

Economic Study of Milk Producers of Bhal Area in Gujarat

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Abstract - The main focus behind this study has been to find out the economic status of the milk producing families, the size of the family, sources of education and livestock income, and which areas are most beneficial from farming and animal husbandry. Two villages of Bhal area were selected for research. A total of 40 families were covered in the study area. Information was collected on the basis of the interview method, with questionnaires prepared at the center of the study objectives. It can be deduced from the study that animal husbandry is best in economic income rather than agriculture in terms of income and expenditure. If the government or the cooperatives involved in livestock farming provide proper incentives, then there may PROVE TO be very good changes in the socioeconomic status of milk producers.

keywords - Milk Producers, animal husbandry, agriculture, families, cost, income.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Bhal region in Gujarat is spread over the political boundaries of the three districts. These include Bhavnagar, Ahmedabad, and Anand districts. Bhal region is located on the river like Sabarmati, Bhogavo, Bhadar, and Lilaka. And other rivers that flow east and south-east from the Kathiawad Peninsula and into the Gulf of Khambhat. The word Bhal is a Sanskrit word. Which means forehead. This area is called Bhal region because the soil here is oilymarly or mouldy and flat as a forehead.

Most farmers in this region mostly do wheat cultivation. Apart from this, crops like cotton, winter chickpeas, cumin are also used. People are giving equal importance to agriculture as well as to animal husbandry for economic gain. There are no sources of income other than agriculture, livestock farming. The main objectives of my study are to study the extent to which agriculture and livestock have been successful in sustaining the standard of living of the people.

II. OBJECTIVES

- To know the financial status of selected families.
- To find out which fields are most beneficial for the selected families from farming and animal husbandry.
- Find out the family size, education and sources of livestock income for selected families.

III. SELECTION OF SAMPLE

In the study area, two villages Aakru and Chhasiyana village in Dhandhuka taluka of Ahmedabad district have been selected. A total of 40 families belonging to both villages belonging to animal husbandry have been selected.

IV. METHODOLOGY

A self-designed questionnaire was prepared keeping in mind the purpose and subject of the study. The questionnaire was sent to the subject matter experts for the purpose of certifying. As per the suggestions, the questionnaire was finalized with additional amendments. A questionnaire of 25 questions for both the villages was prepared. And the questions were answered by interviewing the selected respondent. The information obtained was then categorized on the basis of properties and put in a table form. And the chart presents the information wherever it is needed.

VI. SCOPE AND LIMITATION

- Not all pastoral families who are connected with animal husbandry were included in this study.
- The study has been restricted to Chhasiyana and Aakru villages.

