

Adoption of Improved Dairy Practices by Dairy Farmers

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Abstract

Dairy farming is one of the most important economic activities in Uttarakhand state, and is closely intervened with farming systems. Traditionally, a significant importance is attached to animal husbandry in this region. According to Uttarakhand Dairy Development Board, milk production in state has increased steadily. Milch cow and buffalo are reared at all altitudes and they have high potential to develop dairy farming. Milk production in the state is 1741(000 tonnes) in the year 2017-2018 and per capital availability 447 gms/day. Various measures have been taken by the Government to develop dairy business and livestock farming. Present paper aim is to discuss the status of dairy farming in India.

Keyword: Dairy farming; Status.

INTRODUCTION

“India's place in the sun would come from the partnership between wisdom of its rural people and skills of its professionals” Dr. Verghese Kurien. The Indian Agricultural system is predominantly a mixed crop livestock farming system, with the livestock sector supplementing farm income by providing employment, draught animals and manure. India has vast resources of livestock, which plays an important role in National economy and socio economic development of million of

rural households. *Sabapara et al. (2014)* concluded that majority of the dairy farmers were middle to old aged, literate, nuclear type of family having more number of children and have medium level of extension contact. *Ahuja et al. (2016)* revealed that majority of the respondents were middle aged, literate having nuclear family with medium family size, small land holding, some were landless with small and medium herd size, low extension contact, low media exposure and very low social participation. In India the significance of animal husbandry in the Indian economy arises also because of its assistance to deal with the serious problem of unemployment and under employment for weaker section in the country and for providing subsidiary occupation. In an integrated system, crops and livestock interact to create a synergy, with recycling allowing the maximum use of available resources. Crop residues can be used for animal feed, while livestock and livestock by product production and processing can enhance agricultural productivity by intensifying nutrients that improve soil fertility, reducing the use of chemical fertilizers

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