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A Study on Constraints of Dairy Farming in Telangana State

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Abstract

Dairy farming plays an important role in social and economic livelihood of the farmers of Telangana state. An investigation was carried out to study the cost of milk production in buffaloes of dairy farmers in Karimnagar, Khammam and Rangareddy Districts of Telangana. The data was collected from 240 farmers spread over 24 villages in 6 mandals in the selected districts. The 240 respondents were interviewed as per the questionnaire.

Constraints faced by the dairy farmers in the study area was non-remunerative price for milk stands first (63.11%) followed by high production cost of milk (59.23%), unstable prices (54.50%), high cost of veterinary medicine

(50.66%), lack of knowledge in making value added dairy products (46.66%), lack of preservation facilities for milk (44.88%), problem of mastitis in crossbred cows (42.33%), distant location of veterinary center (40.66%), competition for market from other processors (38.67%), lack of knowledge in clean milk production (35.77%). Lack of knowledge of deworming and vaccination were not identified as major constraint by majority. Poor road infrastructure, lack of clean milk production, high cost of utensils, distance of dairy co-operatives/milk collection center, high incidence of diseases was not identified by the farmers as major constraints faced by them.

Key words : constraints, non-remunerative price, high production cost of milk, problem of mastitis in crossbred cows.

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Constraints of Dairy Farming in Telangana State

Dairying in India is an integral part of agriculture, playing an indispensable role in the upliftment of rural poor. Indian livestock production systems are characterized by low inputs and low yields. Landless, marginal and small farmers own about 68 percent of livestock and contribute largely to the livestock economy. Apart from ensuring nutrient supplies to the families owning dairy animals, dairy sector also offers promising employment opportunities and economic returns on a regular basis. Dairy sector is an important source of secondary income for over 80-90 million milk producers in the country. Cattle and buffalo production systems are still largely traditional based and are giving way to the organized and commercial production systems wherein quality and profitability are given due importance. In spite of traditional based dairy farming, the dairy sector in India has grown substantially over the years with an annual growth rate of above 4 percent.

India ranks first among the world's milk producing nations since 1998 and has the largest bovine population in the world. Milk production in India during the period 1950-51 to 2019-20,

has increased from 17 million tons to 198.4 million tones as compared to 187.7 million tons during 2018-19 recording a growth rate of 5.70 percent. The percapita availability of milk in the country which was 130 grams per day during 1950-51 has increased to 406 grams per day in 2019-20. This represents sustained growth in the availability of milk and milk products for growing population (DAHD&F, GoI 2020).

Telangana, the youngest state in the country stands at 8th position in livestock population with a population of 34.18 lakh milch animals including exotic, crossbreed and indigenous cows and buffaloes compared to 28.97 lakhs in 2014-15. Telangana state stands 13th position in milk production with 5.61 MT of milk production during 2019-20 as compared to 4.2 MT in 2014-15. A majority of the milk produced in the state is being procured by the private dairies.

Materials and Methods

Study area

The study was conducted in the selected mandals

Table I. Geographic Profile Of The Study Area

Sl. No	Parameters	Karimnagar	Khammam	Rangareddy
1.	Area (Km ²)	2,128	4,360	5,031
2.	Latitude and	18.43694° N	17.2473° N	17.3891° N
	Longitude	79.124167° E	80.1514° E	77.8367° E
3.	Average rainfall(mm)	907	972.28	806.0
4.	Average Temperature (°C)	27.7	33.6	39.4
5.	Population (as per 2011 census)	1,005,711	1,401,639	2,446,265
6.	Literacy (%)	69.16	65.95	71.95
7.	Soil type	Sandyloam and red/chelkas interspersed with black cotton soils.	Red and laterite soils	Red soils
8.	Animal Husbandry	Rearing of dairy, sheep, goat, poultry, pig		
9.	Fodder grown	APBN, CO1,	Jowar, maize, APBN, CO1	Jowar, maize, para grass, APBN, CO1
		CO4, Jowar, Maize		
10.	Agriculture	cotton, maize chilli, groundnut, paddy, wheat, sugarcane, turmeric, pulses	cotton, paddy, maize, green gram, mango, sugarcane and chillies	Paddy and ground nut, sorghum, and cotton

