

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

PRODUCTION **AND CONSERVATION OF** **FODDER**

IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES



STATE PLAN 2026-27

PLAN OUTLAY: Rs. 850.00 LAKH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PRODUCTION & CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES

(2404-00-102-77)

PLAN OUTLAY: Rs. 850.00 LAKH

As per the budget outlay 2026-27, Rs 850.00 Lakh has been earmarked for implementation of different scheme components under the scheme **PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES** with H.O.A – 2404-00-102-77. In the budget document 2026-27, Rs 850 lakhs is divided as follows under 4 sub heads

2404-00-102-77-34-OC-03-Other items	-	Rs. 820.40 Lakh
2404-00-102-77-04-01-Tour TA	-	Rs. 14.81 Lakh
2404-00-102-77-05(OE)-04-Other items	-	Rs. 4.93 Lakh
2404-00-102-77-45-POL	-	Rs. 9.860 Lakh

2404-00-102-77	-	Rs. 850.00 Lakh
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In tune with the State Budget Provisions 2026-27 and PLAN WRITE UP approved by GOK, out of the total 14 scheme components of FY 2026-27, 11 scheme components are on-going in nature and 3 scheme components are on-going with modification in unit cost.

ANNUAL STATE PLAN 2026-27 PRODUCTION & CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMER FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES (2404-00-102-77)			
SCHEME COMPONENTS	NO. OF SCHEMES	PLAN OUTLAY (Rs in Lakh)	REMARKS
ONGOING SCHEME COMPONENTS	11	258.65	PLACED FOR DWG APPROVAL
MODIFIED SCHEME COMPONENTS	3	591.35	
GRAND TOTAL	14	850.00	

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: 2026-27
DPR- FODDER DEVELOPMENT

FODDER DEVELOPMENT – SCHEME COMPONENTS WITH OUTLAY

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES : 2026-27						
SI.NO	SCHEME COMPONENTS	2026-27 (REVISED)				
		NO OF UNITS	UNIT COST	UNIT SUBSIDY	TOTAL COST	TOTAL SUBSIDY
			(Rs)	(Rs)	(Lakhs)	(Lakhs)
1	Assistance for cultivation of Hybrid Napier in farm lands					
	20 cents and above	1270	86500	38000	1098.550	482.60
	Below 20 cents	340	19250	19250	65.450	65.45
	Assistance for cultivation of Hybrid Napier in farm lands	1610	105750	57250	1164	548.05
2	Assistance for automation and mechanisation of fodder cultivation activities					
	Irrigation assistance	60	30000	15000	18.000	9.00
	Irrigation assistance - above one acre	30	60000	30000	18.000	9.00
	Mechanisation assistance	80	30000	15000	24.000	12.00
	Assistance for automation and mechanisation of fodder cultivation activities	170			60.000	30.00
3	Assistance for transportation of fodder planting material				4.000	4.00
4	Assistance for comprehensive and massive fodder cultivation in barren and unutilised lands	75	175000	105000	131.250	78.75
5	Fodder Hubs / Fodder Marketing Units through Dairy Co-operatives by JLGs / SHGs / Other registered groups	10	100000	75000	10.000	7.50
6	Assistance for Maize Cultivation	50	47160	15785	23.580	7.89
7	Fodder Seminar / Fodder day celebration at district level and state level	16	Lumpsum		5.000	5.00
8	Dairy Promoter Incentive (@Rs 8000 per month for 10 months) including festival allowance @ Rs 1250 per Dairy Promoter	162	81250	81250	131.630	131.63
9	Assistance to State Fodder Farm, Valiyathura	1	300000	300000	3.000	3.00
10	Formulation of State Fodder Plan	1	200000	200000	2.000	2.00
11	Implementation, Documentation and Monitoring				2.580	2.58
SUB TOTAL FODDER OC - 2404-00-102-77-34-OC-03 OTHER ITEMS					1537.04	820.40
12	2404-00-102-77-04 TE (1) TOUR TA	Lumpsum			14.810	14.81
13	2404-00-102-77-05 OE-4 OTHER ITEMS	Lumpsum			4.930	4.93
14	2404-00-102-77-45-POL	Lumpsum			9.860	9.86
GRAND TOTAL - FODDER - 2404-00-102-77					1566.64	850.00

Savings in any scheme component shall be utilized for meeting the expenditure pertaining to any other scheme component with included in the same Head of Account

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01. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

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02. FODDER PRODUCTION AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

Kerala produces only 60% of the roughages required for cattle in Kerala. One of the main constraints for increasing milk production is the shortage of quality fodder. Marginal and small farmers who are the major cattle owners of the state have limited space for fodder development. Whatever space available, the whole of which is mostly devoted to producing cash crops. Since fodder is not directly yielding any benefit, fodder cultivation takes a back seat. Such dairy farmers anyway need fodder to reduce their cost of production and thus would be eager to purchase fodder if readily available. Cows of Kerala are one of the high yielding animals of India. Lack of fodder and high cost of cattle feed leads to underfeeding of these animals resulting in suboptimal production of milk. Necessary steps need to be taken for improving the fodder availability in the state and ensuring optimal feeding of these animals so that we can increase the productivity of these animals to their optimum potential.

Out of 14 districts seven districts viz., Palakkad, Ernakulam, Kollam, Thrissur, Kannur, Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode have large number of crossbred cattle. Among these 7 districts Palakkad, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Thiruvananthapuram face acute dry matter deficiency of above 600 thousand metric tons. State has a whole present's extremely bleak picture of dry matter deficiency of 74.17 per cent.

It is estimated that fodder cultivation would be required in at least 1 lakh Ha, if Kerala has to meet the roughage production target. Public Sector Undertakings viz, Kerala Feeds Ltd and MILMA, District Cooperative Societies and Joint Liability Groups must be encouraged and supported to initiate and expand fodder production in the State.

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Districts	Indigenous cattle ('000)	Crossbred cattle ('000)	Buffalo ('000)	Goats (number)	Sheep (number)	Dry matter (000 MT) deficit
Palakkad	12.3	153.6	9.2	113031	1157	649
Ernakulam	4.7	102.1	12.8	123538	50	756
Kollam	1.4	100.9	5.8	111342	9	271
Thrissur	2.9	99.9	18.7	128130	94	870
Kannur	1.5	98.3	0.8	56445	3	134
Thiruvananthapuram	0.8	97.7	3.8	163980	31	691
Kozhikode	8.7	96.1	4.3	43962	12	374
Idukki	7.1	82.9	5.7	98503	23	553
Kottayam	0.9	80.8	6.1	94297	9	357
Malappuram	2.6	77.9	19.9	137718	9	259
Alappuzha	0.6	75.3	6.0	55158	0	152
Wayanad	2.4	70.3	5.2	35150	21	000/Nil
Pathanamthitta	0.6	63.8	2.8	51066	18	178
Kasaragod	30.7	52.0	1.3	33757	10	98
Kerala state	77.0	1,251.60	102.3	1246077	1446	74.17%

Source: 19th Livestock Census, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GoI.

