

DSVC Kamdhenu University and IDA (WZ) Organize National Conference in Raipur



Dau Shri Vasudev Chandrakar Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya (DSVCKV), Durg, and Indian Dairy Association (West Zone), jointly organized a two-day National Conference on **"Dairying: A Sustainable Approach for Transforming Livelihoods and Health"** on the 10th and 11th of April 2025 at Dr. C. Rajeshwari Auditorium, Sri Sathya Sai Sowbhagyam, Centre for Human Development, Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The objective of this conference was to explore sustainable strategies and innovative solutions in the dairy industry that can enhance rural livelihoods and promote better health outcomes. The event brought together experts, policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders to exchange insights and discuss advancements in the field.



The inaugural ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Minister of Sports and Youth Welfare, Govt. of Chhattisgarh Shri Tank Ram Verma as the Chief Guest and Shri S. Rajeev, Executive Director, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as the Guest of Honour. Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President-IDA was the Special Guest.



Vidhan Sabha.

The Inaugural Session was chaired by Dr. R.R.B. Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DSVCKV, Durg. The stage was further adorned by the presence of Dr. J.B. Prajapati, Chairman IDA (WZ); Dr. Sudhir Uprit, Convener & Dean CDSFT Raipur; and Dr. Vikram Singh Sisodia, Secretary to Speaker, Chhattisgarh

On this occasion, the Hon'ble Minister Shri Tank Ram Verma ji highlighted the role of dairy sector in livelihood and also stressed upon efforts to encourage rural youths to take up dairying as a vocation. Shri S. Rajeev, in his address, focused on the role of NDDB in boosting the dairy sector in the state. He also indicated that after the takeover of the State's Cooperative Dairy Federation with brand name 'Devbhog', the strategies for its development are being made to enhance the prosperity of dairy farmers. Dr. R.S. Sodhi provided insights on comprehensive development of the dairy sector in the state. With interesting statistics on dairy development in Chhattisgarh, he insisted that all round efforts should be made to increase productivity of milch animals with



better genomics, feed, fodder and management



practices. Farmers should also keep crossbred cows along with indigenous breeds for better substantiality of the dairy business. Dr. J.B. Prajapati, in his speech brought out the nutritional and therapeutic significance of dairy products and advocated consumption of milk as it has preventive

role on type 2 diabetes and other metabolic syndromes. Negative propaganda about milk by vegan and plant based lobbies must be countered with scientific data.



The Inaugural Session also marked the felicitation of 7 progressive dairy farmers of the state including 4 women farmers by the Hon'ble Minister.

The two day conference was attended by about 350 farmers, 100 scientist, 150 students from and around the state and representatives of leading dairy industries of the country. Special lectures and interactive talks were organized for the dairy farmers. Subject specialist from NDDDB, BAIF, academia and industry deliberated on some key issues related to dairy farmers of the state. **Technical Session-1** was dedicated to emerging challenges in the animal husbandry and milk production management. Speakers from different government and non-government organizations enlightened the audience with their presentations. The **Technical Session-2** covered the processing aspect of milk and saw some very important presentation from experts of Nestle India Ltd, ISSER Mohali, Helly Food and Dairy Consultancy, RA consultancy and Kamdhenu University Gujarat on new technologies, emerging challenges and potential start-up ideas related to dairy.



A **National Dairy Quiz** was organized as an integral part of this conference in which 23 teams from 15 different academic institutions around the country and 2 teams from dairy industry participated in the multi-event rounds. The quiz was tailored, curated and presented by the quiz masters Dr. Jarita Malik and Dr. Amit Patel from SMC college of Dairy Science, Anand. The first round was an off-stage round in which all the teams participated. Eight teams fought in the on-stage semi-final round. After several gruelling rounds on



different aspects of dairying and a nail-biting finish, Dairy Polytechnic, Bemetara, DSVCKV emerged as the First winner and ICAR-NDRI at the Second place. All the finalist teams were awarded special prizes.

A cultural program was also organized for the participants, wherein students of DSVCKV, Durg, enthralled the audience with their dazzling performances.

The two day event was organized due to the generous support from the sponsors:- Sarda Dairy & Foods Pvt. Ltd., Raipur; IB Group, Rajnandgaon; Chhattisgarh State Milk Cooperative Federation & NDDDB; BIS, Government of India; Shri Bajrang Alliance Ltd.; Vama Dairy; DeLaval India; Everest Instruments, Ahmedabad; Ice

Make Refrigeration, Ahmedabad; DAPL, Mumbai; BEC Foods Durg, UCO Bank, SBI and IDBI Bank. The Valedictory ceremony of the two day event was graced by Dr. R.R.B. Singh, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, DSVCKV, Durg; Dr. J.B. Prajapati; Shri. Venkat Ramanna, Director, Sarda Dairy and Foods, Dr. Bhanupratap Rathiya, Registrar, DSVCKV; Shri Arun Patil, Vice-President-IDA; Shri Madhav Patgaonkar, Secretary, IDA(WZ) and Dr. Sudhir Uprit. The ceremony began with floral welcome of the guests followed by report presentation on farmers and technical sessions by the respective rapporteurs. This was followed by felicitation of Sponsors, winners of the quiz competition and the entire organizing team of IDA (WZ) and DSVCKV, Durg and Vote of thanks by Shri Madhav Patgaonkar.



