



Constraints and suggestions of cattle tail-hair producers in Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

For the study, Udgir tehsil of Latur district was selected and from five villages in all ninety cattle tail-hair producers were selected. Data pertained for the year 2007-08. The results revealed that mostly cattle tail-hair producers were from middle age group with education level up to Secondary School. Mostly herd size of cattle was low in the study area. Intensively, cattle tail-hair rope was used for seed drill and offspring's *palana*. Lack of skill of industrial products of cattle tail-hair can be solved by training to youth on manufactured products. All the suggestions can be considered in policy making for solving the problems of cattle tail-hair producers.

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INTRODUCTION

Animal by-products are important component of agricultural production. There are many waste products in agriculture which are not paid due attention as source for adding to farm income. For example, the hide, horns, bones are such products and the cattle tail-hair is one of them. Apparently, use of cattle tail-hair seem to be very minor. Considering the animal wealth in India, it may be considered a source of income to cattle owners (Thombre and Chole, 1996). The country has 187 million cattle heads and that is the highest in the world. On an average, 20 grams of tail-hair could be harvested annually from a single cattle head. Generally, trimming of cattle tail-hair can be done before on set of monsoon. About 187 million cattle heads can produce 3.47 million kg of tail-hair. Even if it is sold at the rate of Rs. 200 per kg, it may add to national income to the tune of Rs. 69.48 crore per annum. If industry with appropriate technology can be established to utilize cattle tail-hair, it may bring better income to cattle owners. Similarly, cattle owners have to trim tail-hair in time and use for different purposes. By keeping in view above aspects, the present study has been undertaken.

METHODOLOGY

Multistage sampling design was used in selection of district, tehsil, villages and cattle owners. In the first stage, Latur district was purposively selected on the basis of the highest livestock population. In the second stage, Udgir tehsil was purposively selected on the basis of the highest cattle population. In the third stage, five villages namely Borul, Dawangaon, Danegaon, Patoda (BK) and Wadvana were randomly selected. In the fourth stage, eighteen cattle owners were randomly selected from each of the selected villages. Thus, in all 90 cattle owners were selected from five villages for the present study. Data were collected by personal interview method with the help of pretested schedule for the year 2007-08. The collected data were related to socio-economic characteristics of cattle owners, use of cattle tail-hair, constraints and suggestions of cattle tail-hair producers. Thus, data were analyzed by tabular as well as frequency and percentage method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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

Key words :

Tail-hair, Cattle, Constraints, Suggestions

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Socio-economic characteristics of cattle tail-hair producers:

Socio-economic characteristics of cattle owner were calculated and are presented in Table 1. The results revealed that the component share of middle age cattle owners was 44.45 per cent followed by that of old age (32.22 per cent) and young age (23.33 per cent). In regards to educational level, about 47.78 per cent of cattle tail-hair producers were educated upto Secondary School followed by that of illiterate (28.88 per cent) and High School and above (23.33 per cent). In relation to social participation, about 50 per cent of the producers had low social participation while 33.33 and 16.67 per cent of the producers had medium and high social participation, respectively. Low mass media was used by 47.78 per cent of the producers followed by that of medium (30 per cent) and high (22.22 per cent). About 36.37 per cent of the producers had medium size of land holding while 33.33 and 30 per cent of the producers possessed large and small size of land holding, respectively. It was obvious that about 41.11 per cent of the producers possessed low size of cattle herd while 34.45 and 24.44 per cent of the producers had medium and large size of cattle herd, respectively. About 47.78 per cent of tail-hair producers had medium annual income as Rs. 61 to 90 thousand followed by 28.89 per cent of the producers had low income upto Rs. 60 thousand and 23.33 per cent of the producers had more than Rs. 90 thousand.

Use of cattle tail-hair by producers:

Use of cattle tail-hair by producers was estimated and is presented in Table 2. The results revealed that about 85.55 per cent of producer farmers were using cattle tail-hair rope for seed drill for sowing operation because it was good quality strength as compared to any other rope.

Table 1 : Socio-economic characteristics of cattle tail-hair producers (n=90)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Per cent
Age			
1.	Young (upto 30 Years)	21	23.33
2.	Middle (30 to 45 years)	40	44.45
3.	Old (45 and above years)	29	32.22
Educational level			
1.	Illiterate	26	28.89
2.	Up to Secondary School	43	47.78
3.	High School and above	21	23.33
Social participation			
1.	Low (1 to 2 no.)	45	50.00
2.	Medium (3 to 4 no.)	30	33.33
3.	High (5 and above no.)	15	16.67
Mass media used			
1.	Low (1 to 2 no.)	43	47.78
2.	Medium (3 to 4 no.)	27	30.00
3.	High (5 and above no.)	20	22.22
Land holding			
1.	Low (1 to 2.00 ha)	27	30.00
2.	Medium (2.01 to 4.00 ha)	33	36.67
3.	Large (4.01 and above ha)	30	33.33
Cattle herd			
1.	Low (1 to 3 no.)	37	41.11
2.	Medium (4 to 6 no.)	31	34.45
3.	Large (7 and above no)	22	24.44
Annual income			
1.	Low (up to Rs. 60 thousand)	26	28.89
2.	Medium (Rs.61 to Rs.90 thousand)	43	47.78
3.	High (More than Rs. 91 thousand)	21	23.33

