

Problems faced by members and non-members of Dairy Co-operatives in adoption of improved management practices in district Saharanpur of U.P.

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ABSTRACT

The present study was made to sort out the problems related to breeding, feeding, veterinary care, marketing and financial management practices faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives of weaker section's communities and to suggest suitable measures to overcome these problems in Saharanpur district of U.P. in the year 2008-09. The data were collected from 75 members and 75 non-members of dairy co-operatives of weaker section's families (small, marginal farmers and landless labourers) through interview schedule. The major problems reported by members and non-members of dairy co-operatives were related to breeding *i.e.* lack of availability of improved breed, distance location of artificial insemination centre and another problem was related to feeding *i.e.* lack of knowledge about balanced feeding, non-availability of green fodder throughout the year, the other problem was related to veterinary care *i.e.* distant location of veterinary hospitals, no knowledge about vaccination schedule and another problem related to marketing and finance *i.e.* lack of finance for working capital and low price of milk and lack of marketing facilities in the village were perceived as the most serious problems faced by members and non-members of dairy co-operatives. The non-members of dairy co-operatives face major problems with high severity in comparison to members of dairy co-operatives. Thus, there is a need to remove these problems to increase dairy business through weaker section's families to raise their income.

INTRODUCTION

The dairy co-operatives are playing a great role in encouraging the production of milk on the farms. Dairying in India is recognized as subsidiary occupation that provides gainful employment especially to the under privileged weaker section's of rural community. In India, dairy sector has important impacts on the economy and contributes to essential societal needs for food. Currently,

more than 80 per cent of milk produced in the country is marketed by the un-organized sector (private organization) and less than 20 per cent is marketed by the organized sector (government or organized sectors) (Sarkar and Ghosh, 2010). Economic survey, 2015-16 noted that India ranks first in milk production with an annual output of 146.3 million tonnes with a growth of 6.26 per cent during 2014-15 accounting for 18.5 per cent of world milk production. The per capita availability

of milk in India has increased from 176 g/day in the year 1990-91 to 322 g/day by 2014-15 which was more than the world average of 294 g/day during the year 2013. This represents a sustained growth in availability of milk for the growing population (Madhu *et al.*, 2016). As per the 19th livestock census, 2012 India's livestock sector is one of the largest in the world with a holding of 11.6 per cent of world livestock population which consists buffalo (57.83%), cattle (15.06%) (Islam *et al.*, 2016). Milk production is an important source of income for the rural poor and enables them to earn income and food security using common property resources, crop by products that would otherwise become waste and land that has no other sustainable agriculture use. Dairy enterprise provides subsidiary occupation in semi-urban areas and more for people living in the hilly tribal and drought prone area. Milk production in our country is in the hands of millions of small producers in rural areas, who largely consist of rural poor. Milk provides them productive and remunerative employment by which they can double their income. Hence, dairying is an instrument for social and economic upliftment of the rural poor.

The past consideration of various problems of milk producers who belong to weaker section's community suggest the necessity of some co-operative organization which could help to increase milk production, employment opportunities and provide remunerative price through organized milk marketing facilities in rural areas. Now, it has been realized that dairy co-operatives could be a suitable instrument for a planned development of dairying in the country. Milk producers are not aware breeding, feeding and management practices. There are various problems being faced by them in rearing their milch animals. It is well known fact that adoption of scientific management practices not only increase the productivity of dairy animals but reduces the reproductive and health problems also, which helps in enhancing the return of dairy farming. There are number of problems responsible for not adoption of scientific management practices. Constraints are nothing but the problems that come in the way of adoption of technology if these constraints are identified, they are helpful to bridge the gap between dairy technology and its adoption by dairy farmers (Rathod *et al.*, 2014). The study was made to identify the problems in rearing of milch animals felt by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives. The study would help to provide a guideline for a policy

maker in formulating feasible and viable animal husbandry policy for the area. Keeping in view the above points the present study was planned to know the problems faced by members and non-members of dairy co-operatives in adoption of improved management practices in Saharanpur district of U.P. was undertaken with the following specific objectives :

