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Jhobar Mal Tatarwal
Department of Animal
Husbandry and Dairying,
Sam Higginbottom University of
Agriculture, Technology &
Sciences, Prayagraj,
Uttar Pradesh, India

Goatm Chopra
Department of Animal
Production, Rajasthan College of
Agriculture, MPUAT, Udaipur,
Rajasthan, India

Kanchan Baghla
Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia
Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya,
Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, India

Avinash Bochlaya
Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada
Agricultural University NH 8,
Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada
Taluka, Satsan, Gujarat, India

Arjun Lal Kakraliya
Department of Animal
Husbandry and Dairying,
Sam Higginbottom University of
Agriculture, Technology &
Sciences, Prayagraj,
Uttar Pradesh, India

Corresponding Author
Jhobar Mal Tatarwal
Department of Animal
Husbandry and Dairying,
Sam Higginbottom University of
Agriculture, Technology &
Sciences, Prayagraj,
Uttar Pradesh, India

In the Phulera block of Jaipur district, Rajasthan, a socioeconomic study was conducted livestock farmers

Jhobar Mal Tatarwal, Goatm Chopra, Kanchan Baghla, Avinash Bochlaya and Arjun Lal Kakraliya

Abstract

The present investigation was conducted in Jaipur district of Rajasthan. One tehsils Phulera was selected which are situated in north-west region of the district. From each tehsil, four villages (Bhojpura kalan, Jorpura, Doongri, Asalpur) were selected. Twenty livestock farmer from each of village were selected thus making a sample of 80 livestock farmer. Majority (56.25 per cent) of the respondents were in the middle age group while (26.25 per cent) of respondents belonged to below 28 age category. About 72.50 percent of the respondents were literate and around 27.5 percent were illiterate. About 23.75 per cent of the respondents had small herd size followed by medium and large herd size i.e. 47.50 and 28.75 percent respectively. Most 60.00 per cent of the respondents had medium land holding followed by large and marginal land holding. With respect to family size, 46.25 per cent of the respondents had nuclear small size family followed by medium and large size family.

Keywords: livestock, farmer, respondents

Introduction

Livestock sector plays a crucial role in shaping the rural economy of India. It is a major continuous income generating activity for the rural households. Livestock rearing and crop husbandry are the two important components of mixed farming which influence agricultural economy leading to sustainable agriculture and are complementary to each other. Livestock sector is significantly contributing to the national economy and its growth rate is increasing. Due to liberalization and globalization policies, the demand for livestock products has increased. The rising per capita income, urbanization and lifestyle, women involvement in labor market and change in taste and preference are the important causes for the growth of livestock related products. The demand for animal related products such as milk, meat, wool and eggs have increased faster in India. The demand of livestock products has not only increased in urban area but also increased in rural area. The domestic demand and export enterprise has put huge pressure on the supply.

The total area of Rajasthan is 3, 42,239 sq. kilometers, with total human population of 6, 86, 21,012 and livestock population of 57.9 million, with buffalo population of 11.09 million. State is divided into 33 districts for administrative purpose. The present study was conducted in Phulera, Jaipur district of Rajasthan.

India is the highest milk producing country in the world with 187 million tones milk production in the year 2008-19 (FAO). Rajasthan state has livestock population of 56.80 million (11 per cent) of India contributing nearly 41.5 million Kg. of wool and 187 million tons of milk and 7.4 million tons of meat production to the country during year 2019. In Rajasthan, livestock population comprises large and small ruminants. Cattle and buffaloes are the main large animals while sheep and goats are the major small ruminants. According to estimates of the recent Livestock census, the share of cattle population was about 21 per cent and buffaloes constitutes about one-fifth of the total population.

About 8 per cent of G.D.P. of Rajasthan is contributed by Livestock sector alone. This sector has great potential for rural self-employment at the lowest possible investment per unit. Therefore, livestock development is a critical pathway to rural prosperity. As per the 20th Livestock census 20019, there are 56.8 million Livestock (which include cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, horse & ponies, mules, donkeys, camel and pig) and 14.6 million poultry (Source-Department of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Rajasthan, Livestock census 2019 (Provisional)).