As per the data from the Department, the total required fodder for the milch animals in the State is 335.5 lakh kg per day. However, the available fodder cultivation is only 47 per cent of the total required fodder. The State urgently needs a fodder and feed plan for its livestock sector to cover the deficit in fodder production, to reduce the cost of production of milk, to ensure a balanced ration for animals and maintain productivity and animal health.

As on 31.03.2025, there are 6975 fodder plots in the State, of which, 5277 plots are between one acre and 2.5 acres in area. There are 1399 plots with area between 2.5 acres and 5 acres. There are only 310 plots (of area more than five acres. (Economic Review 2025)

The present cost of milk production is mainly driven by the cost of concentrates and external inputs for productivity. The farmer's expenditure on feeding of the productive animal is influenced by the difference of the selling price of milk with the cost of concentrate feed. This compels the farmers to adopt under feeding practices, which lead to malnutrition resulting in a longer inter-calving period and reduction in the production potential of the crossbred animals.

A cost-effective feeding practices for productive crossbred animal can be achieved by decreasing the dependence on external input i e., concentrates and increasing the internal input system through fodder production at farmer's level for nutrient availability & its balancing for optimum productivity by assisting farmers in adopting fodder cultivation in their own lands. This envisages focused attention on the special need to develop feed resources by improving availability of green fodder.

The project is intended to ensure the availability of fodder in farmer's field where the available land is utilized by adopting integrated cropping pattern. The cultivation can be pure crop or inter crop.

In the current scenario, where competing demands on land renders even expansion of food/cash crops a difficult proposition, the probability of increasing area under fodder crops is very difficult. It is therefore imminent to adopt a multi-pronged strategy for adequate availability of fodder in order to provide a buffer to the farmer even in times of climatic variability. This strategy envisages supply of quality seeds, promoting production of fodder crops, extending fodder cultivation to currently fallow and unutilized lands, promotion of dual-purpose varieties of crops that has the potential of meeting fodder requirements in season and off-season, promotion of non-traditional fodder, post-harvest technologies for preservation of fodder etc.

Besides, improving productivity in areas already under fodder cultivation, improving productivity of grazing and pasture lands, raising perennial fodder crops on field bunds and boundaries, peri-urban areas and exploiting unutilized and under-utilized fodder crops are also some of the promising options to enhance fodder availability. Plant Breeders in India have also identified a number of varieties/hybrids, which could give a better quality and higher yield of crop residue without any compromise in grain yield.

Mechanization in the field of fodder development is a need of the hour. Farm mechanization has been helpful to bring about a significant improvement in agricultural productivity. Thus, there is strong need for mechanization of agricultural operations. The factors that justify the strengthening of farm mechanization in the country can be numerous. The timeliness of operations has assumed greater significance in obtaining optimal yields from different crops, which has been possible by way of mechanization. As production increases with mechanization of the farm operations, it creates a good scope for commercialization of fodder cultivation. Normally, there are good chances to reduce the cost of production if farm operations are mechanized as it saves labour, both human and bullock. In the absence of mechanization, the ever-increasing wage rate of human labour and cost of upkeep of draught animals will increase the cost of production much higher. Further, large-scale production means less per unit cost on the farms. Farm machines have not only increased the mechanical advantage, but also helped to reduce drudgery while performing the different agricultural operations. The contributions of agricultural mechanization in various stages of crop production could be viewed as saving in seeds, saving in fertilizers, saving

in time, reduction in labour, increasing in cropping intensity and higher productivity.

The State Planning Board, GOK has already entrusted the Dairy Development Department to submit the proposals for publishing the “State Fodder Policy”. The Department has started the background work for formulation of the same.

During the year 2026-27, as per the Kerala State Budget Provisions, it has been proposed to undertake fodder development activities for Rs 850 lakh in the state. The Department intends to take up Novel Fodder Development Plan and activities in the state. During 2026-27, under the Fodder Development Programme itself it is envisaged to cultivate perennial fodder in 1685 Ha of land.

Following technical assumptions are made as a part of implementation of fodder development programme 2026-27 by Dairy Development Department

Average Weight of Milch Cow	400 Kg
Average Weight of Non Productive Cattle (Dry Cows, Heifer, Calves etc)	250 Kg
Av. Weight of Buffalo	400 Kg
Av. Weight of Goat (8 Goats to be considered as 1 Cow Unit)	40 Kg
% of DM Required - Productive	3 % of Body Weight
% of DM Required - Non Productive	2.5 % of Body Weight
Roughages : Concentrate Ration - Productive Animal	60 : 40
Roughages : Concentrate Ration - Non Productive Animal	80 : 20
Spacing - BN Hybrid	60 cm
No. of slips per cent	110 slips
No. of slips per Ha	27500
Av. Yield of BN Hybrid	175 Metric Tonne Per Ha per Annum
Av. Number of cuts per year	7
Av. DM content of Green Fodder (BN Hybrid)	20%

03. OBJECTIVES OF SCHEME COMPONENTS UNDER THE SCHEME: PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES

- To introduce new scientific low-cost feeding culture among Dairy farmers.
- To uplift the sustainability and reliability in dairying by reducing the feeding cost by 30%
- To ensure existence of fodder sufficient panchayats by optimizing the fodder development activities through Dairy Co-operatives
- Providing irrigation assistance and mechanization of fodder cultivation activities.
- To improve the general health of the milch animal and the quality of milk produced.
- To bring additional 1735 Ha of land under fodder cultivation thereby ensuring the availability of green fodder throughout the season by assisting the farmers by providing planting materials and cultivation assistance.
- To generate employment and income to the producers by sale of fodder.
- To enhance the capacity of farmers for adoption of fodder production technology through field level training and demonstrations.
- To establish DCS based JLG /SHG/ other recognized Groups for fodder production and marketing.
- To encourage Massive/Comprehensive Fodder Cultivation Programme in Barren / Unutilized land in selected zones.
- To encourage the maize cultivation

