



ADOPTION OF PRE AND POST HARVEST DAIRY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES BY THE WOMEN MEMBERS OF FARMERS- SCIENTISTS FORUM

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Abstract: *The Kolhapur district is one of the unique district of Maharashtra having fertile land and high potentialities for the dairy development. There are five major co-operative milk unions working in the Kolhapur district having total milk collection are 15-lack lits/day. In this district, the efforts of women contribute a lot in the production of milk. Hence, it is imperative to study the dairy occupation run by women farmers. The study was undertaken in purposively selected Kolhapur district of the Maharashtra State in the year 2008-2009. All the 60 women members of the Farmers-Scientists Forum working under National Agricultural Research Project, Shenda Park, Kolhapur were treated as a sample of the study. Majority of the respondents had no knowledge about the type of byre, grooming before milking and also there was no adoption. In case of feeding management, majority of them had knowledge but adoption is very less. About the method of milking, majority (61.67 percent) of them possess the full knowledge but adoption of full hand method is only 18.33 percent. It is seen that the major constraints encountered were no remunerative rate to milk (73.33), shortage of dry fodder (65.00 percent), and inadequate availability of veterinary facilities at village level (56.67percent).*

Key words: *Management practices, Dairy farming, Knowledge, Adoption.*

Introduction

At National or International level, dairy as a subsidiary occupation has proved its significant role and contribution in the economy not only for the farming community but also the national economy of various countries. Dairy is one of the important occupations in the rural areas. It provides a subsidiary occupation to the rural people; relieves them of the hazards of under employment to some extent; provides a balanced food to the growing generation and flow of regular income to the farmers.

The Kolhapur district is one of the unique district of Maharashtra having fertile land and high potentialities for the dairy development. There are five major co-operative milk unions working in the Kolhapur district having total milk collection are 15-lack lits/day. In this district, the efforts of women contribute a lot in the production of milk. Hence, it is imperative to study the dairy occupation run by women farmers. The women Farmers-Scientists Forum was started at NARP, Shenda Park, Kolhapur

from January 2006 under Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Dist. Ahmednagar. All 60 women members of the Farmers-Scientists Forum are engaged in dairy business. Hence, the present study was undertaken to study the knowledge and adoption of dairy management practices of the women members of the Farmers-Scientists Forum and constraints faced by them in dairy farming.

Methodology

The study was undertaken in purposively selected Kolhapur district of the Maharashtra State in the year 2008-2009. All the 60 women members of the Farmers-Scientists Forum working under National Agricultural Research Project, Shenda Park, Kolhapur were treated as a sample of the study. The data was collected personally with the help of structured interview schedule. The same was analyzed and presented in the following tables.

Results and Discussions

Knowledge and adoption of dairy management practices of the women members of the Farmers-Scientists Forum.

Table1: Distribution of the respondents according to their knowledge and adoption of dairy management practices.

Sr. No.	Dairy management practices	Knowledge (N=60)			Adoption (N=60)		
		Full	Partial	No	Full	Partial	No
1. Housing Management							
A) Type of Byre							
	a. Line (Simple)	60 (100.00)	-	-	56 (93.33)	-	-
	b. Head to Head	20 (33.33)	-	-	4 (6.67)	-	-
	c. Tail to Tail	10 (16.67)	-	-	-	-	-
B)	Disposal of dung from byre (2 to 3 times/day)	60 (100.00)	-	-	60 (100.00)	-	-
C)	Washing of Animals daily	60 (100.00)	-	-	29 (48.33)	13 (21.67)	-
D)	Grooming before milking	17 (28.33)	-	43 (71.67)	-	-	60 (100.00)
2. Feeding Management							
A) Milch animals feed (kg/day)							
a. Cow/Buffalo							
	i. Green fodder 12 to 15 kg	18 (30.00)	42 (70.00)	-	8 (13.33)	52 (86.67)	-
	ii. Dry fodder 5 to 1 kg	27 (45.00)	33 (55.00)	-	19 (31.67)	41 (68.33)	-
	iii. Ration 2 kg	23 (38.33)	31 (51.67)	6 (10.00)	11 (18.33)	27 (45.00)	22 (36.67)
	iv. Mineral mixture 50-60 gm	32 (53.33)	20 (33.33)	8 (13.33)	3 (05.00)	12 (20.00)	45 (75.00)
	v. Pregnancy ration 2-3 kg.	12 (20.00)	6 (10.00)	42 (70.00)	02 (03.33)	7 (11.67)	51 (85.00)
B)	Dry animals ration 1 to 1.5 kg.	24 (40.00)	12 (20.00)	24 (40.00)	13 (21.67)	3 (05.00)	44 (73.33)
C)	Production ration (40% of milk production)	27 (45.00)	9 (15.00)	24 (40.00)	15 (25.00)	11 (18.33)	34 (56.67)
D)	60 to 70 lits. of water 2 times/day/big animal	42 (70.00)	8 (13.33)	10 (16.67)	40 (66.67)	20 (33.33)	-
3. Health Care							
A)	Identification of disease	15 (25.00)	45 (75.00)	-	11 (18.33)	49 (81.67)	-
B)	Source of control of disease (Local & Animal Husbandry Services)	60 (100)	-	-	47 (78.33)	13 (21.67)	-
C)	Method of milking	37 (61.67)	23 (38.33)	-	-	-	-
	i. Full hand method	-	-	-	11 (18.33)	-	-
	ii. Stripping	-	-	-	2 (03.33)	-	-
	iii. Knuckling	-	-	-	47 (78.33)	-	-
	iv. Machine	43 (71.67)	-	17 (28.33)	-	-	60 (100.00)

