

Constraints Faced in Availing Veterinary Services From Livestock Supervisor and Suggestions made by dairy farmers in Kolhapur district

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ABSTRACT: The important constraints reported by the respondents that inadequate availability of medicines and other infrastructural facilities in veterinary clinics (86.66 %), the non availability of artificial insemination at door step (85.00 %), lack of awareness among dairy farmers about government animal developmental programs/scheme (83.33 %), non availability of pregnancy diagnosis at door step (82.50%), non availability of veterinarians in emergency cases (81.66 %) lack of veterinary medical stores at village level (80.83%), lack of proper advisory services on scientific livestock management (78.33%), non unavailability of proper disease diagnostic facilities within that geographical areas (70.00 %), less availability of qualified veterinary doctors/supervisors (50.83 %), long distance between dairy farm to veterinary clinic (45.83%). The important suggestions made by the respondents to overcome the constraints, provide emergency treatment at farmer's door step (95.83%), provide artificial insemination service and pregnancy diagnosis service at farmers door step (91.16%), proper advanced training facilities should be organize related to early disease diagnosis and therapeutic approaches with supply of extension literature (80.00%), provision of adequate medicines and infrastructure facilities to Veterinary clinics like e.g. X-Ray, Ultra Sound Sonography, Electro Cardiography, 2D ECHO etc. (79.16%), round the clock (24 x 7) availability of expert Veterinarians & Increase number of Veterinarians/ Para-veterinary staff (76.66%). Availability of high through put diagnostic facilities (45.83%), Veterinary services should available through Public Private Partnership by Government (44.16%) and availability of high pedigreed breeding materials & sexed semen for production of heifers (18.33%).

The challenges for this study were dairy farmers did not have awareness about the services provided by the State Department of Animal Husbandry and they were totally depends upon the services provided by the dairy cooperatives like Gokul, Warna and the contributions made for this study i.e. The interview schedule was created with pertinent questions in mind, taking into account the study objectives. The language was kept as plain as possible in order to elicit the desired replies from the respondents. The statistical tests employed in this study for data analysis are frequency, percentage, mean and range.

Keywords: Constraints, Dairy Farmer, Veterinary Services.

INTRODUCTION

Dairy farming is becoming increasingly popular in India. It has transformed from a small, family-run enterprise to a well-organized industry with cutting-edge technology. Dairying is seen as a valuable asset for marginal and landless farmers because it can provide additional income to these families while also contributing to the national economy because there is a large market for processed dairy products in other countries, which can significantly boost the country's foreign exchange pool. By complementing and

integrating crop production and operating as a savings bank, it contributes to rural livelihoods, employment, and poverty alleviation. It serves as a risk deterrent (Sen and Chander, 2003).

According to the 2012 Livestock Census, the overall livestock population is 535.78 million, a rise from the previous year (4.60%) (Livestock Census 2012). During the reign of the great Emperor Ashoka, India had the distinction of creating and administering the world's first animal hospitals. Even before that, in ancient India, organized groups were offering animal treatment services (Desta, 2015). Several records or treaties on

animal healthcare have been signed in India. Animal husbandry is crucial to the country's economic and industrial development. The majority of rural people (70.00 per cent) rely on animal husbandry for their daily income, and livestock farming is the backbone of the rural economy, especially when the monsoon fails. Animal husbandry activities in villages are successfully channeling the government's endeavor to alleviate poverty and create self-employment opportunities among the rural population. Furthermore, the growing human population, fast urbanization, rising household

income, and changes in people's lifestyles have resulted in a demand for better farm and companion animal healthcare (Sankhala *et al.*, 2006). While the animal husbandry department's main focus is currently on increasing animal production through new breeding and feeding strategies, health coverage, and diseased animal care, which are generally neglected in planning and implementation. Increasing production levels place a great deal of stress on farm animals, making them more susceptible to disease (Jeenger *et al.*, 2010).

Veterinary Institutions in Maharashtra:

Institution	Veterinary Hospitals/ Polyclinics	Veterinary Dispensaries	Veterinary Centre's/Mobile units	Total
	1063	1585	65	2713

(Source: www.msvc.maharashtra.gov.in)

Livestock Population of Kolhapur District:

Animal	Cattle	Buffalo	Sheep	Goat	Pig
Population	283637	568884	96176	130053	806

(Source: 20th Livestock Census & AHD, Maharashtra)

METHODOLOGY

The primary goal of the research is to learn how dairy farmers in a particular study area feel about the veterinary services given by livestock supervisors. This sociological study utilized a descriptive and diagnostic strategy.