- To sort out the breeding and feeding problems faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives.
- To find out the veterinary care, marketing and financial problems faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present study was confined to Saharanpur Dugdh Utpadak Sahakari Sangh Ltd. (D.U.S.S.). Saharanpur of western Uttar Pradesh. Out of eleven blocks which were covered by D.U.S.S., Saharanpur. Two blocks were selected randomly. Since, D.U.S.S. Saharanpur was working in these blocks with highest number of milk producing co-operative societies. After selection of blocks, a list of milk producing co-operative societies working in different villages was prepared with the help of supervisor and other official staff of Sahakari Samiti. Out of these societies, only five societies were selected randomly for the study. The list of milk producing co-operative societies falling in the blocks was prepared and five milk producing co-operative societies were selected randomly for the study from the whole list.

After selection of five milk producing co-operative societies a separate list of members and non-members (keeping milch animals) of small farmers (1-2 hectare), marginal farmers (>1 hectare) and landless categories were prepared for the selected societies. There were total milk producers families of 108 small farmers, 180 marginal farmers and 252 landless labourers and 44 small farmers, 88 marginal farmers and 143 landless labourers, respectively in case of members and non-members of dairy co-operatives. In which 75 cases from members (15 small, 25 marginal farmers and 35 landless labourers) and 75 case from non-members (12 small, 24 marginal farmers and 39 landless labourers) of dairy co-operatives were selected for the purpose of comparison of the problems faced by members and non-members of dairy co-operatives in rearing of milch animals. The final

selection of cases of members and non-members of milk producers' community was made purely on random basis. The present study was based upon the primary data. The primary data were collected with the help of pre-prepared schedule and questionnaire by personal interview method. The survey method was followed for the collection of data. The primary data were related to the year 2008-09. The data obtained from different categories of members and non-members of dairy co-operatives were analyzed with the help of tabular analysis for drawing the results. However, percentage have also been calculated for interpretation of data.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

Dairy has a better scope to raise the economy of the milk producers but it is not free from associated problems. There are various problems perceived by sample households. As per the information furnished by the selected respondents in the study area, several problems are being faced by them in rearing their milch animals. The various problems faced in adoption of improved animal husbandry practices related to breeding feeding, veterinary care, marketing and financial practices by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives. The problems faced by the different categories of members and non-members of dairy co-operatives have been discussed under following heads.

Breed and breeding problems:

The problems regarding to breed and breeding faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives of weaker section's community were sort out and presented in Table 1.

The Table 1 indicates regarding the problems pertaining to breeding, majority of the farmers *i.e.* 60 per cent small, 56 per cent marginal farmers and 51.42

per cent of landless labourers in members and 66.66 per cent small, 50 per cent marginal farmers and 53.84 per cent of landless labourers in non-members reported that the artificial insemination (A.I.) centers were located at longer distances. About 40% small, 52% marginal farmers and 48.57 % of landless labourers in members and 41.66 % small, 50% marginal farmers and 43.58 % of landless labourers in non-members reported the lack of availability of improved breed in their locality. The study further reveals that 40% in members and 48% in non-members reported that improved breed was not suitable for the area, because of very hot and dry climate during the summer season. There is a serious lack of knowledge and information regarding the indigenous genetic resources in terms of improved breeds and their productivity as reported by 33.33, 44 and 42.85 % in members and 33.33, 54.16 and 48.71 % in non-members of small, marginal and landless category, respectively. The exorbitant value of the improved breed was the most important problems to adopt the improved breeds as reported by about 73.33 % by small farmer of members as well as 75% of small farmers in non-members.. Similar findings have been reported by Singh(1994); Kumar *et al.* (2011) and Mohapatra *et al.* (2012) that distant location of A.I. centers and inadequate knowledge of breeding practices are the major constraints in adoption of scientific practices of breeding. Meena and Malik (2009) found in his study that the major constraints identified in eradicating reproductive problems were lack of facility of veterinary doctors during night, high incidence of repeat breeding and lack of quality bulls at village level. Thus, it can be concluded that the majority of the milch animals could not avail the services of the A.I. centers due to their distant locations. Hence, there is a need to set up the artificial insemination centre within the reach of the members and non-members of dairy co-

