



International Journal of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry



ISSN: 2456-2912

NAAS Rating (2026): 4.61

VET 2025; SP-11(8): 267-269

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www.veterinarypaper.com

Received: 19-05-2026

Accepted: 23-06-2026

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Knowledge propagation by faculties of dairy technology under MAFSU, Nagpur

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DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.22271/veterinary.2026.v11.i8Sd.3739>

Abstract

Dairy technology faculty members participate in teaching, research, and extension activities such as transferring developed technology, offering technical advice, and promoting newer ways to start small businesses in dairy products to farmers and rural communities. These activities are carried out through a variety of events, including workshops, field demonstrations, farmer-scientist meetings, media campaigns, and other events. The current study was conducted with data ranging from 2010–11 to 2023–24 in order to evaluate the dissemination of information by the dairy technology faculties in the state of Maharashtra. According to the findings of the study, the academicians working in the Dairy Technology faculty under MAFSU have effectively propagated their knowledge by holding 79 seminars, workshops, and conferences; six scientific trainings for scientists and academic officers; 56 short-term trainings for farmers, small business owners, and youth who are without jobs; and 41 expert talks on radio and television between the years 2010–11 and 2023–24.

Keywords: Knowledge, dairy technology, productivity, propagation

Introduction

Warud (Pusad) in Yavatmal district and Udgir in Latur district are the two constitutional Colleges of Dairy Technology (CDT) that are part of the Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University (MAFSU), Nagpur. This university is a state-level institution of higher education in Maharashtra. A Bachelor of Technology in Dairy Technology degree program is offered by the faculty of Dairy Technology. This program is designed to be completed in four years and is based on the pattern established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). In addition to seats that are provided by ICAR, each college has the capacity to admit up to 36 students. In accordance with the criteria established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in New Delhi, the curriculum of the eight-semester course incorporates both hands-on and industrial training in multi-product dairy factories located all across the country.

The difference between research and productivity is that research involves the attentive, perceptive, and rigorous study or inquiry of phenomena in order to identify and uncover new knowledge, information, and facts, whereas productivity entails production or output within a definite amount of time. The presentation of research papers in conference proceedings, which are essential references to and acknowledgments of other scientists' widely accessible papers and books, and the publication of research papers in professional journals as journal articles, book chapters, or books are the two methods that Kpolovie and Dorgu (2019) ^[3] believe are the most effective ways to measure the level of research productivity in higher education. In their study, Sunday investigated the ways in which institutional factors influenced the research output of Nigerian academic staff. In 2022, Nguyen *et al.*, investigated the level of productivity exhibited by 398 professors and researchers connected with VNU. Evaluation of the faculty research output of SPP University, Pune-affiliated Arts and Commerce College, Taharabad was carried out by Fulari (2021) ^[1] through the use of surveys, interviews, and observations with the faculty. An informational paradigm was utilized by Pal and Sarkar

(2020) [6] in order to conduct a literature assessment on research productivity in scientific institutions such as departments and universities. The authors came to the conclusion that publicizing research findings has the potential to facilitate the exchange of ideas and the acquisition of precise critical feedback, both of which are essential to the socialization of science. Questionnaires, interviews, observations, and curriculum vitae were the methods that Sawai and Chavhan (2019) [8] utilized in order to investigate the research output of LIS professionals from 2004 to 2013.

Teaching, research, and extension activities are all activities that the academic staff of these Dairy Technology colleges participates in so that they can fulfill the objective of MAFSU Nagpur. It is necessary for scientists and academic professionals to impart cutting-edge technology to rural communities in order to improve the standard of living of the people living in rural areas. The manner in which this is accomplished is by conducting study on the practical problems that farmers face in order to find answers. Furthermore, the dissemination of the results or knowledge collected from research outputs for the benefit of stakeholders, farmers, and rural communities is an essential component of any research project. This can be accomplished through a variety of events, including seminars, field days, farmer-scientist meetings, media campaigns, and other gatherings. The Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University in Nagpur plays a significant role in the dissemination of information regarding research findings to many stakeholders, including farmers and proprietors of small businesses. Following an exhaustive examination of the existing literature, it was discovered that, ever since the establishment of these institutions, there has been no investigation into the propagation of information by the colleges of Dairy Technology and therefore, the present study has been designed.

