

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROFITABILITY OF RURAL CATTLE AND BUFFALO HERDS

D.P. Athulathmudali* and C. Bogahawatte**

*Natural Resources, Energy & Science Authority of Sri Lanka

**Dept. of Agricultural Economics & Extension, University of Peradeniya.

A comparative analysis of herd profitability was done according to the output type (ie. Milk/Draught/Milk & Draught) for cattle and buffalo herds in the Kurunegala District.

In addition to net herd profit/net herd loss, percentage return on capital and return on family man day were calculated.

The results showed that all types of cattle farmers recorded a net herd loss. In all types of cattle, the daily return per family man day was less than the opportunity cost of family labour in the area.

All types of buffalo herd recorded a net herd profit. The daily return on family man day was above the opportunity cost of the family labour in the dual output and milk buffalo herd. Buffaloes that were reared for milk and draught performed much better than draught or milk herd.

In all cases there was a marked advantage of dual output herd over single output herd. The results indicated the apparent diseconomy of keeping indigenous cattle in the study district.

(This research was supported by NARESA/SAREC research grant SAREC/09/BF-26).