

A Study on Dairy Farming with special reference to Mettupalayam Town

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ABSTRACT

Dairy farming is an important source of subsidiary income to small/marginal farmers and agricultural labourers. A sample consisting of 120 dairy farmers were selected randomly from Mettupalayam town to study their current position. Simple percentage analysis is used to analyse the data taken for the study. The objective of the study is to analyze the profile of dairy farmers in Mettupalayam town and various problems faced by them in general. This study concludes that the practice of dairy farming should be encouraged in each house holds as it may add additional revenue to the income to the family and it is highly nutritious of including milk and milk products in the food habits of the people.

1. Introduction

Dairy Farming is a major livestock enterprise in India where small and marginal farmers are engaged to earn their livelihood. Dairying is an important means of livelihood to millions of rural poor farmers. Milk production and processing of milk for product preparations play a vital role in India's agricultural economy. India has emerged as the largest producer of milk in the world in 2001 with an annual production of 84 million tones and continues to occupy the top position in the subsequent years. The World Bank funded Operational Flood (OF) Programme commonly known as "White Revolution" was instrumental for enhancing the milk production in the country. India is a country having diverse nature of social set up just as it has a varied type of natural and climatic conditions. Uplift of the villagers in the country is one of the remedies (as envisaged by our father of nation) to bring about the balanced regional development of the country.

2. Objectives of the study

- To analyze the profile of dairy farmers in Mettupalayam town.
- To analyze various problems faced by them in general.

3. Methodology

The present study has been undertaken in Mettupalayam town with 120 respondents. The statistical tools have used to analyze the primary data is simple percentage analysis.

4. Review of literature

Ainun Pizar Seruni et.al (2014) has made a study on "The insight into financial performance of commercial and small scale dairy farming at Thailand". The study aims to find the financial performance among commercial and small scale dairy farming. It highlighted the socio-economic characteristics of the respondent's management practices, dairy products, household welfare and constraints that hindered effective production in dairy farming. Data were collected by using structured interview schedule administered

on 80 dairy farmers randomly selected. Analyses of data were carried out using frequency counts and percentages. Whereas secondary data were obtained from the "CFM" farm and related sources. It is found that commercial dairy farming as profitable industry than those of small scale dairy farming. It was suggested that there is need for extension services at affordable costs with adequate training in dairy husbandry to the small scale dairy farmers so as to raise the income accrue to the farmers

Anjani kumar (2011) has made a study on "Small holder dairy farmer's access to modern milk marketing chain in India". The study aims to find the growing presence of modern milk supply chains and traditional milk supply chain dominant factors in the Indian milk market. For the purpose of the study primary data collected in the year 2007 at the farm level in two states, Bihar and Punjab. These states capture the geographic and institutional diversity of milk production and milk marketing. Primary data collections with 300 respondents were taken. It uses interpretation of co efficient and OLS model as a tool. It is found that the traditional chain is being replaced, albeit slowly with the commercialization of dairying. It was suggested that further expansion of the modern milk supply chains by and large is dependent on the development of milk collection infrastructural facilities at the doorstep, incentive pricing and rewards for quality produce can help the dairy farmers to attain success in their business.

5. Analysis and Interpretation

Demographic Profile

The percentage analysis is used to determine the demographic profile of the respondents taken for the study

TABLE 1-Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Demographic	Groups	No of respondents	Per cent
Gender	Male	82	68.3
	Female	38	31.7
Age	Below 30	20	16.7

	30-40	37	30.8
	41-50	40	33.3
	Above 50	23	19.2
Marital status	Married	101	84.2
	Unmarried	19	15.8
Main occupation	Business	18	15
	Employment	17	14.2
	Agriculture	69	57.5
	Dairy farming	11	9.2
	Home maker	5	4.2
Monthly income from your dairy farming	Less than 10,000	21	17.5
	10,000-20,000	37	30.8
	20,001-30,000	37	40
	More than 30,000	25	20.8
Monthly expenses for your dairy farming	Less than 5,000	23	19.2
	5,000-10,000	60	50
	10,001-15,000	32	26.7
	More than 15,000	5	4.2

Place of purchase of cattle	Local market	36	30
	Local vendor	47	39.2
	Farm breeds	24	20
	Free bies	13	10.8
Type of cattle shed	Concrete	16	13.3
	Tiled	10	8.3
	Thatched	67	55.8
	No shed	27	22.5
Main source used to maintaining the cattle farm	Own fund	79	65.8
	Bank loan	18	15
	Govt aid	16	13.3
	Other lender	7	5.8
Quantity of milk marketed per day from all animals	1-3	14	11.7
	4-6	48	40
	7-9	36	30
	More than 10 liters	22	18.3

The study indicates that 68.3 3 per cent of the respondents are male, 33.3 per cent of respondents belong to the age group of 41 -50 years, 84.2 per cent of respondents are married, 57.5 per cent of respondents main occupation is agriculture, 40 per cent of respondents earn Rs. 20001-30000 per month, 50 per cent of respondents spent Rs.5000-10000 per monthon dairy farming .