Table 2 : Use of cattle tail-hair by producers (n=90)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1.	Callte tail-hair rope used for neckless of cattle	43	47.77	V
2.	Cattle tail-hair rope used for net of <i>chair-pai</i>	37	41.11	VI
3.	Cattle tail hair rope used for seed drill for sowing operation	77	85.55	I
4.	Cattle tail-hair rope being made for offspring's <i>palana</i> .	72	80.00	II
5.	Cattle tail-hair rope used for rounding threshing yard as worship	53	58.89	III
6.	Cattle tail-hair rope used for child's tree <i>zula</i> on farm	31	35.44	VIII
7.	Cattle tail-hair rope used for tying cattle to <i>tiwada (med)</i> in threshing yard	51	56.67	IV
8.	Cattle tail-hair manufactured brush used for cleaning <i>Deo-ghar</i> in dwelling house	15	16.67	X
9.	Cattle tail-hair rope used for <i>bhowar-kadi</i> of young calf	35	38.89	VII
10.	Cattle tail-hair bundle brush used for painting of cattle horns on <i>pola</i> festival of cattle	29	32.22	IX

Table 3: Constraints and suggestions of cattle tail-hair producers**(n=90)**

Sr. No.	Particular	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
Constraints				
1.	Lack of knowledge of cattle tail-hair products	67	74.44	V
2.	Deterioration of cattle tail-hair due to mud in rainy season	71	78.89	IV
3.	Lack of skill for trimming of cattle tail-hair	61	67.77	VII
4.	Inadequate quantity of cattle tail-hair	63	70.00	VI
5.	Lack of skill of rope making of cattle tail-hair	73	81.11	II
6.	Lack of skill of industrial products of cattle tail-hair	76	84.44	I
7.	Lack of technique of pelu making of cattle tail-hair	72	80.00	III
8.	Difficult for grading of cattle tail-hair	60	66.67	VIII
9.	Difficult for cleaning of cattle tail-hair after trimming	58	64.44	IX
10.	Existence of hardness of cattle tail-hair	52	57.77	X
Suggestions				
1.	Provision of training on cattle tail-hair products	61	67.77	V
2.	Trimming of cattle tail hair before onset of monsoon	65	72.22	III
3.	Provision of training on trimming of cattle tail-hair	58	64.44	VII
4.	Creation of facilities of cattle tail-hair assembling and selling for industrial products	60	66.67	VI
5.	Training on rope making of cattle tail-hair	69	77.67	II
6.	Training to youth on manufactured products of cattle tail-hair	73	81.11	I
7.	Development of technique of pelu making of cattle tail-hair	64	71.11	IV
8.	Need of due care for grading of cattle tail-hair during trimming.	56	62.22	VIII
9.	Need of washing of cattle tail-hair before trimming	51	56.67	IX
10.	Need of treatment of deeping of tail-hair in oil water after trimming	42	46.66	X

In farming community, cattle tail-hair rope could be used for offspring's *palana* which was expressed by 80.00 per cent of producers. In the next order, 58.59 per cent of producers opined that cattle tail-hair rope was used for rounding threshing yard as worship. About 56.67 per cent of cattle tail-hair producers expressed that cattle tail-hair rope can be used for tying cattle to *tiwada (med)* in threshing yard. Cattle tail-hair rope was used for neckless of cattle was expressed by 47.77 per cent of the producers. About 41.11 per cent of producers opined that cattle tail-hair rope could be used for net of *chairpai*. Use of cattle tail-hair rope could be done for *bhowar-kadi* of young calf that was expressed by 38.89 per cent of the producers. Cattle tail-hair could be used for child's tree *zula* on farm that was opined by 35.44 per cent of the producers. About 32.22 and 16.67 per cent of producers expressed that cattle tail-hair bundle brush and manufactured brush could be used for painting of cattle horns on *pola* festival of cattle and *Deoghar* in dwelling house, respectively.

Constraints of cattle tail-hair producers:

Constraints of cattle tail-hair producers were estimated and are presented in Table 3. The results

revealed that about 84.44 per cent of cattle tail-hair producers expressed the lack of skill of industrial products of cattle tail-hair. In the next order, lack of skill of rope making of cattle tail-hair was expressed by 81.11 per cent of the producers as severe problem. About 80.00 per cent of the producers expressed lack of technique of *pelu* making of cattle tail-hair. Deterioration of cattle tail-hair due to mud in rainy season was opined the problem by 78.89 per cent of the producers. Lack of knowledge of cattle tail-hair products was expressed by 74.44 per cent of the producers. About 70.00, 67.77 and 66.67 per cent of the producers expressed the constraints as inadequate quantity of cattle tail-hair, lack of skill for trimming of cattle tail-hair and difficulty for grading of cattle tail-hair, respectively. Difficulty for cleaning of cattle tail-hair after trimming and existence of hardness of cattle tail-hair were expressed by 64.44 and 57.77 per cent of the producers, respectively.

Suggestions of cattle tail-hair producers:

Suggestions of cattle tail-hair producers were also estimated and are presented in Table 3. The results revealed that training to youths on manufactured products

of cattle tail-hair was suggested by 81.11 per cent of cattle tail-hair producers. Similarly, training on rope making of cattle tail-hair was suggested by 77.67 per cent of the producers. Trimming of cattle tail-hair before onset of the monsoon, development of *pelu* making of cattle tail-hair, and provision of training on cattle tail-hair products were expressed by 72.22, 71.11 and 66.77 per cent of the producers. About 66.67 per cent of the producers suggested the creation of facilities of cattle tail-hair assembling and selling for industrial products. Provision of training on trimming of cattle tail-hair and need of due care for grading of cattle tail-hair during trimming were suggested by 64.44 and 62.22 per cent of the producers. Lastly, about 56.67 and 46.66 per cent of the producers were suggested the need of washing of cattle tail-hair before trimming as well as the need of treatment of deeping of tail-hair in oil water after trimming. All the suggestions can be considered in policy making for solving the

problems of tail-hair producers.

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