Methodology

The data pertaining to the dissemination of information to the final users through extension activities of both colleges of Dairy Technology were acquired from the annual reports of Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur for the period of 2010-11 to 2023-24. The time span covered by these reports was from 2010-11 to 2023-24.

Results and Discussion

Propagation of knowledge by organizing conferences/seminars / workshops

The faculty of dairy technology has arranged a total of 79 conferences, seminars, and workshops to disseminate knowledge, technology, and methods developed for their application, according to statistics on research and knowledge propagation (Table 1). CDT Udgir executed 43 (54.43%) of these 79 programs, whereas CDT Warud (Pusad) conducted 36 (45.57%). CDT Udgir conducted 20 projects during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020–2021, whereas CDT Warud only finished four. This indicates that CDT Udgir employees were productive during the lockdown by using their time to conduct online courses and workshops. However, CDT Warud also held ten seminars and workshops in 2021–2022, demonstrating their productivity despite the COVID-19 pandemic. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the faculty of dairy technology personnel conducted 38 programs, or 48.11% of all programs. This shows how effective the crew was in this peculiar circumstance.

Table 1: Conference / Seminars / Workshops organized by academic staff of colleges under faculty of Dairy Technology

Sr. No.	Year	CDT Warud	CDT Udgir	Total	%	Cumulative%
1	2010-11	1	0	1	1.27	1.27
2	2011-12	1	0	1	1.27	2.54
3	2012-13	0	2	2	2.53	5.07
4	2013-14	1	3	4	5.06	10.13
5	2014-15	0	2	2	2.53	12.66
6	2015-16	0	2	2	2.53	15.19
7	2016-17	2	6	8	10.13	25.32
8	2017-18	1	1	2	2.53	27.85
9	2018-19	7	5	12	15.19	43.04
10	2019-20	4	1	5	6.33	49.37
11	2020-21	4	20	24	30.38	79.75
12	2021-22	10	0	10	12.66	92.41
13	2022-23	4	0	4	5.06	97.47
14	2023-24	1	1	2	2.53	100.00
Total		36	43	79		
%		45.57	54.43			

Propagation of knowledge by organizing scientific trainings for Scientists/ officers

During the period of 2010-2011 to 2023-2024, the staff of the faculty of dairy technology has performed a total of six trainings for scientists and officials (Fig 1). Only in the year 2023-24 has the CDT Warud been responsible for conducting four of these six trainings, which accounts for 66.67 percent of an entire training. Between the years 2010-2011 and 2022-23, the staff of CDT Warud (Pusad) did not conduct any trainings for scientists or officers. This was the case during the period of time described above. With the exception of one training in each of the years 2015–2016 and 2016–2017, the CDT Udgir did not successfully organize any trainings.

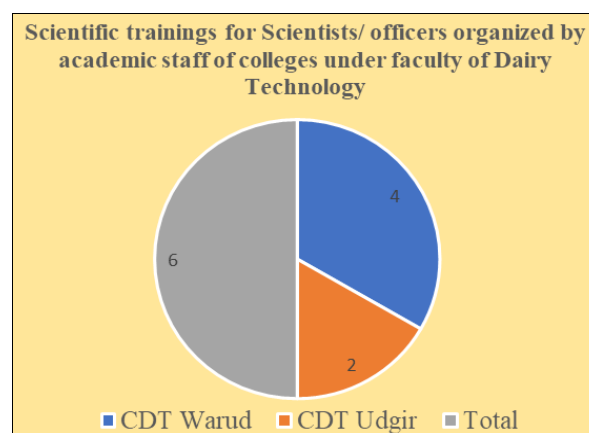


Fig 1: Scientific trainings for Scientists/ officers organized by academic staff of colleges under faculty of Dairy Technology

Propagation of knowledge by delivering scientific talk on radio and television

According to the information presented in table 2, the faculty of dairy technology at MAFSU, Nagpur has given a total of 41 talks on radio and television in order to disseminate the technical knowledge for the benefit of the general public. In comparison to the nine talks that were given by the staff of CDT Udgir, the staff of CDT Warud (Pusad) has delivered 32 talks on radio and television, which is a large amount. This is in comparison to the fact that the staff of CDT Udgir has only delivered nine talks. The staff of CDT Warud (Pusad) has made effective use of the COVID-19 epidemic (2020-21 to 2022-23) and has delivered 15 talks on radio and television. Two of these talks were delivered in the year 2020-21, six of them were provided in the year 2021-22, and seven of them were delivered in the year 2022-23.

