

## A STUDY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND PERSONAL TRAITS OF FARMERS ASSOCIATED WITH DAIRY CATTLE MANAGEMENT

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### ABSTRACT

A study was conducted at Kumaraperumal Farm Science Centre Tiruchirapalli with farmers from different villages around Tiruchirapalli who were participants in the dairy cattle management course. Three socio-economic traits such as educational status, extension contact and farm size and one personal trait, age, were found to have significant effect on dairy management.

**KEY WORDS:** Dairy management, Farmers, Socio-economic traits

The purpose of Farmers Training and Farmers Education programme in India is to help the farmers to acquire latest scientific knowledge and to change their practice in order to obtain increased production and improve their economic condition. To develop this knowledge, systematic training is imparted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (Farmers' Polytechnics), Farmers' Training Centres and other educational institutions.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra is emerging as an important potential and educational training institution which can

transfer the new technology in agriculture and allied field to the farming community. Such training programmes can achieve their object if the programme is based on the existing knowledge of farmers on different aspects of agriculture and animal husbandry practices, so as to enable the training to proceed on the type of training the farmers needed. Hence this study was undertaken to determine the basic knowledge of farmers in dairying and the relationship of the knowledge to their social, economical and personal background.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted

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Table 1. Effect of educational status on dairy management

	Primary (I-V std)	Secondary (VI-SSLC)	Collegiate after SSLC	F value
X	1156	2806	524	
n	31	54	10	9.33**
X	37.29	51.96	52.40	
X <sup>2</sup>	51,568.00	1,57,484.00	29,712.00	

\*\* Significant at P = 0.01

Table 2. Effect of extension contact on dairy management

	Frequent	Less frequent	Occasional	F value
X	1192	990	2424.00	
n	21	20	54	4.25*
X	57.76	49.50	44.89	
X <sup>2</sup>	73,344	54,692	120,776.00	

\* Significant at P = 0.05

Table 3. Effect of farm size on dairy management

	Small holding (1-5 acres)	Medium holding (5-7 acres)	Large holding (7 acres and above)	F value
X	1600	1654	848	
n	40	31	17	5.78**
X	40	53.35	49.88	
X <sup>2</sup>	74,083.00	86,665.35	48,369.88	

\*\* Significant at P = 0.01

Table 4. Effect of age on dairy management

	Young group (upto 30 years)	Middle group (30-45 years)	Old group (46 years and above)	F value
X	2874	1112.00	320	
n	58	23	10	4.85**
X	49.55	48.35	32.00	
X <sup>2</sup>	1,52,981.55	64,304.35	13,248.00	

at Kumaraperumal Farm Science Centre (Krishi Vigyan Kendra), Tiruchirapalli. Farmers from different villages of Tiruchirapalli district who participated in the dairy cattle management training were the respondents for the study. Three socio-

economic traits such as educational status, extension contact and farm size and one personal trait, age were considered to be the very essential characters and they were studied to test their effect on the knowledge of farmers in dairy cattle

management. Data were collected by conducting a test before imparting training. The questionnaire contained all the particulars about the traits and fundamental questions about dairy management. Marks were scored for the correct answers. The data thus collected were analysed.

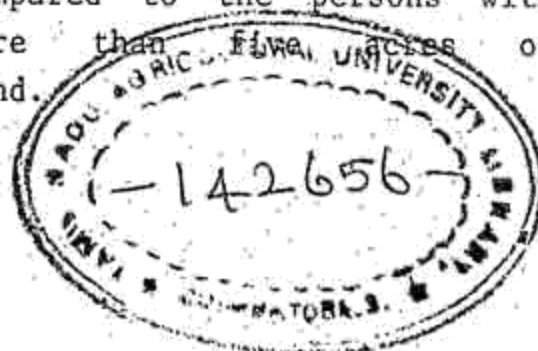
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The number of farmers, sum of the marks obtained by each category and its mean and crude sum of squares of each category of the socio-economic and personal traits are presented in Tables 1 to 4.

Maximum number of farmers representation was from secondary school education followed by primary and collegiate education. Education had significant effect at one per cent level. This indicated that dairy cattle management depends upon the education level of the farmers. Sohal and Tyagi (1978) found that family education was not associated with adopting dairy innovation. In contrast to this, observations obtained by Sinha et al. (1975) showed that dairy enterprise was considered to be a prized one among the educated farmers in the area under study.

Maximum number of farmers representation had occasional extension contact followed by frequent and less frequent extension contact. In the present study, extension contact had significant effect at five per cent level. It shows that dairy cattle management depends upon extension contact and also indicates that the presence of sound extension centres with infrastructures in the area under study and farmers response to the extension staff are responsible for this effect. Hundal and Jagtiti Singh (1976) also found that reproductive efficiency which is an important aspect in dairy management had significant association with extension contact.

Maximum number of farmers had small holdings of land, followed by medium and large land holdings. In this study, farm size had significant effect at one per cent level. The findings also agree with the findings of Chothani (1979) who in his study found that the participation in the dairy movement by holders of less than five acres or with no land was higher as compared to the persons with more than five acres of land.



Maximum number of farmers was young followed by middle and old group. Sinha et al. (1975) found that dairy was a popular enterprise among middle aged farmers. In this study dairying was popular not only among middle aged farmers, but

also among young farmers.

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#### RESEARCH NOTES

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#### EFFECT OF INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ON NUTRIENT UPTAKE BY SUNFLOWER AND ITS IMPACT ON YIELD

Field experiments were conducted during Kharif, 1984 and 1985 at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Farm to study the effect of integrated weed management practices on the nutrient uptake by sunflower var.Co 2 and associated weeds and its impact on grain yield. The treatments were fluchloralin at 0.75, 1.0 and 1.25 kg/ha, butachlor 1.0, 1.25 and 1.5 kg/ha with fluchloralin 0.75 kg/ha + one late manual weeding,

butachlor 1.0 kg/ha + one late manual weeding, farmer's practice of two manual weedings (20 and 40 DAS) and unweeded control.

The experimental soil is sandy loam with a pH 7.2 and EC 0.45 m.mhos/cm. The plant samples were collected at harvest after recording the yield data and processed. The N content was analysed by microkjeldahls' distillation method (Humpries, 1956). The P and K contents were