IDA (WZ)-BAIF Training Program for Veterinary Officers

Indian Dairy Association (West Zone) in collaboration with BAIF, organised a three-day training program on **"Sustainable and smart dairying for improved performance and profitability"** for Veterinary Officers at BAIF Central





Research Station, Urlikanchan from 15th to 17th April 2025.

The program was attended by 20 Senior Veterinary Officers from organisations like Banas Dairy, Schreiber Dynamix, Gokul Dairy, Amul Dairy, Bhagyalaxmi Dairy Farms, Krushal, Elite Dairy Salem, etc.

Program began with the Inauguration and introduction of participants in the presence of the Head of the BAIF Centre, Dr. Jayant Khadse; Chairman, IDA (WZ), Dr. J.B. Prajapati; Secretary, IDA (WZ), Shri Madhav Patgaonkar; Former Vice President BAIF & ZEC Member, Dr. Alok Juneja; Coordinator, Dr. Lata, and other faculty. Dr. J.B. Prajapati motivated the participants by explaining

the importance of such training by giving an overview on the global and Indian dairy sector. The three-day program was packed with expert lectures and practical visits covering the areas of animal management, housing, feed and fodder, animal genetics and breeding, sorted sex semen, ethno-veterinary practices, clean milk production, use of AI, etc. The training is expected to be useful to these veterinary officers to train their field workers and adopt the latest technologies for improving the milk productivity for the farmers.

IDA invites suggestions for such program proposals for customized programs for officials, field workers, and dairy farmers.

Haryana State Chapter of IDA Organizes Dairy Animals Welfare Camp and a Conclave

IDA Haryana State Chapter (HSC) organized Dairy Animals Welfare Camp and a Conclave on Quality Milk Production for Health Benefits & Well-being for the benefits of dairy farmers, especially women and youths at Pattikalayana village of Panipat district on March 26, 2025.

Dr. S.K. Kanawjia, former Emeritus Scientist (Dairy Technology) & Chairman, IDA HSC welcomed all the participants at this auspicious occasion and apprised the gathering with the significance of Dairy animal welfare camp and quality milk production. He also elaborated on the importance of milk and milk products in meeting the daily nutritional and health requirements. Dr. Kanawjia enlightened the



gathering with the role of milk and milk products for maintaining good health. Milk has been known as nature's most complete food for millennia, playing currently an important role in the diet of over 6 billion people in the world. Milk and milk products are nutrient-dense foods, supplying energy and high-quality protein

with a range of essential micronutrients (especially calcium, magnesium, potassium, zinc, and phosphorus) in an easily absorbed form. Dairy products are rich in nutrients that are essential for good bone health, including calcium, protein, vitamin D, potassium, and phosphorus. Calcium also has been shown to be beneficial in reducing cholesterol absorption, and in controlling body weight and blood pressure.

Milk quality is the essential element to be considered at the level of the milk production and processing. The nutritive components of the milk make it a good medium for the growth of microorganisms. Milk contains complex microbial communities that include microorganisms that are not good for human health and the presence of such type of microbial community in milk is a concern with food quality perspective. Due to this, milk microbiota is the focus of continuous attention. There are many factors that influence the presence of microorganisms in milk such as the teat canal, the surface of teat skin, and feed. Including these factors, environmental factors, water quality, housing hygiene, and equipment hygiene also influence the presence of microorganisms in raw milk.

Dr. Mahendra Singh, Vice-Chairman IDA HSC stressed upon the need of feeding the mineral mixture to lactating and growing animals. Mineral mixtures are crucial for dairy animals ensuring the healthy growth in calves and heifers. Mineral are essentially required for all the productive performance of cattle and buffaloes like growth, reproduction, milk production and overall well-being as they provide essential minerals that are not synthesized by the animals themselves. Mineral mixture is vital for the proper growth and development of calves, especially for bone health and skeletal structure due to contain calcium and phosphorus. In lactating animals the deficiency of calcium and phosphorous minerals reduce milk production especially in summer season. Adequate mineral intake especially calcium, phosphorus, and magnesium is helpful in boosting the milk production and enhancing its nutritional value. They are also necessary to produce right composition of milk in animals.



During summer season the quality and quantity of feed and fodder decreases while considerable loss of minerals by sweating in animals occurs. At this stage, the supplementation of minerals like selenium and zinc are crucial for reproductive health, better fertility and conception rate. Feeding of minerals reduces calving complications and makes the immune System of animal stronger as it contains iron, zinc, and selenium which augment immune system by making the animals more resistance to many diseases and infections. Due to their effects the metabolic disorders like milk fever and ketosis can be corrected which can lead to serious health problems. Dr. Singh emphasized that dairy farmers should prepare their own concentrate mixture and should fed to animals based on milk production so that balancing the diet of animals with necessary minerals could be optimized. Such practices will be helpful to reduce the incidence of repeat breeding, anestrus or silent estrus in dairy cows and buffaloes. This will not only help in clean milk production but will also promote the overall health, reproduction and well-being for sustained productive performance and more profit to the dairy farmers. Dr. Parveen Kamboj, Member, IDA (NZ) HSC discussed the various approaches need to be taken up to keep the animal healthy and also judicious application of antibiotics and other medicines to produce safe milk. The farmers sought the solution of animal health problems from the expert. The problems were mostly related to infertility, repeat breeding, silent heat, anoestrus and low body weight/underweight. The use of mineral mixture in routine practice was emphasized by experts to minimize physiological and environmental stress.

