



**Agriculture interventions picking-up in the far-flung hamlet**

Page 4



**The Ministry's Week**

Page 6

## Dairy farmers' groups and cooperatives and its working modalities

**Deki Choden, National Dairy Research and Development Centre, Yusipang**

The development of Dairy Farmers' Group (DFG) in the country started in the early nineties by the Highland Livestock Development (HLDP) project. After the first ever group (known as

Deothang Milk Collection Society) established in 1993 successfully functioning, many groups came into existence. The farmers' groups and cooperatives formation gained momentum from 2010

after enactment of Cooperative Act (amendment) of Bhutan 2009 and institution of Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperative (DAMC). As of June, 2020 there were 242 dairy groups and cooperatives (Figure 1).

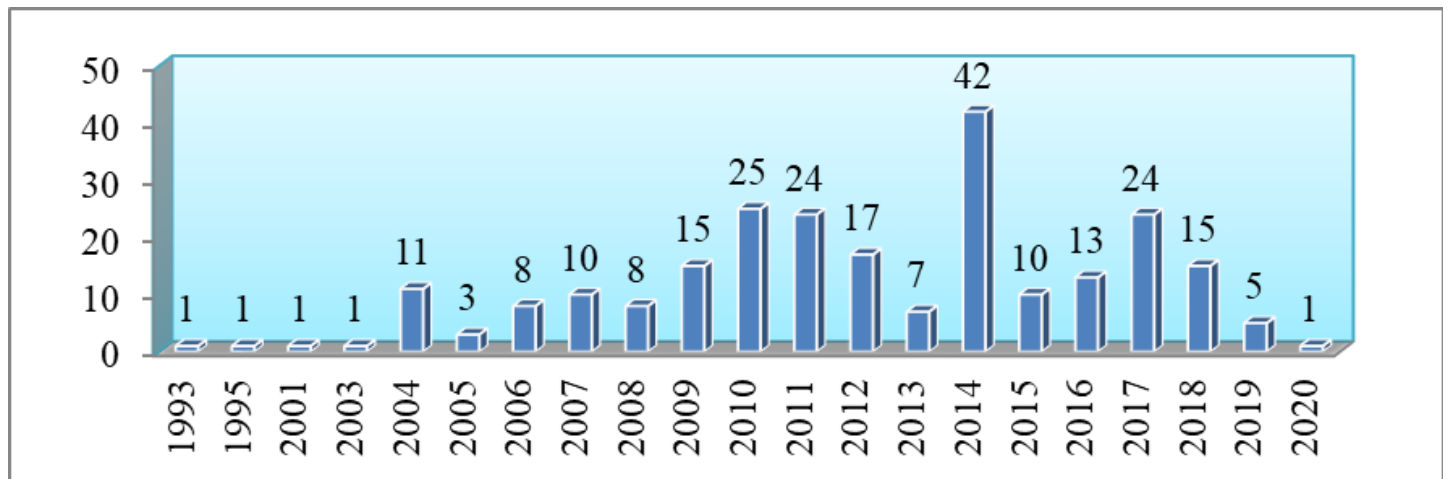


Figure 1. Year wise establishment of DFG&C from start till June 2020

### Working modalities

The DFG &C across the country operates in four different models namely;