04. BUDGET PROVISION 2026-27 &

APPROVED PLAN WRITE UP

As per the revised budget outlay 2026-27, Rs 850.00 Lakh has been earmarked for implementation of different scheme components under the scheme **PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES** with H.O.A – 2404-00-102-77. In the budget document 2026-27, Rs 850 lakhs is divided as follows under 4 sub heads

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2404-00-102-77-34-OC-03-Other items	-	Rs. 820.40 Lakh
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2404-00-102-77-45-POL	-	Rs. 9.86 Lakh

Grand Total (2404-00-102-77)	-	Rs. 850.00 Lakh
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ANNUAL STATE PLAN 2026-27 PRODUCTION & CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMER FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES (2404-00-102-77)			
SCHEME COMPONENTS	NO. OF SCHEMES	PLAN OUTLAY (Rs in Lakh)	REMARKS
ONGOING SCHEME COMPONENTS	11	258.65	PLACED FOR DWG APPROVAL
MODIFIED SCHEME COMPONENTS	3	591.35	
GRAND TOTAL	14	850.00	

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DPR- FODDER DEVELOPMENT

05. FODDER DEVELOPMENT 2026-27 – FINANCIAL OUTLAY

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES : 2026-27						
SI.NO	SCHEME COMPONENTS	2026-27 (REVISED)				
		NO OF UNITS	UNIT COST	UNIT SUBSIDY	TOTAL COST	TOTAL SUBSIDY
			(Rs)	(Rs)	(Lakhs)	(Lakhs)
1	Assistance for cultivation of Hybrid Napier in farm lands					
	20 cents and above	1270	86500	38000	1098.550	482.60
	Below 20 cents	340	19250	19250	65.450	65.45
	Assistance for cultivation of Hybrid Napier in farm lands	1610	105750	57250	1164	548.05
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3	Assistance for transportation of fodder planting material				4.000	4.00
4	Assistance for comprehensive and massive fodder cultivation in barren and unutilised lands	75	175000	105000	131.250	78.75
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9	Assistance to State Fodder Farm, Valiyathura	1	300000	300000	3.000	3.00
10	Formulation of State Fodder Plan	1	200000	200000	2.000	2.00
11	Implementation, Documentation and Monitoring				2.580	2.58
SUB TOTAL FODDER OC - 2404-00-102-77-34-OC-03 OTHER ITEMS					1537.04	820.40
12	2404-00-102-77-04 TE (1) TOUR TA	Lumpsum			14.810	14.81
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14	2404-00-102-77-45-POL	Lumpsum			9.860	9.86
GRAND TOTAL - FODDER - 2404-00-102-77					1566.64	850.00

Savings in any scheme component shall be utilized for meeting the expenditure pertaining to any other scheme component with included in the same Head of Account

06. ONLINE SCHEME IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH KSHEERASREE PORTAL

The implementation of selected schemes especially those targeting individual beneficiaries shall be exclusively done online through Ksheerasree Portal (<https://ksheerasree.kerala.gov.in>). The entire processes starting from registration using Aadhaar and online submission of application till the transfer of subsidy in DBT mode to the bank accounts of beneficiaries will be done through the portal. The portal is owned by Department of Dairy Development, developed by NIC and is integrated to e-treasury, ReLIS and e-PDS portals of Treasury department, Revenue department and Civil Supplies department respectively.

The entire workflow and processes can be summarized as follows:

1. Release of calendar of activities from Directorate regarding various stages of scheme implementation starting from application submission dates to release of financial assistance.
2. Submission of online applications along with necessary documents
3. Priority list and waiting list generation based on eligibility and priority criteria as detailed in DPR and allied documents.
4. Field level physical verification by concerned officials
5. Further verification and final approval by concerned officials
6. The Deputy Director level final approval shall be based on the recommendation by concerned Assistant Director
7. The Director level approval for relevant scheme components shall be based on the recommendation from concerned district deputy directors.
8. Online remittance of registration fees by approved beneficiaries through Ksheerasree Portal
9. Physical Implementation of scheme components by approved beneficiaries
10. Online Submission of documents by selected beneficiaries as proof of implementation as detailed in DPR
11. Physical and online verification and approval of scheme implementation by concerned officials
12. Proceedings generation and TR 59 Bill generation through portal by implementing officers
13. e-Submission of bills to treasury through Ksheerasree Portal
14. Online bank transfer of subsidy/financial assistance to beneficiaries via e DBT mode from treasury and status updation of same in the Portal
15. Report generation

- The selection and ranking of applicants are made based on the eligibility criteria and priority criteria earmarked against each scheme component as given below. To attract youngsters towards dairy sector, weightage should be given for lower age group for all schemes processed through Ksheerasree Portal in case of a tie during selection process. The timelines shall be strictly adhered to. Officers authorized for verification and final approval shall be notified separately.
- In case of priority criteria, point system based on due weightage for the various priority criteria shall be followed
- The approved beneficiaries shall remit prescribed registration fees for respective scheme, preferably within one week from the date of beneficiary approval and the implementing officer reserves the right and power to reject any approved beneficiary if he or she fails to remit the registration fees within the prescribed time limit. This is to ensure smooth implementation of project and to keep the timelines of the project
- From among the applications submitted by the applicant, after verification by concerned officials, if an application is approved by the concerned authority and is selected as beneficiary for that particular scheme component during the financial year, then it will be considered as final for all schemes. The selected beneficiary will be entitled to implement that particular scheme component only and is liable to complete its implementation and submit all required documents within prescribed time limit for availing subsidy.
- The selected beneficiaries of schemes (as specified in the approved guidelines) shall submit an agreement (in the model prescribed by the Dairy Development Department) in Kerala Stamp Paper worth the amount as published by GOK (Rs 200/-)
- An individual who has received financial assistance under the HOA 2404-00-102-77) during the previous year will be eligible for placing application in any scheme during the FY 2026-27
- During the financial year 2026-27, an individual farmer will be eligible for receiving plan assistance for one scheme component covered under 2404-00-102-77 and one another scheme components covered under other plan head of accounts

07. SCHEME PROPER

07.01 ASSISTANCE FOR CULTIVATION OF BN HYBRID IN FARM LANDS

07.01.01. ASSISTANCE FOR CULTIVATION OF BN HYBRID IN FARM LANDS – 20 CENTS & ABOVE

Plan Outlay – 482.60 Lakh

The Scheme envisages assisting cultivation of perennial fodder in a total area of **1610 Ha** of land providing planting material free of cost and assistance for cultivation to farmers. The beneficiaries will have to apply for the scheme through Ksheerasree Portal. Necessary awareness in the proposed programme will be given through Dairy Extension Service Unit, Dairy Co-operative Societies, Local Self Government Institutions, All India Radio, Farm Information Bureau and local dailies. The farmers rearing animals and willing to spare land or arrange land on lease for fodder production will be selected for the programme. The minimum area of cultivation for which assistance given will be limited to 20 cents and multiple of 10 cents. Selection of beneficiaries will be exclusively through **Ksheerasree Portal (Refer Para 06)**.