Table II. Constraints perceived by dairy farmers

Sl.No.	practices	Constraints	YES	NO
1	Milking	High cost of utensils		
		Lack of preservation facilities for milk		
		Lack of knowledge in clean milk production		
		Lack of knowledge in making value-added dairy products		
		Competition for market from other processors		
		Poor road infrastructure		
2.	Marketing	Irregular payments		
		Unstable prices		
		Non-remunerative price for milk		
		High production cost of milk		
		Distance of dairyco-operatives/ milk collection centers		
		Problem of mastitis in crossbred cows		
3	Healthcare	High cost of veterinary medicine		
		Lack of awareness about importance of vaccination		
		Lack of awareness of Deworming of milch animals		
		Distant location of veterinary hospital		
		High incidence of diseases		

of the three districts which were chosen for the study with regard to collection of information pertaining constraints faced by the farmers. From each district, two mandals and from each mandal four villages were selected. The identification of mandals and villages in the respective mandals of the respective district was done with the help of local Animal Husbandry Department and TSDDCFL, basing on the prevalence of dairy activities in those areas.

Selection of Respondents

While selecting respondents due care was taken to ensure that they were evenly distributed in the village. Ten dairy farmers were selected randomly from each village. The selected respondents were interviewed with the help of predesigned interview schedule and the data were collected. The data was collected from 240 farmers spread over 24 villages in 6 mandals in the selected districts.

Data Collection

The data were collected through the personal interview method. An interview schedule was

prepared keeping in view the objectives of the study and it was common for all respondents. In formulating the questions and statements of the schedule, the investigator has gone through the available literature and sought the opinion and guidance of the experts in the subject concerned, field veterinarians, scientists and progressive farmers in addition to Chairman and Members of the advisory committee. Data was collected through informal and friendly visits to the farmer's homes and farms in the early and late hours of the day. The investigator took the opportunity to collect the information with regard to constraints faced by the rural milk producers through informal discussion with farmer. The constraints were identified by asking the relevant questions in the form of question and answers using the interview schedule prepared for the purpose. The list of constraints in the interview schedule was prepared in consultation with the field veterinarians, progressive farmers and experts who were in active service.

Results and Discussion

A perusal of Table III. presented with regard to

the constraints perceived by the farmers under three main practices i.e., Milking, Marketing and Health care revealed that non-remunerative price for milk (63.11%) in marketing practices was a major constraint as reported by the farmers. The same was reported as major constraint by Yedukondalu *et al.*, (2000) Natichumuthu and Ramkumar, (2004) Mohapatra *et al.*, (2012) Sandeep, (2012) Surkar *et al.*, (2014) Bulbul *et al.*, (2015) Ravi *et al.*, (2015) Vishwas, (2016) Rajpoot *et al.*, (2018) Kalyani, (2018) and Ashok babu, (2019). The probable reason for non-remunerative milk prices might be due to the increased cost of milk production.

High production cost of milk (61.89%) was the major constraint next to non-remunerative price as reported by the farmers. The same constraint was reported by Manish, (2020) and Sandeep, (2020). The high production cost of milk may be due to high cost of feed especially concentrates and hired labour cost.

Unstable prices for milk (54.50%) were another major constraint in marketing practices. It may be due to fluctuations in the fat% of milk. Competition for market from other processors (38.67%) was the least experienced constraint in the present study.

The high cost of veterinary medicine (50.66%) was major constraint among health care services in the study area. The present findings are in line with the reports of Shashi *et al.*, (2009) Akhila and Senthilvel, (2012) Khyalia *et al.*, (2015) Princejot *et al.*, (2015) Malivad *et al.*, (2016) and Ashok babu, (2019). The Veterinary and Animal Husbandry department has to include costly medicine in the rate contract and provide to the farmers. Problem of mastitis in crossbred cows (42.33%) was another major constraint followed by high cost of veterinary medicine observed in the present study. This is due to unhygienic milking practices followed by farmers.

