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## Cost of Milk Production in relation to herd strength

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### Abstract

The yearwise data of total herd strength (HS), number of milch animals (MA), number of dry animals (DA), young stock (YS), cost of feed per animal (CF/A), cost of labour or labour charges per animal (LBCH/A), cost of medicine per animal (Med./A) and cost of miscellaneous items per animal (Misc./A) categorized into two groups : Group A and Group B. The observations with herd strength above 200 and below 200 were placed in Group A and Group B, respectively. The years categorized under Group A were 1989-90 to 1994-95 and 1997-98 while those under group B were 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1998-99. Lactation Efficiency (LE) has parallel relationship with number of milch animals on the farm. Total herd strength had highly significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) negative correlation with all the cost parameters except FC/A and Med./A. FC/A and LBCH/A were lower and milk yield (MYHB and MYWB) was higher in group A than in group B indicates that higher herd strength group is more beneficial to maintain and manage at organized dairy farm than the lower herd strength group.

Keywords: Milk Production, Herd strength, Cost, Lactation Efficiency, Milch animals