Original Research Article

Dairy farmers in Uttar Pradesh: Issues and Approaches

Abstract

A purposive cum random sampling technique was adopted to study a sample of 270 dairy farmers in district Sant Kabir Nagar of Uttar Pradesh. It was all done to get acquainted with the constraints associated with the dairy respondents. Lack of technical knowledge and modern practices were found missing in the study area. the farmers showed desire to get services, infrastructure along with services of experts of concerned area so that they can get aware of modern techniques and make farm business successful.

Keywords: Dairy, milk, constraints, suggestions

Introduction

Indian agriculture is characterized, in recent years, by shrinking farm size, increasing number of operational holdings, high degree of fragmentation and declining contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the most disturbing fact being, the absolute number of people dependent on agriculture for jobs and income is increasing owing to low absorptive capacity for labor in industry. Land, being the scarcest natural resources, it is being increasingly realized that there is a need to make the best use of this resources through diversification. This call for an expansion of emerging high demand sub-sectors chiefly livestock and dairying, horticulture, fisheries, poultry and forestry. It has been pointed out that there is a strong need to concentrate on enterprise like animal husbandry, which is considered to be quite compatible with the prevalent farming system to form an economically viable mode of production system. There is need for analysis of the dairy sector in India to take into consideration the interaction between crop and livestock production systems. Despite of such developments, there is also number of problems faced by the dairy sector. We can see the global population is increasing day by day and also the agricultural land shrinkage. Therefore, it puts a leverage upon the dairy sector to fulfil the requirement of the demand which is continuously growing. The production and marketing both the area of the dairy sector must be smooth enough by the suggestions of the policy makers and government assistances, so that it can achieve the demand and supply. Proper loan facility, technological improvements, knowledge adoption methodologies can be the tools which should be strengthened enough to assist the dairy households for promotion of the sector. Constraints

like lack of proper knowledge regarding scientific management of dairy animals, inadequate knowledge about balanced feeding with lack in good quality feed and fodder availability, unavailability of high genetic merit indigenous bulls, poor conception rate through AI and lack of sufficient veterinary services are major constraints associated to every dairy household especially subsistence ones (Gamit, 2021). Solution of many of the constraints can be solved by the meeting of producer groups (Saran; 2020). Hence, dairy sector should be improved regularly. Keeping in view all the facts, it becomes necessary to take it as a research study. The study will emphasize on district conditions in the respective area and draw a probability-based study for overall state as well as the whole country. It will be helpful to draw probability for measures to be taken to meet the demand on the basis of the observed scenario. Therefore, the study will be useful in assessing the present economics of dairy farming and also future potential of dairy industry in the state. The results of the study will be useful for policy makers, farmers and input agencies involved in promotion of dairy farming, formulation of policies and strategies to boost the production of milk.in order for India to become a leading performer at world level it needs to make strategy to solve ground level problems of farmers (Gamit; 2021).

Methodology

The study was conducted during the session 2020-21 in district Sant Kabir Nagar of eastern Uttar Pradesh. Research was done through survey method and adopted purposive cum random sampling technique. Objective of the study was to analyse the status of the dairy practices in the selected area. Since, the district has rural based population and agricultural practices are dominant. Therefore, role of livestock rearing plays a major role in creation of additional income sources for the dairy practitioners. 270 dairy farmers were selected from all the 9 blocks of the district to collect the primary data on the basis of their agricultural land holding and studied in three categories i.e., marginal, medium and large dairy farmers. During survey the constraints revealed by the dairy farmers were enlisted and then the constraints which were most common among maximum number of respondents were selected and enumerated. Similarly, the suggestions from the respondents were also enlisted. Simple statistical and mathematical techniques was used to analyse the data collected for drawing the results.

Results and Discussion

This section presents the constraints facing actually by the dairy producers in the study area. The problems which farmers faced and revealed while survey is enumerated and presented in

the tables. Suggestions which are recommended by the dairy farmers are listed and arranged in order to get well acquaint about the status.

Constraints in production of milk:

The category-wise constraints of milk expressed by sample milk producers worked out in Table 1 indicates that in the whole area of study the sample milk producers expressed majorly four main constraints groups in production of milk such as Feeding related Constraints, Technical Constraints, Financial Constraints and Others constraints. On an overall the major constraints faced by the milk producer in feeding was found 80.37 per cent for inadequate knowledge about balance feeding. 91.11 per cent which was maximum was for lack in knowledge of latest technologies among the technical constraints. In the finance related constraints, the high insurance charges were found maximum i.e., 84.44 per cent. Lack of medical supervision was the constraints with maximum number of milk producers in the study area which was found 76.67 per cent.