Spacing - BN Hybrid	60 cm
No. of slips per cent	110 slips
No. of slips per Ha	27500
Av. Yield of BN Hybrid	175 Metric Tonne Per Ha per Annum
Av. Number of cuts per year	7
Av. DM content of Green Fodder (BN Hybrid)	20%

The eligibility and priority criteria is as detailed below

Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
• The applicant shall be an Indian citizen • Shall be a resident of Kerala possessing valid Kerala state ration card • Should have attained 18 years of age • Owned land or leased land of min 20 cents	• More available cultivable land either self-owned or on lease to the extend of more than 30 cents • Progressive dairy farmers rearing 5 or more milch animals (cows & buffaloes) • Presently pouring milk to DCS • Women applicants • SC/ST applicants • Young applicant below 40 years • Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years

There will be no upper limitation of area for availing assistance and the beneficiaries will be eligible for assistance by covering at least an area of 20 cents. The Deputy Director shall be the sanctioning authority. The registration fees will be remitted by the farmer online through Ksheerasree portal after the approval by concerned authority.

The cultivation will be done by using stem cuttings/rooted slips of BN Hybrid (CO-3 / CO-4 / CO-5/ Super Napier) which will be made available to the farmers free of cost. The distribution of slips and seeds to those who have already remitted the reg. fees through portal will be ensured by the Deputy Director of the concerned districts from the Government farms, approved fodder nurseries maintained by the Dairy Co-operative Societies/ NGO's /Individuals approved by the Director based on recommendation of the Deputy Director.

In order to get maximum growth and production, the requirement of stem cuttings per hectare of land is estimated as 27,500. The subsidy given to the beneficiaries for cultivation of fodder under the scheme will be Rs. 18,750/ Hectare of land in addition to the root slips supplied free of cost. Value of root

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slips supplied /hectare of land is estimated to be Rs. 19,250/-. Therefore, the total subsidy for cultivating fodder in one hectare of land comes to Rs 38,000/- per hectare.

Unit Cost (for 1 Ha fodder cultivation)

SI.NO	PARTICULARS	UNIT RATE	RATE PER UNIT	TOTAL COST (RS)
1	Cost of slips (27,500 slips/Ha) 27,500 slips X 70 Ps/slips	27500	0.7	19250
2	Land preparation - 25 man days X Rs. 600 /man day	25	650	16250
3	Basal Manuring			17500
4	Planting - 25 man days X Rs. 600 /man day	25	650	16250
5	Weeding/irrigation - 10 man days X Rs. 600 /man day	10	650	6500
6	Top dressing			8000
7	Miscellaneous Expenses			2750
Total Cost per Ha				86500
Subsidy @ Rs 38,000/ Ha				
(Cultivation assistance @ Rs 75/- cent & slip cost @ Rs 0.70 / slip);				
Slips are distributed free of cost.				

Financial Outlay

Area (in Ha)	Subsidy per Ha (Rs.)	Total Plan Assistance (Rs. in Lakhs)
1270	38000	482.60

Registration Fees – Rs 180/- per beneficiary

07.01.02 ASSISTANCE FOR HYBRID NAPIER CULTIVATION IN AN AREA – BELOW 20 CENTS

Plan Assistance – Rs 65.45 Lakh

The Scheme envisages assisting cultivation of perennial fodder in a total of 340 hectares of land providing planting material free of cost by the Dairy Development Department. There will be ***no registration fees*** for non-subsidy plots. Application for assistance under the scheme will be invited from the dairy farmers for cultivation of fodder in suitable land with perennial irrigation source by the Dairy Extension Officer concerned. Necessary advertisement will be given through Dairy Extension Service Unit, Dairy Co-operative Societies, and Local self-government institutions, All India Radio, Farm Information Bureau and local dailies.

For non-subsidy plots the cultivation will be done by using seeds of guinea / Congo signal / stem cuttings/rooted slips of BN Hybrid. The distribution of slips / seeds to the selected beneficiaries will be ensured by the Deputy Director of the concerned districts from the Government farms, approved fodder nurseries maintained by the Dairy Co-operative Societies/ NGO's / Individuals approved by the Director based on recommendation of the Deputy Director. Planting materials –Slips/ Seeds which will be supplied free of cost to farmers.

Financial Outlay

Area (in Ha)	Subsidy per Ha (Rs.)	Total Plan Assistance (Rs. in Lakhs)
340	19250	65.45

(No registration fees)

07.02 ASSISTANCE FOR AUTOMATION & MECHANIZATION OF FODDER CULTIVATION ACTIVITIES –

Plan Outlay- Rs. 30.00 Lakh

07.02.01 IRRIGATION ASSISTANCE

Plan Outlay- Rs. 9.00 Lakhs

This Scheme envisages providing irrigation assistance for existing fodder plots having source of irrigation. Pump sets, storage tanks, connecting hose, sprinkler system, drip system etc. can be established under this scheme. Assistance may be given for rainwater harvesting purpose also. The Scheme is for those beneficiaries having fodder plots with more than 50 cents area.



Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
• The applicant shall be an Indian citizen • Shall be a resident of Kerala possessing valid ration card • Should have attained 18 years of age • Presently engaged in fodder cultivation • Owned land or leased land of min 50 cents • Estimate value should be equal to or more than Rs. 30,000	• More area under cultivation to the extent of above 60 cents • Presently pouring milk to DCS • Progressive dairy farmers rearing 5 or more milch animals (cows and buffaloes) • Women applicants • SC/ST applicants • Young applicant below 40 years • Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years



The subsidy permissible to beneficiary is 50% of unit cost approved and the unit subsidy shall be Rs 15,000/- per beneficiary

A beneficiary who has availed financial assistance (fodder cultivation above 20 cents) for fodder cultivation during the previous year can also apply for this scheme component during the FY 2026-27

Registration Fees – Rs 180 / beneficiary

07.02.01.01 Financial Outlay

SCHEME COMPONENTS	2026-27 (REVISED)				
	NO OF UNITS	UNIT COST	UNIT SUBSIDY	TOTAL COST	TOTAL SUBSIDY
		(Rs)	(Rs)	(Lakhs)	(Lakhs)
Assistance for automation and mechanisation of fodder cultivation activities					
Irrigation assistance	60	30000	15000	18.000	9.00

07.02.02 IRRIGATION ASSISTANCE OF FODDER PLOTS – ONE ACRE AND ABOVE Plan Outlay – Rs. 9.00 lakh

This Scheme component envisages providing irrigation assistance for existing fodder plots having source of irrigation. Pump sets, storage tanks, connecting hose, sprinkler system, drip system etc. can be established under this scheme. Assistance may be given for rain water harvesting purpose also. Beneficiaries shall be elite and Progressive farmers/JLG/SHG/NGOs/FPOs / Other Institutions who cultivate fodder for more than 1 acre.