The village Sarpanch insisted to organize such meaningful activities in future also to enrich and update their knowledge for the production of healthy animals and to produce quality and clean-safe milk which in turn will boost their moral.



NATIONAL News

Food & Dairy Products See Double-Digit Growth in Q4: Bizom Report

According to retail intelligence platform Bizom, India's dairy products and packaged food categories recorded robust double-digit value growth in the March 2025 quarter. The report highlights a 16.7% growth in packaged foods and 11.9% growth in dairy products compared to the same period last year, reflecting strong consumer demand recovery and positive market sentiment.

Within the food and beverage segment, dairy products - including milk, curd, paneer, and value-added items like flavored milk and ice creams - showed a notable uptick driven by rising out-of-home consumption, festive demand, and improved rural market activity. The report points out that categories like beverages (+21.1%) and snacking products also outperformed, signalling a broad-based recovery in India's FMCG landscape.

Growth in the dairy category was further supported by stable pricing, innovative product launches, and aggressive distribution expansions by both cooperatives and private dairies. Summer-centric products such as lassi, buttermilk, and ice creams particularly benefited from early seasonal demand.

Bizom's analysis suggests that rural markets, which have traditionally underperformed, are now witnessing renewed consumption momentum, contributing significantly to the quarter's growth trends.

This performance reflects a favourable market environment for dairy entrepreneurs, cooperatives, and brands, indicating strong potential for summer-special products, value-added dairy, and health-centric innovations. Stakeholders should capitalize on this upswing with agile market strategies and localized outreach.

Union Minister Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh Stresses Tech-Driven Fodder Solutions at ICAR- IGFRl, Jhansi

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, visited the ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRl), Jhansi on April 5, 2025 to assess the ongoing research efforts and field-level innovations aimed at enhancing fodder availability and sustainable



grassland management across the country. He was accompanied by Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Ms. Alka Upadhyaya, and Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Dr. Abhijit Mitra.

Union Minister interacted with scientists and reviewed a comprehensive exhibition showcasing the latest fodder technologies and best practices being promoted by the institute.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh expressed concern over the prevailing national green fodder deficit, currently estimated at 11%, and stressed upon the need for technology-led interventions to address this challenge. He noted that while only 8.5 million hectares are presently under cultivated fodder, the country possesses approximately 11.5 million hectares of grasslands and nearly 100 million hectares of wastelands that can be harnessed efficiently. He emphasized that efficient utilisation of these underused resources is essential for achieving fodder self-reliance and improving livestock productivity.

He praised IGFRl's research and development work and called for speedy dissemination of its technologies through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) across states. He further emphasized the importance of perennial grasses that are tolerant to abiotic stress, highlighting their potential to rejuvenate degraded lands, contribute to ecological balance, and provide sustainable green fodder throughout the year. Reiterating government's commitment to building a resilient livestock sector, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh stated that science, innovation, and cooperative governance would be the cornerstones of advancing fodder security and achieving Atmanirbhar Krishi and Pashupalan. He also held discussions with IGFRl researchers, encouraging the institute to position itself as a central knowledge and innovation hub for fodder development and grassland improvement in India.

Among the key technologies demonstrated during the visit were livestock-based Integrated Farming Systems

(IFS) tailored for all categories of farmers; apomictic breeding in perennial grasses to ensure genetic uniformity and sustainability; development of specialized fodder farm machinery aimed at reducing manual labour; seed standards and certification systems for quality assurance in forage crops; and the innovative use of drones for seed pellet-based grassland rejuvenation at scale.

Ms. Alka Upadhyaya underlined the significance of state-level convergence to support the wider adoption of location-specific fodder technologies. She highlighted the scope for integrating fodder cultivation in fallow spaces within coconut orchards in Kerala as a promising example of such convergence. To further promote this model, she informed that a joint meeting will be held in Kerala, bringing together representatives of the State Government, KVKs, and IGFR scientists.

Above-Normal Monsoon Forecast for 2025 Brings Optimism for Dairy

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecasted an above-normal southwest monsoon for 2025, bringing encouraging prospects for India's agriculture and dairy sectors. According to IMD's long-range forecast, rainfall between June and September is likely to be 105% of the Long Period Average (LPA) of 87 cm, with a model margin of $\pm 5\%$. The probability of receiving above-normal to excess rainfall (over 105% of LPA) stands at a significant 59%, based on climate models and Multi-Model Ensemble (MME) forecasts.

Currently, ENSO (El Niño-Southern Oscillation) conditions remain neutral, although atmospheric patterns resemble La Niña-like features, which are typically favourable for monsoons. Similarly, the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remains neutral but stable. An important climatic factor boosting this forecast is the below-normal snow cover over the Northern Hemisphere and Eurasia from January to March 2025 - a pattern historically linked with stronger Indian monsoons.

