



## Problems faced in adoption of improved dairy farming practices by the dairy farmers of Raipur city

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**ABSTRACT:** This study was conducted in Raipur district of Chhattisgarh. A total of 130 respondents were randomly selected from the selected places of Raipur city for this study. The present study was undertaken to assess the problems and to seek the suggestions to overcome the problems in adoption of improved dairy farming practices. The problems and suggestions regarding improved dairy farming practices in the selected places which are taken into account include that the majority (96.15%) of the respondents were of the opinion that lack of sufficient green fodder in the market was the major problems followed by high cost of vaccine (88.46%), high cost of treatments (84.62%), high cost of animals and their maintenance (71.53%), lack of knowledge about proper diagnosis of disease (71.74%), etc. were the major problems in the adoption of improved dairy farming practices. 88.46 per cent of the respondents were suggested that the green fodder and concentrate should be available throughout the year at low cost. Vaccination facilities should be provided by the Government in proper time (85.38%) and medicine should be available at low cost (74.61%), about 66.15 and 50.00 per cent respondents suggested that number of veterinary hospital should be increased for better treatments of cattle and training should be given for better livestock managements, respectively.

**KEY WORDS :** Dairy practices, Problems, Suggestions, Dairy farmers

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### INTRODUCTION

Farming is widely recognized as a hazardous occupation for all persons of all ages and the extent of animal related injury in the agricultural industry has been documented (Low *et al.*, 1996). Cow occupies an important place in Indian dairy industry as well as rural Indian economy. Most of the reproductive problems are due to mismanagement of feeding and poor nutrition leads to delayed puberty and reduced conception rate (Fleck *et al.*, 1980).

Dairying in India has been considered to be playing a crucial role in Indian economy. The level and speed of adoption of dairy innovation by farming community has been far from satisfaction though it has direct bearing on dairy farm production. The slow pace of adoption of improved dairy

practices is attributed to various factors. A firsthand knowledge of these factors to the extension personnel would create the speedy adoption of dairy innovations in the villages. The net performance of domestic livestock is the result of the combined influence of all these factors. Advance made in management and technological procedures adopted in most of the modern lives stock enterprises, have contributed enormously to make the livestock industry profitable, in several cases these attitudes have markedly influenced the health of animals and economy of lives stock form. It has been demonstrated in a study that there exists a close relationship between livestock farmers personal characteristics, attitude and management practices and farm performance (Tarabla and Dodd, 1990). Maintaining animal's good health is essential to ensure high production. In developing countries, cows are an important source of protein as well as income, but if not handled properly they can cause loss to the handler. Accordingly the research was considered as an effort to study the problems coming in way of adoption by the respondents. The low level of socio-economic status of villagers is the major hindrance and less number of improved breeds, lack of appropriate feeding of animal and good management points were the inhibitors for higher production

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of animal produce *i.e.* milk (Tiwari *et al.*, 2003).

Keeping in view the factual position, the present study was undertaken with the following specific objectives:

- To assess the various problems faced by the dairy farmers in adoption of improved dairy farming practices, and
- To seek the suggestions from the dairy farmers pertaining to the problems faced by them in adoption of improved dairy farming practices.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

This investigation was conducted in Raipur district of Chhattisgarh state. The Chhattisgarh state consists of 27 districts out of which only Raipur district was selected because of Head quarter of the Agriculture University as well as Directorate of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry is situated in this district. The Raipur city itself was selected purposively for research work because the dairy farmers of surrounding areas were supposed to be better exposed to improved dairy farming practices and are well acquainted to do this job professionally. In Raipur city there were about 160 registered dairy farmers found under the Gokul Gram Scheme. Majority of registered dairy farmers were residing in Bhainsthan, Bairan Bazar, Shyam Nagar, Purani Basti, Sanjay Nagar, Teli Bandha, etc. All the dairy farmers who were registered in Raipur Municipal Corporation under Gokul Gram Scheme were selected for collection of data in the study. Only 130 dairy farmers were interviewed as per their availability during two to three times visit and data were collected from them. Hence, the sample size was of 130 respondents.

