

Integrated Murrah Development Programme

It is a continued scheme and is being implemented in the year 2015-16 also. The scheme in principle stands approved by the Govt in the State Annual Plan and Plan Budget for the year 2015-16 for which an amount of Rs.5.00 crores is earmarked for this scheme. It needs no emphasis that India possesses more than half of the buffalo population of the world with a majority of the recognized breeds. Haryana, being the home tract of the world famous Murrah buffaloes, has a prominent place in the Animal Husbandry and Dairying map of the country. Murrah buffaloes are great milk producers with high fat content in addition to being efficient feed converters even when fed on poor quality roughages. In addition, it is source of quality lean meat and valuable draught power. Most of the states procure their breeding stock from Haryana for upgradation of their low producing buffalo population. The fast genetic improvement of Murrah is not only the top priority for our state but also a national concern. The top quality Murrah germplasm presently available in the state needs to be identified through performance recording, preserved and multiplied.

- **Long term objective**

Long term objective of the department in implementing this schemes is:

- i. Increase in milk production and productivity.
- ii. Upgradation of valuable germplasm available in the State through selective breeding.

- **Medium term objectives (5 years Horizon)**

There is a target to identify 50,000 buffaloes in the State during the 12th five year plan period against which more than 30,000 buffaloes have been identified by the end of 2014-15, With the following objectives in view, a target to identify 4500 Murrah buffaloes has been laid down by the department for the Annual Plan 2015-16:-

- (I) Identification of top quality germplasm and their insemination with better quality semen for sustainable genetic improvement.
- (II) Procurement of pedigreed young Murrah bulls (male calves) for further supply in the State/Country.
- (III) Encouraging the farmers to rear better yielding animals..

- **Annual Objectives & Impact expected.**

For the Annual Plan 2015-16 an outlay of Rs. 18750.00 lac has been provided to the department under the State Plan out of which Rs. 7240.00 lac is available with the department for development activities and the rest of Rs. 11510.00 lac are earmarked for capital outlay (Rs.4200.00 lac), grant to the LUY AS, Hisar (Rs1550.00 lac) and payment of salary to the Staff sanction under the Plan Schemes (Rs.5760.00 lac). With this amount of Rs. 7240.00 lac the department intends to implement this scheme with an outlay of Rs.500.00 lac in the current Annual Plan 2015-16 :-

So far as the expected impact is concerned, it is given as under:-

- i. Migration of quality germplasm will be reduced if not stopped altogether.
- ii) 'In situ' Murrah Germplasm Bank would become available from where other states and organization can meet their demand for good quality genetic material required to upgrade their stock.
- iii) Certified quality young bulls for Semen Production Centres as well as for natural breeding would be available.

- **Strategies.**

Murrah buffaloes meeting the bench mark of 15 kg peak yield or 3000 kg lactation yield would be properly identified (with ear tags) along with their progeny. Cash incentives ranging from Rs. 15000 to Rs.30000 would be given to owners of these buffaloes who in turn will be under obligation not to sell the buffalo and or its progeny for at least one year. Insurance of the animals will be done at the spot and insurance premium will be borne as per the prevailing insurance scheme or in the absence of which 100 % insurance premium will be met out of this scheme in case of SC beneficiaries and 50% in the case of other beneficiaries.

- **Roll out of the Scheme in Terms of Commencement of Activities.**

Identification of top milk yielding Murrah involves a number of components like mass screening of base population through field performance recording, monthly

recording to assess lactation yield through hired milk recorders, insurance of recorded buffaloes, procurement and rearing of buffaloes bulls etc.