Spatially, most parts of the country are expected to receive above-normal rainfall, barring some regions in Northwest, Northeast, and Southern India, which might witness normal to below-normal rains. The final, updated forecast will be released in May 2025, incorporating refined regional projections and oceanic observations.

For dairy stakeholders, an above-normal monsoon offers the potential for improved fodder availability and lower feed costs, which could stabilize milk production costs and buffer against summer deficits. This is a vital early signal for cooperatives, private dairies, and feed manufacturers to prepare procurement and pricing strategies for the upcoming season.

Govt. of MP, MP Dairy Federation, Affiliated Milk Unions & NDDDB Signs Agreement



The Government of Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Dairy Federation (MPCDF), associated milk unions (Bhopal Dugdh Sangh, Indore Dugdh Sangh, Bundelkhand Dugdh Sangh, Ujjain Dugdh Sangh, Jabalpur Dugdh Sangh and Gwalior Dugdh Sangh) and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) signed a collaboration agreement to build a robust dairy cooperative ecosystem in Madhya Pradesh in the august presence of the Chief Guest Shri Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs & Cooperation and the Special Guest Dr. Mohan Yadav, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh on April 13, 2025 at the State Level Cooperative Milk Producers "Gopal Sammelan" in Rabindra Bhawan, Bhopal. Shri Umakant Umrao, Principal Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of Madhya Pradesh and Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDDB exchanged the agreement between MPCDF and NDDDB. Paving the way for collaboration between NDDDB and Bhopal Dugdh Sangh.

In his address, Shri Amit Shah said that since formation of the Ministry of Cooperation, there has been a significant change in the cooperative sector under the leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Now, this sector is progressing rapidly. The Hon'ble Union Minister mentioned that Madhya Pradesh has greater potential for the expansion of cooperative societies compared to other states. He suggested that with this agreement, we should aim to establish primary dairy cooperative societies in 50 per cent villages within the first five years. If dairy cooperative societies are established in 50 per cent villages, then the milk processing capacity in the cooperative sector will increase manifold and make the farmers prosperous.

NDDDB and MPCDF are committed to taking every possible step for the welfare of the farmers. It is a matter of great

happiness that a collaboration agreement is being signed, transferring the management and operations of the federation and its allied milk unions to NDDB. The revival, expansion and strengthening of the dairy cooperative sector will not only benefit lakhs of milk producers in the state but also accelerate the growth of the state's dairy industry. He advised the Government of Madhya Pradesh and NDDB to work together to ensure that dairy cooperatives reach the maximum number of villages.

Dr Mohan Yadav stated that under "Prosperity through Cooperation," Madhya Pradesh is taking a significant step to transform the lives of dairy farmers through this agreement. Dr. Yadav conveyed that farmers will be encouraged to increase milk production and the state government is committed to ensure that milk is purchased directly from dairy farmers at fair prices. He also announced that the state government has decided to launch Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Kamdhenu Scheme to increase milk production in Madhya Pradesh.

Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB said that under the inspiring leadership of Shri Amit Shah and guidance of Dr. Mohan Yadav, NDDB will provide direction and support services in the areas of cooperation. Major focus will be on expanding cooperative coverage; quality improvement measures at various stages of milk collection, transportation and processing; optimal utilisation of existing infrastructure, plant technology upgradation and end-to-end digitisation; market penetration activities of milk and milk products and deployment and capacity building of human resources. In addition, productivity enhancement through animal breeding, nutrition, health, promoting biogas & dung management and organic farming will be other focused areas.

PAN Data to Transform Dairy Cooperatives, GDP Metrics

In a significant development for India's cooperative sector, Cooperation Secretary Shri Gyanesh Kumar emphasized the vital role of PAN (Permanent Account Number) data collection from cooperative societies in ensuring accurate GDP estimation and policy formulation. Speaking at a government event, Shri Kumar revealed that India's vast network of over 8 lakh cooperative societies has long operated in financial silos, limiting their integration into the mainstream economic assessment frameworks.

The government is actively working to streamline financial reporting in the cooperative sector, particularly in agriculture, dairy, and rural credit, where cooperatives have a massive grassroots presence. With the rollout of a new database and the upcoming Tribhuvan Sahkari University (TSU), dedicated to cooperative education,

the initiative aims to make cooperatives more transparent, efficient, and nationally significant.

By linking PAN data, authorities will gain clearer visibility on cooperative income, expenditure, and economic contributions, critical for calculating sectoral GDP and shaping welfare schemes and investment policies. The move also aligns with larger structural reforms to digitize cooperative operations, enhance financial literacy, and

Dr. Mangi Lal Jat Appointed as Secretary (DARE) & DG, ICAR



Dr. Mangi Lal Jat has been appointed as the new Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Previously, he was the Director, Global Research Programme on

Resilient Farm and Food Systems at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). He has been appointed for three years from the date of assuming charge.

Dr. Jat is a well-recognised systems agronomist with over 25 years of experience in systems science across the developing world.

