

Original Research Article

<https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2017.606.102>

Socio-Economic Profile and Constraints Faced By Dairy Farmers of Wayanad District, India

Kotresh Prasad^{1*}, Siddhartha Savale², M.T. Mahantesh¹, M. Pavan²,
Deepandita Barman¹ and John Abraham²

¹National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, India

²College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University,
Pookode, Wayanad, Kerala– 673576, India

**Corresponding author*

A B S T R A C T

Keywords

Dairy farming,
Socio-economic
profile,
Constraints,
Wayanad,
Kerala.

Article Info

Accepted:
17 May 2017
Available Online:
10 June 2017

Dairy farming plays a very important role in improving the economy of the country. The study was conducted to explore the socio-economic profile and constraints faced by dairy farmers of Wayanad district of Kerala. The survey was conducted to study the different patterns of rearing of dairy animals, crops grown and status of milk production. By random sampling method fifty respondents were selected for the study. Results revealed that majority of the families were nuclear families. For 80 percent of the people the main source of income is agriculture which includes livestock farming. 82 percent of the farmers had land owned up to five acres. Majority of the farmers followed mixed cropping system. 96 percent of the farmers owned cattle as livestock assets out of which 42 percent were non-descript. 66 percent of the farms produced 10-15 litres of milk per day. Ninety two percent of farmers marketed milk in milma cooperative.

Introduction

Dairy Farming is a class of agricultural, or more properly, an animal husbandry enterprise, raising female cattle, goats, or certain other lactating livestock for long term production of Milk, which may be either processed on site or transported to a dairy for processing and eventual retail sale (Shinde, 2011).

Livestock farming being the major contributor to the overall GDP of the nation, the overall contribution of Livestock Sector in total GDP was nearly 4.11% at current prices during 2012-13. The dairy farmer of the Wayanad

maintains milch animals as a complimentary business to agriculture. India is rapidly growing in terms of population and therefore there are many upcoming issues related to food insecurity, unemployment etc. for this government is taking efficient steps to overcome such issues. But as the population of nation is very enormous certain other measures could also be applicable such as livestock farming. The livestock farming provides self-employment, beneficiary income and a nutritious health to the society in rural as well as urban areas. In order to provide insight on how the employment could

be generated it is very essential to know about the socio economic profile, current production and marketing, consumption of domestic milk and milk products and constraints faced by dairy farmers.

Materials and Methods

The survey was conducted in wayanad district and 50 respondents were selected by random sampling method. Primary method of data collection was made through a structured schedule which was developed and administered for this purpose. The variables of the study included the age, type of family (joint/nuclear), main source of income, land owned, crops grown, livestock possession, annual income, livestock profile, livestock housing, feeding of livestock, system of rearing, production status of livestock, marketing, knowledge about livestock rearing, waste management, livestock management and constraints encountered by the farmers. The data collected was analysed using simple statistical tools such as averages, frequencies and percentage.

Results and Discussion

From the data collected 84 per cent of the families are nuclear families and 16 per cent are joint families. It is observed that half (50 %) of the farmers belonged to the middle (20-40 years) age group, 22 percent of the farmers belonged to adult (40-60 years) age, 16 percent belonged to senior (above 60 years) of age and 12 percent belonged to young (15-20 years) age. This finding is in line with the findings of Rathod *et al.*, (2011) who reported that higher proportion of farmers were middle age. The main source of income for 80 percent of the farmers was agriculture which included livestock farming, 14 percent earned their income from livestock business, four percent were government employees, and Two percent were engaged in private practices. This was in accordance with Devaki

et al., (2015). The land owned also differed with the socio-economic status of the farmers 82 per cent of the farmers owned land up to five acres, 14 per cent had around five to ten acres of land and four per cent owned up to 25 cents (Table 1).

The livestock possession status is as follows 96 per cent of farmers reared cattle along with 26 per cent Goats, 24 per cent Poultry and 12 per cent Ducks. The annual household income of farmers is as follows 82 per cent earned about 50,000 rupees, 16 per cent earned in a range of 50,000 – 1, 00,000 and two per cent earned around 1 lakh – 5 lakhs.

The management of livestock was mainly done by women is about 64 per cent, 22 per cent was made by men and 14 per cent of the livestock were managed by both men and women. Forty two per cent of the farmers possessed non-descript breed of cattle, 30 per cent had crossbred cattle, 18 per cent reared Jersey breed of cattle and 10 per cent reared HF breeds. About 78 per cent of the animal houses were built pukka and 22 per cent of animal houses were kutcha. The type of flooring in animal houses was mainly of concrete i.e. 82 per cent of farmers had concrete flooring and 18 per cent of the flooring was made of mud. The roofing material of animal houses 66 per cent of houses had sheet concrete, 24 per cent of the roofs were of asbestos sheets and 10 per cent of the houses had plastic sheet roofs. The animals reared were mainly fed on grass and around 84 per cent of farmers fed their animals with Milma supplement feed. Four per cent of the farmers prepared their own food for animals. Feed cost also varied per 50 kg of feed 28 per cent invested around 1000Rs, 14 per cent invested 553 Rs, 16 per cent invested around 900Rs and 42 per cent got feed as free source from the govt. 94 per cent reared animals in semi-intensive system of rearing and 6 per cent of farmers reared animals in intensive system of rearing.

