



# DAIRY HUSBANDRY PRACTICES FOR BOOSTING PRODUCTIVITY

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## IMPROVED ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PRACTICES FOR PROFITABLE DAIRY FARMING IN COASTAL REGION

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### PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS

Entrepreneurship development through dairy farming is a promising solution to growing unemployment scenario in the country, but it has also many challenges. Dairy farmers are facing problems like low productivity, infectious diseases, reproductive disorders, lack of availability of good quality feed and fodder and adverse effects of climate change. Shri. Sunil Harijan, a farmer and resident of Ibrampur village in Pernem has been undertaking dairy farming for the last nine years. His farm had six adult cows and majority were low productive animals. He was not following scientific rearing practices, and faced major problems like low conception rate, disease outbreaks, sub-optimal production, lack of time and labour support for shed management and difficulty in milking.

### INTERVENTIONS

After learning about his passion to dairy farming and hardships faced by him, ICAR-CCARI team made him aware of the benefits of schemes for scheduled caste community supporting developmental aspirations and livelihood options. With his keen interest for getting meaningful support and guidance, Institute team extended necessary help through field training, supply of feeds, medicines and farm inputs to improve his farm productivity. He was given technical advice on scientific dairy farming including reproductive and health management, feeding, fodder production and setting-up of automatic vacuum pump Milking Machine system for safe, automated and clean milking.

### IMPACT

Initially, daily milk production was scanty six litres which he sells to the neighbourhood after meeting household requirements. The farmer used to get annual income of around Rs. 90,000 from milk sale. Over the period, with the adoption of scientific rearing practices and innovative technologies, majority animals became productive and daily milk production increased to more than 54% continuously for three years and now averages more than 20 liters with higher fat content and fetching better price which he sells to the local market. After these interventions, 2.65 times increase in herd productivity and 174.7% increase in annual income could be achieved. Automatic milking machine system has really made it convenient and helpful for him saving valuable time and labour costs. There is a cost saving of Rs. 45,000 towards additional labour for milking and with significant reduction in incidence of important diseases like repeat breeding and mastitis, there is an annual saving of Rs 14,000 with respect to overall treatment costs incurred. Shri. Sunil has proved his strength as a dairy farmer by adopting scientific rearing practices and is happy to share his knowledge and experiences with other farmers. Enhanced income from the farm now meets most of his financial requirement and also makes him stand proudly in the locality.



Dairy cattle farm



Automatic milking machine system



Shri Sunil with his family