

## SUCCESS STORY OF HAJI SHER ZADA (A PROGRESSIVE FARMER)

### Volume 5 Issue

Haji SherZada is a progressive dairy farmer, resident of Haji ChinarKally Tehsil Takht Bhai Distt. Mardan. He owns 30 acre land where he has established a dairy farm comprising of two sections. One section is constructed on an area of 5 kanal having two sheds with a measurement of 130 by 20 feet each, used for milking animals. Total no. of buffaloes is 52. The other section is for dry animals.



Because of his successful farming business Haji SherZada recently established his second dairy farm having 62 cows. The shed is 130 feet lengthy and 40 feet wide. Manger has been constructed in the middle of the sheds. Buffaloes milk production is 20kg per head per day and average cow milk production per head per day is 18 kg.

For feeding these cattles about 50 maunds of silage is used per day. This sillage is usually arranged from District Okara. Local wanda is used about 15 maunds per day.

For green fodder purpose he grows maize, sugarcane, wheat, berseam and evergreen fodder on his land. For drinking water of cattles a separate manger about 20 by 5 feet has been constructed in each farm. Haji Sher says that daily supply of clean drinking water is necessary in clean troughs/manger i.e. 15 to 20 liters of water consumption/animal/day to maintains the production capacity of the animal. One manager, one accountant and 10 labours are hired for farm management.

Haji Sher gives first priority on animal health for which a veterinary doctor has been engaged with proper hygienic environment maintained for animals. A Suzuki van has also been arranged for milk transportation to the market. He focuses on proper feeding of animals. According to him, for adequate weight gain use of balanced feed purchased from well reputed companies or formulated accordingly is necessary.

Haji SherZada gives following suggestions to new comers in dairy farming business;

- First of all it needs to be decided which breed of animal you prefer. For selection of breed keep in mind the following characteristics of a good breed:
  1. Attain maturity at early age
  2. First calving and first lactation should be at early age
  3. More production per lactation
  4. Less calving interval
  5. Short dry period
  6. Short service period
  7. Less feed intake and more production (Better FCR)
- Preferably purchase the animals of the breed of choice from native area, from a reputed and reliable breeder
- Try to purchase young animals, recently calved and preferably in second lactation
- Make sure that animal is disease free
- Carefully examine the udder including the teats. After milking, the udder should shrink like a balloon from which air blows out. In other words, on palpation, the udder should not give any feeling of being meaty or containing any hard tissue. The teats should be properly placed and of moderate size. There should be no extra teats
- To determine the daily milk yield, the animal should be milked for three consecutive milking. This also helps find out the temperament of the animal
- Make the animal move a few steps to assess if there is any leg problem
- Also check that the animal has healthy eyes

- The dairy animal should not be abnormally over or under conditioned
- Better watch the animal while it is ingesting feed. Possibly, examine its teeth and observe that it ruminates well
- Only high producing animals should be selected