

Introduction :- Milk is a ambrosial food product which has been being producing from ancient period in the world. Dairy farming is the most prevalent and important animal based industry. Presently, this industry is being growing continuously due to demand of milk and milk-products in the world. The world distribution of this industry is affected by many climatic & cultural factors.

Essential Conditions and Characteristics of dairy farming

i. Cows are most important animal :- In dairy farming cows have an important place ^{out of} Total production of milk in the world, 85% milk is obtained by cows. In European countries, U.S.A., Canada, U.S.S.R, South American countries, India, Australia and New Zealand, cows are mostly raised for milk. Buffaloes have second place in total milk production after cow. 10% of the total milk production is obtained by buffaloes. India and U.S.A are important buffaloes rearing country.

Cow		Buffalo		others
85		10	5	

Fig:- Contribution of different Cattle in milk production in the world (in%)

ii Ideal Climate :- Temperate climate is ideal for dairy farming because it is suitable for cow-rearing. 10° to 17°C average annual temperature is best of cattle rearing. Summer temperature above 27°C and below freezing temperature in winter are harmful for raising cattle. Average annual rainfall between 50 to 75 cms and Podsole Soil are suitable to grow grass as forage.

"No religion has mandated killing others as a requirement for its sustenance or promotion." -Dr.A. Z. Abdul Kalam

Frost is harmful for dairy cattle.

iii. Extensive grassland :- Grass is the cheapest and the best fodder for milk-producing animals. Therefore, this industry is very developed in those areas where extensive grassland are found.

iv. Availability of clean water :- Clean water is necessary for dairy cattle which can be used for their bathing and drinking. An average of 200 litres of water is required for an average cow daily.

v. Fast-going transportation facility :- Milk and milk-products are perishable items, therefore fast-going transportation facilities are necessary to transport milk products fastly to the market.

vi. Development of refrigeration system :- To maintain the quality of milk and milk products refrigeration systems are necessary.

vii. Much and trained labour :- Much and trained labours are required for dairy farming because it involves vigorous activity in breeding, feeding, milking etc.

viii. Capital investment :- Dairy farming needs large investment in infrastructure: animal sheds, mechanical equipments like milking machines, freezers, feeding towers, barns and silos for storage of fodder and veterinary services etc.

ix. Nearness of market :- ~~market~~ Nearness of market is necessary to consume milk products fastly.

Therefore, dairy farming is usually practised in densely populated areas. In general, however, the development of refrigeration, pasteurisation and other preservation processes has led to the decline of the importance of market.

X. Technological researches and experiments :- Technological researches and constant experiments with regard to breeds, health, forage, etc. is a necessity in dairying.

World Distribution

Although, dairy farming is usually practised in all over our world at low level but commercial dairying has developed in humid temperate zone. U.S.A., Russia, Germany, France, The Great Britain, Ukraine, Poland, Canada, Spain, Denmark, Czech Republic, etc. are important countries which are located in this zone. Besides it, it has also developed in India, Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Mexico, Turkey, Japan etc. but most of the production is consumed locally.

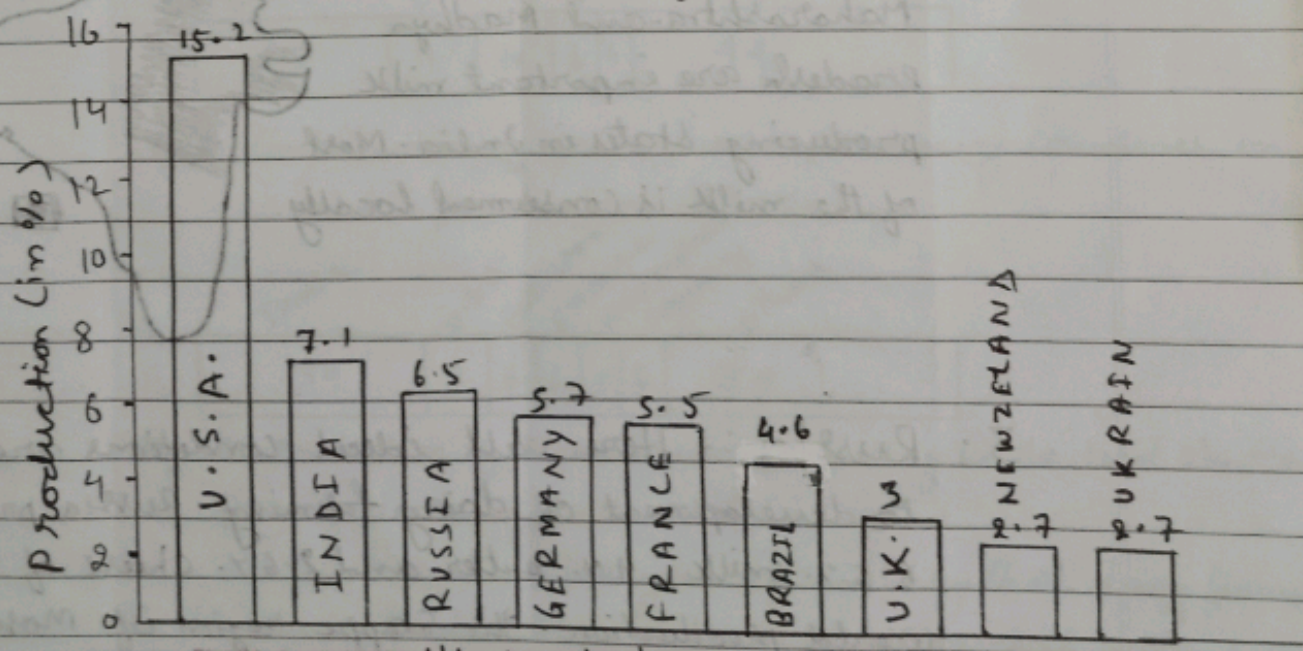
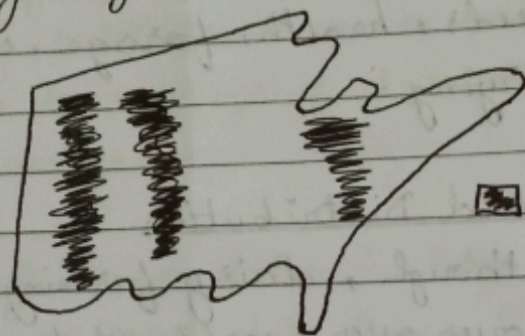