VII. RESULT AND FINDING

Table -1 House holders

Village	Aakru	Chhasiyana	Family size
Male	70	67	6.65
Female	59	63	6.5

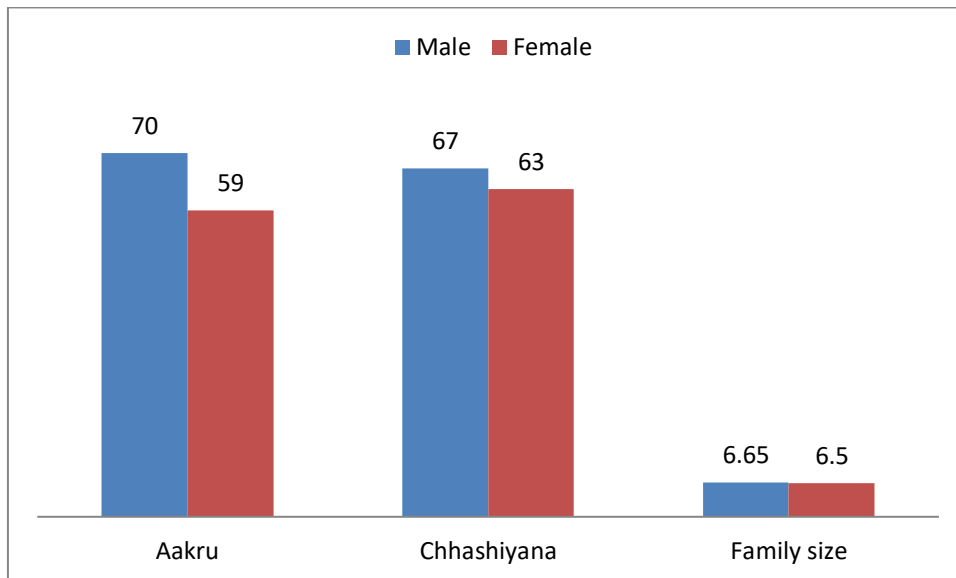


Table No.1 and the chart show the number of family members and families in the selected study area. The proportion of women is lower than that of men. The size of the family is found to be 6.5 in both the villages. No significant difference is seen. The house-holder size in the state of Gujarat is 4.7 whereas in selected villages, 6.5 is higher. There is a special relationship between family size and poverty. Poor families recognizes the child as a source of income. Whereas a rich family understands a child as a responsibility. Therefore it can be said that poverty is still functioning in selected families.

Table -2 Age wise distribution of total family members

Village/ Age group	0 to 6	6 to 18	18 to 40	40 to 60	60 to Above
Aakru	5	35	73	18	2
Chhasiyana	12	23	57	27	11

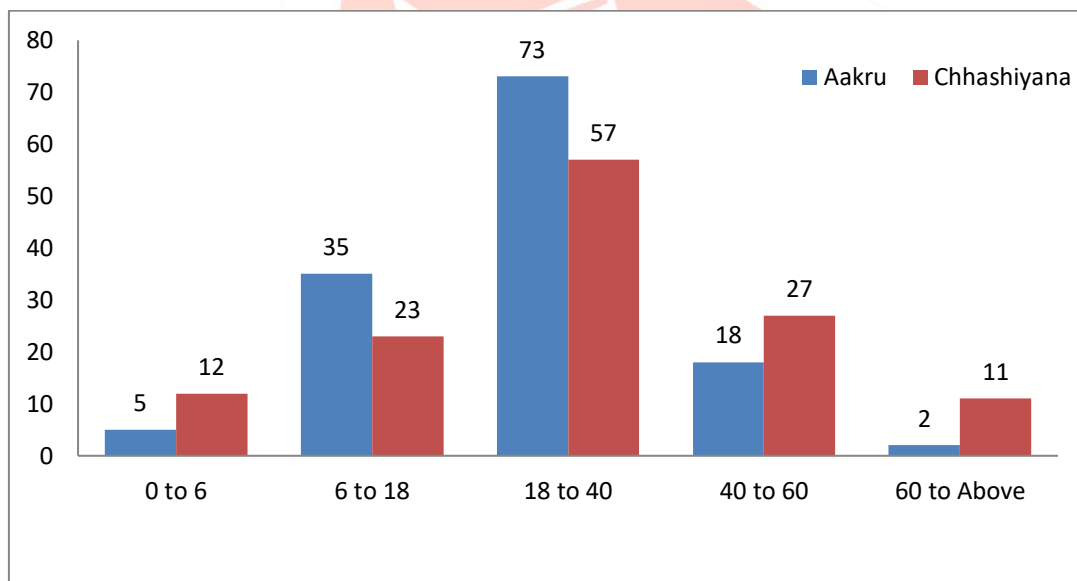


Table No.2 and chart shows the selected family members in the study area divided by age group. From the age group, you can get an idea of how many members of the family are working and earning. And it can also be estimated that there will be a picture of the economic situation. The number of members coming from 18-40 groups in both villages is high in the field of study. And less in the group of over 60. According to one study, the number of non-productive members is lower.