His research areas include conservation agriculture, regenerative agriculture, farming systems, precision farming and climate-smart agriculture. He has also served at CGIAR (a global research partnership that works to transform food, land and water systems, addressing issues such as climate change, biodiversity and food security) for 13 years.

He has served over 12 years at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) as Principal Scientist-cum-systems Agronomist and Systems Science Strategy Lead, and one year at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

He also served 12 years at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) as systems agronomist. Dr. Jat has also served at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA), and several other international and national bodies in various capacities.

A fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), Dr. Jat has several awards and recognitions to his credit, including ICAR's prestigious Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award.

ensure fairer revenue distribution - particularly relevant for the dairy sector, where cooperatives handle over 50% of India's milk production.

This is a pivotal step towards integrating India's dairy cooperatives into formal economic metrics. Accurate data will help policymakers plan better infrastructure, pricing frameworks, and investment schemes - essential for a rapidly modernizing dairy economy.

India Eyes WTO-safe Measures to Protect Dairy from US Impact

India plans to use World Trade Organization (WTO)-safe non-tariff barriers (NTBs) to shield its dairy sector from US market access as part of the ongoing bilateral trade negotiations aimed at more than doubling two-way commerce to 500 billion dollars by 2030, a senior government official said.

Customs department is working closely with the commerce ministry to ensure sensitive sectors such as dairy and agriculture are protected. The negotiations with the United States come at a time when President Donald Trump, in his current term, announced a 26 percent tariff on US imports from India recently. The move has raised concerns among Indian exporters, even as New Delhi explores deeper bilateral ties across other sectors.

Government of India is hoping to exclude dairy from the trade deal by invoking NTBs tied to food safety and cultural standards, particularly due to the possibility that American cattle may be fed non-vegetarian feed, which goes against Indian norms. This gives India a legitimate ground to keep dairy out of the agreement, while still offering concessions in other areas.

India Steps Forward to Lead Global Livestock Decarbonisation Drive

India is positioning itself as a key global leader in livestock decarbonisation as it prepares for the upcoming Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation to be hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome. The announcement follows the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and FAO's collaborative efforts to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the livestock sector, particularly focusing on the dairy industry - a crucial contributor to India's rural economy and global milk supply.

India, the world's largest milk producer, accounts for 23% of global milk output and sustains over 8 crore dairy farmers. The NDDB has spearheaded several initiatives in recent years, including methane emission reduction programs, promotion of climate-resilient

breeds, feed management improvements, and biogas plant installations.

This leadership move also signals India's proactive role in global climate action dialogues, aiming to balance dairy sector growth with environmental sustainability. The FAO conference will provide a platform for countries to align on science-based, scalable livestock decarbonisation strategies, and India is expected to share its models and learnings widely.

For India's dairy entrepreneurs, cooperatives, and private players, this signals a future where climate credentials and low-carbon practices will be as critical as productivity and profitability. Those who invest early in sustainable operations could gain a strategic edge in both domestic and export markets.

Business Prospects of Bovine IVF and Dairy Genetics in India

According to Shri Prashant Jalan, Founder, Chairman, and Managing Director, Bengal Nestor's Industries Limited (BNIL), published in E-Magazine *AgroSpectrum*, the dairy industry has long been a pillar of rural economies throughout India's enormous and varied agricultural environment. With over 300 million cows and buffaloes nationwide, dairy farming is an important sector that supports millions of farmers. However, issues with milk yield, genetic quality, disease control, and herd management techniques have historically hampered the sector's expansion.

Recent developments in dairy genetics and bovine IVF (*In Vitro* Fertilisation) have given dairy owners new opportunities to improve herd genetics and productivity, providing substantial growth and profitability opportunities. It is indisputable that bovine IVF and dairy genetics can increase milk output in terms of both quality and quantity.

India accounts for almost 23 per cent of the world's milk production, making it the world's largest producer. Despite this, India's average milk production per cow is still poor when compared to other wealthy nations. In India, the average cow produces 1,200 litres of milk annually, significantly less than the potential of high-yielding breeds like Jersey or Holstein Friesians, which under ideal circumstances may produce over 6,000 litres annually. This low yield is caused by several problems, such as inadequate breeding techniques, subpar genetic stock, restricted access to veterinary care, and a dearth of cutting-edge farming equipment. Nonetheless, the Indian dairy industry is changing as there is a growing need to enhance milk yield and herd genetics.

What is Bovine IVF and How Does It Work?

In a lab setting, a cow's egg (oocyte) is fertilised with a

bull's sperm as part of the reproductive technology known as bovine IVF. The embryo created from the fertilised egg is then put into a recipient cow, also known as a surrogate mother, to bring the pregnancy to term. Without having to wait for natural breeding cycles or the actual mating process, this method allows dairy owners to quickly increase superior genetic features, such as high milk yield, illness resistance, and improved general health.