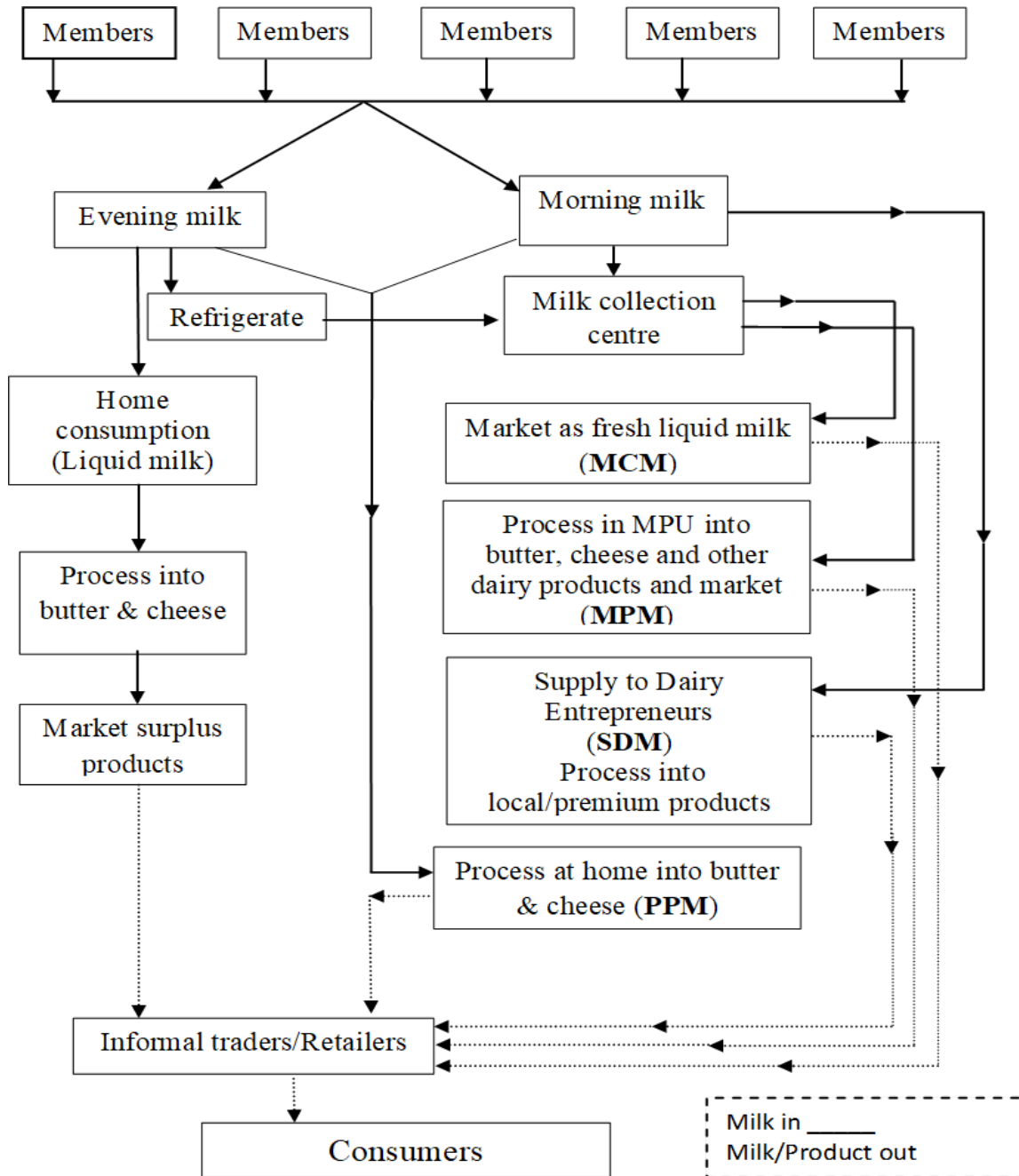
- 1) Milk collection and marketing (MCM);
- 2) Milk processing and marketing (MPM);
- 3) Supply of milk to dairy entrepreneurs (SDM) and
- 4) Home processed products marketing (PPM)

The flow of milk and milk products in different working modalities is presented in the schematic diagram (Figure 2).


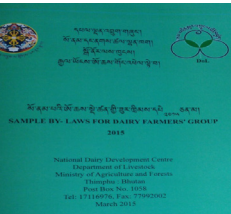
Cont...on Pg 2




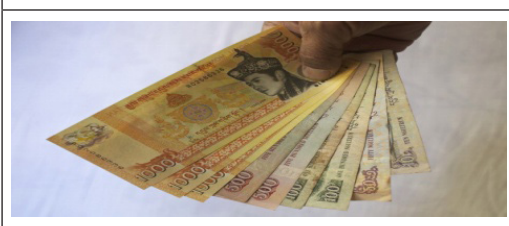
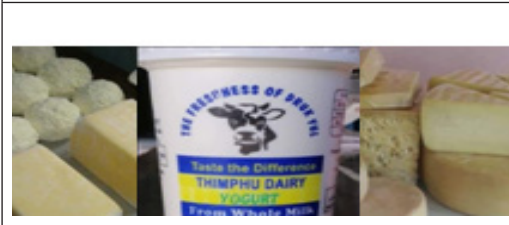


