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Opportunities for improving resource use efficiency of peri-urban dairy herds in Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan

By Muhammad Tariq

Cuvillier Verlag Sep 2013, 2013. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 212x147x9 mm. Neuware - Worldwide rapidly increasing urbanization is intensifying the demand for foods, particularly those of animal origin, in the urban centers. Peri-urban dairy production has already a longstanding tradition in Pakistan (chapter 1), but these dairy production systems have their unique characteristics, opportunities and constraints. Although in general they are economically profitable, the profitability varies tremendously between farms. Poor managerial practices, lack of knowledge about balanced feeding and feed scarcity management, poor hygiene in milk production and handling, and unsupervised use of veterinary medicines leading to drug residues in milk are recognized as major technical challenges for peri-urban dairy farmers in Pakistan. Therefore, efforts must be made to improve management practices of peri-urban dairy units in such a way that farm income is increased and product quality and safety is assured. Qualitative and semi-quantitative data obtained from 139 interviews with peri-urban dairy farmers in Faisalabad, Pakistan, was subjected to cluster analysis to identify homogenous groups of farms regarding animal management, milk yields and marketing strategies (chapter 2). Four distinct production systems were identified. Semi-commercial small scale mixed systems (SSM; 31%) combined crop and livestock production, and fodder was primarily produced...

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