In view of the fact that the agro-climate conditions of India are too diverse from one region to

another, a clear-cut breeding, feeding and managerial strategy is to be formulated for each region. Due to lack of detailed information on existing breeding, feeding, housing and other managerial practices adopted for different categories of livestock, it has not been possible for the policy planners to give full attention to these important aspects of buffalo production. Being a triple purpose animal providing milk, meat and draught power, the contribution of buffaloes in country's economy is immense. Though buffaloes are less in numbers than cattle yet they currently produce about 60 million metric tons of milk, which is about 55% of the total milk produced in the country. Despite changes in consumption patterns the number of vegetarians is still very large and milk and milk products are the major source of good quality protein in their diets. Therefore, buffalo has paramount importance as a dairy animal in India.

Research Methodology

This chapter is an important aspect for conducting a study in order to achieve the objectives. In this field study, desired observations on various livestock husbandry practices in Phulera Block, Jaipur district of the Rajasthan were recorded during the period of two months (Feb 2020 to March 2020) by using interview schedule, interview guide and direct

observations method. The study was conducted in Phulera tehsil, Jaipur district of Rajasthan, which was selected purposively. The district comprised of 13 tehsils, out of which one tehsils was selected. Further, four villages selected from tehsil were identified. From each village 20 respondents were selected. Thus, the entire sample consists of 80 respondents from selected four villages in Phulera tehsils of the district. A list of buffalo owners of selected villages was prepared with the help of village Sarpanch and Patwari with the criteria to select from all strata, was divided in three categories according to herd size viz. small, medium, large. For the study about socio-economic status, a face-to-face interview method by using an interview schedule was prepared with the help of Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj (U.P.) and Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation, District Animals Husbandry Department and experts on the subject. The data was collected through personal interview technique from each selected respondent. On the basis of ranks provided by the farmers, rank based quotient (RBQ) for each constraint was calculated at village level on basis of the formula (Sabarathnam and Vennila 1996).

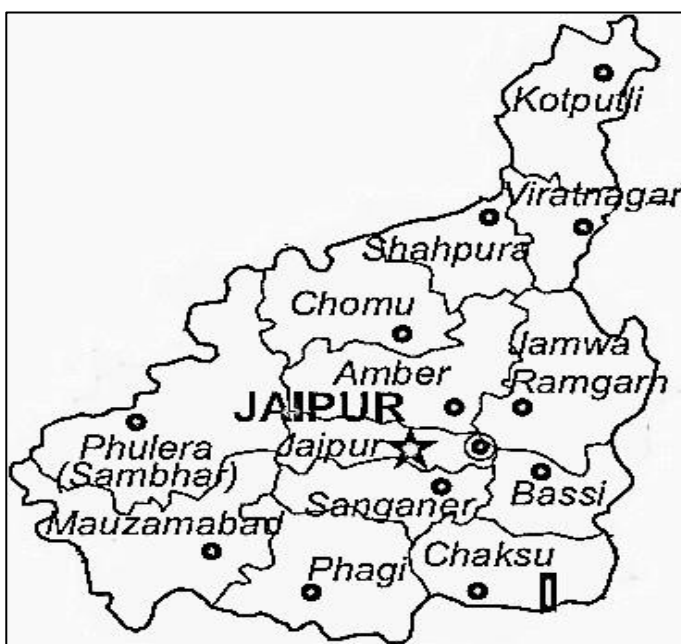


Fig 1: Study area Phulera block Jaipur district

Results and Discussions

The profile of Livestock farmer in Phulera Block, Jaipur District, and Rajasthan has been studied in terms of Age, Education, Type of family, Size of land holding, herd size. The same are presented as below.

Age

The data from table 1 revealed that majority (56.25 per cent) were in the middle age group followed by young (26.25 per cent) and old (17.50 per cent) age groups according to data shown in table 1.

These data revealed that majority of the houses were controlled by middle persons. The percentage of old age group involved in animal husbandry was smallest. These findings are in conformity with Shinde (2011) [3] and contrary with the findings of Thomaskutty (1975) [4] and Kakoty

(1980) [1] who reported that majority (55%) of dairy farmers were /middle aged followed by young (35%) since they played a major role in income generation for the family.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their age

Age group	Frequency	Percentage
Below 28 years	21	26.25
29 to 45 years	45	56.25
Above 45 years	14	17.50
Total	80	100.00

Education

The data presented in Table 2 show that out of the total 80 respondents, only 27.50 per cent were in category of illiterate; whereas percentage of literate and educated respondents were 50.00 per cent and 22.50 per cent, respectively.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their education level

