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Studies on feeding and management practices adopted in livestock fodder camps during drought in Georai Tahsil of Beed district

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Abstract
The present investigation entitled "Studies on Management Practices Followed for Livestock Fodder Camps during Drought in Georai Tahsil of Beed District" was undertaken to study the different package of practices followed for livestock. Four livestock fodder camps from Georai tahsil of Beed district were selected with the objectives to study the feeding, breeding and health cover practices of livestock. The data was collected from the 400 respondents in four livestock fodder camp. The study revealed that 24.50 per cent of the respondents were marginal farmers, 28.75 per cent of the respondents were small farmers, 42.00 per cent of the respondents were medium farmers, 04.75 per cent of the respondents were large farmers while 00.00 per cent of the respondents landless labourers, respectively. Majority of livestock owners reared indigenous animal (93.50 per cent) followed by cross bred (21.25 per cent) and non-descript animals (04.75 per cent). All the farmers in fodder camp provide feed and fodder as decided by state government i.e. adult animals were fed with 15 kg green fodder, 6 kg dry fodder and 0.500 kg concentrates whereas growing animals were fed with 7.5 kg green fodder, 3 kg dry fodder and 0.250 kg concentrates, respectively. In management practices vaccination and health checking of animal were followed 100 per cent, while cleaning and sanitation of camp and animal practiced by 96.50 per cent. Artificial insemination technique was followed by 77.25 per cent farmers, whereas 29.50 per cent of respondent followed mating of animal at right time. Hence it may be concluded that there is need to demonstrate scientific feeding and management practices, also management of fodder and water for summer season which is need for exploiting optimum production and proper management of livestock.

Keywords: Feeding, breeding, management, livestock fodder camp

Introduction
Animal Husbandry and Dairying activities, along with agriculture, continue to be an integral part of human life since the process of civilization started. These activities have not only contributed to the food basket and draught animal power but also by maintaining ecological balance. Livestock sector is an important sub-sector of the agriculture of Indian economy. It contributes 3.46 per cent to total GDP where as in case of agriculture sector 29.20 per cent during 2012-2013 (Anonymous 2014). In Maharashtra state, the total number of livestock population is about 32.49 millions in which bovine (Cattle and Buffalo) population is about 21.07 million numbers which accounts to 65% of total livestock of Maharashtra (Anonymous 2012). Drought can refer to "an extended period of months or years when a region notes a deficiency in its water supply whether surface or underground water, results in water shortage for vegetation, animals and human being." Drought conditions can negatively affect agriculture, water supplies, energy production, and many other aspects of society. The impacts vary depending on the type, location, intensity, and duration of the drought. Feeding strategies during drought depend on the specific condition prevailing in any particular area (Udmale *et al.* 2014). In general the farmer has to make decision based on economics, knowledge of nutrition, the availability of feed resources and their calculated guess on the length of drought. Livestock camps are the areas where the livestock are reared collectively under the control of either government or private agency to overcome the problem of drought. In India, generally livestock camps are controlled by state government. Livestock camp is the best measure to sustain in drought condition. Now a day there is severe water scarcity in Maharashtra especially in Beed, Osmanabad and Latur district of Marathwada region due to low rainfall and long interval in rainfall which resulted into very low availability of feed and fodder. By considering this situation, Govt. of Maharashtra has taken decision to provide feed and fodder

in low cost for livestock of these district. For this purpose with the permission of District Collector, co-operative sugar factory, other factory, Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee, Gram Panchayat, NGOs, SHGs, etc. can open livestock fodder camp in these district.

Materials and Methodology

The data for the present investigation entitled "Studies on Management Practices Followed for Livestock Fodder Camps During Drought in Georai Tahsil of Beed District" will be collected from different livestock fodder camps in Georai tahsil of Beed district namely Shakuntaladevi Mahila Sevabhavi Sanstha At.Jategaon, Amar Sevabhavi Sanstha Nandpur sanchalit At. Sirasdevi, Ukadeshwar Bahuddeshiya Sevabhavi Sanstha At. Vadgaon Dhok, Shri Sant Bhagvanbaba Sevabhavi Sanstha, Kekatpangri Sanchalit At. Georai Tal. Georai Dist. Beed. 100 respondents were randomly selected from each livestock fodder camp. Thus, the total sample size comprised of 400 farmers. The data in respect of existing feeding, breeding and management practices of cattle by farmers in camp by personal interview method from the well designed and pre-tested schedules.

