GRADUATION DAIRY ADVISORS

In September 19 new dairy advisors have graduated for the dairy production training. With a presentation of their final practical assignment, the dairy production advisors graduated for the 2nd round of the DairyBISS training. The training consisted of 6 modules on housing, feed, young stock rearing, health, breeding and farm economics. Both theoretical and practical exercises were part of the training to put advising skills into practice.

In July, 13 dairy business development advisors already received their certificates for their joined training program with AGP-LMD and Ambo University. They learned how to develop and evaluate investment plans for milk production as well as milk processing. This training is a key step to enable business development service providers to be responsive and effective for the new prospect of the sector.

LAUNCH DAIRY ADVISOR NETWORK

DairyBISS, as part of its capacity building program, has been training advisors working in the dairy sector. But DairyBISS also has made the commitment to engage the advisors after the training to build their professionalism and future prospect by creating a platform on which advisors can network, collaborate and create synergy in addition to showing their talent to the dairy sector. Therefore, on September 25, the Ethiopian Dairy Advisors Network (DAN) was launched in Addis Ababa. Advisors in the network will enhance their service level to farmers, which in turn makes it more attractive for farmers to engage them. Ultimately this will enhance the dependability of this new group of service providers.

FRESH COW FEED TRIAL

Feeding management of dairy animals is very important, especially during the critical periods of production. But this proves to be difficult in Ethiopian conditions. Especially fresh cows are not managed and fed optimal, so they do not reach peak milk production. Therefore, DairyBISS conducted, together with Kiros Abebe, a PhD student, a FreshCow feed trial in Debre Zeit at Nardelli Farm with almost 50 lactating cows, by providing supplementary concentrates to cows some days before calving up to 3 months lactation. All dairy cows were fed with roughage (brewery waste, alfalfa, hay, elephant grass, straw) and an own mixture of concentrates (wheat bran, nough cake, corn). The test group was fed with supplementary Dairy Excellent pellet from Alema Koudijs Feed PLC according their lactation stage. The promising results are expected soon!

Also a hay production trial is taking place in Holeta in close collaboration with Holeta TVET. Simple pasture management practices including fertilizer and manure application and right timing during harvest could improve on the quantity and quality of hay. More information can be found in the next newsletter and on our website.

FURTHER READING?

Practice brief: 4 important facts on opportunities in the Ethiopian dairy sector

This is a news update from the Dairy Business Information Service and Support (DairyBISS) project. DairyBISS is a project of Wageningen Livestock Research, the Netherlands, with financial support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Ethiopia. You receive this email because you are in our contact list.