

An economic analysis of dairy enterprises in Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

The survey was conducted in the year 2006-07 by way of selecting 100 milk producers randomly from four villages of Wardha district of Maharashtra. The data were analyzed for socio economic characteristics of milk producers, management practices and economics of milk production. The annual maintenance cost of buffalo was more than cow. Feed and fodder was the major items of expenditure in milk production. Overall gross income, net cost and net income per animal per year was Rs. 25045.19, Rs. 19420.76 and Rs. 2294.28, respectively in case of cow and in buffalo Rs. 29726.13, Rs. 22616.28 and Rs. 3660.90 with per litre cost of production Rs. 11.21 and Rs. 14.69 in cow and buffalo, respectively. The buffalo was more profitable than cow and hence adoption of recommended practices was more in buffalo.

INTRODUCTION

In India dairy enterprises play a significant role in the production of milk. Due to population explosion and urbanization, there is a greater demand for milk and milk products. The dairy enterprises provide income and employment to the weaker section of the society (Shanmugam, 1991). The returns from small holding can be maximized by proper combination of dairy enterprises with crop production. Under the dairy enterprises, livestock management is an important aspect of dairy sector. Livestock management involves the integrated application of the principles of animal breeding, feeding, housing and disease control in a manner suitable for a particular situation. Management of livestock involves application of a large number of jobs at the proper time and in proper manner and hence it is necessary to study the different management practices followed by the milk producer in a particular locality.

Milk production in India is in the hands of millions of such milk producers who are ignorant about the economic aspects of milk production. Therefore, the study of economics of milk production is of practical interest to milk producers in pointing out the directions to bring down the cost of production of milk, thus ensuring good margin of returns to producers and their price to the consumer indirectly governing the supply and demand position of milk. It is also helpful in taking rational economic decision by selecting the type and

breed of milch animals, size herd and allocation at their resources such as land, labour and capital etc. Under such conditions, it becomes necessary to study the socio economic characteristics of milk producers and to study the different management practices followed by the milk producers and also to study the economics of milk production.

METHODOLOGY

The study of an economic analysis of dairy enterprises in Wardha district of Maharashtra was carried out. The required information was categorized into three different groups based on their daily milk yield. The random sampling technique was adopted. The Arvi and Karanja Tahsils of Wardha district were purposively selected, from these two Tahsils and the four villages namely Danapur, Chapan, Wadhona and Pimpalkhuta were selected based on higher livestock population and milk production. In all 100 milk producers were selected, out of which 50 were cow milk producers and 50 were buffalo milk producers which were grouped and classified into low yield (20 to 30 l) medium yield (31 to 40 l) and high yield (41 to 50 l) according to their daily milk yield.

The primary data pertaining to the year 2006-2007 from the selected milk producers were collected by personal interview and pre-tested questionnaire. To study the socio-economic characteristics of selected milk producers, relevant information was collected with respect to the operational holdings,

Key words :

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