Table.1 Socio economic profile and constraints

Sl. No.	Socio economic profile and constraints		Frequency (N=50)	Percentage (%)
1	Type of family	Joint	8	16
		Nuclear	42	84
2	Age	Young	6	12
		Middle	25	50
		Adult	11	22
		Seniors	8	16
3	Main source of income	Agriculture 1	40	80
		Govt. service2	2	4
		Private service3	1	2
		Livestock business4	7	14
4	Land owned	Up to 25 cents	2	4
		0-5 acres	41	82
		5-10	7	14
5	Livestock possession	Cattle	48	96
		Goat	13	26
		Poultry	12	24
		Duck	6	12
6	Annual income	<50,000	41	82
		50,000 – 1,00,000	8	16
		1-5 lacs	1	2
7	Management of livestock	Men	11	22
		Women	32	64
		Both	7	14
8	Cattle breed	Cross breeds	15	30
		Non – descript	21	42
		Jersey	9	18
		HF4	5	10
9	Type of animal houses	Kutchha	11	22
		Pukka	39	78
10	Type of flooring in animal house	Concrete	41	82
		Mud	9	18
11	Type of roofing in animal house	Sheet concrete	33	66
		Asbestos sheets	12	24
		Plastic sheets	5	10
12	Feed cost	945 Rs / 50 kg	5	10
		900 Rs / 50 kg	3	6
		1000 Rs / 50 kg	14	28
		553 Rs / 50 kg	7	14
		Free	21	42
13	Systems of rearing livestock	Intensive	3	6
		Semi – intensive	47	94

		Extensive	0	0
14	Average milk yield per day	0-5	6	12
		5-10	11	22
		10-15	33	66
15	Marketing of milk	Milma cooperative	46	92
		Local market	4	8
16	Dung pit availability for waste management	Yes	31	62
		No	19	38
17	Type of dung pit	Kutchha	41	82
		Pukka	9	18
18	Biogas utilisation	Using for self-household purpose	28	56
		Selling in local market	3	6
		No production	19	28
19	Deworming animals regularly	Yes	50	100
		No	0	0
20	Vaccination	FMD	50	100
		HS	0	0
		Any other	0	0
21	Frequent consultation with veterinarian	Yes	36	72
		No	14	28
22	Constraints faced by dairy farmers	Satisfied	2	4
		Mastitis	14	28
		Low price of milk	35	70
		Availability of fodder	27	54
		Frequent disease outbreak	21	42

The average milk yield of cattle, 66 per cent animals yield ranged from 10-15 litres, 22 per cent animals yield ranged from 5-10 litres and 12 per cent animals yielded around five litres. 92 per cent of the farmers' marketed milk in Milma and eight percent marketed in local markets. 62 per cent of the farmers have dung pit for management of waste. The type of dung pit 82 per cent of the dung pit were made of kutchha type and 18 per cent of dung pits were made of pukka type. Biogas produced through the waste management 56 per cent was being used for self-household purpose, 6 per cent sold the product in local market with 25 Rs/ton cost. The male calves were also sold by farmers in local market with worth related to the age of the animal. With

respect to deworming every farmer had been deworming animals regularly. Every farmer has vaccinated animals against FMD. Seventy two per cent of the farmers had frequent consultation with veterinary doctors.

The major constraints faced by dairy farmers was low price offered for milk, frequent disease outbreaks, mastitis, availability of fodder while four per cent of the farmers were satisfied with their present farming situation.

The present study helped us to derive the conclusion that majority of the farmers had poor income. Farmer should be made to adopt the scientific farming practices which will lead to better future outcomes. The price

offered for the sale of milk should be increased which in turn helps farmer to improve socioeconomic status and larger productivity.

References

19th Livestock Census. 2012. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI.
Devaki, K., Senthilkumar, K. and Subramanian, R. 2015. Socio-economic

profile of livestock farm women of Thiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu. *Int. J. Sci. Environ.*, 4(5): 1322-1329.

Rathod, P.K., Landge, S., Nikam, T.R. and Vajreshwari, S. 2011. Socio-personal profile and constraints of dairy farmers. *Karnataka J. Agric. Sci.*, 24(4): 619-621.

Shinde, S.V. 2011. Socio - Economic Profile of Dairy Farmers in Solapur District of Maharashtra State. *Ind. Streams. Res. J.*, 1(1): 86-100.

How to cite this article:

Kotresh Prasad, Siddhartha Savale, M.T. Mahantesh, M. Pavan, Deepandita Barman and John Abraham. 2017. Socio-Economic Profile and Constraints Faced By Dairy Farmers of Wayanad District, India. *Int.J.Curr.Microbiol.App.Sci.* 6(6): 870-874.
doi: <https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2017.606.102>