

**STUDY ON POTENTIAL OF DAIRY CATTLE
PRODUCTION IN BATTICALOA DISTRICT**

BY

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ABSTRACT

Batticaloa district is famous for agricultural activities such as paddy cultivation, fishing and animal husbandry etc. Next to paddy cultivation, the income source of farmers is animal husbandry especially cattle production which was mostly reared for milk purpose (70%) under different types of rearing system such as intensive system, tethering, extensive, semi-intensive and. There was mostly observed extensive system of rearing in Batticaloa district.

A pre-test structured questionnaire was administered to randomly selected farmer who were involved in cattle farming. A total of 120 cattle farmers were interviewed during field investigation. The data collected were coded and entered on SPSS for analysis.

A research was conducted to objectively analyze the performance of milk production and the production potential of dairy cattle. The peak milk production of dairy cattle was the range between 1-2 liters per herd. There was natural breeding carried out higher than the Artificial insemination (A.I). Further, There were 62% of the farmers practiced crop-livestock farming, 28% of the farmers practiced solely livestock farming and only 10% of the farmers practiced crop farming system.

According to this study, some factors such as milking time, marketing of milk before the programme and milk yield of cow per day were affected the milk production of dairy cattle. There were major diseases such as F.M.D, bloat, foot rot and external parasites found in Batticaloa district and also studied major constrains were lack of grazing land, problem of theft, breed availability, threat of diseases and lack of feed and fodder.

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