D)	8 to hrs.difference between 2 milking	53 (88.33)	7 (11.67)	-	39 (65.000)	21 (35.00)	-
E)	Time required for milking (5 to 7 minutes)	37 (61.67)	23 (38.33)	-	13 (21.67)	47 (78.33)	-
4. Care after calving							
	i. Cleaning of byre	56 (99.33)	4 (6.67)	-	55 (91.67)	5 (8.33)	-
	ii. Washing of cow/buffalo	60 (100.00)	-	-	60 (100.00)	-	-
	iii. Cleaning of calf	60 (100.00)	-	-	60 (100.00)	-	-
	iv. Removal/Dropping of Placenta (6-8 hrs. after calving)	47 (78.33)	13 (21.67)	-	39 (65.00)	21 (35.00)	-
	v. Feeding of colostrum to calf (8 to 10% of the body weight)	49 (81.67)	11 (18.33)	-	17 (28.33)	43 (71.67)	-
5. Breeding Management							
	i. heat detection according to sign	46 (76.67)	3 (5.00)	-	32 (53.33)	9 (15.00)	-
	ii. Use of AI	47 (78.33)	-	-	39 (65.00)	8 (13.33)	-
	iii. use of 100% breeding bull for breeding	45 (75.00)	-	-	31 (51.67)	-	-

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

It is observed from Table 1 that majority of the respondents had no knowledge about the type of byre, grooming before milking and also there was no adoption.

In case of feeding management, majority of them had knowledge but adoption is very less. About the method of milking, majority (61.67 percent) of them possess the full knowledge but adoption of full hand method is only 18.33 percent.

As far as the care after calving is concerned, majority of the respondents had full knowledge and adoption is also more. In case of breeding management nearly all of them (75.00 percent) possess the full knowledge and majority of them (more than 50.00 percent) adopted the same.

Constraints faced by the respondents in dairy farming

The information regarding the constraints faced by the respondents is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Distribution of the farmers according to their constraints in dairy farming

Sr. No.	Constraints faced	No. of respondents (N=60)	Per cent
1	No remunerative rate to milk.	44	73.33
2	In-adequate availability of credit facility with high rate of interest.	16	26.67
3	High cost of feeds.	17	28.33
4	In-adequate availability of veterinary facilities at village level.	34	56.67
5	Shortage of dry fodder.	39	65.00
6	Less availability of the services of government veterinary personnel.	29	48.33

From table 2, it is seen that the major constraints encountered by the women dairy farmers were no remunerative rate to milk (73.33), shortage of dry fodder (65.00 percent), and inadequate availability of veterinary facilities at village level (56.67percent).

Conclusions

1. majority of the respondents had no knowledge about the type of byre, grooming before milking and also no adoption of it.
2. In case of feeding management and methods of milking majority of them had full knowledge but adoption is very less.
3. In case of care after calving, health care and breeding management majority of the respondents had full knowledge and adoption is also more.

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4. The major constraints encountered by the women dairy farmers were no remunerative rate to milk (73.33 percent), shortage of dry fodder (65.00 percent) and inadequate availability of veterinary facilities at village level (56.67 percent).

Recommendations

1. Majority of the respondents lacking in knowledge and adoption of general cattle management practices i.e. type of byre, grooming before milking and methods of milking. So the training should be organized by NARP, Kolhapur in this regards.
2. Credit facility should be made available with minimum interest as per the need of the women dairy farmers.
3. Veterinary facilities at village level may be strengthened.