

## CONSTRAINTS FACED BY THE DAIRY FARMERS IN BREEDING, FEEDING AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

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### ABSTRACT

*The present study was conducted in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra to identify the constraints faced by the dairy farmers in adopting breeding, feeding and management practices. Twelve villages were selected from four blocks of Kolhapur district. Ten farmers from each village were selected on the basis of maximum milk collection. 120 dairy farmers were included for investigation. The dairy farmers having three or more than three milch animals were selected. The result of the study revealed that “animal cost is very high” was the most important constraint followed by “high market rates of concentrate feeds”. As regards, their problems discussed in the present study towards the dairy management practices, the concerned agencies should provide sufficient credit facilities and incentives such as subsidy of loans etc. with lower interest rates for purchase of feed, fodder, cattle and buffalo in order to increase milk production and to improve their economic status.*

**Keywords :** constraints, dairy farmers, breeding feeding management practices

### INTRODUCTION

Dairying occupation in India has been an age old practice mainly because of its complementary relation with agriculture and vegetarian habit of the majority of the people. Maharashtra is one of the leading state in milk production which contributes 9089 thousand tones milk production in the year 2013-2014. India ranks first in livestock population, around 512.05 million livestock of 199 million cattle, 108.7 million buffaloes. (Livestock census, 2012). The dairy industry in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra state is progressing mainly because of availability of land, favorable agro climatic conditions, good irrigations, better transports facilities, suitable cropping pattern, efficient cross breeding programs and above all strong co-operative base.

### OBJECTIVE

To know the constraints faced by the dairy farmers in breeding, feeding and management practices in kolhapur district

### METHODOLOGY

There are numerous constraints in dairy farming due to which farmers are not adopting the recommended practices. So an attempt has been made to ascertain the constraints perceived by dairy farmers in adoption of recommended dairy management, health care, feeding and breeding practices. Through random sampling method 120 dairy farmers from twelve villages of four blocks (Karveer, Kagal, Hatkanangale and Panhala) were selected. For the purpose of identifying constraints pretested interview schedule was used.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1 : Constraints faced by the dairy farmers in breeding, feeding and management practices** (n=120)

Sr. No.	Constraints	Number	Percent	Rank
1	Cost of milch animals is very high	97	80.83	I
2	High market rates of concentrate feeds	96	80.00	II
3	Unauthentic straw of insemination	90	75.00	III
4	Loan supply by bank is inadequate and untimely for dairy	87	72.50	IV
5	Milk rate are not proper as per the cost of production	76	63.33	V
6	Shortage of labour	67	55.83	VI

The dairy farmers faced “animal cost is very high” as the first (80.83 per cent) and most important constraint. Increasing demand of dairy animals also by products like urine and dung is used as an organic manure and is a daily source of income for the dairy farmers, etc ultimately gets higher prices. The findings are in line with Eqbal et. al. (2013).

The second important perceived constraint was “high market rates of concentrate feeds” (80.00 per cent). As raw material is Costly also processing makes the concentrates costlier. Farmers purchase concentrates more from private sector and there is linkage of middleman in this sector so the concentrates fetches more prices in the market. The findings are in line with Badole S. (2010). “Unauthentic straw of insemination” (75.00 per cent). This is because of improper storage of semen and handling of semen is done by unskilled person. The findings are in line with Madane (2014). “Loan supply by bank is inadequate and un timely for dairy” (72.50 per cent). This is because of bankers do not believe on repayment capacity of farmers also bank and co-operative society don’t co-operate farmers. The findings are in line with Kale (2013). “Milk rate are not proper as per the cost of production” (63.33 per cent). Because availability of milk is more and fat, SNF qualities of milk are not proper. The findings are in line with Umar et al. (2011). “Shortage of labour” (55.83 per cent). Unavailability of skill labour also labours are not regular and sincere. The findings are in line with Patil et al. (2009).

## CONCLUSION

The study concluded that “very high cost of milch animal” was the most important perceived constraints faced by dairy farmers followed by “high market rates of

concentrate feeds”. As these constraints ranked higher the measures should be carried out to overcome the problem. The concerned agencies should provide sufficient credit facilities and incentives such as subsidy of loans etc. with lower interest rates for purchase of feed, fodder, cattle and buffalo in order to increase milk production and to improve their economic status.

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