Incentive to Green Fodder Cultivation for Perennial and Seasonal Fodder Development in the State

Introduction:-

The major constraint in the field of dairy development in the state of Goa is the lack of green fodder and under-feeding of the milch animals. It is said in the true sense that by incorporating good quality feed combined with feeding of green fodder reduces the incidences of delayed breeding in both Cattle and Buffaloes and thereby reduces the intercalving period resulting in increased milk production. As such a provision of green fodder for feeding milch animals is very essential.

Objective of the Scheme:-

- To increase green fodder production and make available the various varieties of green fodder to the farmers for feeding to milch animals in order to increase the milk production and make the State self sufficient in milk production.
- To stress upon the farmers the importance of feeding nutritive green grass and encourage them to stop the primitive practices of feeding only dry paddy straw.
- To create the importance in the minds of farmers of feeding the additional green fodder to milch animals and vis-a-vis to reduce the cost of feeding thereby reducing cost of milk production.
- Feeding green grass to milch animals makes available the salient nutritive feed ingredients like vitamins, proteins, minerals etc and helps in maintaining and increasing the fertility which is very essential for maintaining the productive status of animals and to reduce the intercalving period in order to promote calf a year programme which is inevitable for successful dairy farming in the State.
- To encourage the farmers/individuals to bring surplus barren lands/unused Agricultural land under cultivation, thereby giving them a source of income and helping them to reduce the unemployment problem in the State.
- To encourage utilization of land mass by farmer who do not own animals but could grow fodder as a cash crop.

Incentive for Green Fodder cultivation (Perennial)

Perennial Fodder:
Incentive under Perennial Fodder Cultivation @ Rs. 20,000/- per hectare area of land for the 1st year, Rs. 10,000/- each per hectare area of land for 2nd & 3rd year. The Incentive for Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe farmers shall be @ Rs. 25,000/- per hectare area of the land for 1st year and Rs. 15,000/- each for 2nd & 3rd year. Minimum area for fodder cultivation is 1000 sq. mts. and maximum area is 10 hectares.

Seasonal Fodder:
In case of seasonal fodder incentive will be given @ Rs. 5,000/- per hectare of land for a maximum area of 10 hectares and minimum area of 1000 sq. mts. Incentive of Rs. 6,000/- per hectare area of fodder cultivation will be given to scheduled caste & scheduled tribe beneficiaries.

ELIGIBILITY
• Any individual/farmer/agricultural labourer/Dairy Society who is interested in green fodder cultivation anywhere in the available land within Goa is eligible for incentive by producing NOC & Form I or XIV of Land Record or in his own land irrespective of income criteria or with a NOC from the owner.
• Applicant should be resident of Goa and above the age of 18 and the cultivable land should be within the State of Goa.
• The beneficiary should prepare the land and complete the cultivation in the proposed land within two month’s period only after receipt of initial approval letter from the Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, which should be confirmed and supervised by the concerned Field Officer.
• The land under cultivation should be exclusively used for Fodder Cultivation.
• Any individual farmer/Dairy Co-operative Society is eligible provided they arrange the land or even any fallow land agriculture land and marad, etc. by providing the required NOC and form I & XIV records document.
• Special benefits for Schedule caste and Schedule tribe beneficiaries.

Terms and Conditions of the Scheme

• The applicant has to apply in a prescribed form and submit the application to the Director of AH & VS through the respective area Veterinary Officer/Assistant Director.
• The applicant should show his proposed land area to the respective concerned Officer who will visit and confirm the availability and usefulness of the land for processing the application further. Any land such as fallow land, agricultural land, marad, bhatlem, etc be considered and minimum area to be cultivated in 1000 sq. mts.
• The beneficiary may or may not be the owner of the land but he has to provide the NOC and or Form I or XIV in all the cases along with the application and incase of death of the landlord, Will deed or NOC from the heir is required as a proof for using the land.
• In case of fodder plots cultivated by the Dairy Societies, the use and sharing of the fodder produced by the members of Dairy Co-operative Societies and for purchase is their responsibility.
• The applicants who have availed benefits from the old Schemes of perennial and/or Seasonal cultivation are allowed to take the benefits under the newly revised Scheme.
• Incase of perennial cultivation the beneficiary has to take minimum three fodder cuttings in a year after 1st cultivation and the same area has to be continued for the cultivation for another 3 years.
• The Committee shall inspect the fodder cultivation and at each harvest in both perennial as well as seasonal fodder cultivation and depending on area of cultivation the inspection reports should be submitted to Head Office.
• The beneficiary has to prepare the land and cultivate the proposed and approved plots within two month’s period from the date of receipt of approval letter.
• In case of any doubts on the genuiness in implementing the Scheme, concerned dealing Officer from Head Office will conduct a surprise inspection of the fodder plots for verification.
• The beneficiary should allow the concerned Officer and the Inspection Committee members to inspect their fodder units at each fodder cutting as well as during each crop and at any time/stage of cultivation.
• The concerned Officer should maintain all the records of the fodder units and its follow up in their office with the help of Extension Officer, such as name and address of beneficiary, area of cultivation, month/year of cultivation, quantity of fodder produced during each cutting and at each crop harvest etc. Also he has to ascertain the overall performance of the fodder cultivation by the farmers and which should be remarked in the Utilization Certificate.

• The beneficiary should cut/harvest the cultivated fodder at the beginning of the flowering stage.

Documents required for release of incentives

• Inspection Report/Utilization Certificate in the prescribed form duly signed by the Inspection Committee consisting of concerned Veterinary Officer/Assistant Director & Extension Officer of the jurisdiction should be submitted to the Director, AH & VS by the concerned Officer.

• The beneficiary has to submit the photograph of the fodder plot before cutting. The photograph should show the fodder plot along with the farmer and the day’s newspaper as proof of the day of inspection at every cutting. Accordingly 3 photographs duly countersigned by the concerned officer should be submitted along with the utilization certificate duly signed by the Departmental Committee every year for Perennial Fodder Cultivation & one photograph in case of seasonal fodder.

• Agreement Bond on a Rs. 20/- Stamp paper.