

Key Success Factors/Practical Tips for Success Volume 5 Issue 8, 2017

Commercial dairy farmers depend on land, labor and animals as the major resources. The thrust in modern dairy farming is on the increased use of capital and management. Successful dairy farming harnesses all available resources into productive and profitable unit. Dairy farming is highly complex as it includes breeding, management, feeding, housing, disease control and hygienic production of milk on farm. The judicious use of means and resources to achieve clearly defined goals is the key success factor in modern dairy farming i.e. the art of maximization and optimal utilization of resources and means for maximizing productivity and profits. The low yielder animals are uneconomical to keep, hence these should be culled. The overall genetic improvement of all the dairy animals is necessary for improved milk production. It involves milking records at equal intervals, selection of bull from high producing mothers, progeny testing of breeding bull and then making extensive use of these bulls by well-organized Artificial Insemination (AI) program. Feeding dairy animals on nutritious and high yielding hybrid varieties of forages can be adopted. The surplus forage should be preserved as silage or hay. Other farm management practices include feeding for growth, lactation, pregnancy or maintenance, hygienic milk production, comfortable and ventilated barns, spraying/ wallowing of animals in summer, timely detection of heifers, mating, with selected bull or AI service. If animals are bred within the 60-90 days of calving provided with clean surroundings, drinking water and feed according to the requirements, the overall performance of herd can be improved. Timely vaccination against Rinderpest, Black Quarter, Foot and Mouth Disease, Brucellosis along with the prevention of mastitis and parasitic control will also improve the overall performance of dairy herd. Hygienic milk production depends upon healthy animals, clean surroundings, clean hands of milkman and clean utensils.

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Source: SMEDA.