Cont...on from Pg 1



Model characteristics

Model characteristics	1. Collection and Marketing Model	2. Collection, Processing and Marketing Model	3. Supply of raw milk to middle men/dairy entrepreneurs	4. Processed Products Marketing Model
 	Have members and defined By-laws with management committee	Have members and defined By-laws with management committee	Have members and defined By-laws with management committee	Have members not very defined By-laws and management committee

	<p>High yielding exotic animals, kept homestead, good management</p>	<p>High yielding exotic animals, kept homestead, good management</p>	<p>High yielding exotic animals, kept homestead, good management</p>	<p>Low yield mostly local, practice migration</p>
	<p>Members supply raw milk at an agreed FG price to milk collection facilities</p>	<p>Members supply raw milk at an agreed FG price to milk collection facilities</p>	<p>Members supply milk at an agreed FG price to milk collection facilities</p>	<p>Members supply home processed products at an agreed FG price to a designated place</p>
	<p>Collected milk is sold through sale counter / private retailers. All works done by the group &amp;coop</p>	<p>Collected milk is processed in MPU into products and is marketed. All works done by the group &amp;coop</p>	<p>Dairy entrepreneurs transport to dairy plants, process into premium/ local products and are market.</p>	<p>Informal traders collect and market the products.</p>
	<p>Prices are usually</p>	<p>Prices are usually predetermined by the group and coop</p>	<p>Prices are usually</p>	<p>subject to market force</p>
	<p>Products are usually fresh milk</p>	<p>Local products- butter, cheese, yoghurt, etc</p>	<p>Both local and premium product</p>	<p>Only local butter and cheese</p>
<p>Expenses/Profit/Loss/risk</p>	<p>Group and cooperative</p>	<p>Group and cooperative</p>	<p>Dairy entrepreneurs</p>	<p>Private informal traders</p>
<p>Employment generation</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Group saving account</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>



## Agriculture interventions picking-up in the far-flung hamlet

**Kinzang Wangchuk, Former Extension Supervisor of Logchina**



Loggchina is one of the 11<sup>th</sup> gewogs under Chukhha dzongkhag located toward south-west bordering to Samtse Dzongkhag. Despite its close proximity with the buzzing border town of Phuentsholing, not much of tangible development activities could be seen until recent past. However, due to its suitable soil, abundance water source, favourable subtropical agroecological presence, undulating and apt landscape it has potential to agricultural farming and beyond. Currently, the gewog is connected with road networks and kindles a ray of hope for better agricultural marketing and linkages.

In total, there are five chiwogs comprising of 530 households. However, the gewog remains isolated during monsoon due to swollen streams. One needs to wade and risk if one wishes to visit. Perhaps, this could be one of the reasons that impeded development activities in the Gewog as compared to most of the other gewogs. Nonetheless,

people are welcoming, ever hard-working and dedicated to farming. Farming such as agriculture and livestock have been the mainstay for these farmers since time immemorial. Mandarin, ginger and cardamom are some of the main cash crops of the gewog and help achieve their livelihood outcomes.

Pursuant to achieving better livelihood outcomes of the farmers through agriculture intervention, Gewog Agriculture sector/ Dzongkhag Agriculture sector, Chhukha supported with several technologies such as low-cost plastic technology, shade nets, seeds, mulching plastics and fertilizers. During the initial intervention, one of the farmers, Mr. Amith from Amalay village was selected as the focal or the lead farmer.

Currently, Logchina gewog produces approximately 12 tons of chilli harvest each year from the combined summer and winter cultivation. While interviewing

our focal farmer, Mr. Amith says

*“I have generated about 217,000 from the sale of summer chilli and 1, 80,000 from winter sale. I have never thought this would be possible and has helped me support my family. This year, I am planning to expand the cultivation to 6 acres. I thank you for the generous support provided by the Gewog agriculture sector”.*

Meanwhile, Mr. Amith is continuing his chilli cultivation besides functioning as the lead farmer-to-farmer extension in dissemination of new technologies that come their way. Further, he has been proactively involved in various agriculture development programs.

