

Original Research Article

Dairy Farmers Attitude towards Improved Breeding Practices in Bihar

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

Dairy farmers,
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practices, attitude

The study was carried out in four village of Danapur block of Patna district taking 100 milk producers as the sample. The attitude or the respondents were measured with the suitable device following the standardized procedure. This revealed that education emerged as the potential predictor towards the dependent variable. The study suggest to utilize this parameter in order to accelerate the milk production and thereby enhance the socio-economic status of the rural people.

Introduction

Presently, animal husbandry sector has been identified as an important area for employment generation. It also provides supplementary support system in terms of the income among the weaker communities or the rural society. The present research attempts of explore the attitudinal orientation or the milk producers towards improved animal breeding practices. In fact, Government of Bihar have shown a great concern for developing animal breed improvement programme in the wake of state division in order to improve its economy. Therefore, efforts are being made to bring white revolution in more effective manner. However, a programme related with this magnitude cannot get desired success unless the attitudinal orientation or livestock owners could not be changed accordingly. The present study was designed to assess the prediction potencies or a set of variables with a view to provide feedback to the field of Animal Husbandry functionaries and planners involved in animal husbandry

programme so that they will be able to exposed theme selves with the ground reality.

Materials and Methods

The study was located in four villages namely Nasriganj, Digha, Sherpur and Chandmari of Danapur block of Patna district. Twenty five milk producers were randomly selected from each of the village. The attitudinal orientation of the milk producers toward improved breeding practices were measured with the help of modified and adopted version or the original scale developed by Sagar and Kunzru (1988). The scale consisted of 14 statements of which 7 were positive and remaining 7 were negative. The weightage score of 3, 2 and 1 were given to the responses in positive statements for agree undecided and disagree component, whereas it was just reverse III the case or negative statements. The agreement refers to the amount or

favourable all itude or the respondents while the disagreement indicates the amount of less favourable attitude towards different breeding practices. The independent variables, were age, education, family size, land holding occupation income from different sources. Number of milch animals and milk production, majority of these were measured through S.E.S. scale of Trivedi (1963). The other variables like income from different sources and milk production were quantified by developing suitable indices for the same. The data were collected with the help or a schedule in race to face situation and subjected to regression analysis ill order to ascertain the association between the selected variables.

Results and Discussion

The data reported in table I indicated that there is sharp differences in term of attitude of milk producers residing in the village of Sherpur and Chandmari as compared to the respondents or Nasriganj and Digha. It is probably due to the fact that the respondents of Nasriganj and Digha were still practicing and rely on natural services/insemination and adopted traditional ways of breeding

system. Further, the lack of Artificial insemination centres in these villages also observed as an important barrier for the observed differences in the attitudinal orientation or selected milk producers.

The obtained trends were also in the line of findings of Kaushik (1988) and Mandal (1995).

Table 2 Shows the findings of analysis indicating the prediction potencies of the selected variables. Out of the eight independent variables taken under study, the variable education has emerged as the most potential predictor because the t- value was found to be statistically significant at 0.01 level of significance. The remaining selected variables were not having the magnitude of such significance as their t-value was found to he non-significant. However, the value of R² indicating the amount of variability also justify the notion that all the variables explained only 40.7 per cent or the variability. The observed trend provides a lot or scope for further study in order to explore the determinants which may have better association in explaining the variability towards the dependent variable.

Table.1 Showing the attitude of selected dairy farmers towards improved breeding practices

Attitudinal	Orientation	Nasriganj	Digha	Sherpur	Chandmari	Pooled
Least favourable	f	10	16	8	7	41
(0-5)	%	40	64	32	28	41
Favourable	f	9	8	14	12	43
(6-10)	%	36	32	56	48	43
Most favourable	f	6	1	3	6	16
(more than 10)	%	24	4	12	24	16

Table.2 Regression coefficient showing degree of potencies of variables under study on the attitudinal orientation of dairy farmers towards improved Breeding practices

Independent variables	a-value	Partial b-value	S.E.	t-value	R ²
X ₁ Age		-1.092	0.964	1.133	
X ₂ Education		6.419	1.014	6.328**	
X ₃ Family size	3.006	1.335	0.885	1.502	0.407
X ₄ Land holding		0.173	1.114	0.155	
X ₅ Occupation		0.589	1.005	0.586	
X ₆ Income from different sources		0.556	1.092	0.509	
X ₇ Number of milch animals		0.344	1.428	0.241	
X ₈ Milk production (per day per family)		0.414	1.284	0.322	

** Significant at 0.01 per cent level of probability.

During the study education variable was recognised as the most potential factor in shaping the relationship between independent variables and attitude of milk producers towards breeding practices. Therefore, the study highlights the importance of the educational level of milk producers alongwith providing them opportunities to get the appropriate contact with the sources other than they have. Increasing knowledge among the milk producers will certainly give a shape in their attitudinal orientation towards the improved breeding practices which are considered as the essential ingredients for improving the productive and reproductive potential of their livestock.

The present study has been answered some fundamental question with related to promotion of improved dairy husbandry practices among the farmers. The knowledge component of feeding, breeding and animal management practices requires more attention from farmers point of view. It may be sharpen through various extension teaching methods i.e. training, demonstration and awareness. Hence there is need to formulate proper extension strategy for enhancing the knowledge level of dairy farmers which ultimately upgrade the socio-

economic parameters by adoption of these practices.

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