Fig :- Contribution of different countries in milk production (in %)

Date

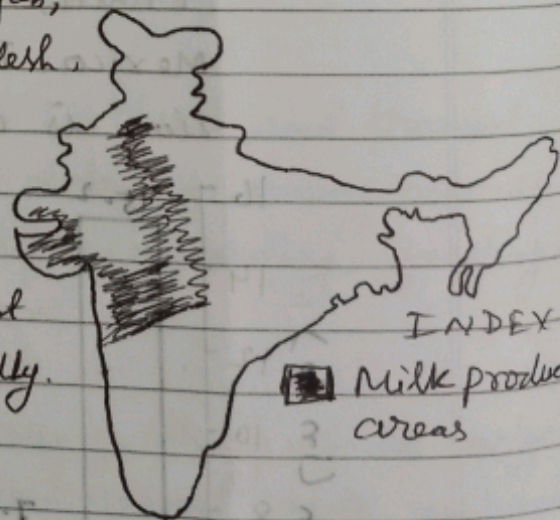
1. U.S.A. - The U.S.A. is the leading producer of milk which produce 15.2% milk of the world's output. Besides it, it also produces 8% and 25% of total production of butter and cheese of the world ^{respectively}. It has all ideal conditions for dairy farming. High breeds cows are found in U.S.A. Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York etc. are important milk producing regions of U.S.A.



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☐ - Milk producing area of U.S.A.

2. India :- India has a the largest number of dairy cattle in the world, but their yield is very low because of low breeds and lack of scientific method of dairying. It produces 7% milk and 30% butter of total world production. Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan, Gujrat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are important milk producing states in India. Most of the milk is consumed locally.



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☐ Milk producing areas

3. Russia :- Here, all ideal conditions are available to development of dairy farming. Russia produces about 8.5% milk, 4% butter and 2.6% cheese of the total world production. The Steppe region of Moscow and

"Whenever you take a step forward, you are bound to disturb something." - Indira Gandhi

Western Siberia are the important dairy farming region.

4. Germany :- Germany is the fourth largest milk producing (5.7%) country of the world. It also produces 6% and 11% of total world's butter and cheese production respectively in Limburg and Muenster region.
5. France :- Dairying is well developed throughout France except in the warm Mediterranean area. It contributes nearly 5.5% milk, 6% butter and 10% cheese to the world's total production.
6. Brazil :- It produces 4.6 to the world's total milk.
7. U.K. - It accounts for nearly 3% of the total milk production and 9% of total cheese production of the world. 80% of the milk is consumed locally.

Besides above countries, UKrain (2.7%), New Zealand (2.7%), Poland (2.4%), Australia (2.1%) etc. are also important in this industry.

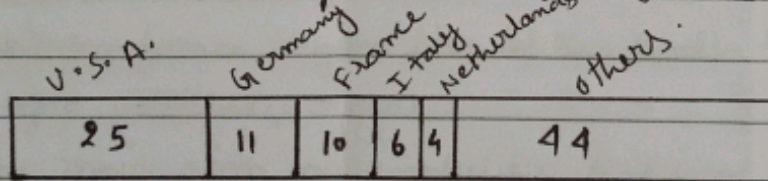


Fig:- Contribution of main cheese producing countries in world's production (in%)

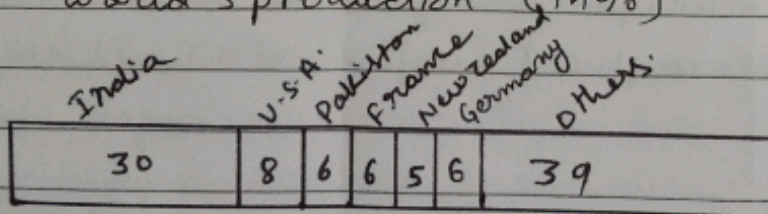


Fig. Contribution of various countries in the total butter production in the world (in%)

Finally, we can say that dairy farming is highly affected by natural environment with high

level of management. India and Brazil have not natural environmental conditions for dairy farming but it has developed on large level, only by human efforts.

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