Role of Dairy Genetics in Improving Milk Yields

The study and use of genetic principles to enhance the health and productivity of dairy animals is known as dairy genetics. It entails choosing breeding animals according to desired characteristics such as longevity, illness resistance, high milk yield, and reproductive efficiency. Traditional crossbreeding efforts have historically influenced dairy genetics in India. To increase milk output, it has long been normal practice to crossbreed native cows like Gir, Sahiwal, and Kankrej with high-yielding breeds like Jersey and Holstein Friesians. However, because genetic features are complicated and managing crossbred herds may be difficult, the findings have frequently been uneven. Advanced genetic screening and bovine IVF provide a more focused and accurate breeding strategy.

Economic Benefits and Business Prospects

Increased milk yield and productivity: The potential for higher milk yield is one of the most direct economic advantages of bovine IVF and enhanced dairy genetics. Farmers can raise their herds' total output by choosing animals with better genetic features for increased milk production. Because IVF can help them acquire higher-quality genetics without the need for costly bull semen or superior breeding stock, even small-scale farmers stand to gain from this. Higher productivity in India's dairy industry could arise from this, possibly producing more milk than is needed. In addition to generating export prospects, this can assist in meeting the rising domestic demand for milk and dairy products. The Indian dairy industry is already one of the largest in the world, and through improved genetics, it has the potential to further strengthen its position in the global market.

Enhanced reproductive efficiency and herd management: The ability of bovine IVF to increase dairy herds' reproductive efficiency is a noteworthy additional advantage. Farmers may ensure that the best animals contribute to the next generation by using IVF to create more offspring from superior genetic lines. Additionally, IVF can lessen the need for expensive and time-consuming natural mating or artificial insemination. This facilitates the management of breeding programmes and speeds up the genetic advancement of herds. Farmers can shorten the time it takes for an animal to attain its maximum production potential by enhancing

herd management and reproductive rates. This helps farmers scale their operations more effectively and results in increased income from each cow.

Parag Milk Foods Strengthens its Products Portfolio with High-protein, Nutrient-rich Offerings

Parag Milk Foods announced the expansion of its product portfolio, reinforcing its promise of innovation, quality, and nutrition. It enhances its products portfolio with high-protein, nutrient-rich products, catering to the growing demand for health-focused nutrition. This strategic investment underscores the company's commitment to innovation and quality, reinforcing its position as a leading provider of premium dairy nutrition in the fast-growing India and global markets.

This strategic launch underscores its dedication to providing consumers with nutritious and innovative products that align with modern lifestyles. It continues to expand its offerings, delivering a diverse range of high-quality dairy and nutrition solutions.

Ms. Akshali Shah, Executive Director, Parag Milk Foods, said, "With protein becoming an essential nutritional need in India, we are committed to providing high-quality dairy solutions that cater to this growing demand. Our latest offerings across all brands of Parag Milk Foods reinforces our focus on high-protein, nutrient-dense offerings, ensuring consumers have access to superior dairy nutrition. With protein becoming a daily essential dietary need not just in India but globally, our offerings, including high-protein paneer, cheese, and yogurt, are designed to meet evolving nutritional requirements. As the market for protein-rich products expands rapidly, Parag Milk Foods is poised to lead this segment with innovative, traceable, and high-quality product offerings that support healthier lifestyles. The introduction of these new offerings with purity, taste and nutrition strengthens the company's position in the dairy, nutrition and wellness segments, ensuring that consumers have access to high-quality, innovative solutions that fit their modern lifestyles. The route to market for Pride of Cows products will be



Pride of Cows portal, app along with Quick commerce and e commerce. The Gowardhan, GO and Avvatar products will be available in General stores, Modern Trade and on quick and e commerce."

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: USDA

As per the latest USDA data of mid April 2025, international market overview are as follows:

EUROPEAN

Western European

The UK-based Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) released data showing daily milk deliveries for the week ending March 29 averaged at 36.79 million liters, up 1.9 percent from the week prior and up 3.8 percent from the same week last year.

The UK Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs published February milk prices and milk composition statistics. Milk volumes collected in February 2025 were 1187 million liters, a 7.6 percent decrease from January 2025. Fat content is listed as averaging 4.38 percent and protein content is listed as averaging 3.41 percent. The UK average farm-gate milk price for February 2025 is listed at 46.05 pence per liter, up 0.2 percent from January 2025 and up 19 percent from February 2024.

Ireland's Central Statistics Office estimates total milk intakes by processors and cooperatives in February at 327.7 million liters, down 6.9 percent from February 2024. Fat content in milk deliveries averaged 4.47 percent in February, up from 4.44 percent from February 2024. Protein content in milk deliveries averaged 3.51 percent in February, up from 3.43 percent in February 2024.

A large dairy cooperative in Ireland announced its March purchase price index is 159.6, down from 161.9 in February.

A large European dairy cooperative recently announced its April guaranteed milk price is 55.25 euros per 100 kg of conventional milk. The price increase is attributed to other reference companies keeping milk prices stable.

Eastern Europe

Additional cases of foot and mouth disease (FMD) have been confirmed in both Slovakia and Hungary. One of the outbreaks in Slovakia occurred near the Austrian border. Austrian authorities have closed several crossings along its borders with Hungary and Slovakia to curb potential spread of FMD. The United Kingdom has banned imports of cattle, pigs, sheep, and deer from Austria.

OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

A group in New Zealand, which forecasts dairy prices, increased the forecasted milk price for the 2024/2025 season, following GDT event 377, by 3 cents, to

\$10.10/kgMS. The spot value of milk increased by 6 cents to \$11.29/kgMS. The group noted milk powder and milk fat prices appear firm through the end of the 2024/2025 season. The group stated prices declined at GDT event 377, but prices remain near record highs amid strong demand. The forecasted milk price for the 2025/2026 season decreased by 1 cent to \$10.15/kgMS.

Recently released data from New Zealand for February showed the number of dairy cows sent to slaughter during the month increased by 9.1 percent from February 2024. Over the 12-months ending in February, cow slaughter numbers were down 4.9 percent compared to the previous 12-months.

Australia

The March 2025 Production Inputs Monitor from Dairy Australia was recently released. The report noted temperatures remained above average in dairying regions last month. Rainfall was heavy in the north, while dry conditions persisted in the south during March. Water storage levels were down from the prior month and a year earlier during March. Dry conditions have contributed to strong demand for feed and hay. Sales of cull cows increased during March.

In Australia, two dairy processors recently announced increases to the 2024/2025 farmgate milk prices. A spokesperson for one milk processor noted prices at GDT events have increased nearly 20 percent since the start of the fiscal year. They stated this and strengthening demand and pricing for fat products have contributed to the decision to increase farmgate milk prices. Some farmers in Australia are concerned that farmgate milk prices have not increased enough to reflect higher prices for internationally traded products and increasing input costs.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

The late summer and early fall have brought steady to seasonally strong milk yields throughout the key dairy producing countries in the region. Contacts in the region say milk yields are stronger this year than in a number of previous years. Last year during this time, Argentina and Uruguay were contending with environmental situations from dryness to flooding, while this year's climatic challenges have been minimal at worst. Feed availability is stable and feed costs are generally affordable for farmers in the region.

Trading activity is steady in the region. In fact, a number of South American traders say volumes of dry dairy ingredients are spoken for throughout the rest of Q2. Buyers continue to suggest that despite steadily increasing prices, they are somewhat active in seeking out more volumes from Argentinian and Uruguayan suppliers. Trading within the continent, namely into Brazil, is hearty.

Trading into countries in northern African countries, namely Algeria, are also somewhat active.

India Poised to Challenge US in Global Butter Export Markets

In a development that could reshape global dairy trade dynamics, India is emerging as a serious contender to the US in the international butter market, according to a recent analysis by US-based dairy experts. While the US has traditionally maintained a stable share in global butter exports, India's rising milk production, expanding processing infrastructure, and strategic export positioning are signalling a potential market shift.

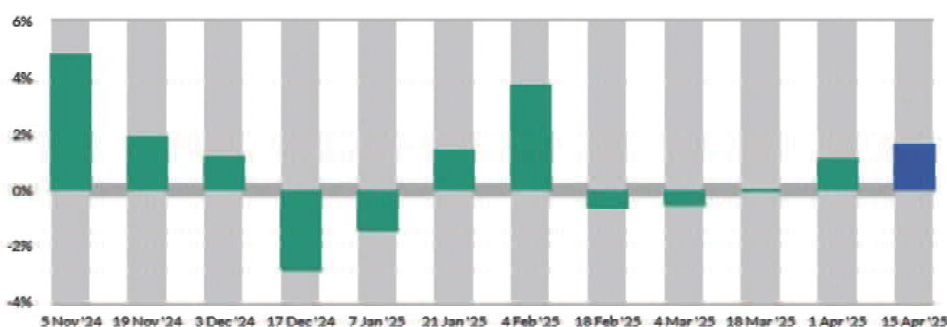
The report highlights how India's domestic surplus, driven by consistent growth in organized dairy capacity and rising farm-gate procurement, could make it an attractive butter supplier to Middle Eastern, Asian, and African markets - regions that have typically been strong US and EU export destinations. Additionally, price competitiveness, lower shipping costs to nearby regions, and an increasing focus on quality certifications are bolstering India's export credentials.

Trade analysts believe that while India's butter exports have historically been limited due to high domestic consumption, recent export-friendly policy shifts, GST rebates, and international trade partnerships are opening new possibilities. If current trends sustain, India could position itself as a low-cost, high-volume exporter, intensifying competition with the US, especially in price-sensitive, developing markets.

For Indian dairy processors, this is a strategic opportunity to capture untapped global markets and establish Indian-origin butter as a competitive and reliable product globally. However, ensuring global-grade quality, consistent supply, and logistics efficiency will be key to sustaining this momentum.

GDT Auction Sees Stable Milk Powder Prices Despite New Tariffs

The Global Dairy Trade (GDT) Event 378, held on April 15, 2025 wherein prices remained steady, demonstrating



resilience in the face of newly implemented tariffs. This auction was closely watched by industry stakeholders, as it marked the first trading event since the introduction of these tariffs, which were anticipated to impact global dairy trade dynamics.

GDT price index was up by 1.6% and average winning price of Global dairy price index was USD 4385/MT. Whole Milk Powder (WMP) prices was up by 2.8% at USD 4171. The Anhydrous Milk Fat was also up by 2.1% at USD 6838. Mozzarella cheese was up by 5.4% to an average of USD 4763. Butter price was up by 1.5% at USD 7679.