Suggestions for improvement in production of milk:

The category-wise suggestion for improvement in production of milk suggested by sample, milk producers worked- out in Table 2 reflects that for the feeding related suggestions expert guidance was found with maximum number of producers i.e., 89.63 per cent. Awareness of latest technologies to the dairy farmers was suggested by maximum number of the milk producers i.e., 94.44 per cent for improving to more better conditions in the study area. Within the finance related suggestions direct credit for dairy farmers was suggested by almost all the sample respondents which was found 99.26 per cent. Other suggestions provided by the sample respondents for the enrichment over the production of milk includes presence of trained medical supervision to the milk producers in the study area which was found to be 46.67 per cent.

Conclusion

There should be proper availability of experts who can guide and train the farmers in dairy farming. Proper trainings and meetings must be regularly organised by the concerning authorities so that farmers can be aware of the latest technologies, practices, balance dietary practices etc.

Table 1. Category-wise Constraints of Milk Production Expressed by Sample Milk Producers

(In Numbers)

Category of Milk Producer	No. of Samples	Feeding related Constraints			Technical Constraints			Financial Constraints		Others		
		Inadequate dry fodder in off season	Inadequate knowledge about balance feeding	High cost of concentrates	Zero knowledge of latest Technologies	Unavailability of HV bulls	Lack of assistance/trainings from KVKs	High Insurance Charges	Excessive Paper Work for Credit	Loss/Death	Infertility	Lack of trained Medical Supervision
Marginal	101	98	101	96	99	90	100	97	93	62	48	37
%	**100**	**97.03**	**100**	**95.05**	**98.02**	**89.11**	**99.01**	**96.04**	**92.08**	**61.39**	**47.52**	**36.63**
Medium	105	72	89	51	94	63	105	85	84	50	88	78
%	**100**	**68.57**	**84.76**	**48.57**	**89.52**	**60**	**100**	**80.95**	**80**	**47.62**	**83.81**	**74.29**
Large	64	39	27	19	53	41	55	46	46	23	14	92
%	**100**	**60.94**	**42.19**	**29.69**	**82.81**	**64.06**	**85.94**	**71.88**	**71.88**	**35.94**	**21.88**	**143.8**
Total	270	209	217	166	246	194	260	228	223	135	150	207
%	**100**	**77.41**	**80.37**	**61.48**	**91.11**	**71.85**	**96.3**	**84.44**	**82.59**	**50**	**55.56**	**76.67**

Table 2. Category-wise Suggestions related to Milk Production Expressed by Sample Milk Producers

(In Numbers)

Category of Milk Producer	No. of Samples	Feeding related Suggestions			Technical Suggestions			Finance related Suggestions			Others		
		Presence of Fodder Market/Neighbourhood	Expert Meetings about balance feeding	Decrease cost of concentrates	Awareness of latest Technologies	Availability of HV bulls at Breeding Stations	Assistance/ trainings from KVKs	Increase Returns by decreasing costs	Decrease Insurance Charges	Direct Credit	Decrease Loss/Death	Decrease Infertility	Presence of trained Medical Supervision

Marginal	101	99	101	95	95	85	101	100	101	101	56	48	33
%	**100**	**98.02**	**100**	**94.06**	**94.06**	**84.16**	**100**	**99.01**	**100**	**100**	**55.45**	**47.52**	**32.67**
Medium	105	68	92	60	96	31	94	54	92	103	49	31	76
%	**100**	**64.76**	**87.62**	**57.14**	**91.43**	**29.52**	**89.52**	**51.43**	**87.62**	**98.1**	**46.67**	**29.52**	**72.38**
Large	64	33	49	51	64	12	59	23	61	64	13	42	17
%	**100**	**51.56**	**76.56**	**79.69**	**100**	**18.75**	**92.19**	**35.94**	**95.31**	**100**	**20.31**	**65.63**	**26.56**
Total	270	200	242	206	255	128	254	177	254	268	118	121	126
%	**100**	**74.07**	**89.63**	**76.3**	**94.44**	**47.41**	**94.07**	**65.56**	**94.07**	**99.26**	**43.7**	**44.81**	**46.67**

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