

DAIRY FARMING IS AN ENGINE FOR UPLIFTMENT OF THE INCOME OF RURAL WOMEN IN KARNATAKA (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MYSORE DISTRICT)

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ABSTRACT

Karnataka State has always remained in the forefront of all agricultural development initiatives in the country and dairy development is not an exception. Karnataka stands sixth in milk production in the country and it occupies third position with respect to milk production under cooperative sector in the country. The milk production was around 45.98, 47.84 and 45.39 lakh tones in 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 respectively. The per capita availability of milk is 228 grams per day¹, which is slightly above the national average. The dairy industry in India is spread over the entire country in innumerable small units in a much disorganized form. In recent years, the Indian dairy industry is on the threshold of many changes that would totally transform the dairy scene and give the needed thrust to its rapid growth to meet the challenges ahead. This paper makes an attempt to look into the socio economic status of women dairy farmers and suggest suitable measures to improve their living condition.

Keywords: *Socio Economic Status, Milk Production, Agricultural Development, National Average.*

Introduction

In this task of development of dairy industry, cooperatives have been recognized as an effective institution to improve the milk production potential and there by ameliorate the socio-economic life of millions of small, marginal and landless cattle owners scattered over large areas. As on March 2006, the dairy cooperative network includes 170 milk unions, which operates in over 346 districts, covers around 117575 village level societies, is owned by around 12.4 million farmer's members of whom 3.2 million were women. When comes to the milk production, India's milk production increased from 21.2 million metric tons in 1968-69 to 97.1 million metric tons in 2005-06, per capita availability of milk was 241 grams per day in 2005-06, which went up from 112 grams per day in 1968-69. India's 3.9 percent annual growth of milk production between 1995-96 and 2005-06 surpassed the two percent growth in population; the net increase in availability was around two percent per year. When comes to the marketing, in 2005-06, average daily cooperative milk marketing stood at 168.06 lakh. Its annual growth has averaged about 5.8 percent compounded over the last five years. Dairy cooperatives now market milk in all metros; there are more than 800 major towns/cities. During the last decade, the daily milk supply to 1000 urban consumer has increased from 17.5 to 58.8 % as per NDDDB report.

Review of Literature

Mattigatti (1990) studied the performance of milk producers' cooperative societies and their impact on dairy farming in Dharwad district. The societies have already progressed with higher values for the indicators compared to below average societies, while below average societies well showed a greater rate of growth, hence he concluded that over the period of time all these societies would contribute to the overall development of the societies.

Jithendra Kumar (1990) studied the performance of dairy cooperatives and their impact on milk production, income and employment in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. The study revealed that the societies which were above the average level have shown better performance with an increase in membership and milk procurement, profits of societies and increasing rate.

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Kale et al. (2000) studied the financial position working and operational efficiency of 23 dairy cooperatives in Raigad district of Maharashtra. They studied the economic efficiency through income expenditure ratio, expenditure income ratio, rate of return on capital and rate of turnover.

Objectives of the Study

- To highlight the socio economic condition of women dairy farmers in case study
- To suggest suitable measures for improving their living condition.

Hypotheses

- Higher the level of selling of milk, greater will be their income level

S. No.	Null Hypothesis	Alternative Hypothesis
1.	There is no association between income level and selling of milk	There is strong association between income level and selling of milk

Methodology

The present study is on empirical investigation based on sample interview of women dairy in Mysore district. Mysore district consists of 7 taluks viz, Mysore, K.R.Nagar, Hunsur, Periyapatna, H.D. Kote, Nanajanagud, T.Narasipur. 10 women respondents from each (05) taluk has taken, totally 50 women respondents are considered. The present study is based on both primary and secondary data and a systematic random sampling method has been adopted for survey. The primary data has collected from 5 taluks by excluding the advanced taluk i,e Mysore taluk and less advanced taluk i,e H.D.Kote taluk. The survey has been conducted by taking 50 women dairy farmers of case study on random basis. Simple table percentage and CHI square method used to analyse the results and the results have been depicted by simple bar graph and pie chart.

Results and Discussion

Socio-Economic Condition of Women Dairy Farmers

Table 1: Socio-Economic Profile of Women Dairy Farmers

S. No.	Age	No of Respondents	Per cent
1	18-30	15	30
2	31-50	25	50
3	Above 50	10	20
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 1 depicts that out of 50 women respondents majority of 25 (50 percent) belong to the age group of 31 – 50, and it is followed by the age of 18-30 (30 percent) and only 10 respondents(20 percent) belong to the age group of above 50 years involved in dairy farming.

