# MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OF NDA-ASSISTED DAIRY FARMERS FROM CAVITE

### THESIS

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# MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OF NDA-ASSISTED DAIRY FARMERS FROM CAVITE

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#### ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted among 15 National dairy Authority (NDA)-assisted dairy farmers in Cavite, one of the major dairy farming provinces in Luzon from November 2003 to February 2004. The study was conducted to determine the management practices of NDA-assisted dairy farmers in Cavite.

The average age of the dairy farmers was 46 years and majority have been engaged in dairy farming for an average of 14 years. The farmers generated their income from the sales of dairy milk and dairy cream either from cattle and/or carabao/buffalo.

The average farm size of the dairy farmers was 2.43 hectares. Most of the farmers were also engaged in crop farming while the others were engaged in swine production.

Majority of the farmers maintained both cattle and carabao/buffalo and the average number of cattle per farmer was three. The breeds of cattle kept by the farmers were either Holstein Freisian and Sahiwal. The farmers owned two to nine heads of carabao/buffalo which were either Bulgarian Murrah or our own Philippine carabao (native). The cattle and/or carabao/buffaloes were either sourced from or part of the dispersal program of the National Dairy Authority (NDA) or the Philippine Carabao Center (PCC).

The dairy farmers have been member/recipients of NDA programs since 1985 to 2000. Majority acquired their dairy animals in the year 2000. Forms of assistance

included production technology, veterinary services, feed supplementation and dispersal of stocks

The farmers had a total monthly volume of milk production amounting to 5,383 liters. This constituted of 4,753 liters of dairy milk and 630 liters of dairy cream per month. The average total returns from dairy production amounted to P23,373 per month while the average total cost from dairy farming amounted to P12,085.

The farmers generated an average net returns amounting to P11,288 from dairy farming. Income above cash cost amounted to P14,288 while income above non cash cost amounted to P20,373 per farmer, on the average.

Most of the farmers reported that the National Dairy Authority had long stopped extending marketing assistance. Another problem cited was the old age of their stocks which resulted to low productivity and diseases.

It is recommended that farmers should meet with the officials of the NDA in order to properly voice out their problems regarding marketing and upgrade of stocks. They should also seek the assistance of the Municipal Agricultural Officer assigned in the municipality to help them refresh their association with NDA.

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## MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OF NATIONAL DAIRY AUTHORITY – ASSISTED DAIRY FARMERS IN CAVITE $^{1/2}$

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Philippines is a huge market for milk and milk products with a small dairy community that has been growing vigorously in the last two years. This is largely due to the increasing awareness of the value of natural products and the vitality of various industry players. The dairy market generates sales amounting to P50 billion annually, principally supplied from farms outside the country (Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, 2003).

Some 8,000 dairy farming families throughout the country who belong to over a hundred dairy cooperatives in 223 villages are engaged in raising dairy animals and milking them. Together, they produce 21 percent of national liquid milk supply – 11 million kilograms of milk from some 8,900 dairy animals. Other producers are state colleges, universities and private enterprises.

In Cavite, dairy farming have substantial potentials for increased production.

Several development programs with active participation of dairy farmers were established