

## Training needs and participation of farmers in dairy management

D.N. PHARATE, S.B. SHINDE AND H.P. SONAWANE

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

**H.P. SONAWANE**  
Division of Extension  
Education, College of  
Agriculture, PUNE  
(M.S.) INDIA

### ABSTRACT

The present research work was carried out for identification of the training needs of the dairy farmers. In the study, data of dairy farmers were collected from Ahmednagar and Pune districts of western Maharashtra. The results of study revealed that nearly two-third of the dairy farmers (64.17 per cent) felt need of training in preparation milk product while 57.92 per cent of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on rearing of calf. A majority of the dairy farmers (55.00 per cent) mostly required training on health management while 47.08 per cent of the cow owners mostly required training on feeding of animal. About 42.00 per cent of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on care of the cow at the time of calving and after calving, whereas 37.08 per cent, 36.25 per cent and 30.42 per cent of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on animal breeding, milking of cow and marketing of milk, respectively.

### INTRODUCTION

Training is necessary to provide a constant support of recent technological knowledge to farmers and training is one of the best methods to do so as it provides an opportunity to necessary skill along with gain in theoretical knowledge.

Importance of training needs to the dairy farmers is progressively realized all over the world. It is observed that dairy farmers play a significant role not only in agriculture but also in the efficient use of animal husbandry practices. They also contribute significantly in taking important decisions such as acquired and pre-disposing of agricultural assets, borrowing money to meet the farm and home obligations, besides taking care of animal shades, milk production dairying, poultry keeping, care of milch animals, care of new born calf, care of buffaloes and sheep etc. Thus dairy farmers play very important role not only in maintaining their cattle but also managing their farms, depending upon the situational personal and socio-economic characteristics of the family to which they belong. Performance of these diversified task more efficiently and effectively call for specializes knowledge and skills, occupied with favourable attitude of dairy farmers towards the performance of these tasks. Therefore, it is essential to equip the dairy farmers with the needed knowledge and skills. Training is one of the commonly used devices that impacts knowledge and skills of the trainees.

Training is viewed as an investment of human recourses. This investment has potentialities on transforming the group of dairy farmers who by accidentally come together to accomplish common goals. It can be successfully bring about certain changes in the outlook and attitude of the dairy farmers and thereby making them capable of rendering this task more effectively and efficiently. The present research was undertaken with the objective to study the training needs of the dairy farmers.

### METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in Ahmednagar and Pune districts of Western Maharashtra. Sangamner and Shrigonda Tahsils were selected from Ahmednagar district and Baramati and Indapur Tahsils were selected from Pune district on the basis of more cattle population. From each of the selected Tahsils, five villages were selected on purposive basis considering the criterion of having largest population of cattle. From the selected 20 villages, list of dairy farmers was prepared with the help of Livestock Development Officer and village level functionaries viz., Talati, Gramsevak on population of crossbreed cows they possessed. 60 respondents from each Tahsil were selected randomly. Hence, in all four Tahsils, twenty villages and 240 crossbred cow owners were covered under the study.

**Key words :**  
Training need,  
Management  
practices,  
Dairy  
management

Accepted :  
March, 2010

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized below:

### Participation of dairy farmers in dairy management practices:

Participation of dairy farmers in different dairy management practices is given in Table 1.

It is observed from Table 1 that three fourth of dairy farmers (75.42 per cent) regularly participated in practice like identification of heat symptoms of cow, while 71.67 per cent of the dairy farmers involved in pregnancy diagnosis of cow. More than two – third of the dairy farmers regularly participated in transportation and selling of milk (68.33 per cent), insemination of cow (67.92 per cent), feeding of animal (67.08 per cent), disposal of dung and milking of cow (66.25 per cent), removal of mucus (65.42 per cent) and feeding of colostrums to calf (65.42 per cent). Nearly half of the dairy farmers regularly participated in preparation of feed (57.92 per cent),

harvesting of green fodder and cutting (52.92 per cent), cleaning of animal shed or byre (52.50 per cent), cleaning of cow after calving (49.58 per cent) and offering water to dairy animals (48.75 per cent).

About 45.42 per cent of the dairy farmers regularly involved in record keeping while 42.92 per cent of the dairy farmers involved in washing of cow. Thirty nine per cent of the dairy farmers regularly participated in filtration of milk while 27.91 per cent of the dairy farmers participated in dehorning of calf, offering medicine to animal and care to sick animal. One-fourth of dairy farmers had regularly participated in cutting of navel cord (20.42 per cent) while 14.17 per cent of the dairy farmers involved in deworming of animal and spraying of disinfectant in byre. Very few number of the dairy farmers (7.08 per cent) regularly participated in preparation of milk products.

