



Recommendations: 50th Dairy Industry Conference

Venue: Hitex Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, Telangana

Date: March 4-5-6, 2024

THEME: Indian Dairying: Innovation and Entrepreneurship

50th Dairy Industry Conference, the Golden Jubilee Edition, was organized at Hitex Exhibition Center, Hyderabad, Telangana during March 4-5-6, 2024. The city of Hyderabad witnessed the Conference after 35 long years, the previous one being the 23rd edition in the year 1989. The theme of the 50th DIC was "**Indian Dairying: Innovation and Entrepreneurship**".

The Conference witnessed two Memorial Lectures, two Farmers' Sessions, a CEOs' Session, industrial session and 12 Technical Sessions including sessions for young professionals and lead talks. Eminent speakers from academia, industry, policy making organizations, laboratories, regulatory bodies and farming communities from India and overseas made presentations in these sessions. A total number of 62 presentations were made in the Conference. Eminent academicians including vice-chancellors of animal sciences universities, industry stalwarts and policy makers conducted the sessions by serving as chairpersons, co-chairmen and rapporteurs.

The recommendations emerged out of the Conference are detailed below:

Policy Issues

- Time to launch Operation Flood - II focusing on improving the productivity of milch cattle thereby reducing the cost of milk production.
- Increase the domestic consumption and export potential of milk and milk products.
- Supporting farmers for clean milk production, end-to-end traceability, and improvement in logistics for procurement and processing, and production of good quality products for national and international market for boosting the growth of the dairy sector.
- Policies to provide subsidy/financial aid for various inputs namely, the milch animals, feed and fodder, veterinary care, AI services, etc., and credit facility on investments in dairy farming, interest subvention,

etc. need to be strengthened.

- Provision for a National policy on breed improvement programme for enhancing the productivity of the milch cattle.
- Reviewing the National buffalo breeding policy to tap superior genetic resources.
- Strategies for increase in the feed conversion ratio in the Indian cattle for reduction in the cost of milk production thereby fetching more returns to the farmers.
- Exporting of feed resources should be restricted through appropriate government policies.
- Provision for better dairy farmers' welfare measures including skill development programmes, creating innovative infrastructure under rural conditions and arranging financial aids to make the dairy more producer centric and encourage youth to take up dairying as a profession.
- Dissemination of scientific information on the nutritive and therapeutic benefits of milk and milk products against the backdrop of the negative campaign being made by groups of vegan foods against the consumption of dairy foods.
- Prevention of dairy food adulteration through a proactive approach rather than reactive, strong market surveillance like usage of intelligence services, regular monitoring, vigilance, and stringent and fast action against the fraudsters.
- Strengthening association between academic/research institutes and the industry for development and adoption of newer technologies/methodologies, and development of talented and skilled human resources for the growth of dairy sector.
- Improvement in the Indian Dairy Industry and make it a part of the solution to improve the environment and advance Sustainable Development Goals of

United Nations Agenda 2030.

- Upgradation of biogas plants with new technologies to convert methane to hydrogen helps for effective dairy farm manure management. Development of a manure value chain to harness full fertilizer potential and restores soil health.
- Mitigation of challenges in commercialization of innovations for an increased dairy entrepreneurship.

Dairy Animal Productivity and Cattle Health Management

- Application of modern methods such as embryo transfer technology, genomic selection, animal cloning and genome editing for improvement of lactation traits, disease resistance and productivity of dairy farming.
- Revisit the national buffalo breeding policy to tap superior genetic resources other than the breed Murrah; develop automation of buffalo rearing practices.
- Implementation of microclimate modification through suitable cooling strategies as per the region as a sustainable dairy practice to combat heat stress.
- Production of value added feeds and fodders for increased productivity and performance.
- Ration balancing for enhancing the livestock productivity under field and farm conditions to meet the targeted milk production.
- Application of veterinary surveillance, and non-invasive, rapid, safe, reliable and sensitive methods to detect early diagnosis of mastitis and other diseases for initiating measures of prophylaxis and treatment.
- Practical implementation of ethno-veterinary practices at farm level as a first aid support.

Dairy Processing and Packaging Materials

- Application of newer processing technologies including non-thermal techniques for production of milk with extended shelf-life, fermented dairy products, whey based foods and other value added dairy foods minimizing the loss of nutrients.
- Mining of milk for bioactive substances and ingredients through appropriate technologies for production of functional and nutritional substances, and formulation of innovative food products.
- Application of sustainable packaging materials, nanomaterials, smart/intelligent packaging systems and data science tools for packaging dairy products.
- Focus on development of suitable packaging

material to reduce net carbon footprint and environmental pollution.

Food Regulations

- Development of microbial criteria in the entire dairy value chain to prevent the occurrence of food borne diseases.
- Development of suitable and validated analytical capabilities to evaluate quality and safety regulatory standards of dairy products.
- Development of regulatory standards for indigenous milk products to assure their quality and safety.
- Development of regulatory strategies for reduction of residues and contaminants (*e.g.* Aflatoxin M1) in milk.
- Proper implementation of the food regulations to safeguard the genuine interests of the food business operators and consumers.

Innovations in Dairy Industry

- Application of innovative methods for rapid chilling of milk at the farm level, thereby enhancing the keeping quality of raw milk.
- Utilization of cost effective and sustainable technologies for conservation of water and energy in the dairy industry.
- Focus on sustainable innovations and utilization of green initiatives - solar energy, recycling of water with a concern for the environment.

Dairy Software, Systems and Artificial Intelligence

- Application of information technology, artificial intelligence and digitization of logistics as integral parts of dairy business for cost cutting of the operations, minimize waste, reduce manpower, optimize resources, real time management of demand, delivery and sales force performance to enhance productivity and usher the dairy industry into a new era of efficiency and sustainability.
- Choosing the right E-Commerce technology by the dairy industry for efficient trading practices for both B2B and B2C marketing.

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