The study indicates that 84.2 per cent of the respondents have single ownership farm, 35 per cent of respondents are having 3-6 cattle's, 52 per cent of respondent's cattle give 3-5 liters of milk per day, 45.8 respondent's have Mixed breed of cattles, 32.5 per cent of the respondents maintain their farm for 6-10 years, 44.2 per cent of the dairy farmers are involved in dairy farming for gaining secondary income, 54.2 per cent of respondents family members help them regularly in dairy farming, 55.8 per cent of respondent's cattle shed is thatched, 65.8 per cent of respondents use their own fund, 40 per cent of respondents market 4-6 liters of milk per day.

TABLE 2 -Current Position of Dairy Farming

Nature of ownership of the farm	Single	101	84.2
	Joint	19	15.8
Number of cattle in the farm	Less than 3	39	32.5
	3-6	42	35
	More than 6	39	32.5
No of cattle's gives milk	Less than 3	44	36.7
	3-5	52	43.3
	More than 5	24	20
Breed of animal	Country breed	47	39.2
	Foreign breed	18	15
	Mixed	55	45.8
Maintain the farm	1-5 years	28	23.3
	6-10 years	39	32.5
	11-15 years	35	29.2
	More than 15 years	18	15
Reason for being in Dairy farming	Family business	34	28.3
	Low investment	27	22.5
	Secondary income	53	44.2
	Others	6	5
Family members help in dairy farming	Regularly	65	54.2
	Sometimes	41	34.2
	Never	14	11.7

TABLE 3 - Problems Faced during Dairy Farming

PROBLEMS	Always	Sometimes	Never	Total
Lack of grazing land	13 10.83%	49 40.83%	58 48.3%	120
Delay in buyers payment	60 50%	56 46.6%	4 3.3%	120
Lack of veterinary services	29 24.16%	68 56.6%	23 19.16%	120
Price of fodders	-	38 31.6%	82 68.3%	120
Price of cattle's	5 4.16%	70 58.3%	45 37.5%	120
Disease of cattle's	8 6.6%	74 61.6%	38 31.6%	120
Lack of government support	19 15 .83%	68 56.6%	33 27 .5%	120
Lack of awareness	11 9 16%	86 71.6%	23 19 .16%	120
Lack of infrastructure	17 14 .16%	63 52.5%	40 33 .3%	120
Man power/labour problems	17 14 .16%	65 52.5%	38 31 .6%	120

From the above table it is inferred that 48.3 per cent respondents states that always lack of grazing land is the main problem, 50 per cent of them never delays in buyers pay, 56.6 per cent of them stated that sometimes there is lack of veterinary service, 68.3 per cent of them indicated that always there is change in price of fodder, 58.3 per cent of them stated that sometimes price of cattle is high, 61.6 per cent of them sometimes face disease of cattle as a problem, 56.6 per cent of them stated that sometimes there is lack of government support, 71.6 per cent of them stated that sometimes they are lack of awareness regarding the facilities available, 52.5 per cent of the respondents stated that sometimes there is lack of infrastructure, 52.5 per cent of them stated that sometimes manpower and labour is a problem.

6. Suggestions

- Every household should take individual initiative in dairy farming.
- The local Governments and state Government should encourage the villagers in dairy farming.
- More co-operative societies should be started in the villages for collecting and processing milk.

- Bank should be ready for providing financial assistance as subsidized loan to the villagers who are engaged in dairy farming.
- Motivation and other encouragements should be provided to the villagers to start dairy farming.
- Award should be instituted to the best dairy farmers in the district.

7. Conclusion

Animal husbandry is said to be an ancient practice of human being from time immemorial. People used to maintain cattle farming as a practice not only for profit making but for mental satisfaction. But the practice of dairy farming is limited in few households as people find it unprofitable. Moreover the cost incurred for dairy farming and lack of availability of labors also prevent the villagers of Mettupalayam from entering in to the field of dairy farming. But the practice of dairy farming should be encouraged in each house holds as it may add additional revenue to the family and it is highly nutritious of including milk and milk products in the food habits of the people.

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