

## CATTLE BREEDING

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The Department of Agriculture is trying to build up a dual purpose breed of Ongole Cattle which will produce good work-cattle and milk. It is obvious from results up to the present at Chintaladevi that some Ongole cows are fairly good milkers, three or four cows having reached 5,000 lbs. milk in a single lactation and if they are properly fed and maintained, they breed fairly regularly. The size, constitution and conformation of the bulls have not suffered and so there is every hope of building up a herd of good milkers which will produce good calves and work-cattle. In the Ongole breeding tract very few cows are milked out (except in towns) to find out the milk yield, the calves are allowed to suckle their dams with the result that the cow does not prove economic to keep. Most ryots maintain one or two she-buffaloes to supply milk and *ghce* for domestic use. It is suggested that all ryots should be persuaded to milk out their cows in milk fully one day per week in order to find out the milk yield of the cow. If they discover that their cow gives 16 lbs. milk per day when well fed, they can milk out 3 to 4 lbs. milk in the morning and 3 lbs. in the evening for their domestic use and allow the calf to suckle the remainder, always leaving at least 6 to 8 lbs. milk per day for the calf up to 6 months of age; they could discontinue keeping one or two she-buffaloes and increase the concentrated food and fodder fed to the Ongole cow. Ongole cows are purchased in Madras according to their milk yield, so much (about Rs 10) per lb. of milk yielded, therefore a cow yielding 16 lbs. per day would realise Rs. 160. Ryots should be informed of this, so that they will try to feed their cows in a better manner and also record the yield of milk. This method is followed on all Government Cattle Farms. Ongole Cattle should be encouraged in Vizagapatam, Godavari, Kistna, Guntur and the Ceded Districts.

2. Regarding the Kangayam breed, it is common knowledge that they are poor milkers, the daily average yield per lactation working out at about 5 lbs. milk per cow. This is poor. It is seen that the Kangayam breed is not pure; animals are born from apparently pure stock and yet we get some bulls with short stumpy horns, some with typical Kangayam horns and some reverting to the Alambadi or Mysore breed, the conformation also varying besides the colour. This Department is trying to breed out these defects by selection and at the same time to increase the milk yielding powers of the cows by mating them to a pure bred bull from a good milking dam. The best Kangayam cow for milk yield has produced 4,100 lbs. milk in a lactation and this cow's son is being used as a breeding bull on the farm. Kangayam bulls should be encouraged in Salem, Coimbatore, Chittoor, North and South Arcots, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura Districts where work cattle are required. Local herds can be graded up by the use of pure bred bulls.

3. The Scindhe Herd is one of the best milk breeds in India, the cows do well on scanty rations and maintain fair condition. The bulls of this breed are on the heavy side and are rather slow workers when compared with the Kangayam. The Livestock Section is building up a herd of good milking cows