1. Locale of the study: The present study was undertaken in Kolhapur District of Maharashtra State. Kolhapur District is located in western part of the Maharashtra state.

2. Methods of sampling: For this study, in all 12 villages i.e. 4 villages from each block i.e. Kagal, Hatkanangale and shirol were selected randomly.

3. Selection of the respondents: For the study, in all 120 dairy farmers were interviewed wherein a dairy farmers who posses dairy animals considered as respondent.

4. Tools and techniques of data collection: The basic

tool used for the data collection was the interview schedule. The questions were related to different constraints faced by the dairy farmers while availing the veterinary services provided by livestock supervisor.

Advantage of this study: The study was carried out on a limited scale, verifying the findings in a specific area; nevertheless, in order to generalise the findings to a broader extent, it may be essential to replicate the study in other Maharashtra districts.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Constraints faced by dairy farmers in availing veterinary services by livestock supervisor

The dairy farmers were asked about ten constraints and also asked to rank all these eleven statements. The statement which was mentioned as most severe constraint by the respondents was given rank I followed by less and lesser.

Table 1: Constraints faced by the dairy farmers in availing veterinary services.

Sr. No.	Constraints	Respondents (n= 120)		Rank
		Frequency	Percentage	
1.	Inadequate availability of medicines and other infrastructural facilities in Veterinary clinics.	104	86.66	I
2.	Non availability of Artificial Insemination at door step.	102	85.00	II
3.	Lack of awareness among dairy farmers about Government animal developmental programs/schemes.	100	83.33	III
4.	Non availability of Pregnancy Diagnosis at door step.	99	82.50	IV
5.	Non availability of Veterinarians in emergency cases.	98	81.66	V
6.	Lack of Veterinary Medical stores at village level.	97	80.83	VI
7.	Lack of proper advisory services on scientific livestock management.	94	78.33	VII
8.	Unavailability of proper disease diagnostic facilities within that geographical areas.	84	70.00	VIII
9.	Less availability of qualified Veterinary doctors / livestock supervisors.	61	50.83	IX
10.	Long distance to Veterinary clinic.	55	45.83	X

It was observed from above data in Table 1 show that, most (86.66%) of the respondent faced that inadequate availability of infrastructural facilities and medicines in veterinary hospital (Rajput and Tripathi, 2010) by 85.00% farmers faced the non availability of artificial insemination at door step. While, 83.33% of the dairy farmers of lack of awareness among dairy farmers about government animal developmental programs/scheme followed by 82.50% of the respondents faced non availability of pregnancy diagnosis at door step. Whereas, 81.66% of dairy farmers faced that non availability of veterinarians in emergency cases followed by 80.83% of the dairy farmers faced that lack of veterinary medical stores at village level (Mooventhan *et al.*, 2017). While, 78.33% of the dairy farmers faced lack of proper advisory services on scientific livestock management followed by 70.00% of the farmers faced unavailability of proper disease diagnostic facilities within that geographical areas. This was followed by 50.83% of the dairy farmers faced less availability of qualified veterinary doctors/livestock supervisors. Whereas, 45.83% farmers faced problem of long distance to veterinary clinic. The findings matched with the study done by the Rathod, (2010).

B. Suggestion made by dairy farmers to overcome the constraints

The suggestions given by the dairy farmers to overcome the constraints in availing veterinary services. It is

observed from the above data in Table 2, that great majority (95.83%) of the respondents suggested that provide emergency treatment at farmer's door step, 91.16% of the dairy farmers suggested that provide artificial insemination service and pregnancy diagnosis service at farmers door step (Singodia *et al.*, 2019). 80.00 per cent of them suggested proper advanced training facilities should be organize related to early disease diagnosis and therapeutic approaches with supply of extension literature, 79.16 per cent of respondents suggested provision of adequate medicines and infrastructure facilities to Veterinary clinics like e.g. X-Ray, Ultra Sound Sonography, Electro Cardiography, 2D ECHO etc. (Patel *et al.*, 2013), 76.66% of the dairy farmers suggested that round the clock (24 × 7) availability of expert Veterinarians & Increase number of Veterinarians/Para-veterinary staff (Jena *et al.*, 2017).

