

Key Challenges in Dairy Farming Within Southeast Asia

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Brief Overview of Dairy Farming in Southeast Asia

- Milk consumption is going up in recent years due to economic improvement and higher family income.
- Small size of dairy farming and low milk yields makes it difficult to produce enough milk to keep up with the demand.
- Large portion of milk is dependent on imports
- There is a huge opportunity for domestic dairy farms to grow and meet the fresh milk demand.
- However, there are tremendous challenges facing the dairy farms.

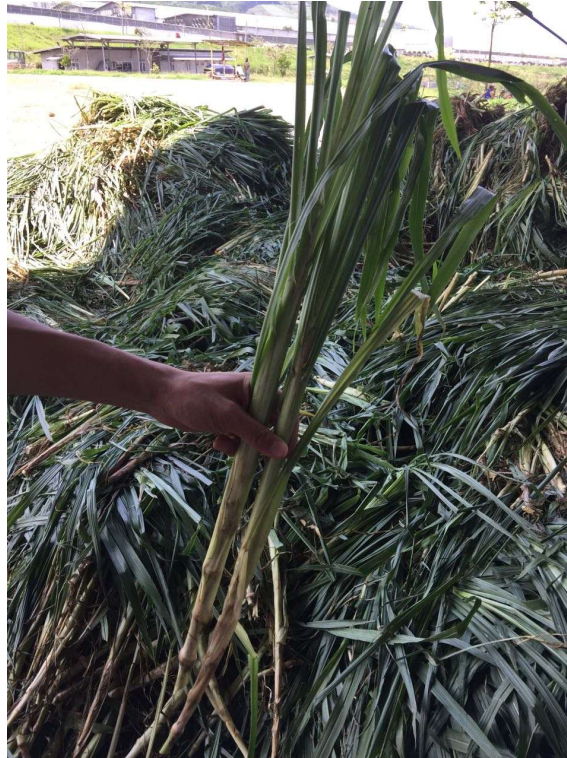
Challenge 1 - Limited Feed Access

- Importance of quality feed for milk production
- Challenges farmers face in obtaining affordable and nutritious feed



Poor Quality Forage Limits Feed Intake

- Most farms rely on Napier grass and rice straw as main forage
- However, these forage are low in fiber digestibility and low energy content.
- Low quality forage limits feed intake thus results in low milk yields.



Household Chinese Farms



High Quality Forage Unavailable/limited

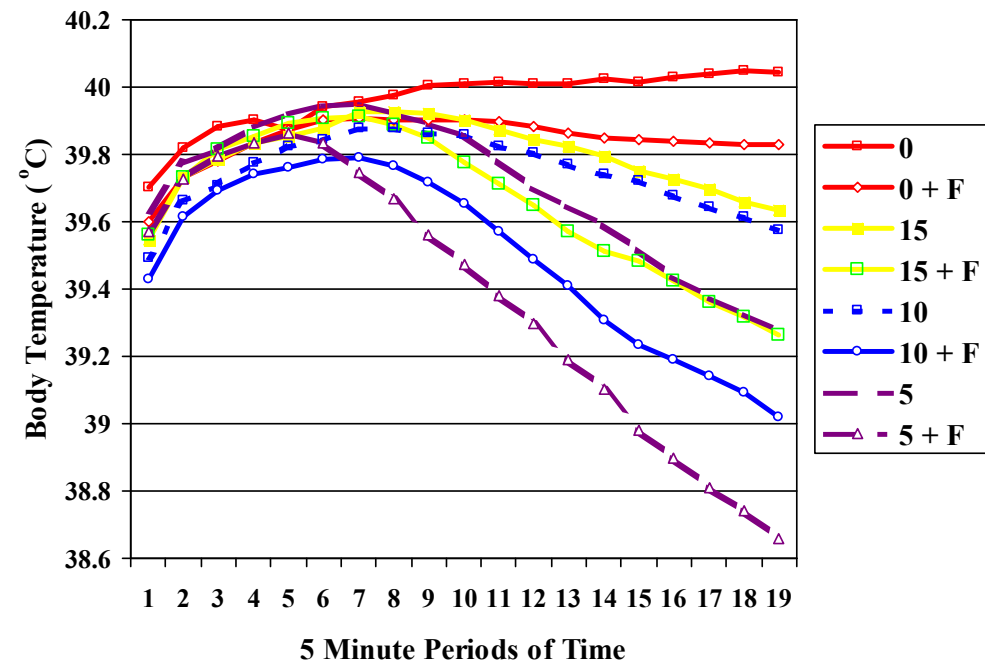


Challenge 2 - Climate Impact

- Heat Stress reduces milk production as much as 30%
- Heat stress also has a huge impact on animal health and reproduction efficiency
- High temperature and high humidity makes more difficult to cool cows
- Lack of cow cooling



Soaker System works well in hot and humid climate



Mechanical Ventilation Barns



Challenge 3 - Infrastructure Issues

- Lack of proper cooling systems and storage facilities
- Impact on milk quality and safety



Challenge 4 - Breeding Improvement

- Importance of improved breeding practices
- Limited awareness and access to modern techniques



Challenge 5 - Disease Control

- Risks of infectious diseases in dairy farming
 - FMD, Brucellosis, Lumpy Skin Disease, TB, Johnnes Disease, BVDV, IBR, etc.
- Strategies for effective disease management
 - Lack of vaccines, disease diagnosis and biosecurity measures



Challenge 6 - Price Volatility

- Impact of market price fluctuations on dairy farmers
- Challenges in planning and investment



Challenge 7 - Technology Gap

- Importance of technology in dairy farming
- Limited adoption and potential benefits



Use of Total Mixed Ration in Dairy Cows

- Total Mixed Ration or TMR mixes all ingredients such as forage, grains, minerals and vitamins together to provide a consistent ration
- Each bite should have balanced nutrients
- Better rumen health
- Increase dry matter intake and feed efficiency



Challenge 8 – Small Scales

- Small scale makes dairy farming less efficient and hard to adopt modern dairy farming technologies
- Need access to finance to boost milk production and increase herd size



Conclusion

- Dairy farmers faces tremendous challenges including quality forage, heat stress, breeding improvement, disease control, milk price fluctuation, technology gab and small scale
- It's imperative to address these challenges for sustainable dairy farming