Table 2: Educational Status of the Respondents

S. No.	Educational Status	No of Respondents	Per cent
1	Illiterate	2	4
2	1 st - 7 th	30	60
3	7 th - 10 th	14	28
4	Above 10 th	4	8
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 2 reveals that out of 50 respondents only 2 were illiterate because of compulsory free education of government majority of them are making use of such facilities and majority of them around 30 respondents (60 percent) have educational status between 1st to 7th standard of education and followed by 14 respondents (28 percent) processing up to 10th standard of education and around 4 of them have entered even college up to P.U.C.

Table 3: Nature of Houses

S. No.	Nature of Houses	No of Respondents	Percent
1	Kuchha	10	20
2	Semi Pakka	25	50
3	Pakka	15	30
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 3 reveals that half of them live in semi pakka houses and 20 percent of them live in kachha and followed by 30 percent living in pakka houses.

Table 4: Quantity of Milk Sold Per Day

S. No.		No of Respondents	Per cent
1	Less than 05 litres	13	26
2	Between 05 to 10 litres	25	50
3	Between 10 to 15 litres	09	18
4	Above 15 litres	03	06
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

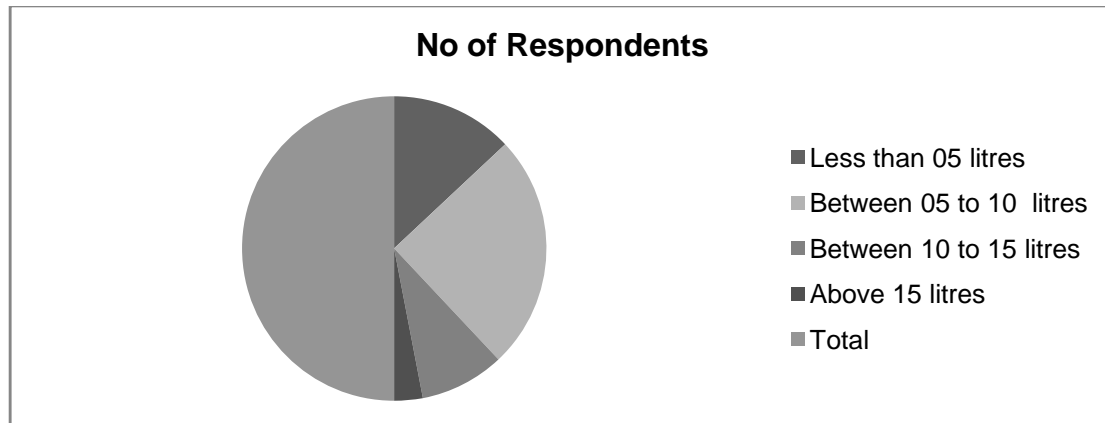


Table 4 explains that only 13 (26 per cent) of them sell less than 5 litres a day, around 25 respondents (50 per cent) sell between 5 to 10 litres, 9 respondents (18 per cent) sell between 10 to 15 litres, hardly 3 women dairy farmers(6 per cent) sell more than 15 litres a day.

Table 5: Income per Month from Milk Sold

S. No.		No of Respondents	Per cent
1	Less than 5000	12	24
2	Between 5000 to 8000	28	56
3	Between 8000 to 15000	08	16
4	Above 15000	02	04
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 5 depicts that income of 12 respondents (24 per cent) of respondents from sale of milk is less than Rs. 5000 per month, around 28 respondents (56 per cent) earn between 5000 to 8000 Rs. Around 8 respondents (16 per cent) earn between 8000 to 15000 Rs and only 2 respondents (4 per cent) earn above 15000.

Table 6: Use of Unsold Milk for Self Consumption

S. No.		No of Respondents	Per cent
1	NO	10	20
2	YES	40	80
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 6 shows that majority of the sample respondents use unsold milk for self consumption i.e 80 per cent and remaining respondents around 20 per cent do not use milk just for self-consumption.

Table 7: Amount Spend on Fodder

S. No.		No of Respondents	Per cent
1	Less than 500	12	24
2	Between 500 to 1000	28	56
3	Between 1000 to 2000	08	16
4	Above 2000	02	04
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