Table -3 Level of education and its village wise distribution

Village/ Education	Illiterate	Primary	Secondary	Higher Education	Total
Aakru	41	52	28	12	133
Chhasiyana	36	46	31	17	130

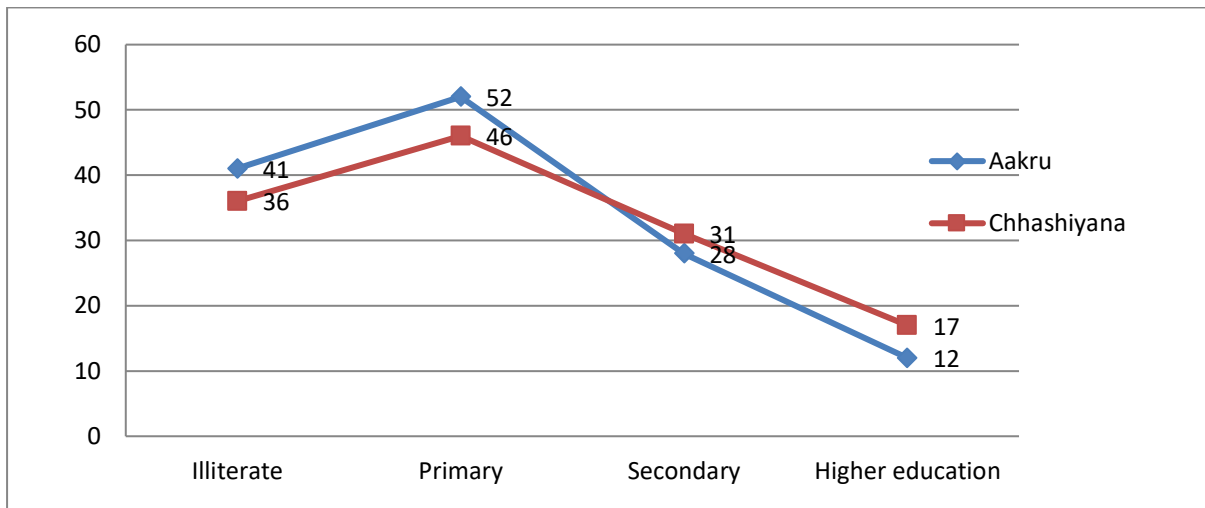


Table no. 3 and the chart shows the education of selected family members in the study area. The role of education has been important in the development of society. There is a close relationship between education and income. The selected literacy rate in selected villages is 30.82 percent and 27.69 percent in Chhasiyana village. The proportion of primary education is 39.09 percent in Aakru village and 35.38 percent in Chhasiyana village. Secondary education is 21.05 per cent in Aakru village and 23.84 per cent in Chhasiyana village. Higher education is 9.02 per cent in Aakru village and 13.07 per cent in Chhasiyana village. Thus as a whole, the importance of post-primary education in selected villages decreases.

Table -4 Occupation-wise distribution of milk producers

Village/ Occupation	Farming	Animal husbandry	Gov. jobs	Other work
Aakru	17	19	4	8
Chhasiyana	20	28	2	17

