

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH,
THE COMPASSIONATE,
THE MERCIFUL.

DETERMINATION OF ECONOMICAL AND EFFICIENT RATIONS FOR DAIRY COWS IN WEST PAKISTAN



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DETERMINATION OF ECONOMICAL AND
EFFICIENT RATIONS FOR DAIRY COWS
IN WEST PAKISTAN

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The most important factor of all, for a farmer who seeks benefit from his livestock, particularly from the lactating animals, is the cost of a ration. The general misconception in the minds of the farmers in Pakistan about the exaggerated value of roughages and economical production of animals on no concentrate or all roughage feeding, has acted as a handicap in improving the milk production situation in the country. There are hundreds of lactating cows and buffaloes in the rural areas of West Pakistan that do not receive any concentrate allowance and yet they yield some milk. Lack of education of the farmers about the nutritional requirements of animals, and methods of exploitation of livestock potential, has resulted in haphazard feeding system. In securing rations that provide nutrients in a balanced manner, a great foresight and judgement is required.

✓ A farmer may obtain much greater net returns from his cows by feeding them on balanced rations than on unbalanced rations. Balanced rations can, however, be popular among the farmers only when they are cheap and their ingredients easily available in the local market. It is, infact, wise to plan on crops keeping in view the nutrient requirements of different types of animals owned by the farmers so as to provide for maintenance and production needs of the animals from most of