



## CARACTERIZAÇÃO DAS PROPRIEDADES LEITEIRAS DO MUNICÍPIO DE RONDON DO PARÁ, MESORREGIÃO SUDESTE PARAENSE<sup>1</sup>

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**Resumo:** A bacia leiteira de Rondon do Pará apresenta significativa importância para a Mesorregião Sudeste Paraense, sendo região promissora para o desenvolvimento desta atividade. O trabalho apresenta resultados que caracterizam as propriedades leiteiras desse município. Os dados foram colhidos mediante aplicação de questionário em 55 propriedades leiteiras, em 2012. Nas propriedades estudadas, 98,1% tinham curral, 76,3% bezerreiros, sendo 7,2% suspensos e 63,6% no nível do solo, e 61,8% possuíam bebedouro no pasto e 14,5% no curral. A maioria dos produtores entrevistados (98%) realizavam ordenha manual e quanto aos procedimentos básicos de higiene, no momento da ordenha, foi verificado que somente 1,8% deles lavavam as mãos antes da ordenha e apenas 10% lavavam as tetas dos animais nessa ocasião. A alimentação dos animais no período chuvoso do ano é feita à pasto por 98% dos produtores, e apenas 2% complementaram a dieta com volumoso oriundo de capineiras. No período seco 34% utilizaram ração concentrada, cana de açúcar triturada in natura, ou associação desses dois suplementos, capineiras e uso de subprodutos da agroindústria. A produção leiteira do município apresentou condições precárias de produção, com isso há a necessidade da melhoria nos sistemas produtivos. É necessário estimular ações de políticas públicas bem planejadas, de modo a possibilitar maior acesso a assistência técnica e definir um novo panorama de ações estratégicas para fortalecer a pecuária leiteira desta região.

**Palavras-chave:** leite, pequeno produtor, políticas públicas, sistemas produtivos

## CHARACTERIZATION OF DAIRY PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF RONDON DO PARÁ, MIDLAND REGION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN PARÁ<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** The dairy region of Rondon do Pará has significant importance for the Midland Region Southeastern Pará, and it is a promising region for the development of this activity. The paper presents results that characterize the dairy properties of this city. The data were collected through a questionnaire in 55 dairy farms in 2012. In the studied properties, 98.1% had corral, 76.3% had hutch housing, so that 7.2% were suspended and 63.6% on the ground and 61.8% had troughs in the pasture and 14.5% in the corral. Most producers interviewed (98%) performed manual milking and regarding to the basic hygiene procedures at the time of milking, it was verified that only 1.8% of them washed their hands before milking and only 10% were washing the teats of animals on that occasion. The animal feed during the rainy season of the year is made at the pasture by 98% of producers, and only 2% have supplemented the diet with roughage coming from grass stocking piles. In the dry season 34% of them used concentrated feed, natural sugarcane crushed, or combination of these two supplements, grass stocking piles and the use of sub products of agribusiness. Dairy production of the city had poor production conditions. Thereby, there is a need of improvement in the productive systems. It is necessary to stimulate actions of well planned public policies, in order to allow greater access to technical assistance and set a new perspective of strategic actions for strengthening the dairy farming of this region.

**Keywords:** milk, small producer, public policies, productive systems

### Introduction

The milk production chain is among the most important areas of Brazilian agribusiness, mainly because of its diversity and comprehensiveness. The dairy farming is a traditional commercial activity in Brazil that differs from the other activities by its heterogeneity in production methods, edaphoclimatic factors, technological levels that adapt to the insertion regions and to the profile of the producers.



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Dairy production in Midland Region of the Southeastern Pará is developed predominantly in small and medium-sized rural properties, and the increase in dairy productivity in the region interested producers, technicians and researchers and it is dependent on genetic factors, health, environmental, nutritional and their interactions (Teixeira et al., 2010).

The dairy region of Rondon do Pará has significant importance for the Midland Region Southeastern Pará, and it is a promising region for the development of this activity, especially for the vertical development (greater productivity per area and per animal) of the production systems (Soares et al., 2013).

From this perspective, this study presents results that characterize the dairy properties of Rondon do Pará city, Midland Region Southeastern Pará, in order to assist institutional actions and public policies, and support the development of the milk production chain.

### **Material e Methods**

The study was conducted in the city of Rondon do Pará, Mindland Southeastern Pará, Para State. The data were collected by questions applied in 55 dairy farms in 2012 by researchers at Embrapa Amazônia Oriental and students of Post Graduation Program of Animal Science - UFPA / Embrapa Amazônia Oriental / UFRA. The questions were grouped into nine parts: identifying the property and the owner; characterizing the property; discrimination of dairy farm on the property; machinery and equipment; facilities and rural improvements; health of the herd; milking procedure and herd management; production, selling and labor; and additional information. The data were tabulated in a worksheet in Microsoft Excel 2010 program and subsequently, the data analysis was performed. In order to establish an understanding of the information, graphical analysis was performed by the distribution of frequency in percentage terms. This method seeks grouping the data by occurrence.

### **Results and Discussion**

It could be noted that 56.36% of producers live on the property and are distributed in distant locations between 3 km and 40 km away from the city and most of them, 67.27% had access to financing for the purchase of cattle and to improve the infrastructure of their properties. Most respondents are from the Southeast and the Center - West (50.90%) of the country, which have tradition in developing the dairy farming, and 36.36% in the Northeast. It was found that 16.36% are under 40years old, 30.91% from 40 to less than 55 years old, 29.09%, from 55 to less than 70 years old, and 14.55% are over 70 years.

In the studied properties, 98.1% had corral, 76.3% had hutch housing, so that 7.2% were suspended and 63.6% on the ground and 61.8% had troughs in the pasture and 14.5% in the corral. Most of them had conditions considered deficient, without basic or poorly planned facilities, often stalls that generated great difficulties in hygiene, and only 12.7% had a milking parlor and only 3.6% of them with cemented floor.

It was verified that most producers interviewed (98%) performed manual milking. Regarding to basic hygiene procedures during the milking, it was found that only 1.8% of them washed their hands before milking and only 10% of them washed teats of the animals at that time. In manual milking process, the lack of proper hygiene, especially roofs and hands of milkers, favors the contamination of the product (Monteiro, 2007). It also noticed that 90.9% of the properties send the milk to dairies, whose daily collection was made in 47.2% of the properties and 85.4% of cases transported by truck, 1.8% improved on their own and 9% sold in natura.

Regarding the prevention of disease, the producers were asked about the sanitary management, and 32.7% of the visited farms were receiving technical assistance from veterinarians and/or zootechnicians, and 100% of producers stated comply with vaccination schedules for FMD and brucellosis.

Nutritional management conducted during the rainy season was reported by producers, and 98% keep feeding animals exclusively on pasture, and only 2% supplement the diet with roughage coming from grass stocking piles. It was not described any concentrate supplementation at this time of year. During the dry season, 34% of the properties using concentrated feed, natural sugarcane crushed, or combination of these two supplements, grass stocking piles and use of sub products of agribusiness, and the other 66% remains the only animals on pasture. This feed management reflects negatively on milk production, whose average is 5.5 liters/cow/day.

### **Conclusions**

Milk production in the city of Rondon do Pará, Midland Southeastern Pará, has poor production conditions. There is a need of the improvement of production systems, especially of zootechnical and nutritional management facilities, in addition to efficient assistance in relation to good practices for milking. The climate, especially in the dry season affects forage production, a fact which combined with the low adoption of technologies, reduces the average productivity of dairy cattle of small farms. It is necessary to stimulate actions of well planned public



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