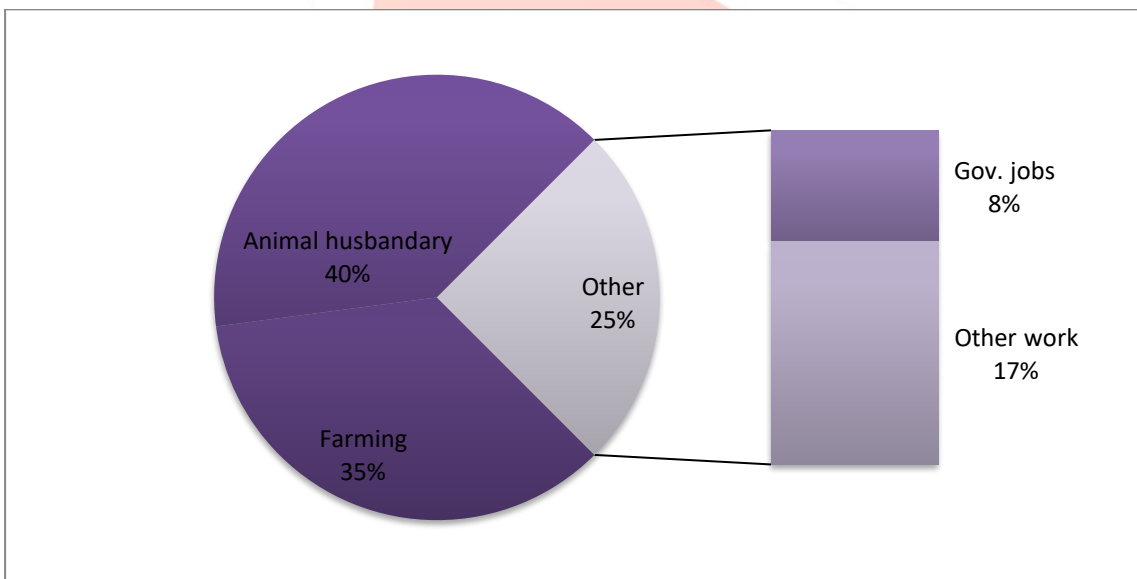


Table no. 4 and the chart provides information about the occupation of the selected family members in the study area. Business is also a determinant of the family’s economic and social status. The more family members associated with the business, the better the family income. And the better the business, the better the family’s potential. Of the selected family members, most of the members are found to give importance to agriculture and livestock. Due to the uncertainty in agriculture, people give importance to the livestock as a secondary occupation. Getting a government job is often overlooked. Due to which the level of education can be considered low.

Table -5 Income from agriculture sector (yearly)

Village/ income	families	25000 to below	25000 to 50000	50000 to 100000	100000 to 200000	200000 to above
Aakru	20	2	4	3	6	5
Chhasiyana	20	7	8	3	2	0

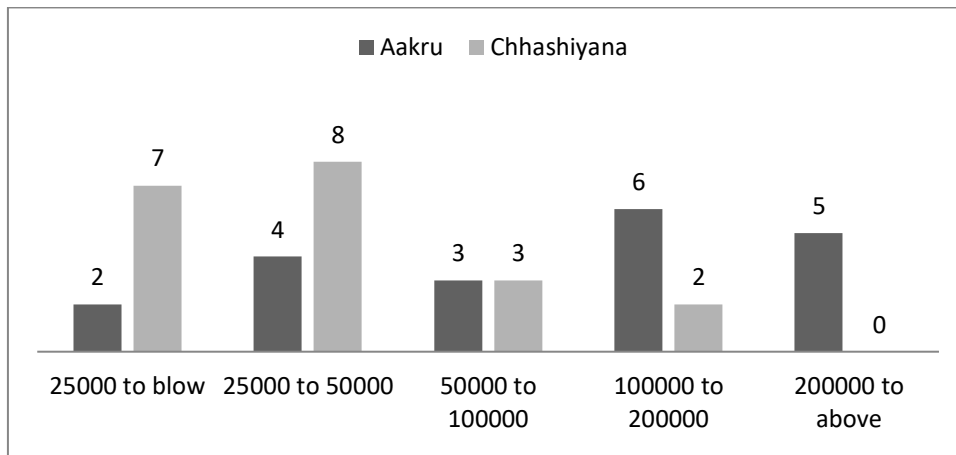


Table no. 5 and the chart mentions the income received from the field of selected families in the study area. The highest income in Aakru village is families 5 with income of over 2 lake. While in Chhasiyana village there are zero. There are more than 1 lake income families in Aakru village. While Chhasiyana village has only 2 families. There are more than 6 families in Chhasiyana village with families over 25 thousand. In terms of farming here, the condition of Chhasiyana village is not good. As a result, the difference in the fertility of their soil is responsible.