### Training needs of the dairy farmers:

From the point of view of identifying the various areas in which training was needed an open-end question

**Table 1 : Distribution of dairy farmers according to their participation in improved dairy practices**

Sr. No.	Dairy practices	Participation ( n = 240 )					
		Regularly		Occasionally		No.	
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
1.	Identification of heat symptoms of cow	181	75.42	27	11.25	32	13.33
2.	Insemination of cow	163	67.92	49	20.42	28	11.66
3.	Pregnancy diagnosis of cow	172	71.67	29	12.08	39	16.25
4.	Preparation of feed	139	57.92	50	20.83	51	21.25
5.	Feeding of animal	161	67.08	77	32.08	2	0.84
6.	Harvesting of green fodder and cutting	127	52.92	64	26.66	49	20.42
7.	Cleaning of cow after calving	119	49.58	83	34.58	38	15.84
8.	Removing of mucus of newly born calf	157	65.42	56	23.33	27	11.25
9.	Cutting of navel cord	49	20.42	52	21.67	139	57.91
10.	Feeding of colostrum to calf	157	65.42	42	17.50	41	17.08
11.	Dehorning of calf	67	27.91	2	0.84	171	71.25
12.	Deworming of animal	34	14.17	55	22.92	151	62.91
13.	Cleaning of animal shed or byre	126	52.50	61	25.42	53	22.08
14.	Disposal of dung	159	66.25	43	17.91	38	15.84
15.	Spraying of disinfectant in byre	34	14.17	74	30.83	132	55.00
16.	Offering medicine to animal	67	27.91	41	17.09	132	55.00
17.	Care of sick animal	65	27.08	45	18.75	130	54.17
18.	Washing of cow	103	42.92	90	37.50	47	19.58
19.	Offering water to animal	117	48.75	87	36.25	36	15.00
20.	Grooming of cow	38	15.84	3	1.25	199	82.91
21.	Milking of cow	159	66.25	63	26.25	18	7.50
22.	Record keeping	109	45.42	70	29.16	61	25.42
23.	Filtration of milk	93	38.75	30	12.50	117	48.75
24.	Transportation of milk	164	68.33	47	19.58	29	12.09
25.	Selling of milk	164	68.33	47	19.58	29	12.09
26.	Preparation of milk product	17	7.08	16	6.67	207	86.25

**Table 2: Distribution of dairy farmers according to their training needs**

Sr. No.	Area of dairy management practices	Training need (n = 240)					
		Most needed		Needed		Not needed	
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
1.	Animal breeding	89	37.08	97	40.42	54	22.50
2.	Care and management of advance pregnant cow	72	30.00	84	35.00	84	35.00
3.	Care of the cow at the time of calving and after calving	100	41.67	81	33.75	59	24.58
4.	Rearing of calf	139	57.92	81	33.75	20	8.33
5.	Care and management of heifer	61	25.42	77	32.08	102	42.50
6.	Feeding of animal	113	47.08	87	36.25	40	16.67
7.	Housing of animal	69	28.75	56	23.33	115	47.92
8.	Health management	132	55.00	91	37.92	17	7.08
9.	Watering of animal	49	20.42	67	27.92	124	51.66
10.	Milking of cow	87	36.25	73	30.42	80	33.33
11.	Importance of record keeping	66	27.50	107	44.58	67	27.92
12.	Milk handling and storage	59	24.58	71	29.58	110	45.84
13.	Marketing of milk	73	30.42	68	28.33	99	41.25
14.	Preparation of milk product	154	64.17	50	20.83	36	15.00

was asked to dairy farmers which lead the various area of training. The information about training needs of dairy farmers is given in Table 2.

It is clearly indicated from Table 2 can be indicated that nearly two-third of the dairy farmers (64.17 per cent) felt need of training in preparation milk product while 57.92 per cent of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on rearing of calf. A majority of the dairy farmers (55.00 per cent) mostly required training on health management while 47.08 per cent of the cow owners mostly required training on feeding of animal. About 42.00 per cent of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on care of the cow at the time of calving and after calving, whereas 37.08 per cent, 36.25 per cent and 30.42 per cent of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on animal breeding, milking of cow and marketing of milk, respectively. More than one forth of the dairy farmers needed training on care and management of advance pregnant cow (30.00 per cent), hosing of animal (28.75 per cent), importance of record keeping (27.50 per cent) and care and management of heifer (25.42 per cent). One forth of the dairy farmers mostly needed training on milk handling and storage while 20.42 per cent of cow owners mostly needed training on watering of animal.

About 44.58 per cent of the dairy farmers needed training on importance of record keeping while 40.42 per cent of the dairy farmers needed training on animal breeding. Thirty eight per cent of the dairy farmers needed training on health management while 36.25 per cent and 35.00 per cent of the dairy farmers needed training on feeding of animal and care and management of advance pregnant cow. One-third of the dairy farmers needed

training on rearing of calf and care of the cow at the time of calving (33.75 per cent), care and management of heifer (32.08 per cent) and milking of cow (30.42 per cent).

Authors' affiliations:

**D.N. PHARATE**, Division of Extension Education, College of Agriculture, PUNE (M.S.) INDIA

**S.B. SHINDE**, Department of Agri. Extension, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, AHMEDNAGAR (M.S.) INDIA

## REFERENCES

- Babu, R.A. and Singh, R.P.** (1986). Training young farmers towards manpower development in agriculture. *Indian J. Extn. Edu.*, **22** (3-4): 36-37.
- Dakhore, K.M., Deshmukh, K.A. and Ingole, P.G.** (2002). Training needs of dairy owner as entrepreneur. *Maharashtra J. Extn. Edu.*, **21** (2): 71.
- Ingole, K.M., Dakhore, K.M. and Dikle, R.N.** (1993). Training needs of dairy farmers. *Maharashtra J. Extn. Edu.*, **12** : 271 - 274.
- Nikam, T.R. and Rajmane, B.V.** (1995). Training needs of tribal farmers in dairy management practices. *Indian J. Extn. Edu.*, **31**: 91 - 93.
- Nikhade, D.M. and Patki, Alka** (2005). Training needs of rural women and difficulties encountered in performance of animal husbandry practices. *Internat. J. Extn. Edu.*, **1**: 77 - 82.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*