Table 2: Scientific talk delivered on radio and television

Sr. No.	Year	CDT Warud	CDT Udgir	Total	%	Cumulative%
1	2010-11	0	0	0	0.00	0
2	2011-12	1	0	1	2.44	2.44
3	2012-13	0	0	0	0.00	2.44
4	2013-14	1	2	3	7.32	9.76
5	2014-15	2	0	2	4.88	14.63
6	2015-16	0	2	2	4.88	19.51
7	2016-17	1	1	2	4.88	24.39
8	2017-18	2	1	3	7.32	31.71
9	2018-19	1	0	1	2.44	34.15
10	2019-20	1	1	2	4.88	39.02
11	2020-21	2	0	2	4.88	43.90
12	2021-22	6	0	6	14.63	58.54
13	2022-23	7	0	7	17.07	75.61
14	2023-24	8	2	10	24.39	100.00
Total		32	9	41		
%		78.05	21.95			

Propagation of knowledge to benefit farmers/unemployed youths/ small entrepreneurs by organizing trainings:

Table 3: Short term trainings organized for farmers/unemployed youths/ small entrepreneurs

Sr. No.	Year	CDT Warud	CDT Udgir	Total	%	Cumulative%
1	2010-11	0	0	0	0.00	0
2	2011-12	2	0	2	3.57	3.57
3	2012-13	3	1	4	7.14	10.71
4	2013-14	0	1	1	1.79	12.50
5	2014-15	0	0	0	0.00	12.50
6	2015-16	1	5	6	10.71	23.21
7	2016-17	5	1	6	10.71	33.93
8	2017-18	1	1	2	3.57	37.50
9	2018-19	2	2	4	7.14	44.64
10	2019-20	1	3	4	7.14	51.79
11	2020-21	3	0	3	5.36	57.14
12	2021-22	17	2	19	33.93	91.07
13	2022-23	1	0	1	1.79	92.86
14	2023-24	3	1	4	7.14	100.00
Total		39	17	56		
%		69.64	30.36			

The table 3 indicated that the staff of faculty of dairy technology has conducted a total of 56 short term trainings for farmers/unemployed youths/ small entrepreneurs to disseminate the new technologies/ methods so that these peoples can apply to enhance their income. Among the two dairy technology colleges, the staff of CDT Warud (Pusad) has conducted most of the trainings 39 (69.64%) which is significant as compared to 17 trainings (30.36%) conducted by the staff of CDT Udgir. The data also showed that the staff of CDT Warud (Pusad) has conducted 17 online trainings for farmers / unemployed youth / small entrepreneurs in the year 2021-22 indicating effective utilization of COVID- 19 pandemic for good cause.

The findings indicate that the staff associated with the dairy technology faculty have effectively orchestrated 79 seminars and workshops, alongside several conferences; six scientific training sessions for scientists and academic officials; 56 short-term training programs for farmers, small business owners, and unemployed youth; and 41 expert discussions on radio and television from 2010-11 to 2023-24, aimed at propagating knowledge among stakeholders, farmers, and small entrepreneurs.

Acknowledgement

The authors express gratitude to the officials of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Research and Training Institute

(MAHAJYOTI), Government of Maharashtra, for offering financial support to the primary author under the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Research Fellowship (MJPRF-JRF). The authors express their gratitude to the officials of Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University Nagpur for granting permission and supplying essential information for the research.

Conflict of Interest

Not available

Financial Support

Not available

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How to Cite This Article

Chavhan PM, Agashe PAT, Gawande SN. Knowledge propagation by faculties of dairy technology under MAFSU, Nagpur. *International Journal of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry.* 2026;SP-11(8):267-269.

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