Table -6 Cost of agriculture sector

Village/ Cost	families	10000 to below	10000 to 20000	20000 to 30000	30000 to 40000	40000 to 50000	50000 to above
Aakru	20	4	1	3	2	2	8
Chhasiyana	20	6	10	2	1	1	0

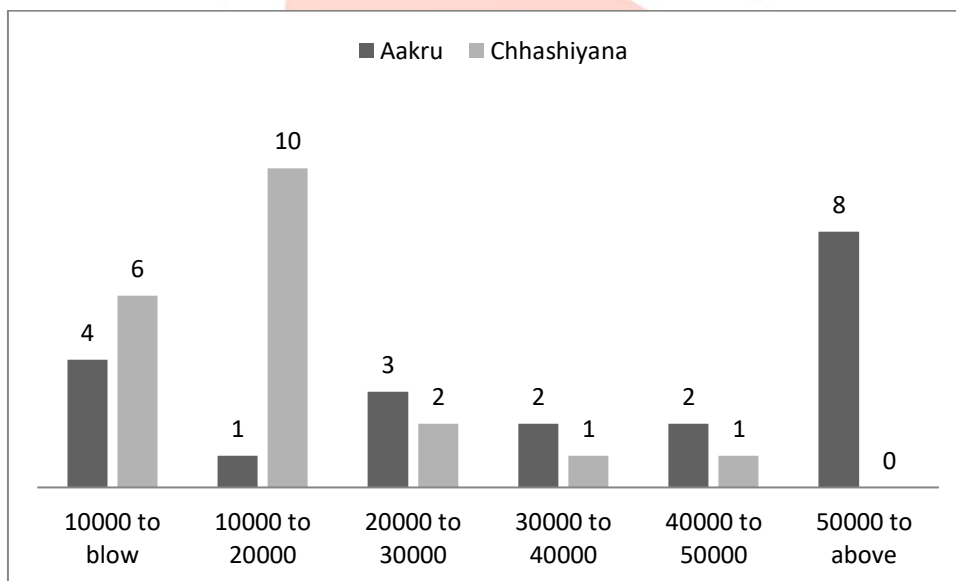


Table no. 6 in the chart, the families selected in the field are mentioned as the expenditure on the agricultural sector. This can estimate the economic status of the family. Besides, the cost base also depends on the type of land. There are more than 8,000 families in Aakru village spending more than 50 thousand. Which indicates that their economic condition is good and they are modernizing agriculture. While most families in Chhasiyana village are spending less than 20 thousand. Which can be attributed to their poor ground and soil condition.

Table -7 Number of animal husbandry

Village/ Livestock	Cow	Calf	Buffaloes	Falls	Oxen	Goats	Total
Aakru	305	57	228	24	5	0	619
Chhasiyana	86	38	18	10	2	45	199

Table no.7 show the livestock of selected families in the study area. Selected families are seen raising cattle, calves, buffaloes, herds, oxen and goats in livestock. Cows are raised in both villages and Cows is also giving more importance to hybrid cows. The proportion of buffaloes lies in the village of Aakru, relative to the village of Chhasiyana. Goat breeding is found only in Chhasiyana village, because of this family there are two families of shepherds and their main occupation has been goat breeding. The raising of the bull has been negligible in both villages. Because people used oxen for farming before, modern equipment such as tractors instead of oxen is costly to sustain. The proportion of bulls has decreased.

