle while adopting day to day animal husbandry practices in their dairy enterprise are presented in Table 1. It is observed from Table that the dairy farmers under study expressed constraints faced during rearing the crossbred cows were in time payment of sale of milk (11.67 per cent), problem in obtaining loan (22.50 per cent),

lack of veterinary services (64.17 per cent), non-availability of superior bulls (25 per cent), availability of green fodder seeds (45 per cent), low productivity of crossbred cows (71.67 per cent) and lack of technical knowledge (85 per cent). Most of the milk producers expressed difficulties in obtaining good potential animals, knowledge regarding Government schemes and technical knowledge regarding dairy business. Similar types of constraints were reported by Pai (1984), Bhoite *et al.* (1987), Bheemappa *et al.* (1990), Rajendran and Prabhakaran (1994) and Rajendran and Prabhakaran (1998).

Table: 1 Distribution of dairy farmers according to constraints faced by them

Sr. No.	Particulars	Number of farmers	Percentage
1.	Payment of sale of milk	14	11.67
2.	Problem in obtaining loan	27	22.50
3.	Lack of veterinary services	77	64.17
4.	Non- availability of superior bulls	30	25.00
5.	Non-availability of green fodder seeds	54	45.00
6.	Low productivity of cows	86	71.67
7.	Lack of technical knowledge	103	85.83

Conclusion:

The constraints faced by the dairy farmers in rearing crossbred cattle were in respect of obtaining good genetic potential animal, timely loan, feed and fodder, selling rate of milk, inadequate knowledge of diseases through prevention and control, non-availability of artificial

insemination facilities, non-availability of veterinary hospitals and timely veterinary services.

Suggestions:

There should be provision regarding frequent training programmes in terms of breeding, feeding, care and management, health and disease control, clean and hygienic milk production. Government, co-operative or private institutes should organize training programme while distribution of loans and providing guidance to dairy farmers through counseling centres.

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