Mass screening of base population for production performance:

Screening of the entire Murrah population of the State for identification of bull mothers and their categorization according to production potential is the preferred strategy under our conditions where record keeping by farmers is totally missing. The present practice of recording the milk production in a Public Institution (in full public view) following a prior notice of ONE/two weeks by the following committee would continue:

- i) Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry (or his representative)
- ii) Semen Bank Officer/Sub Divisional Officer (AH) of the area
- iii) Area Veterinary Surgeon
- iv) Village Panchayat - Sarpanch or Member

Only the animals possessing true breed characteristics will be allowed to participate in the performance recordings. Milk production shall be recorded for four consecutive timings (Morning and Evening) and an average of the last three milking would be counted for calculation of the peak yield. The first recording would be treated as "Emptying milk yield".

After the initial screening and recording by the committee, monthly recordings of milk yield would be undertaken to obtain more reliable assessment of lactation yield by hiring/training of educated, unemployed youth from the village/adjoining village on the recommendation of village Panchayat and/or the area Veterinary Surgeon. A milk recorder will be permitted to record production of only five animals on a particular day. The recording by the hired persons would be closely watched and supervised by officers /retired officers of the department.

Identification of Top milk yielding Murrah buffaloes and their progeny

Immediately after the performance recording (4th milking) in a Public institution, the buffaloes meeting the production bench mark of 15 kg milk (peak yield per day) and their accompanying progeny (suckling calves) would be identified through ear tagging and a proper record would be maintained by the concerned Veterinary Hospital. The progeny born to recorded buffaloes in subsequent calves will also be identified. A copy of all records in the form of a booklet for each animal will be given to the owners who will be encouraged to maintain and update the production, reproduction and health records with the help of area veterinarian/para staff/contractual milk recorders. The records will be pooled and

complied at the levels of sub division, district and headquarters and all data will be computerized. The insurance of these animals will be done at the spot and the 50% of the insurance premium will be borne by the Govt.

Assistance to Murrah Breeder societies.

There is a scope of formation of "Murrah Breeders Societies" in these Ideal Murrah Villages as a step towards PPP- mode leading to formation of Murrah Breeders Association. Ideal Murrah Villages will be the source of availability of quality young Murrah bulls not *only* to the state but also for other states. The Murrah Breeders Society having 50 or more recorded Murrah buffaloes out of them 1/3 yielding 15 Kg & more milk per day would be eligible for assistance. During a particular year a grant of Rs. 5.00 lac as assistance to Breeders' Society on annual basis will be granted subject to the fulfillment of the criteria in the year of grant of assistance. The society will be free to construct the office building in the premises of Veterinary Hospital and the site will be earmarked by the local Vety. Surgeon.

• **Cash flow Requirement as per Roll Out Plan**

The lactation yield of each identified Murrah buffalo will be calculated initially on the basis of peak production. Subsequently, cumulative monthly milk recordings will also be taken into account. For more accurate assessment of the lactation yield. Cash incentive at the following rates is proposed to the owners of the recorded buffaloes:

| Lactation yield in Kg (Peak Yield in Kg) | Incentive Money (Rs.) |
|--|-----------------------|
| 3000 to 3800 Kg (15 to 19 Kg) | Rs. 15,000/- |
| >3800 to 5000 Kg (>19 to 25 Kg) | Rs. 20,000/- |
| Above 5000 Kg (Above 25 Kg) | Rs. 30,000/- |

In lieu of the cash incentive provided, the owner would be under obligation (through an affidavit) not to sell his/her recorded buffalo and its male progeny at least for one year. He would be further bound to look after the male calf properly and the department will have the first right of its purchase. In case, the farmer does not abide by the contract i.e. disposes of the identified buffalo and/or its male calf, he would not be eligible for the the cash incentive.him. The owners of the recorded buffaloes would be required to breed their animals through artificial insemination only.

- **Reporting system/Format**

Monthly meetings at the level of Deputy Directors are organized regularly in which the Veterinary surgeons submit the monthly reports. These monthly reports are compiled at the level of the Deputy Directors and are sent to the Head quarters. Quarterly review meetings are conducted at the headquarters under the Chairmanship of PSAH/DGAH&D.