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Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
- The applicant shall be an Indian citizen - Shall be a resident of Kerala possessing valid ration card - Should have attained 18 years of age - Presently engaged in fodder cultivation - Owned land or leased land of 100 cents (minimum) - Estimate value should be equal to or more than Rs. 60,000 - Registration Certificate – for application from groups (minimum four members in one group) (DCS/SHG/JLG/FPOs/NGOs/other registered organizations.	- More area under cultivation to the extend of above 110 cents - Presently pouring milk to DCS - Progressive dairy farmers rearing 5 or more milch animals (cows and buffaloes) - Women applicants - SC/ST applicants - Young applicant below 40 years - Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years

Mode of selection – Through online Ksheerasree Portal (ref Para 06)

The subsidy permissible to beneficiary is 50% of unit cost approved and the unit subsidy shall be Rs 30,000/- per beneficiary.

A beneficiary who has availed financial assistance (fodder cultivation above 50 cents) for fodder cultivation during the previous year can also apply for this scheme component during the FY 2026-27

FINANCIAL OUTLAY - IRRIGATION ASSISTANCE						
TOTAL UNITS	UNIT COST			COST FOR TOTAL UNITS		
	TOTAL	SUBSIDY	BENEF. CONT	TOTAL COST	SUBSIDY	BEN. CONTR
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs in Lakh	Rs in Lakh	Rs in Lakh
30	60,000	30,000	30,000	18.00	9.00	9.00

Applications and selection will be done through KSHEERASREE PORTAL. The beneficiary shall execute an agreement in stamp paper (valued as per existing government norms) that the assisted plot and implements purchased shall be maintained in good condition for a minimum period of 3 years.

Registration Fees – Rs 180 / beneficiary

07.02.03 MECHANIZATION & MODERNIZATION OF FODDER CULTIVATION

Plan outlay – ₹ 12.00 Lakh

The economic viability of a dairy unit largely depends on the availability of fodder grass. Better resource management and farm mechanization have led to an increase in the fodder yield, despite the challenges posed by adverse climate, soil and water salinity. Mechanization will encourage dairy farmers to take up fodder production on commercial basis.

It includes providing machineries like tillers, harvester, chaff cutter, agricultural implements etc. This will help in reducing the labour cost and thereby make fodder cultivation economically viable occupation to those having sufficient land. Use of chaff cutters will prevent wastage of fodder, improve its intake, and thus help in easy assimilation of the nutrients.

Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
• The applicant shall be an Indian citizen • Shall be a resident of Kerala possessing valid ration card • Should have attained 18 years of age • Presently engaged in fodder cultivation • Estimate value should be equal to or more than Rs. 30,000 • Registration Certificate – for application from groups (minimum four members in one group) (DCS/SHG/JLG/FPOs/NGOs/other registered organizations.	• More area under cultivation / intended for cultivation to the extend of 30 cents • Presently pouring milk to DCS • Dairy farmers having 2 or more milch animals • In case of groups: all members rearing cattle and pouring milk to DCS • Women applicants • SC/ST applicants • Young applicant below 40 years • Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years

The project envisages providing financial assistance for the purchase of machinery based on the requirement of the beneficiary.

The subsidy permissible to beneficiary is 50% of unit cost approved and the unit subsidy shall be Rs 15,000/- per beneficiary.

A beneficiary who has availed financial assistance (fodder cultivation above 20 cents) for fodder cultivation during the previous year can also apply for this scheme component during the FY 2026-27

Registration Fees – Rs 180 per beneficiary



FINANCIAL OUTLAY - MODERNIZATION & MECHANIZATION OF FODDER CULTIVATION						
TOTAL UNITS	UNIT COST			COST FOR TOTAL UNITS		
	TOTAL	SUBSIDY	BENEF. CONTR	TOTAL COST	SUBSIDY	BEN. CONTR
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs in Lakh	Rs in Lakh	Rs in Lakh
80	30,000	15,000	15,000	24.00	12.00	12.00

07.03 ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF FODDER PLANTING MATERIALS

Plan Outlay – Rs. 4.00 Lakhs

An amount of Rs. **4.00 Lakh** has been kept apart to meet the transportation cost of fodder, planting materials and seeds within the district/ inter-district.

07.04 COMPREHENSIVE & MASSIVE FODDER CULTIVATION IN BARREN & UNUTILIZED LANDS

Plan Outlay – ₹ 73.50 lakh

07.04.01 Fodder Requirement and Availability

Total female cattle population in Kerala is 14 lakhs. The annual Dry Matter requirement for maintaining our herd is about 84 lakh kg per day. The Dry Matter Requirement is estimated to be 84 lakh kg per day of which 56 lakh kg per day has to be met from roughages. Considering an average DM content of 20 percent in fodder, the green fodder requirement per day is 0.28 lakh tonne per day or 102.2 LMT per year. Kerala is only 47 % self-sufficient as far as green fodder availability is concerned

The feed resources available from existing agricultural practices meet roughly 40% of the dairy industry requirement of green and dry fodder. With increased crossbreeding, the physical stature of dairy animals has improved considerably and their body weight now is in the range of 325-350 kg as against earlier body weight of around 150 kg. As a result, the demand for feed and fodder has further increased. Below table indicates dry matter availability and deficit in Kerala, which experiences dry matter deficiency to the tune of 74.17%.

Particular	Requirement	Availability	Deficit	Percent
Dry matter	71.89 m tonnes	18.57 m tonnes	53.32 m tonnes	74.17%

On account of the above the area to be made available under fodder cultivation is around One Lakh Ha (Hybrid Napier) whereas the availability is only around 47 %.

07.04.02 Need for a pioneering fodder plan for the state.

The profitability of dairy farmers is deeply hindered by the high production cost. A limiting factor in this regard is high dependence on concentrate / compound feed due to non-availability of adequate fodder especially green grass. The farmers of Kerala are mainly marginal in nature. The limitation in land availability, availability of high yielding varieties of fodder, resistance of farmers to take up fodder development activities, inadequate mechanization activities, inadequate fodder marketing facilities, lack of proper facilities for fodder processing activities are some factors to be redressed for establishing a new fodder development culture in the state.