However, Skim milk powder was down by 2.3% at USD 2795. Cheddar cheese was also down by 1.8% at USD 4923. A total of 16,718 MT of product was purchased by 181 successful bidders.

Market analysts had predicted potential volatility in dairy commodity prices due to the tariffs, but the auction results indicated a stable demand-supply equilibrium for milk powder. This stability suggests that buyers had possibly anticipated the tariff changes and adjusted their procurement strategies accordingly.

The steady prices also reflect the robustness of the global dairy market, with suppliers and buyers demonstrating adaptability to policy shifts. However, industry experts caution that while the immediate impact appears muted, the full ramifications of the tariffs may unfold over subsequent trading events.

Furthermore, the auction results underscore the importance of monitoring other dairy commodities, as different products may experience varied impacts from the tariffs.

UK Spot Milk Prices Plunge amid Growing Oversupply Pressure

The UK dairy market is experiencing significant turmoil as spot milk prices have dramatically fallen due to a surge in milk supply, leaving processors overwhelmed. According to the latest market updates, spot milk prices dropped to as low as 28-30ppl (pence per litre) - a sharp decline from recent levels. This sharp fall is attributed to an unanticipated increase in milk production

combined with subdued processing demand, resulting in excess volumes flooding the market.

Processors, already grappling with logistical and storage limitations, are being forced to either offload milk at significantly discounted rates or, in some cases, dispose of

excess quantities. The report highlights that certain processors, unable to absorb the surplus, are even offering negative pricing scenarios, where farmers are being charged to have their milk collected and disposed of.

This situation has raised alarms within the dairy farming community, with industry leaders calling for immediate balancing measures, stronger supply planning, and better alignment between farm production and market absorption capacity. Market observers warn that unless quick interventions are made - either through increased exports, product diversification, or regulated supply management - farmer incomes and processor sustainability will be severely impacted in the coming months.

China has Banned Reconstituted Milk in Sterilized Milk

China has officially banned the use of reconstituted milk in the production of sterilized milk under the latest revision of its national food safety standards, aiming to enhance dairy product quality and support the development of the domestic dairy industry.

The revision, among 50 new standards and nine amendments issued concerning national food safety, will take effect on Sept 19.

The updated standards, jointly issued by the National Health Commission and the State Administration for Market Regulation, stipulate that "only raw milk" can be used as the base ingredient for sterilized milk, and the use of "reconstituted milk" is prohibited.

Reconstituted milk, also known as recombined milk, refers to a milk emulsion made by mixing dry dairy products with water in specific proportions.

"Put simply, it's just milk powder mixed with water," said an expert from the Institute of Animal Sciences at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, whose team proposed the revision.

Sterilized milk, a key product in China's liquid milk market, will now be subject to stricter standards. The expert noted that the revisions align with both industry demands and consumer expectations for higher-quality dairy products.

The ban on reconstituted milk is also expected to drive up demand for raw milk, further supporting the growth of China's dairy farming sector and increasing the incomes of dairy farmers. Since sterilized milk will be made directly from raw milk - naturally rich in bioactive nutrients - it is expected the move will improve both the nutritional value and taste of the final product.

In addition, product labelling must now accurately reflect the new standard. Labels may only indicate "pure cow

milk" or "pure goat milk" and must not include any reference to reconstituted milk.

China's raw milk industry has seen significant improvements in recent years. Currently, around 80 percent of dairy cows are raised on large-scale farms, with 99 percent receiving total mixed rations and 100 percent milked using mechanized systems, which have contributed to improved safety and the quality of raw milk.

Internationally, most developed countries and major organizations also prohibit the use of reconstituted milk in sterilized milk production, according to CAAS's Institute of Animal Sciences.

The European Union, Japan, Singapore, the World Health Organization, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations require sterilized milk to be made exclusively from raw milk.

In the United States, reconstituted milk may only be used for sterilized milk production in regions with limited milk supply. In Brazil, its use is allowed only under special circumstances such as milk shortages caused by drought.

Event CALENDAR

IDA (WZ) Webcast

Theme: The Path to Safer Dairy: Antibiotics and Mycotoxins Testing

Date: 14th May, 2025

Time: 11 am (Indian Standard Time)

Duration: 2 hours

This live webinar delves into the detection of antibiotics, including Anthelmintics, Aminoglycosides, Cephalosporins, and Beta-lactams, as well as mycotoxins in dairy products using LC/MS/MS solutions aligned with EIC and FSSAI standards. Participants will gain insights into regulatory implications and supply chain challenges in managing these contaminants. The session will also highlight practical workflows for laboratories and manufacturers to meet stringent safety and compliance requirements.

Register at :

<https://indiandairyassociation.org/West-Zone>

IDF World Dairy Summit 2025

Date: 20-23, October, 2025

Venue: Santiago, Chile

Visit www.idfwds2025.com

IDF WDS 2025 - Dairy Innovation Awards

Online Entry Open till 7th June 2025. Visit

https://form.jotform.com/Dairy_Innovation/Home

