

## Socio-Economic factors and milk quantity increase of dairy farmers in Eastern Province, Sri Lanka

**T. Kirupanathan and P. Sivarajah**

Department of Agricultural Economics,  
Eastern University, Sri Lanka  
E-mail: freebirdever04@yahoo.com

### Abstract

The study analyzed the socio-dynamics and factors affecting increase in milk quantity of dairy farmers, Eastern Province Sri Lanka. Data were collected using pre-structured questionnaire and random sampling. It was found that age of dairy household head ranges from 40 to 45 years, mean number of household size was 4.5 and mean number of employed family members were 2. Most of the farmers were primarily educated. Farming/livestock/fishing is the major primary occupation. Most of the farmers receive income of less Rs15,000.00. Differences observed among the studied divisional secretariat divisions in all parameters. The binary logistic regression results showed that education level of household head and membership in the milk producer group significantly affect ( $p < 0.05$ ) milk quantity increase. Keeping other variables constant one unit increase in education level cause 1.071 unit increase in the probability of having milk quantity increase over not having milk quantity increase. Keeping other variables constant having membership in milk producer group cause 3.184 unit increase in the probability of having milk quantity increase over not having milk quantity increase. It was concluded that education level of the farmers not enough to handle skillfull dairy industry. It could be overcome by active membership in any milk producer group. Farmers still have opportunity to increase their income by dairying. Supports and encouragements are in need to maintain sustainable milk producer group which benefit whole dairy farmers. The government policy should be towards forming registered milk producer groups at every Grama Niladhari divisions.

**Keywords:** Binary-logistic regression, socio-economic factors, milk quantity increase