The fodder availability in the state is sufficient enough to meet on an average 30 % of the requirement. To narrow the gap, innovative and novel approaches have to be introduced. As a part of the same, intensive fodder cultivation activities must be taken up by the department. Fodder cultivation has to be taken up in available barren lands that too in an intensive and aggressive manner. The project implemented during the year 2017-18 to 2025-26 for undertaking comprehensive fodder development in barren land was a huge success.

07.04.03 Objectives of the Scheme

The scheme is aimed at

- 🌱 Undertaking intensive fodder cultivation programme in selected zone of the state where barren / unutilized land is available for fodder cultivation.
- 🌱 Ensuring fodder cultivation in **75 Ha** of barren land available in the selected areas by integrating and ensuring the participation of Department, LSGD, Dairy Co-operative Societies, PSU's, progressive farmers etc.
- 🌱 Ensuring **13,500 MT** of additional green fodder per annum.
- 🌱 Developing sustainable and model fodder development programme in selected areas. Integration of mechanization activities to be ensured
- 🌱 Narrowing the gap between fodder requirement and availability of the state
- 🌱 Developing sustainable, effective and profitable fodder cultivation models so as to encourage individuals, JLG, SHG, registered FPOs, Govt agencies to take up fodder development activities
- 🌱 Utilizing cultivable forest lands for fodder cultivation

07.04.04 Scheme Proper

It is proposed that the comprehensive and massive fodder production scheme be implemented in selected areas of the state. The selected beneficiary (individuals /JLG /SHG groups / DCS / NGO / Charitable organizations etc.) will have to establish fodder cultivation in minimum 1 hectare of barren/unutilized cultivable land under its geographical premises. Minimum unit plot size shall be 1 acre. There will not be any upper limit for unit plot size or number of units permissible for a particular beneficiary including individual / organization / institution.

Registration Fees – Rs 180 per beneficiary

The implementation of the scheme involves the following stages

- 1. Ensuring state wide publicity for the project**
- 2. Preliminary awareness programme for Farmers**
- 3. Inviting applications through *KSHEERASREE PORTAL***
- 4. Selection of beneficiary through *KSHEERSREE PORTAL***

The beneficiary applicant can apply for barren land through Ksheerasree Portal. The DFI / DEO will verify the application after proper inspection. The Deputy Director shall be the authority responsible for final selection of beneficiaries in a

particular district through the portal. The district selection shall be based on the target allotted by the Directorate.

The procedure for beneficiary selection and further processing is as detailed in Para 06 of this document.

The following criteria shall be adhered to while ranking / selecting the beneficiary.

- *Availability of barren cultivable land in the selected area / Zone*
- *Priority of ownership of barren land in the order of Govt owned, PSU Owned, LSGD owned, Charitable organizations, progressive farmers, other individuals etc*
- *Availability of land on lease.*
- *Source and availability of water and electricity for irrigation purpose*
- *Availability and concurrence of a potential DCS coming under the DESU which is willing to take up the project.*

The present status of available fodder shall not be criteria for selection of beneficiary rather the potential of the area and the gap in fodder and the possibilities to make use of the available barren land will be the criteria.

- 5. Training programme for the representatives of selected beneficiaries:** Training for selected beneficiaries shall be carried out at district level. Training shall be arranged with technical support from Dairy Training Centre of the Department
- 6. Land preparation and other preliminary activities pertaining to selected beneficiary / beneficiary Institution / Organization.**
Mechanized land preparation activities shall be followed (like use of Renovators, Ploughing machineries, weeding techniques etc.)
- 7. Mechanized Fodder Cultivation activities**
- 8. Harvesting of fodder**
- 9. Marketing of fodder (with linkage to DCS to the maximum extent possible)**
- 10. Release of financial assistance to the beneficiary**
- 11. Monitoring of the scheme**
- 12. State wide documentation**

- No. of cutting expected per year - 7
- Transportation Charges (Lump sum) - Rs 20,000 per Ha
- Provisions for Cost Of Implements - Rs 20,000 (Lump sum)
- Weighing Machine and Other Unforeseen Expenditure
- Selling price of fodder - Rs 3.0 per Kg

Note:

If DCS is linked to this scheme, then the DCS can engage supervisory staff for the overall monitoring and implementation of the project (No plan fund will be provided for this). The Project may be loan linked to the maximum extend possible. DCS can avail eligible loan from banks

Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
• The applicant shall be an Indian citizen • Shall be a resident of Kerala possessing valid ration card • Should have attained 18 years of age • Min area – 1 Ha • Min unit plot size shall be 1 acre • Maximum no. of plots – 2 No.s • Registration Certificate – for application from groups (minimum four members in one group) (DCS/SHG/JLG/FPOs/NGOs /other registered organizations)	• Availability of more barren / unutilized land for commercial / massive fodder cultivation – either own land or leased land to an extend of 300 cents • Ownership of land in the order of Govt owned / PSU owned / LSGD owned / Charitable owned / Progressive Farmers / Other individuals etc • Availability of water and electricity for irrigation purpose • Availability of a DCS willing for linkages • Applicants who are already trained in Department DTC / Other Government Institutions • In case of groups: all members rearing cattle and pouring milk to DCS • In case of individual – rearing 5 or more milch animals (cows or

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	buffaloes) • Women applicants • SC/ST applicants • Young applicant below 40 years • Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years
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07.04.06 FINANCIAL OUTLAY

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT MASSIVE FODDER CULTIVATION IN BARREN AND UNUTILIZED LAND FINANCIAL OUTLAY- BAJRA NAPIER HYBRID - PER HECTARE			
SL NO	Particulars	Expenditure For 1 HA	Remarks For 1 HA
1	RENT FOR LEASE LAND(OPTIONAL)	9000	Lease charge per annum
2	LAND PREPARATION CHARGES (PRILIMINARY PLOUGHING BY CULTIVATOR +PLOUGHING BY ROTOVATOR + AND PICKING/CLEARING OF LAND / INTERWEEDING)	13200	Cultivator Ploughing - Rs:6000 Rotovator Ploughing - 2 times for 1 acre @Rs 800/hr (1 hr for 1 acre)= 800/100*250*2=Rs :4000 Clearing Land - 4 mandays per HA @ Rs:800/mandays
3	COST OF SLIP	19250	27500 Slips per HA @ 70 ps per 2 noddeds slips
4	FERTILIZER APPLICATION (BASAL DOSE MANURING + MANURING AFTER EACH HARVESTING +TOP DRESSING)	15000	
5	LABOUR CHARGES PLANTING COST + HARVESTING CHARGES)	44800	8 mandays for planting & harvesting @Rs . 800 per mandays and 7 cutting
6	TRANSPORTATION CHARGES	21000	Lumpsum
7	IRRIGATION CHARGES (INCLUDING ELECTRICITY CHARGES)- CAPITAL + SPRINGLER AND ACCESSORIES + PIPE FITTINGS AND ACCESSORIES	33000	Including Electricity charges and installation charges -LS
8	OTHER UNFORESEEN EXPENSES	19750	
GRAND TOTAL		175000	

Savings in any component can be utilized for meeting the expenditure pertaining to any other sub component listed above.

