

Considerations For Clean Milk Production

- Washing and drying of udder
- Maintaining floor hygiene
- Milkers' health and hygiene
- Proper milking techniques
- Educating farmer on clean milk production
- Clean environment and utensils
- Proper nutrition and preventive health programme
- Withholding antibiotic treated milk
- Using alternate system of medicine wherever possible

Selection Of Cow/buffalo Breeds For Commercial Farm

Cows

- Good quality cows are available in the market and it cost around Rs.1200 to Rs.1500 per liter of milk production per day. (e.g. Cost of a cow producing 10 liter of Milk per day will be between Rs.12,000 to Rs.15,000).
- If proper care is given, cows breed regularly giving one calf every 13-14 month interval.
- They are more docile and can be handled easily. Good milk yielding cross breeds (Holstein and Jersey crosses) has well adapted to Indian climate.
- The fat percentage of cow's milk varies from 3-5.5% and is lower than Buffaloes.

Buffaloes

- In India, we have good buffalo breeds like Murrah and Mehsana, which are suitable for commercial dairy farm.
- Buffalo milk has more demand for making butter and butter oil (Ghee), as fat percentage in milk is higher than cow. Buffalo milk is also preferred for making tea, a welcoming drink in common Indian household.
- Buffaloes can be maintained on more fibrous crop residues, hence scope for reducing feed cost.
- Buffaloes largely mature late and give birth to calves at 16 to 18 months interval. Male calves fetch little value.
- Buffaloes need cooling facility e.g. wallowing tank or showers / foggers with fan.