While 45.83% of the dairy farmers suggests that availability of high through put diagnostic facilities. 44.16% of the dairy farmers suggests Veterinary services should available through Public Private Partnership by Government (Jeelani *et al.*, 2015) and 18.33% of the dairy farmers suggested availability of high pedigreed breeding materials & sexed semen for production of heifers should be made available. The findings matched with the study done by the Rathod, (2010).

Table 2: Suggestions made by dairy farmers to overcome constraints.

Sr. No.	Suggestion	Respondents (n= 120)		Rank
		Frequency	Percentage	
1.	Provide emergency treatment for dairy animals at farmer's door step.	115	95.83	I
2.	Provide Artificial Insemination service & Pregnancy diagnosis service at dairy farmers door step.	110	91.66	II
3.	Proper advanced training facilities should be organize related to early disease diagnosis and therapeutic approaches with supply of extension literature.	96	80.00	III
4.	Provision of adequate medicines and infrastructure facilities to Veterinary clinics like e.g. X-Ray, Ultra Sound Sonography, Electro Cardiography, 2D ECHO etc.	95	79.16	IV
5.	Round the clock (24 x 7) availability of expert Veterinarians & Increase number of Veterinarians/ Para-veterinary staff.	92	76.66	V
6.	Availability of high through put diagnostic facilities should be made available.	55	45.83	VI
7.	Veterinary services should available through Public Private Partnership by government.	53	44.16	VII
8.	Availability of high pedigreed breeding materials & sexed semen for production of heifers should be made available.	22	18.33	VIII

CONCLUSION

From the present study it was concluded that,

1. Majority of the respondents reported constraints inadequate availability of medicines and other infrastructural facilities in veterinary clinics, long distance between dairy farm to veterinary clinic, non

availability of veterinarians in emergency cases, unavailability of proper disease diagnostic facilities within that geographical areas, lack of proper advisory services on scientific livestock management, less availability of qualified veterinary doctors/supervisors, non availability of artificial insemination at door step, non availability of pregnancy diagnosis at door step,

lack of veterinary medical stores at village level and lack of awareness among dairy farmers about Government animal developmental programs/schemes were expressed as an important constraints while availing veterinary services delivered livestock supervisor.

2. Great majority(95.83%) of the respondents suggested that provide emergency treatment at farmer's door step, provide artificial insemination service and pregnancy diagnosis service at farmers door step, proper advanced training facilities should be organize related to early disease diagnosis and therapeutic approaches with supply of extension literature, provision of adequate medicines and infrastructure facilities to Veterinary clinics like e.g. X-Ray, Ultra Sound Sonography, Electro Cardiography, 2D ECHO etc., round the clock (24 × 7) availability of expert Veterinarians & Increase number of Veterinarians/Para-veterinary staff. Availability of high through put diagnostic facilities, Veterinary services should available through Public Private Partnership by Government and availability of high pedigreed breeding materials & sexed semen for production of heifers.

FUTURE SCOPE

1. Govt. Department of Animal Husbandry and many other dairy cooperatives, NGO, other agencies to plan and decide their strategies for development of programmes in dairy farming for the farmers to motivate to acquire more information and to become highly scientific through various extension activities of the union and other agencies through trainings.

2. With regards to Animal health and veterinary services delivered by livestock supervisor, there was necessitate to develop extension services by way of the different extension activities such as demonstrations, exhibitions, field visits, print medias etc. by involving most of the farmers at regular period of time.

3. With reference to perception has pointed out various pros and cons of their veterinary services delivery. Hence, the state and other private and public agencies have a major play for increasing the veterinary services and livestock production to improve the rural standards of livings.

4. Most of the farmers stated that most important constraint was inadequate availability of medical and other infrastructural facilities in Veterinary clinics and lack of awareness among dairy farmers about Government animal developmental programmes/schemes. Hence, to solve this problem state Government need to build good quality infrastructure and provide medical facilities in

veterinary clinics and arrange awareness campaign in study area.

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Conflict of Interest. None.

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