SUBSIDY – Rs 1,05,000 per Ha or 60 % of the total cost which ever is lower

- Note: 1. If the scheme is implemented in own land, the provision for rent can be avoided. The cost structure and subsidy need to be revised accordingly.**
- 2. In case if rent is not included in the total cost, then the subsidy shall be Rs 1,00,000/-**

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT	
COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME FOR MASSIVE FODDER PRODUCTION IN SELECTED PANCHAYATS	
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS	
PARTICULARS	Rs (Per Ha)
<i>Expenditure</i>	
LSGD CONTRIBUTION-MNREGS	0
DEPT SUBSIDY	1,05,000
BEN. CONTRIBUTION	70,000
GRAND TOTAL COST (1)	1,75,000
<i>Revenue</i>	
YIELD PER HECTRE - 180 TONNES PER ANNUM (@Rs 3.0 per KG) (2)	5,40,000
ESTIMATED PROFIT (2) - (1)	3,65,000

07.04.07 FINANCIAL ABSTRACT

YEAR	UNIT COST (PER HA) (in Lakhs)			TOTAL COST - FOR 70 Ha (in Lakhs)		
	COST PER HA.	BENIFICARY CONTRIBUTION	PLAN ASSISTANCE	TOTAL COST	DCS/BENIFICARY CONTRIBUTION	PLAN ASSISTANCE
2026-27	1.75	0.70	1.05	122.50	49.00	73.50

07.05 SCHEME FOR FODDER CULTIVATION & MARKETING BY SHG / DCS / JLG / FPOs & OTHER REGISTERED GROUPS

Plan Outlay – Rs. 7.50 Lakh

07.05.01 Introduction

The non-availability of land for fodder cultivation discourages many farmers from taking up dairying. If fodder is made available at cost on, a regular basis many of these farmers will take up Dairying or increase the number of animals reared which would boost up the milk production of the state. There are many SHGs / DCS / JLGs/ FPOs / OTHER REGISTERED GROUPS within the area of operation of a Dairy Cooperative who is willing to cultivate, collect and market fodder to the needy farmers at a cost. These SHG / DCS / JLGs / FPOs / OTHER REGISTERED GROUPS can be assisted to cultivate fodder in their own or leased land and also collect the natural grass and other crop residues available in the locality, chaff it and pack in gunny bags and bring it to the DCS where the needy farmers can purchase it.

07.05.02 The scheme

The scheme envisages assisting the SHG / DCS / JLG / OTHER REGISTERED GROUPS under the supervision of the Dairy Co-operative to take up fodder cultivation and marketing to the needy farmers. Groups as prescribed by Dairy Department can be followed. The group members may take up fodder cultivation in their own land or in leased land. The minimum area to be cultivated should be one acre.

They may also collect locally available natural grass or other crop residues like plantain leaves and stem, coconut leaves after removing the spine and other stem and leaves (tapioca, pineapple etc.) which can be chaffed and mixed with the cultivated grass. A chaff cutter will also be provided to them. A shed to store the collected and chaffed fodder and a platform balance to weigh the fodder will also be provided. The chaffed fodder will be packed in gunny bags and carried to the DCS where dairy farmers come twice daily to pour milk. Those farmers who are in need of the fodder can purchase the fodder at a cost decided by the SHG / DCS / JLG / OTHER REGISTERED GROUPS based on the demand in the area.

Assistance for One Group (One Acre of Land)

Sl. No	Particulars	Cost	subsidy
1	Cost of cultivation of fodder in One acre of land	20,000	15,000
2	Chaff cutter , and electrical accessories	20,000	15,000
3	Shed for storing Equipment's, tools ,implements and fodder	20,000	15,000
4	Weighing balance (platform type)	20,000	15,000
5	Tools and implements for cultivation , harvesting , gunny bags for packing chaffed fodder etc.	20,000	15,000
	TOTAL	1,00,000	75,000

Savings in any component can be utilized for meeting the expenditure pertaining to any other sub component listed above.

Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
• Registration Certificate – for application from groups (minimum four members in one group) (DCS/SHG/JLG/FPOs /NGOs/other registered organizations • Availability of own land or leased land for fodder cultivation • Min area – 1 acre • Availability of DCS ready for taking up marketing of fodder • All members in group should have attained 18 years of age	• Group members who are already trained in Department DTC / Other Government Institutions • Availability of land already under cultivation – by applicant groups – above 110 cents • Availability of water and electricity for irrigation purpose • All group members rearing cattle (inclusive of milch animal and heifers) and pouring milk to DCS • women groups • SC/ST groups • All members in the group with age below 40 years • Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years

The estimated cost for establishing one unit is **Rs. 1,00,000/-** for which **Rs. 75,000/-** will be provided as subsidy for the year 2026-27. The remaining amount must be channelized by the beneficiary group through own fund or bank loan. It is estimated that the group will be able to sell about 150 to 200 tons of fodder a year at an estimated cost of Rs. 3/Kg.

Registration Fees – Rs 180 per beneficiary

FINANCIAL OUTLAY - FODDER CULTIVATION AND MARKETING BY SHG/DCS/JLG						
TOTAL UNITS	UNIT COST			COST FOR TOTAL UNITS		
	TOTAL	SUBSIDY	BENEF. CONT	TOTAL COST	SUBSIDY	BEN. CONTR
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs in Lakh	Rs in Lakh	Rs in Lakh
10	1,00,000	75,000	25,000	10	7.5	2.5

07.06 SCHEME FOR MAIZE CULTIVATION FOR GRAIN PRODUCTION

Plan Outlay – Rs 7.89 lakhs

07.06.01 Introduction

Maize is one of the important coarse cereal crops grown in different agro-climatic conditions. It is being used for manufacturing lot of industrial products. In addition it is used as an important feed and fodder for animals. Maize is rich source of starch, proteins, fat and minerals. Maize is a major component of cattle feed mixture providing the much needed carbohydrate in the animal ration. At present the feed companies like Kerala Feeds, Milma feeds and feed factories run by Dairy co-operatives are procuring Maize from Northern States incurring heavy expenditure. Quite often they face difficulties in procuring Maize due to seasonal fluctuation and non-availability. If Maize is cultivated in the state on a large scale the seeds can be made available to Kerala Feeds/Milma feeds/Dairy co-operatives on a buy back arrangement and the Stover (crop residue) can be fed to cattle as dry roughage.

