

BANNI BUFFALO

A Breed Found in Kutch, Gujarat
Popularly Known As Kutchi or Kundi

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BANNI BUFFALO

CLIMATE RESISTANT, SURVIVES WELL IN HARSH CLIMATE

- Adaptive to Drought Requires Less Water Survives High Temp
- Milking possible in Adverse temperatures
- No Major Disease Associated, NADCP is there for FMD/Brucellosis
- Calving Period is Generally One Year
- The animals of this breed is raised under extensive management system with night grazing and once in a day milking are some of the unique features of this breed.

WHY IT WAS NOT PROMOTED?

- Myth That Banni Can not Survive in other climate, but not Proven
- Breeding Policy of Many States Does Not Include Banni

HIGH MILK YIELD

- Average of 2800 KG milk In Lactation
- Lactation Yield Varies from 1095 Kg to 6054 Kg
- Comparable to Murrah
Average Fat content of 8% to 9%

POPULATION: 3,82,122

Mainly Found IN Kutch, Gujarat
Also Found in Banaskantha, Patan Districts



ACTION PLAN FOR FUTURE

IMMEDIATE ACTION PLAN

- Need to remove this myth that it can not survive in similar climatic condition at Other Places. ICAR can take this up on Experimental Basis ASAP.
- Suggest States to make guidelines for Breed Development

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION USING SEMEN OF HGM BULLS

- Initiation of Pedigree Selection Programme for identification of elite animals of indigenous breeds which are yielding more than 3000 kg of milk per lactation and production of High Genetic Merit (HGM) Bulls from elite animals.
- Promoting artificial insemination in the breeding tract by giving incentives to AI technicians and using semen of HGM bulls with dams lactation yield above 3000 kg/ lactation.
- Average Productivity of animals will be increased to 3000 KG within 3 years of implementation of artificial insemination programme.

USING GENOMIC CHIP:

- Selection of elite animals and bulls at younger age by using Buff chip developed by NDDB and propagating identified elite animals.

USING IVF TECHNOLOGY FOR PROPAGATION OF ELITE ANIMALS:

- Producing sexed embryos from elite animals yielding above 3000 kg using IVF technology and implanting embryos in low producing animals. By using IVF technology elite animals will be propagated at a faster rate.

USING SEX SORTED SEMEN:

- Use of sex sorted semen will lead to production of 90% female calves which in turn increase farmers income by many folds as there will be no wastage of resources on maintaining male calves.

NDDB SUGGESTED ACTION PLAN:

- A Pedigree Selection (PS) project can be implemented for Banni breed improvement in association with local NGOs like Kutchh Nav Nirman Samiti or BAIF with estimated cost of Rs 5-6 Crore for five year duration. NDDB can submit a project proposal in this regard to DAHD, if desired.

ICAR: THE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN BANNI

RECOGNITION OF BANNI BUFFALO

- The significant moment for Banni has been the recognition of Banni buffalo as 11th buffalo breed of India by Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. (Accession No: INDIA_BUFFALO_0400 Banni_01011) in 2010.
- The recognition has also brought the unique features of Banni buffalo like traditional production system, physical and morphological characteristics, production and reproduction traits, cytogenetic and molecular characterization.

BANNI BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION (BBA)

- During the second animal fair (2008), Maldharis formed the Banni Breeders' Association.
- Association provided a platform to the Banni Maldharis to take initiatives for improvement and conservation of Banni buffalo, regeneration of Banni grassland and to support the activities and data recording for recognition of Banni.
- Also establishment of organized milk marketing network for the region and systematic livestock marketing are the important activities highlighted through Banni Breeders' Association, Sahajeevan NGO, Bhuj, Scientists from SDAU / ICAR-NBAGR and Animal Husbandry Department, Gujarat.

SUCCESS STORY WITH BUNNI BUFFALO

- One farmer, Hirabhai Devkaran Varotra from Dhori village, fetched as much as Rs 4.5 lakh.
- This price, paid by a Hyderabad-based businessman, was for a buffalo that gave 18 litres daily in its very first lactation.
- "Its annual yield would be 5,000 litres, whose value, at Rs 40 per litre, comes to Rs 2 lakh," observes Humbal.