The respondents were asked through an open ended question to mention the three important factors which in their opinion were the main constrains as well as factors helping in knowledge and adoption of improved dairy farming practices. That data were collected through personal interview with the help of pre-tested structured schedule. For analysis of collected data, statistical tools like frequency and percentage, etc. were used.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study have been presented under following heads:

#### Problems in the adoption of improved dairy farming practices:

The technological problems felt by the dairy farmer in adoption of improved dairy practices are presented in the Table 1. Among several problems, as regard to improved breeding, the majority of the respondents (71.53%) were of the opinion that high cost of animals and their maintenance was the major problem followed by non-availability of improved breeding bull (48.46%), lack of knowledge (40.76%), lack of trained person for AI (34.61%) and unfavourable climate for exotic animal breed (26.92%). Rath (1976) and Gour and Patel (2003) also

**Table 1: Technological problems felt by the respondents in the adoption of improved dairy practices (n=130)**

Problems	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Improved breeding</b>		
Lack of knowledge	53	40.76
High cost of animals and their maintenance	93	71.53
Lack of trained person for AI	45	34.61
Un favourable climate for exotic animal breed	35	26.92
Not-availability of improved breeding bull	63	48.46
<b>Vaccination</b>		
Lack of knowledge regarding schedule of vaccination	80	61.54
High cost of vaccine	115	88.46
Unavailability of required vaccine at proper time	59	45.38
<b>Improved feeding</b>		
Lack of knowledge about balanced feed of animals	74	56.92
Improved feed is costly	80	61.54
Lack of sufficient green fodder in the market	125	96.15
Green fodder are costly	65	50.00
Adulterants in feed materials	76	58.46
Difficulty in preservation of feeding materials	42	32.30
<b>Disease control</b>		
Lack of knowledge about proper diagnosis of disease	93	71.54
Improved breeds are more susceptible for various disease	86	66.15
High cost of treatment	110	84.62
Lack of suitable health care facilities	70	53.80
Fees of qualified veterinarians / trained persons are very high	73	56.15
<b>Marketing and transport</b>		
Fluctuation in milk production	49	37.69
Spoilage of milk due to delay in marketing	55	42.30
Delay in payment from customers	61	46.92
Difficulty in distribution of milk in rainy season	38	29.29
High cost of transportation	81	62.30

\*Percentage are based on multiple responses

reported that lack of knowledge was the main reason for non-adoption of breeding practices.

As regard to animal vaccination, majority of the respondents (88.46%), reported that a high cost of vaccine was the major problem, followed by lack of knowledge regarding schedule of vaccination (61.54%). Unavailability of required vaccine at proper time (45.38%) was another responsible constraint for non-adoption of vaccination in the animals.

Regarding improved feeding practices, the major problems in order to their merit were lack of sufficient green fodder in the market (96.15%), costly improved feed (61.54%), lack of knowledge about balance feed of animals (56.92%), adulterants in feed (58.46%), costly green fodder (50%) and difficulties in preservation of feeding material (32.30%). Gour and Patel (2003) also reported that unavailability of cheap and quality green fodder round the year was the major constraint faced by the dairy farmers.

Regarding disease control, more than 84 per cent respondents revealed that, high cost of treatment was the major constraint. Some other problems like lack of knowledge about proper diagnosis of disease (71.54%), improved breeds more susceptible to various diseases (66.15%), fees of qualified veterinarians very high (56.15%) and lack of suitable health care practices (53.80%) were also reported by the respondents in adoption of disease control measures. Dube *et al.* (1989) also reported that high cost of treatments was the major constraint in adoption of improved dairy practices.

The problems related to marketing and transportation

facilities are concerned, high cost of transportation, delay in payment from the customers and spoilage of milk due to delay in marketing were the major problems as reported by 62.30, 46.92 and 42.30 per cent of the respondents, respectively. About 37.69 and 29.29 per cent respondents reported that fluctuation in milk production and difficulty in distribution of milk in rainy season were also some important problems in marketing and transportation.

