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Área do trabalho: Inovação e sistemas de produção animal

Title: Characterization of Dairy Cattle Farming Properties in the City of Caturité, Cariri Paraibano Region

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The dairy production chain is one of the main economic activities in Brazil. The objective of this study was to generate data from a survey of dairy cattle farming properties in the city of Caturité, located in the Cariri Paraibano region. To obtain the information, a questionnaire was applied, composed of quantitative and qualitative information, totaling 13 questions, on ten properties located in the municipality of Caturité, Paraíba. The questions addressed aspects of infrastructure, general survey, forage production, and technical assistance, aiming to obtain information related to property characterization, producer profile, and technological level. The questions allowed for multiple answers, and the data obtained followed ethical standards, maintaining the confidentiality of the interviewees. The procedure used to select the producers was the system of production of dairy cattle. The variables were evaluated using Excel (2021). Among the interviewees, 60% were over 50 years old, 10% up to 30 years old, 20% between 31 and 40 years old, and 10% between 41 and 50 years old. Regarding education level, 60% had incomplete elementary education, 10% had completed elementary education, 20% had completed high school, and 10% had incomplete high school. About 30% had an income of up to 3 minimum wages, and 70% had an income of 3.5 to 5 minimum wages. Concerning property ownership duration, 30% had owned their property for around 11 to 20 years, and 70% for over 30 years. In terms of property acquisition, 60% inherited their property, and 40% purchased it. Property sizes ranged from 6 to 20 hectares for 40% of respondents, 21 to 50 hectares for 20%, and above 51 hectares for 40%. 60% identified as small producers, and 40% as medium producers. Regarding productive crops on the property, all interviewees cultivated corn; 60% produced both corn and beans, and 30% additionally cultivated fruit trees. For forage planning, all respondents planted forage cactus and grass, with 60% also planting sorghum. Only 30% received technical assistance, of which 33% were assisted by veterinarians, 33% by agronomists, and 33% by technicians. Finally, when asked about the reasons for choosing the activity, 60% cited family tradition, 30% a preference for the activity, and 10% the regional culture. The data obtained demonstrate the diversity among dairy cattle farming systems, especially in the city of Caturité-PB, providing relevant information for decision-making in the current context of dairy farming in the region and potentially expanding research to advance knowledge of the dairy cattle production system.

Keywords: Semi-arid, Dairy Farming, Productivity.

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