Problems	Members				Non-members			Overall
	Small	Marginal	Landless	Overall	Small	Marginal	Landless	
Distant location of A.I. centre	9 (60.00)	14 (56.00)	18 (51.42)	41 (54.66)	8 (66.66)	12 (50.00)	21 (53.84)	42 (56.00)
Lack of availability of improved breed in the locality	6 (40.00)	13 (52.00)	17 (48.57)	36 (48.00)	5 (41.66)	12 (50.00)	17 (43.58)	34 (45.33)
Non-suitability of improved breed in the locality	4 (26.66)	10 (40.00)	16 (45.71)	30 (40.00)	5 (41.66)	11 (45.83)	20 (51.28)	36 (48.00)
Lack of knowledge about improved breed	5 (33.33)	11 (44.00)	15 (42.85)	31 (41.33)	4 (33.33)	13 (54.16)	19 (48.71)	36 (48.00)
Exorbitant value of improved breed	11 (73.33)	16 (64.00)	20 (57.14)	47 (62.66)	9 (75.00)	10 (41.66)	22 (56.41)	41 (54.66)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

operatives.

Feed and fodder problems:

The proper feeding of milch animals is one of the basis of successful dairy farming. The balanced feed is helpful in enhancing milk production and productivity. A profitable dairy business should not only have genetically high yielder but also should have provision for feeding to milch animals with return. Balanced feeding of dairy animals is the basis for successful dairy farming. The balanced ration containing energy and protein sources promote better health, growth, reproduction and milk productivity. The problems regarding to feed and fodder faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives of weaker section’s community were sort out and presented in Table 2.

The Table 2 reveals that the large majority of farmers, 73.33 % small, 80% marginal farmers and 74.28 % of landless labourers in members and 75% small, 87.50 % marginal farmers and 84.61 % of landless labourers reported that the grazing land was most limited and it was in very poor condition. Since, grazing helps to increases milk productivity of the animals and reduces the cost of milk production and it is also beneficial for the animal health. It was also noted that there was serious scarcity of green fodders throughout the year. This fact was reported by all the categories in case of members and non-members, it was 46.66% in small, 52% marginal farmers and 48.57 % of landless labourers and 33.33% in small, 58.33% in marginal farms and 48.71% in landless labourers, respectively. Thus, the non-availability of green fodder during the summer was a major problem for decreased milk production in this season. Hence, the availability of green fodder is necessary to feed the milch animals in order to obtain higher milk production. Thus, there is need to educate the farmers about the nutritional significance of fodders,

so that they could grow it throughout the year particularly during summer season. It was also observed from the findings that the feed and fodders in study area were available at higher cost on account of their scarcity. The majority of milch animals owners did not know about the importance of balanced ration required for feeding of their animals as reported by 53.33 % small, 60% marginal farmers and 62.85 % of landless labourers in members and 66.66 % small, 70.83 % marginal farmers and 61.53 % of landless labourers in non-members. Patil *et al.* (2009) found that the shortage of green fodder (45.33%) and technical guidance about management (68%) as a constraints faced by the dairy farmer in Nagur region. The present findings are also accordance with the findings of Thorat and Kulkarni (1994); Vyas and Patel (2001); Dabas *et al.* (2004) and Shrey *et al.* (2015) who reported somewhat similar problems perceived by dairy farmer in terms of dairy farming. Hence, there is a need to increase the grazing area and quality of the herbage through converting the waste land of the village into grazing land.