Educational group	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	22	27.5
Literate	40	50.00
Educated	18	22.50
Total	80	100.00

Size of land holding

Table 3 shows that out of the total 80 respondents; 60.00 per cent farmers possessed 3 to 6 hectares of land holding, whereas 13.75 per cent farmers having less than 3 hectares of land holding and 26.25 per cent farmers having more than 6 hectares land holding.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their size of land holding

Size of land holding	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 3 hectares	11	13.75
3 to 6 hectares	48	60.00
More than 6 hectares	21	26.25
Total	80	100.00

Income level

The distribution of respondents according to their annual income has been presented in Table 4 It indicates that out of total 80 respondents, 18.75 per cent farmers had annual income below Rs. 40, 000 whereas 56.25 per cent and 25.00 per cent farmers had annual income Rs. 40, 000 to Rs. 80, 000 and above Rs. 80,000, respectively.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their income levels

Annual income of respondent	Frequency	Percentage
Below Rs. 40, 000	15	18.75
Rs. 40,000 to 80,000	45	56.25
Above Rs. 80,000	20	25.00
Total	80	100.00

Size of family

The data incorporated in Table 5 indicate that majority of respondents i.e. 53.75 per cent were from medium families (6-9 members) while 30.00 per cent from small families (up to 5 members) and 16.25 per cent large families.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to their family size

Family size	Frequency	Percentage
Small size (upto 5 members)	24	30.00
Medium size (6-9 members)	43	53.75
Large size (above 9 members)	13	16.25
Total	80	100.00

Type of family

The data presented in the table 6 clearly shows that out of total 80 respondents, 46.25 per cent belonged to nuclear families while remaining 53.75 per cent families were joint in their compassion.

Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to their family types

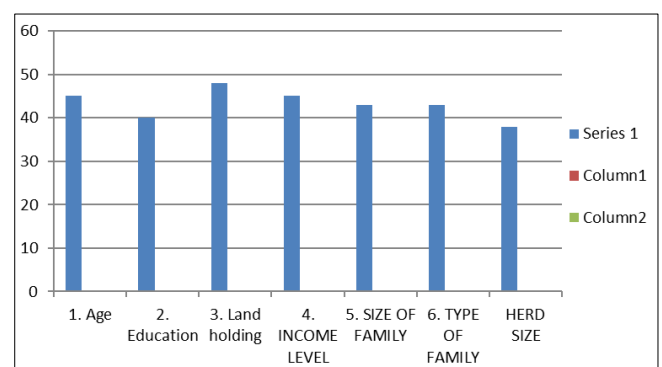
Family Type	Frequency	Percentage
Nuclear families	37	46.25
Joint families	43	53.75
Total	80	100.00

Herd size

It belongs to the number of buffalo possessed by the respondents. The analysis of data as presented in table 7 revealed that 47.50 per cent of the respondents were having medium size herd followed by small (23.75 per cent) and (28.75 per cent) large size herds. The data indicated that animal husbandry is the second enterprise after crop production in the study area. These findings are supported by Ranjan and Pathak (1999) [2] and Shinde (2011) [3] who reported that the average number of animals kept by farmers ranged between two and four.

Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to their herd size

Herd Size	Frequency	Percentage
Small (up to 3.5)	19	23.75
Medium (3.6 to 5.5)	38	47.5
Large (above 5)	23	28.75
Total	80	100.00

**Fig 2:** Distribution of respondents according to their majority

Majority (56.25 per cent) of the respondents were in the middle age group while (26.25 per cent) of respondents belonged to below 28 age category. About 72.50 percent of the respondents were literate and around 27.5 percent were illiterate. About 23.75 per cent of the respondents had small herd size followed by medium and large herd size i.e. 47.50 and 28.75 percent respectively. Most 60.00 per cent of the respondents had medium land holding followed by large and marginal land holding. With respect to family size, 46.25 per cent of the respondents had nuclear small size family followed by medium and large size family.

Conclusion

Animal husbandry is the most important enterprise for the farmers of Jaipur district. Even though the district is rich in the total animal population yet, the progress of animal husbandry does not seem to be satisfactory. The main hurdle in the promotion of dairying apart from adverse climatic conditions were inadequate and unbalanced feeding, poor management, low genetic potential, inadequate veterinary aid and lack of market facilities.

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