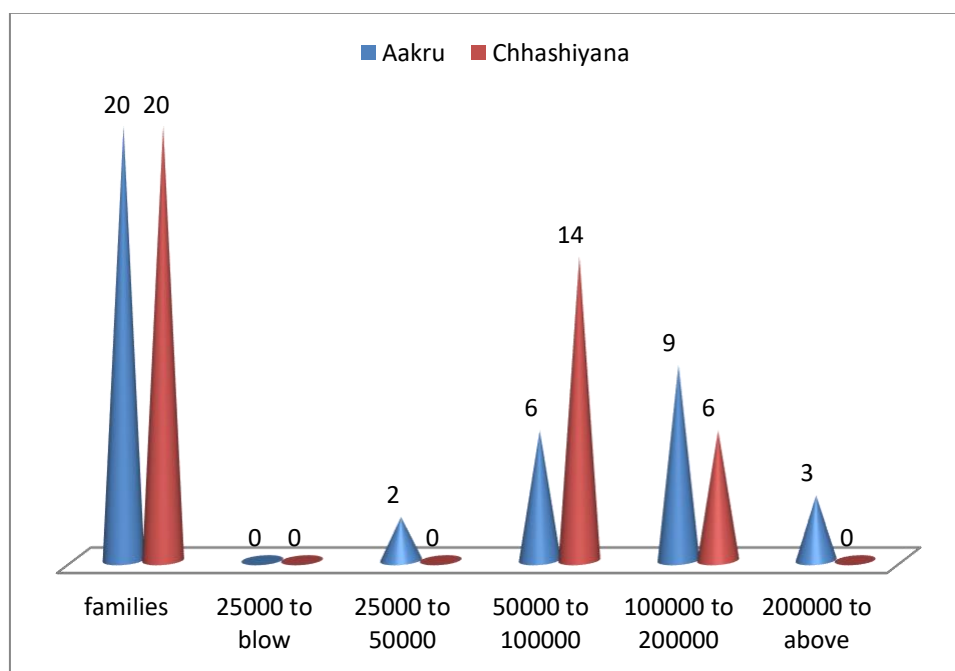
Table -8 Sale of milk

Village/ Livestock	Private society	Co-operative society	Retail	Families
Aakru	3	15	2	20
Chhasiyana	0	20	0	20

In table no.8, lists where selected families sell milk. In selected families, most families sell milk in cooperative dairies near their village. The study found that private dairy prices are higher than cooperative dairy. But the co-operative dairy which is providing services for mining, livestock, bonuses, livestock, etc. in relation to livestock farming does not provide private dairy. The inclination towards cooperative dairy has increased.

Table -9 Income From milk production (yearly)

Village/ income	families	25000 to blow	25000 to 50000	50000 to 100000	100000 to 200000	200000 to above
Aakru	20	0	2	6	9	3
Chhasiyana	20	0	0	14	6	0



In table no.9 and chart, specify how much income the selected families receive from milk production in the study area. Families having income less than Rs. 25,000 are not noted in both the villages. There are 2 families in Aakru village and zero families in Chhasiyana village having income between Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 50,000. There are 6 families in Aakru village and 14 families in Chhasiyana village having income between Rs. 1, 00,000 and Rs. 2, 00,000. And there are 3 families in Aakru village and zero families in Chhasiyana village having income more than Rs. 2, 00,000.

Table -10 Income from fertilizer (yearly)

Village/ income	Families	number of tractor	price (per tractor)	total income
Aakru	20	320	1500	480000
Chhasiyana	20	82	1500	123000

In table no.10th, the families selected in the study area have been specified as how much income they receive from dung manure. The selected families collect the dung manure and sell the remaining fertilizer to other farmers at the end of the year, keeping the required fertilizer for their farming. In both villages, the price of this fertilizer is determined per tractor. Tractor price is Rs 1,500 per tractor. In this, Aakru village is found to be getting income of Rs. 4, 80,000 and Chhasiyana village earning revenue of Rs. 1, 23,000. Thus, dung manure are an important source of income for farmers.

Table -11 Cost of animal husbandry rearing (yearly)

Village/cost	Families	10000 to blow	10000 to 20000	20000 to 30000	30000 to above
Aakru	20	0	5	8	7
Chhasiyana	20	0	7	10	3