Veterinary care problems:

Health care of dairy animals from its birth is an important aspect of dairy development. There must be sound veterinary services with a reasonable distance to provide necessary treatment. Batter health care of animals is paramount for higher productivity. The problems regarding to veterinary care faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives of weaker section’s community were sort out and presented in Table 3.

It is apparent from the table that 49.33% in case of members and 60% in case of non-members had no knowledge about the vaccination schedule. The study shows that about 70 % in case of members and 80% in case of non-members complained that the medicines were available at higher cost which they could not afford. The

Problems	Members				Non-members			
	Small	Marginal	Landless	Overall	Small	Marginal	Landless	Overall
Limited and poor quality of grazing land	11 (73.33)	20 (80.00)	26 (74.28)	57 (76.00)	9 (75.00)	21 (87.50)	33 (84.61)	63 (84.00)
Non-availability of green fodder throughout the year	7 (46.66)	13 (52.00)	17 (48.57)	37 (49.33)	4 (33.33)	14 (58.33)	19 (48.71)	37 (49.33)
Lack of knowledge about balance ration	8 (53.33)	15 (60.00)	22 (62.85)	45 (60.00)	8 (66.66)	17 (70.83)	24 (61.53)	49 (65.33)
High price of feed and fodder	4 (26.66)	11 (44.00)	21 (60.00)	36 (48.00)	7 (58.33)	10 (41.66)	27 (69.23)	44 (58.66)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

mortality through disease was also causing economic losses in livestock production. A considerable number of the respondents in all categories, ranging from 53 to 82%, were not insuring their animals. This may be due to the fact that most of them were not aware of the facility and also because of the tedious procedure which is involved in the insurance of the animals. The insurance agencies should lay down simple procedures so that the farmers may get encouragement to get their animals insured against risks. Due to distant location of veterinary hospital and the non-availability of veterinary services was expressed by 73.33 % small, 80% marginal farmers and 68.57 % of landless labourers in members and 91.66 % small, 95.83 % marginal farmers and 76.92 % of landless labourers in non-members. It was also observed that there was some shortage of potable water in the area. This problems was reported 46.66 % small, 48% marginal farmers, 62.85% of landless labourers in members and 50% small, 62.50 % marginal farmers and 71.79 % of landless labourers in non-members of dairy co-operatives. It was found that 40% small, 44% marginal farmers and 57.14 % of landless labourers in members and 41.66 % small, 54.16 % marginal farmers and 69.23 % of landless labourers in non-members did not have proper cattle shed to house their animals. Kaushal *et al.* (2012) found in his study that the 26.66% cases of small farmers and 54.66% of marginal farmers reported the problem of not

availability of veterinary doctors in the villages. Hence, more attention is needed for the provision of health cover for the animals and there is a need for gradual culling to remove uneconomic stock. There is also a need of animal insurance.

Marketing and financial problems:

The problems regarding to marketing and financial faced by the members and non-members of dairy co-operatives of weaker section’s community were sort out and presented in Table 4.

It was observed from the Table 4 that about 40 to 58 % in members and 56 to 84 % in non-members of dairy co-operatives reported about lack of marketing facilities in the villages and it was noted that by the non-members was get lower price of milk as compared to members of dairy co-operatives. It was further noted that 33.33 % small, 30 % marginal farmers and 48.57 % of landless labourers in members and 50 % small, 87.50 % marginal farmers and 82.05 % of landless labourers in non-members had no knowledge about the determination of cost of milk production and they were not aware about the actual price of milk, which they produced. In order to reduce the marketing costs and to provide remunerative price to the milk producers, it is suggested that attempt should be made to organize the dairy enterprise on co-operative lines. The government should encourage and

Table 3 : Veterinary service problems reported by different categories of members and non-members families