Personal, socio-economic, situational and other problems as perceived by dairy farmers in adoption of improved dairy practices are given in Table 2. About 36.15 per cent respondents reported that high temperatures in summer, followed by fermentation in milk (26.92%) and shortage of water during summer (21.54%) were the major problems. About 40.76 per cent respondents revealed that they were engaged in more than one business, followed by large size of family (22.30%) were the problems in adoption of improved dairy practices. As regard to problems in adoption lack of suitable training programme for milk production enhancement (74.61%), lack of institutional credit on low interest rate (50.00%), high cost of animal insurance (44.61%), lack of knowledge about government schemes (34.61%) and lack of cooperative society for milk distribution (29.23%) were the major problems faced by the dairy farmers. About 70 per cent of the respondents revealed that pressure of shifting of dairy out of the city was the major constraint. Kulkarni *et al.* (1990) and Gour and Patel (2003) also reported that lack of institutional credit was the major constraint in the adoption of improved dairy practices.

**Table 2: Personal, socio-economic, situational and other problems as perceived by dairy farmers in the adoption of improved dairy practices (n=130)**

Problems	Frequency	Percentage
1. High temperature in summer	47	36.15
2. Shortage of water during summer	28	21.54
3. Fermentation in milk	35	26.92
4. Heavy/ regular rains	20	15.38
5. Engaged in more than one business	53	40.76
6. Large size of family	29	22.30
7. Lack of cooperative society for milk distribution	38	29.23
8. Lack of knowledge about Government schemes	45	34.61
9. Lack of suitable training programme for milk production enhancement	97	74.61
10. Lack of institutional credit on low interest rate	65	50.00
11. High cost for animal insurance	58	44.61
12. Pressure of shifting the dairy out of the city	91	70.00

\*Percentage are based on multiple responses

**Suggestions to overcome the problems:**

Table 3 reveals distribution of the respondents according to their suggestions to overcome the problems faced by them. About 88.46 per cent of the respondents were of the opinion that green fodder and concentrate should be available throughout the year at low cost while about 85.38 per cent of the respondents were of the opinion that vaccination facilities should be provided by the government in proper time.

About 74.61 per cent respondents were of the opinion that medicine should be available at low cost and 66.15 and 50.00 per cent respondents suggested that number of veterinary hospitals should be increased for better treatments of cattle and training should be given for better livestock management, respectively. The next important suggestions were availability of artificial insemination facilities and easy loan facilities should be provided by banks for purchasing of animals on subsidiary basis, given by about 45.38 and 43.84 per cent of the respondents respectively.

About 33.84 per cent of the respondents suggested that cooperative society should be established for selling the milk and milk product. About 33.07, 30.00 and 27.69 per cent respondents respectively, suggested that improved bulls should be provided by the government for breeding, animal

**Table 3: Distribution of the respondent according to their suggestions for overcome the problems faced by them (n=130)**

Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage
1. Green fodder and concentrate should be available throughout the year at low cost.	115	88.46
2. Vaccination facilities should be provided by the government in proper time.	111	85.38
3. Medicine should be available at low cost	97	74.61
4. Number of veterinary hospital should be increased for better treatments of cattle.	86	66.15
5. Training should be given for better livestock managements	65	50.00
6. AI facility should be available at proper time	59	45.38
7. Easy loan facilities should be provided by banks for purchasing of animals on subsidiary basis.	57	43.84
8. Cooperative society should be established for selling the milk and milk products	44	33.84
9. Improved bulls should be provided by the government for breeding	43	33.07
10. Animal fair should be organized at least once in a year for purchase and sell of the animals.	39	30.00
11. Milk price should be increased.	36	27.69

\*Percentage are based on multiple responses

fair should be organized at least once in a year to purchase and sell of the animals and milk price should be increased.

### Conclusion:

On the basis of findings of the study, it may be concluded

that the higher per cent of the respondents were of the opinion that lack of sufficient supply of green fodder in the market, high cost of vaccine and treatment, high cost of improved breed and their maintenance, lack of knowledge about proper diagnosis of disease, etc. were some of important problems in the adoption of improved dairy practices. To overcome the above problems, majority of the respondents suggested that green fodder and concentrate should be available throughout the year at low cost, vaccination facilities should be provided by the Government in proper time, medicine should be available at low cost and training should be given for better livestock management.

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