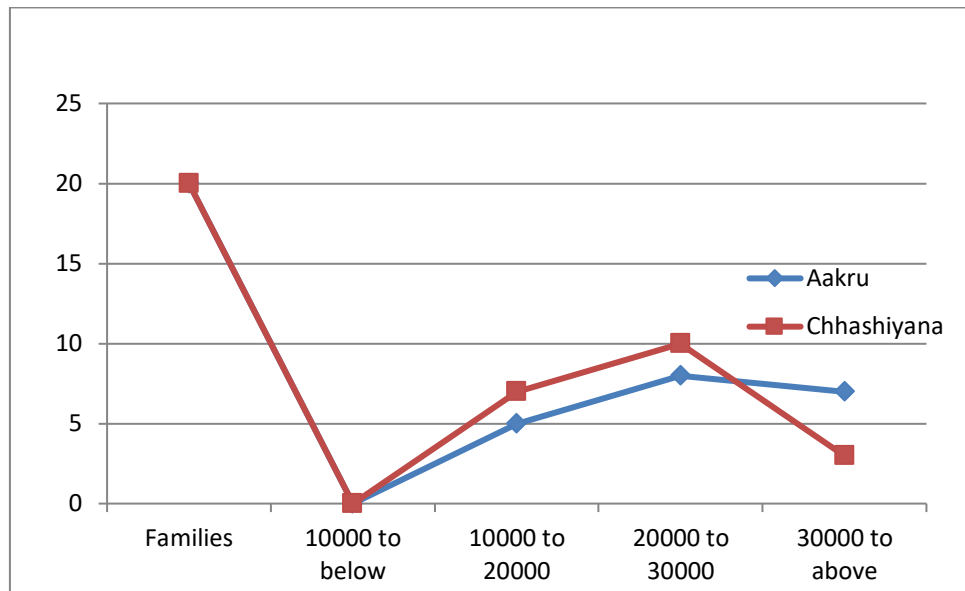


Table No.11 describes the costs of rearing of livestock. Animal husbandry requires money to be spent on pasture, forage and livestock farming. In which the cost of livestock in both the villages is negligible. Because fodder costs come down. Increased use of pasture or panchayat land for pasture. As co-operative dairies are helpful in forage, the costs are also reduced. Animal treatment costs rarely occur once or twice a year so that the cost of animal grooming is negligible.

Table -12 Have you raised livestock through the service provided by co-operative society?

Village	families	yes	No
Aakru	20	19	1
Chhasiyana	20	17	3

It is mentioned whether the farmers have taken help from the co-operative dairy in order to increase the number of milk cattle. From the visit of the families and the above information it can be said that the families of both villages are increasing the number of cattle as the co-operative dairy provides financial assistance to the farmers to buy the cattle.

Table -13 Which is the best in farming and animal husbandry?

Village	Families	Agriculture	Animal husbandry
Aakru	20	2	18
Chhasiyana	20	6	14

Table no. In13, the selected families of the study area showed which areas are most beneficial from farming and animal husbandry. In response, 2 families of Aakru village and 6 families of Chhasiyana village are giving importance to agriculture. While 18 families of Aakru village and 14 families of Chhasiyana village are giving importance to livestock farming. Livestock farming is considered the best rather than farming here. The reasons for this could be attributed to uncertainty in agriculture, excess labour, high costs and income after a long term.

VIII. CONCLUSION

This study has been conducted on cattle breeders in Bhal area milk production in Gujarat. From the study, it can be said that people are accepting livestock as a complementary profession along with agriculture. But cattle breeder share not giving as much importance as they should. However, their poor economic condition and lack of proper incentives can be blamed. In terms of agriculture, cattle breeding have proven to be the best in terms of income, expenditure, and the opinion of most milk producers has also been positive about livestock farming. But the expected results have not yet been obtained. The selected families are from Dhandhuka Bhal area and there is very little employment option. Sources of income are scarce. If, as an alternative to employment, livestock farming and agriculture receive proper incentives from business related organizations as part of economic income, their economic and social status may change drastically.

IX. RECOMMENDATION

- The milk co-operative dairies should give proper and affordable prices to the milk producers.
- The government should arrange for timely facilities such as vaccination, artificial insemination, animal medical treatment.
- Veterinarians should be provided with appropriate information, education, and training on cattle breeding management.
- The government and co-operatives should create a system of environment for selling and producing other milk products other than milk production.
- An environment like modernization should also be created in agriculture.
- A system of knowledge about the relations between land and crops should be organized.

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