RESEARCH JOURNAL OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRY SCIENCE (Apr. & Oct., 2011); 2 (1&2) : 77-79

RESEARCH PAPER

Received : Jun., 2011; *Revised:* Aug. 2011; *Accepted :* Sep., 2011

Socio-economic status of the dairy farmers from Wai tahsil of Satara district

S. M. KALE, S.B. ADANGALE, T. R. WALKUNDE AND D. M. CHOUDHRI

ABSTRACT

The investigation was conducted to review the situation of dairying in Wai Tahsil of Satara district with the objectives to study the socio-economic status of the dairy farmers. The survey work was carried out in the milk pocket areas of 10 villages from Wai Tahsil of Satara district. About 44.17 per cent farmers hold land ranged between 2 to 5 ha and 43.33 per cent dairy farmers kept 1 to 2 animals on their farms. However, none of the farmers had a practice of preservation of fodder as silage to feed crossbred cattle. The overall average milk production was 7.86 kg/day were observed.

KEY WORDS : Milk production, Economics, Dairy cattle, Dairy farmer

Kale, S.M., Adangale, S.B.,Walkunde, T.R. and Choudhri, D.M.(2011). Socio-economic status of the dairy farmers from Wai tahsil of satara district, *Res. J. Animal Hus. & Dairy Sci.,* **2** (1&2) : 77-79.

INTRODUCTION

Dairy farming plays a very important role in improving the economy of the country. Milk has an important place in human diet. Milk production in India is predominantly the domain of small holders in mixed farming system. Indian dairying has made rapid strides, but animal productivity remained low. The average dairying assumes great significance in providing employment to rural people as well as a stable source of income to augment to their earnings from main enterprise they follow *i.e.* crop husbandry. Dairy enterprise plays a very important role in the rural economy of India. It provides income and employment not only to the workers sections of the society but also to the farming community of the country in general. The dairy farmers are facing several problems in adoption and rearing of crossbred cows.

Correspondence to:
S.B. ADANGALE, Department of Animal Science and Dairy Science, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, AHMEDNAGAR (M.S.) INDIA

Authors' affiliations:
S.M. KALE, Department of Animal Science and Dairy Science, College of Agriculture, Maldad, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, AHMEDNAGAR (M.S.) INDIA

T.R. WALKUNDE, Department of Animal Science and Dairy Science, K.K. Wagh College of Agriculture, NASHIK (M.S.) INDIA

D.M. CHOUDHRI, Department of Animal Science and Dairy Science, College of Agriculture, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, AHMEDNAGAR (M.S.) INDIA

Improved management practices should be adopted to increase the profitability of dairy farms with particular reference to selective breeding, comfortable housing, scientific milking, labour utilization, marketing, feeding and disease prevention (Sampath, 1994). Hence, management practices of dairy cattle followed by dairy farmer play a vital role in improving the milk production. In this situation, it is essential to have the information about how scientific knowledge is acquired by the farmers and constraints faced by them.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Location of research: The research site, namely, Wai Tahsil from Satara district comprised of 117 villages, out of 10 villages having higher milk production from crossbred cattle were selected for study.

Cropping pattern:

Major crops grown were cereals, pulses and sugarcane. Forage crops like maize, lucerne, napier, berseem, etc. were cultivated under irrigated areas.

Livestock situation:

The data on livestock population showed that amongst the various species of livestock, the crossbred formed the major portion even though sizable population of indigenous cattle was also observed. The main purpose of rearing indigenous cattle is for draft power, manure for soil and buffaloes were maintained for milk production.