Results

Adoption of feeding, breeding and health cover practices of livestock

A) Feeding practices adopted by farmer in livestock fodder camp

It is need to emphasis the importance of feed and fodder for production and body maintenance. Apart from the genetic capabilities of the animals, the milk production in cattle and buffalo goes in response with nature and the quantities of the feeds and fodder allowed to them, so that it is essential to evaluate the present status of feeding practices adopted by the farmer in Livestock Fodder Camp. It is observed from table 1 that green fodder consists of sugarcane tops and maize, dry fodder consist of *kadbi* that are tied in bundles. In addition to all these above mentioned, pellets (Sugras) was also utilized as a concentrate feed for livestock. It is observed that, all the farmers in all categories adopted stall feeding because of non availability of grazing land in Livestock Fodder Camp. Information about different feeds and fodder used by farmers to his animal are given in table 2. Survey revealed that all the farmers provide feed and fodder as decided by state government. In the fodder camp adult animals were fed with 15 kg green fodder, 6 kg dry fodder and 0.500 gm concentrates whereas growing animals were fed with 7.5 kg green fodder, 3 kg dry fodder and 0.250 gm concentrates respectively. Patange *et al*. (2002) [5] and Bainwad *et al*. (2007) [4] reported that maximum 6.00 kg and 5.22 kg dry fodder were supplied during summer season.

Table 1: Source of feed and fodder in livestock fodder camp

S.N.	Category	Source
1	Green Fodder	Sugarcane tops, Maize
2	Dry Fodder	*Kadbi*, Straw
3	Concentrate	Pellets (*Sugras*)
4	Other	-

Table 2: Feed and fodder provided by farmer in livestock fodder camp

Sr. No.	Feed	Adult animal	Growing animal
1.	Green fodder (kg.)	15	7.50
2.	Dry fodder (kg.)	6	3
3.	Concentrate (gm.)	0.500	0.250
4.	Other (kg.)	0.00	0.00

B) Breeding practices adopted by farmer in livestock fodder camp

Breeding is the selective mating of animals to increase the possibility of obtaining desired traits in the offspring and also most important management practice followed for producing genetically better animals.

Table 3: Breeding practices followed in livestock fodder camp (N=400)

Sr. No.	Component	Marginal Farmer	Small Farmer	Medium Farmer	Large Farmer	Per cent
1.	Use of Artificial Insemination	77(78.57)	94(81.73)	126(75.00)	12(63.15)	77.25
2.	Mating	39(39.79)	20(17.39)	54(32.14)	05(26.31)	29.50
3.	Availability of Breeding Bull	_	_	03(01.78)	_	0.75
4.	Availability of Breeding buffalo bull	_	02(1.73)	05(02.97)	01(05.26)	02.00

(Figures in parenthesis shows percentage of respective farmers)

It is observed from table 3 that artificial insemination technique was followed by 77.25 per cent respondent, whereas 29.25 per cent of respondent followed mating of animals. Availability of breeding bull and breeding buffalo bull 0.75 and 2.00 respectively in livestock fodder camps. Nagrale S. G. (2016) reported similar results about artificial insemination 75.00 per cent and mating of animals 46.50 per cent.

C) Health covers practices adopted by farmer in livestock fodder camp

It is said that management is the art and science of combining idea, facilities, processes, materials and labour to produce and market a worthwhile product for service successfully. In order to determine existing health cover practices followed by different categories of farmers were calculated by simple method of number of farmers followed each health cover practice in each category of farmers by percentage and frequency. It is observed from table 4 that sanitation of camp and animals practiced followed by 96.00 per cent while vaccination and health checking of animal were followed 100 per cent in all categories of respondents, no respondent had made livestock insurance in camp. Nagrale S. G. (2016) reported similar results about sanitation of camp and animals, vaccination and health checking of animals.

Discussion

Singh *et al.* [2] reported similar results for green fodder. Patange *et al.* [3] and Bainwad *et al.* [4] reported that maximum 6.00 kg and 5.22 kg dry fodder were supplied during summer season.

Conclusion

Stall feeding was adopted as method of feeding due to non availability of grazing land in livestock fodder camp by all respondents. There were very less numbers of farmer who use of antibiotics and mineral mixture in feed. There is no problem in availability of Veterinary Aids and regular health checking because of weekly visit of veterinary Doctor in each Livestock fodder camp. All the farmers were provided feed

and fodder as decided by Government of Maharashtra but it was not sufficient. Lack of adoption of scientific feeding and management practices by livestock owners were observed in livestock fodder camps.

Hence it may be concluded that there is need to demonstrate scientific feeding and management practices, also management of fodder and water for summer season which is need for exploiting optimum production and proper management of livestock.

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