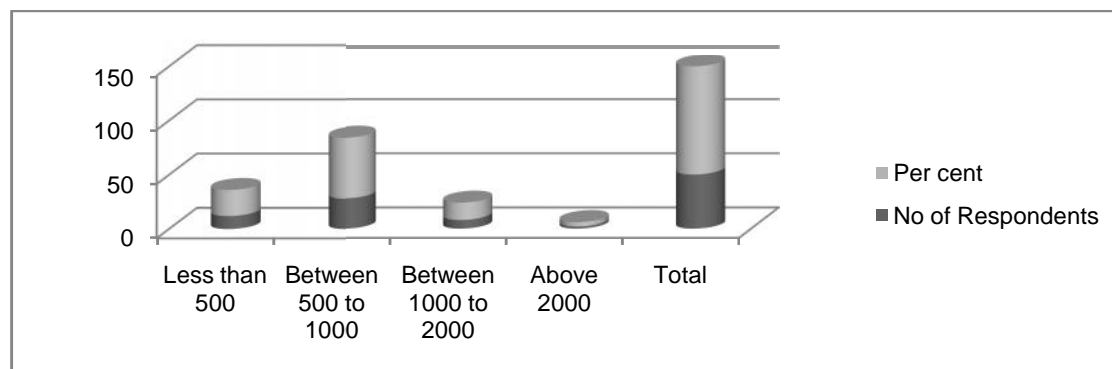


Table 7 shows that 12 respondents (24 per cent) spend less than 500 rupees on fodder and maximum respondents of 28 (56 per cent) spend between 500 – 1000 on fodder but very less respondents of 2 (4 per cent) spend above 2000 rupees on fodder.

Table 8: New Generation Willing to Work

S. No.		No of Respondents	Per cent
1	No	35	70
2	Yes	15	30
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 8 expresses that 70 per cent of the women dairy farmers are not willing their children to carry on this business and 30 per cent are willing to continue in the dairy business.

Table 9: Satisfaction from Various Services of Cooperative Societies

S. No.	Services	Satisfy	Good	Very Good	Not satisfy	Not Sure	Per cent
1	Fodder	10(20)	35(70)	5(10)	0	0	100.00
2	Veterinary	30(60)	8 (16)	2 (4)	10 (20)	0	100.00
3	Promptness in payment	20(40)	22(44)	2(4)	3(6)	3(6)	100.00
4	Educational Tour	4(8)	8(16)	2(4)	30(60)	6(12)	100.00
5	Farm Visit	22(44)	5(10)	0	17(34)	6(12)	100.00

Source: Field Survey

Table 9 depicts the perception of dairy farmers towards the services provided by the dairy societies. 70 per cent of respondents said the service of fodder by dairy society is good, 60 per cent of them responded that they are satisfied towards veterinary services provided by dairy cooperatives, around 44 per cent of respondents said good towards promptness in payment, about 60 per cent of respondents said not satisfied towards extension services like educational tours, nearly 44 per cent of respondents answered it is satisfied towards farm visit.

Result

Chi Square	Value	Level of Significance
	7.0986	0.05

The Chi Square or P value is 7.0986 It is significant at 5 percent level. 95 percent shows that there is an association between income and Selling of milk by rural women. Therefore reject null hypotheses and accept alternative hypotheses

Major Research Findings

- Half of the per cent of respondents belong to the age group of 31 – 50 years
- Education is another indicator of social status, 60 per cent of them have studied between 1st to 7th standard because of the compulsory and free education provided by government.
- It is found that around 80 per cent of them live in pucca and semi pucca houses.
- Majority of them yield between 5 to 10 litres of milk a day.
- One of the major source of income is the income earned from sale of milk, majority of them earn between 5000 to 8000 per month, which indicates above the poverty line.

- Majority of the respondents do not like their children to involve in the dairy business in the future.
- Majority said that the service of cooperative society is good towards fodder and promptness of payment. Majority of the respondents are of the opinion that the services towards veterinary and farm visit is just satisfied. Majority of them are not satisfied towards educational tours provided by cooperative societies.

Recommendations

- The unused land should be utilised for fodder cultivation. The fodder should be kept in good place to avoid contamination. The awareness to keep the fodder in good condition should be imparted to the dairy farmers by the Animal Husbandry Department.
- The success of dairy farming depends on milk purchasers. The women dairy farmers can lead decent standard of living by the money that they get by selling the milk, but if the purchasers does not make the payment promptly, it is not possible for the success of dairy farming. Therefore there is necessary for the prompt payment by the purchasers and women have to sell milk by identifying the prompt purchasers.
- Awareness should be created among dairy farmers about the scientific techniques of dairy farming.
- Government have to give much importance to set up large number of veterinary hospitals at village and block level.
- Some vocational training programmes has to be set up by Government to improve the skills of women dairy farmers.

Conclusion

In the fast moving world particularly in a country like India, one forgets or does not care to stop for a while and have a lot at rural women dairy farmers who are poor in their personal as well as social life. They are very low in their economic status and their opinions and views are not given much importance. It is a common understanding that people in the rural areas are engaged in agriculture. Dairy farming is an allied activity of agriculture, which gives an added income to those involved in agriculture. In order to learn the part played by women in dairy farming, this study deals with the socio economic condition of women dairy farmers of Mysore District. Women dairy farmers are able to get more income and were happy with these benefits which are reflected in higher intake of quality food, improved health conditions, enhanced income and the various services including extension services which results in the overall improvement of socio economic status of women.

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