Distant location of the veterinary hospital (40.66%) was found to be one of the constraints as there was a possibility of availing the veterinary services from the trained veterinarians or gopalamitras whenever there was a need and the possibility of passing the information and requesting the services through mobiles was high, in the present study and the same was in accord with Bhatt, P. M (2006) Akila and Senthilvel (2012) Sharma A, (2013) Kalyani, (2018) and Ashok babu, (2019).

Lack of knowledge in making and market

Table III. Percentage and ranks of constraints perceived by dairy farmers

Sl. No	Practices	Constraints	Karimnagar	Khammam	Rangareddy	Average percentage	Rank
1.	Milking	Lack of knowledge in making and market for value added dairy products	43.33	63.33	33.33	46.66	V
		Lack of preservation facilities for milk	43.33	53.33	38.00	44.88	VI
		Lack of knowledge in clean milk production	35.33	37.33	34.67	35.77	X
2.	Marketing	Non-remunerative prices for milk	62.67	63.33	63.33	63.11	I
		High production cost of milk	66.67	62.33	56.67	61.89	II
		Unstable prices	64.33	46.67	52.50	54.50	III
3.	Health care	Competition of market from other processors	38.67	36.67	40.67	38.67	IX
		High cost of veterinary medicine	48.67	53.33	50.00	50.66	IV
		Problem of mastitis in crossbred cows	45.33	35.67	46.00	42.33	VII
		Distant location of veterinary hospital	43.33	33.33	45.33	40.66	VIII

for value added products (46.66%) was the major constraint in milking practices. The same was reported by Vishwas (2016). Lack of preservation facilities for milk (44.88%) was found to be another major constraint in milking practices, the same constraint was reported by Rajput *et al.*, (2012) Ravi *et al.*, (2015) and Kiran Kumar, (2021).

Lack of knowledge regarding clean milk production (35.77%), was the least experienced constraints in milking practices in the study area. The present findings are in accordance with the results reported by Sabapara, (2014). Low knowledge in clean milk production might be due to low awareness levels of farmers in that area. It is necessary that the dairy development department must conduct skill oriented long term training programs for the production of value-added milk products and about better management of milch animals coupled with the importance and techniques of clean milk production so that they get remunerative prices from their milk.

Conclusion

It was concluded that the constraints faced by the dairy farmers in the study area was non-remunerative price for milk stands first (63.11%) followed by high production cost of milk (59.23%), unstable prices (54.50%), high cost of veterinary medicine (50.66%), lack of knowledge in making value added dairy products (46.66%), lack of preservation facilities for milk (44.88%) problem of mastitis in crossbred cows (42.33%), distant location of veterinary center (40.66%), competition for market from other processors (38.67%), cack of knowledge in clean milk production (35.77%). Most dairy farmers did not consider ignorance of immunization and deworming to be a significant barrier. Farmers did not list poor road infrastructure, a lack of clean milk production, high utensil costs, distance to dairy co-ops/milk collecting centers, or a high frequency of illnesses as their top constraints.

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Housing and Summer Management Practices Followed by Buffalo Farmers in Yanam Region of Puducherry

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Abstract

A study was carried out to find out the housing management practices of buffaloes in Yanam region, Union Territory (UT) of Puducherry. A total of 150 respondents were selected at random for the study. The study revealed that 88.0 per cent of the farmers housed their buffaloes in kutcha type sheds with thatched roof (74.8%) and mud flooring (89.4%). Manger was provided by (85.3%) of the respondents. Majority of the buffalo farmers were heaping dung on the land and later used as farm yard manure. Proper

ventilation facility was observed in the buffalo sheds. The study suggested that improving knowledge on housing management among the buffalo farmers of Yanam region would result in better buffalo management leading to better livelihood.

Key words: buffalo, management, manger, ventilation, wallowing

Buffaloes are considered as the backbone of rural economy in India and they occupy a prominent place in social, economic and cultural life of Indian rural community. In order to improve buffalo production, it is essential to investigate the housing and summer management practices for buffaloes adopted by farmers

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