In general, given the huge potential to expand and diversify agriculture production in Logchina, Geog agriculture sector has initiated supplies of horticulture subtropical fruit plants, capacity building programs etc besides timely follow-ups and monitoring by the extension agent.



# Leisure

## BASIL

BASIL, the plant that everyone loves

Sweet Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) is an herbaceous, annual plant up to 50 cm tall and it belongs to the lamiaceae family. It is native to Central Asia and North West India. It has aromatic leaves which are used as a spice or flavoring dishes.

Some of the Health benefits of basil are:

- Sharpens memory
- Combating cold, flu, and the herpes
- Antibacterial properties
- Relieve mucus in asthma
- Anti-stress agent



*Purple Basil is beautiful, highly aromatic with purple leaves and pink flowers*

# JOKES



## A driver driving through desolate country

A man was driving for hours through desolate country when he passed a farmhouse, and before he could react, a cat ran out in front of him and \*splat\* — he flattened the cat. Out of kindness and consideration, he stopped, turned around and drove back to the farmhouse to notify the occupants.

When the housewife came to the door, he said, “Pardon me ma’am, but I just ran over a cat in front of your house, and assumed that it must belong to you. I know this might be hard to hear, but I wanted to let you know instead of just driving off.”

“Not so fast,” she says. “How do you know it was our cat? Could you describe him? What does he look like?”

The man promptly flopped down on the ground, and said, “He looks like this” as he gave his best shot at a dead cat impression.

“Oh no, you horrible man,” she replied. “I meant, what did he look like before you hit him?”

At that, the man got up, covered his eyes with both hands and screamed, “Agggghhhhhhhhh!!!!!!”

*Did you know?*

**Please submit your articles for RNR-Newsletter at**

*communication@moaf.gov.bt*



## The Ministry's week

### News feed on official launch of livestock disease control plan documents



Livestock diseases cause devastating socio-economic losses and serious damage to the livelihoods, food security and nutrition of, especially, the small-scale farmers. With 60% of Bhutanese living in rural areas and depending on agriculture and livestock farming, livestock diseases are a potential threat to

their livelihood. The National Centre for Animal Health and the Animal Health Division under the Department of livestock has developed African Swine Fever Prevention and Control Plan-2021, National Lumpy Skin Disease Prevention and Control Plan 2021 and National Bovine Brucellosis Prevention, Control and Elimination Plan-2022.

### Launch of Bhutan Biosecurity and Food Safety System

Bhutan Biosecurity and Food Safety System, an online database system was launched today by Dasho Thinley Namgyal, Hon'ble Secretary, MoAF. The system was developed with the objective to enhance delivery of food safety and biosecurity services and to enable data capture for evidence-based regulatory decisions.

The system caters to the nineteen services that BAFRA provides

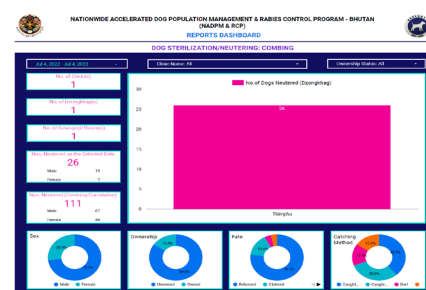


related to; Import inspection and export certification of food/agriculture/livestock commodities, Regulation of domestic food business operators, nurseries, and livestock farms, Food handlers' registration and licensing Feedback and complaint handling, Voluntary Third-Party Certification for food, agricultural and livestock products and Data capture of inspection and monitoring activities.

### NADPM&RCP Daily Progress Dashboard

Nationwide Accelerated Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Program's Daily Progress Dashboard for the Combing Phase: 4 July 2022. The dashboard shows number of dogs neutered in Thimphu Thromde.

Through one clinic a total of 26 numbers were neutered in the Thimphu Throm. It was found that 73.1% were female and 26.9% male of which 84.6 percent were unowned and only 15.4% had ownership. For more details visit [www.moaf.gov.bt](http://www.moaf.gov.bt)



#### Published by:

Policy and Planning Division (PPD)  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests  
Tel. (PABX): 02-323745/323746/323747/323749  
Email: [communication@moaf.gov.bt](mailto:communication@moaf.gov.bt)  
Website: [www.moaf.gov.bt](http://www.moaf.gov.bt)