Problems	Members				Non-members			
	Small	Marginal	Landless	Overall	Small	Marginal	Landless	Overall
No knowledge about vaccination schedule	6 (40.00)	13 (52.00)	18 (51.42)	37 (49.33)	5 (41.66)	17 (70.83)	23 (58.97)	45 (60.00)
High cost of medicine	10 (66.66)	17 (68.00)	25 (71.42)	52 (69.33)	8 (66.66)	21 (87.50)	31 (79.48)	60 (80.00)
Non-availability of insurance facilities	8 (53.33)	18 (72.00)	26 (74.28)	52 (69.33)	8 (66.66)	19 (79.16)	32 (82.05)	59 (78.66)
Distant location of veterinary hospital	11 (73.33)	20 (80.00)	24 (65.57)	55 (73.33)	11 (91.66)	23 (95.83)	30 (76.92)	64 (85.33)
Lack of sufficient potable water	7 (46.66)	12 (48.00)	22 (62.85)	41 (54.66)	6 (50.00)	15 (62.50)	28 (71.79)	49 (65.33)
Lack of proper cattle shed	6 (40.00)	11 (44.00)	20 (57.14)	37 (49.33)	5 (41.66)	13 (54.16)	27 (69.23)	45 (60.00)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

Table 4 : Marketing and financial problems reported by different categories of members and non-members families

Problems	Members				Non-members			Overall
	Small	Marginal	Landless	Overall	Small	Marginal	Landless	
Lack of marketing facilities in the village	6 (40.00)	14 (56.00)	20 (57.14)	40 (53.33)	8 (66.66)	20 (83.33)	22 (56.41)	50 (66.66)
Lack of knowledge about determination of cost of milk production and price	5 (33.33)	12 (30.00)	17 (48.57)	34 (45.33)	6 (50.00)	21 (87.50)	32 (82.05)	59 (78.66)
Low price of milk	7 (46.66)	5 (20.00)	11 (31.42)	23 (30.66)	9 (75.00)	12 (50.00)	28 (71.79)	49 (65.33)
Problem in getting loan	7 (46.66)	10 (40.00)	13 (37.14)	30 (40.00)	9 (75.00)	18 (75.00)	27 (69.23)	54 (72.00)
Lack of finance for working capital	6 (40.00)	13 (52.00)	15 (42.85)	34 (45.33)	7 (58.33)	16 (66.66)	25 (64.10)	48 (64.00)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

helps small milk producers to organize co-operative societies since, they are poor and mostly illiterate and cannot do themselves. It also needs educating the producers of milk in the area. It was further that the farmers face problem in getting loan about 47 % small, 40 % marginal farmers and 37 % of landless labourers in members and 75 % small and marginal farmers and 69 % of landless labourers in non-members, that they could not get direct and adequate loan in order to purchase milch animals of good quality breed. Due to lack of finance for working capital, the weaker section's families were unable to purchase good quality of feeding stuff for their milch animals. This problem was reported by 40 % small, 52 % marginal farmers and 42.85 % of landless labourers in members and 58.33 % small, 66.66 % marginal farmers and 64.10 % of landless labourers in non-members of dairy co-operatives because of tedious procedures. The present findings can be supported by another researcher (Girish *et al.*, 2016; Patil *et al.*, 2009; Jayalaxmi *et al.*, 1997; Mohammad and Gupta, 2011 and Shivakumar *et al.*, 2011) who reported low price of milk as a major constraint. The institutional agencies should, therefore, supply adequate loan direct to the farmer for purchase of milch animals of better breeds. The farmer should also be provided adequate short term loan for purchasing feed and fodder for their milch animals which will enable the families to get higher milk production and thus better income to sustain the living. It will also save them from the grip of milk vendors who gives advance loan to the milk producers and purchase the milk at low rate from the milk producers.

Conclusion :

It was concluded that non-members of dairy co-operatives face major problems with high severity as compared to members of dairy co-operatives in expanding milk production. Thus, there is a need to educate the farmers regarding better practices of dairying along. Therefore, it is suggested to cover more number of villages under dairy co-operative societies.

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