

Seminar Report

RAW MILK QUALITY - THE FIRST CRITICAL STEP TO ENSURE FOOD SAFETY 17th November 2017



Indian Dairy Association (Gujarat Chapter) and SMC College of Dairy Science organized a one-day seminar on “Raw Milk Quality - The First Critical Step to Ensure Food Safety” on 17th November 2017, at AAU, Anand. As the hygienic quality of milk is very important in producing milk and milk products that are safe and standard for intended use, the seminar aimed towards enhancing quality of milk at the time of procurement and ensuring procurement of pure and unadulterated milk and thus ensuring best quality of milk moving through the production chain. Total 361 registered delegates constituting of officers from co-operative unions, private dairies, academicians, and students apart from SEC members attended the seminar.



In the inaugural session Dr. J. B. Prajapati, Vice Chairman, IDA (Gujarat Chapter), while applauding the change dairy co-operatives have brought, deciphered the current status of dairy industry in India and also highlighted like poor logistics and infrastructure faced by Indian dairy industry, which impacts the quality of raw milk to great extent. Dr. K. Rathnam, adulated the relevance of topic of seminar in today’s context. He stressed that the quality of raw milk is effected by mainly 3 types of adulterants; bacterial contamination, environmental contamination, and veterinary drug contamination. He also gave a glimpse of how milk

quality has improved through the journey of Amul. From efforts to check quality at chilling centers, to establishing bulk milk coolers, Amul has always been committed towards quality.

Today 70% of milk at Amul comes through BMCs and this has not only increased economic benefit of milk producers but also has led to quantum jump in milk procurement quantities at Amul. Finally, he said that sustainable quality through controllable mechanisms is the need of the hour.



Shri C. S. Gohil, Designated Officer, FDCA Gujarat, in his key note speech, highlighted the role FDCA is playing to provide wholesome food at any level. He discussed various levels at which FDCA is keeping track to ensure good quality milk, and shared his experiences of incidents where FDCA has identified and penalized persons involved in adulteration of milk at different levels. He also

Applauded the improvement in milk quality scenario in Gujarat.



Shri K. M. Jhala, Chief Operative Officer, GCMMF emphasized the importance of milk in Indian scenario and thus importance of keeping milk clean and safe at all levels, averring that India is the only country where milk penetration (in any form) is about 99%. He highlighted the fact that it is easier to establish a plant but tough to maintain the quality throughout. He further emphasized that small improvements will lead to large success. Expressing need of sensitizing every farmer on the topic, he stressed that we should resolve to be the best milk producer across the world.

Dr. K. B. Kathiria, Director of Research and Dean, PG Studies, AAU, in his presidential speech, apprehended the relevancy of topic of seminar. He emphasized that the feed and fodder given to the milch animals, and animal health impact quality of milk produced to a great extent, and also focused on the role of Veterinarians and Dairy Technologists. He threw light on importance of training women on clean milk production, as they are the one who are actually involved in the milk procurement practices at ground level. He highlighted the importance of screening adulterants at field level and concluded with a positive assumption that Gujarat will also lead in producing best quality of milk. Shri Amit Patel, Joint Secretary, IDA proposed vote of thanks.



In Technical sessions, Dr. GC Mandli from college of Veterinary Science and AH, AAU, Anand, discussed about Animal health and management for raw milk quality. He highlighted the fact that severity of disease has a direct and significant impact on milk procurement. He emphasized need

of scientific practices to ensure clean milk production. From talking of use of sanitizers for cleaning udder to mastitis management, he gave important insights on all aspects of animal health which can impact quality of raw milk. Shri AC Naveenkumar from NDDDB, discussed of hygienic milking practices and raw milk food safety standards. Expressing concern on handling of 62% of milk by unorganized sector, he spoke of various sources of contamination and also of critical factors in milk quality, i.e., it should be Clean, Cold chain must be maintained, and milk should always be Covered. He also exhibited the NDDDB websites which contain information on various aspects of milk production and also various initiatives taken by NDDDB towards clean milk production.

Mr. Sameer Saxena from GCMMF spoke of policies and practices to check adulteration in raw milk. He explained adulteration, various adulterants and causes which lead to adulteration of milk. He also discussed the adulteration check mechanisms of Amul which ensures quality of milk throughout the supply chain, and also discussed of raw milk standards followed at GCMMF. Here he specifically emphasized the important role the mobile testing vans are playing for screening the adulterated milk in field. He concluded with expressing belief that everyone will work as a team to ensure clean milk procurement at all levels.

Dr. Bency Kethayat from Amul Dairy, discussed effective handling of raw milk to ensure food safety. She focused on the prerequisites of raw milk quality, from animal management to storage and transport. Highlighting the importance of quality throughout the milk processing line, she spoke of different measures Amul takes at each step of process. She discussed of various standards of maximum acceptable SCC in bulk milk in various countries. She stressed on necessity of maintaining temperature in BMCs. Finally, she emphasized on importance of training and supervision of employees as well as milk producers.

In post lunch experience sharing session, we had few remarkable stories which has worked towards ensuring raw milk quality. Officials from Indifoss discussed various techniques of adulteration detection and the instruments they provide to identify the same. Shri YM Patel, CEO, Maahi Milk Producers Co and Shri Pradeep Das introduced Maahi producers' co-operative company and its interventions to ensure quality at all levels. Shri Sachin Sarada, from GCMMF, gave further insights on various interventions taken up by GCMMF to maintain raw milk quality.

Concluding the session, Dr K. Rathnam emphasized need of quick decision making in the entire milk procurement system and to make it robust, there is an immediate need of technology upgradation and skill building. He informed that currently Amul is focusing towards conservation of water, reduction of carbon emission, and reduction of greenhouse gases. He expressed his confidence that if everyone implements the knowledge gained from the Seminar, we would be able to overcome all hurdles to ensure clean milk production. The day's proceedings were summarized by Dr Preeti Shukla from Amul while Shri Jaydev Patel from Vidya Dairy and treasurer of Ida presented vote of thanks. Dr JB Prajapati concluded the seminar by urging all the professionals to strive for quality for prosperity of farmers, society and the dairy industry.