07.06.02 The Scheme

The scheme envisages cultivating Maize as a pure crop by selected farmers who have sufficient land / are willing to cultivate in leased land. The minimum cultivation area is 30 cents and multiples of ten. The scheme will

be implemented in those districts which have proximity to the Feed factories and have the suitable Agro-climatic conditions favouring maize cultivation.

The beneficiary selection may be done at the district level. Priority should be given to the land near the Feed Factories. Application for the scheme will be invited through **KSHEERASREE PORTAL (Refer Para 6 of this document)**

On receipt of application through portal, the implementing officer and subordinates should inspect the plot and will verify. The sanctioning authority will be the district officer. In case of the excess production of maize, the selected beneficiary will sign an agreement that they will give the maize seed produced to the Feed factories on the rate fixed by the Board of Feed factories. In the event of the price of Maize grains provided by Feed factories is lower or Feed factories are not in a position to collect the Maize grains, the farmer will be free to sell it as directed by the Dairy Development Department . Since Maize is not commonly cultivated for grain purpose in Kerala, the selected beneficiaries will be given training on package of practices of Maize crop for grain production. Also, the implementing officers will be given a chance to visit the fodder farms in other states, mainly Maize grown for grain purposes.

Eligibility Criteria	Priority Criteria
• The applicant shall be an Indian citizen • Shall be a resident of Kerala possessing valid ration card • Should have attained 18 years of age • Registration Certificate – for application from groups (minimum four members in one group) (DCS/SHG/JLG/FPOs/NGOs/other registered organizations) • Availability of min area of 30 cents of own land or leased land for maize cultivation	• More available cultivable land either owned or on leased to the extend of 40 cents • Presently pouring milk to DCS • Individual applicant already trained in DTC • At least 50% of group members already trained in Department DTC / Other Government Institutions • Availability of water and electricity for irrigation purpose • In case of groups: all members rearing cattle and pouring milk to DCS • In case of individuals – rearing 2 or more milch animals (cows or buffaloes) • Women applicants

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	• SC/ST applicants • Young applicant below 40 years • Individual applicants who have not received financial assistance under plan scheme of Dairy Development Department other than that covered under HOA 2404-00-102-77 for last 3 years
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07.06.03 Financial outlay

Component	Area Ha	Unit Seed rate Kg	Seed Cost per Kg Rs./Kg	Total Plan Outlay Rs.
Maize Seed	50	40	79	1,58,000.00
Assistance to farmer per Ha @ Rs.12625/Ha	50			6,31,250.00
Grand Total				7,89,250.00

To get the maximum yield of maize, farmers will be given seeds by the Department from the certified agencies. To get maximum growth and production, the requirement of seed per hectare of land is estimated as 40 Kg. The assistance given to the beneficiaries for cultivation of Maize in one Ha of land will be Rs.12625 in addition to the seeds supplied free of cost. Value of seeds supplied /hectare of land is estimated to be Rs. 3160/- (40 Kg x Rs.79 /Kg of seed, the rate per kg seeds may change).

Therefore the total assistance for cultivating Maize in one hectare of land comes to Rs 15,785/-.

SI.NO	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT	SUBSIDY
			(Rs)
1	Cost of seeds (@40 Kg /Ha) X Rs.79/Kg)	3160	3,160

2	Cultivation expenses such as Land preparation, basal Manuring, fertilizers, planting, weeding pest control, irrigation, pesticides, top dressing, harvesting, rent for crusher, cost for drying the seed etc. Plus Implementation Charges	44,000	12,625
Total Assistance per Ha		47,160.00	15,785.00

The average yield per Ha of Maize is 2.3 tons of grains. In Kerala condition the yield may be slightly lesser and we may assume it to be 2 tones/Ha, which will result in 100 tons of seed which can be procured by feed factories. The seeds produced will be procured by Feed factories at a price fixed by the Board of the Feed factories.

The crop residue (Stover) can be sold to other farmers through the Dairy Co-operatives as dry roughage for which there are high demand and will be remunerative for the farmer cultivating maize.

If any savings is available in any component of the schemes, that amount will be utilized for purchase of seasonal fodder.

07.06.04 Monitoring

The District Deputy Director under the guidelines will monitor the implementation

07.06.05 Conclusion

The scheme will help in addressing the shortage of dry matter required for cattle in the State as well as provide some quantity of raw material for feed manufacturing within the state itself.

07.07 FODDER SEMINAR & ‘FODDER DAY’ CELEBRATIONS

Plan Assistance – Rs. 5.00 Lakhs

It is proposed to conduct district level Fodder Seminar in all the 14 districts along with the celebration of ‘Fodder Day’ on a predetermined date involving the farmers, officials of the various departments, dairy co-operatives, representatives of the dairy industry and experts / scientists from universities etc. Discussions on topics of relevance to the current situation in the field of fodder production will be made. Exhibits of relevance

to fodder production will be displayed in the event. Short duration fodder crop seeds like maize, jowar, cowpea, fodder trees etc. will be distributed to farmers on the 'Fodder day' celebration in each district. Best sustaining farmers in fodder cultivation will be honoured during the function. A sum of **Rs. 5.00 Lakh** is provided for the 'Fodder day' celebrations in State level and district level with fodder exhibitions.

07.08 DAIRY PROMOTER INCENTIVE

Plan Outlay – Rs. 131.63 Lakh

To familiarize the cultivation of green fodder, commercial fodder production, cultivation of fodder in cultivable wasteland under irrigated condition, to get maximum yield by doing timely operations, dairy farmers need constant timely interaction and persuasion to establish the crop, in addition to the available amenities. Hence, it is proposed to utilize the service of one matriculate person, in each block on incentive basis, designated as **Dairy Promoters**. This Dairy Promoter should also have computer literacy. The incentives will be paid at a rate of **Rs. 8000/ month**. They will be given 2 days training on fodder development activities, which are required for field, and they shall be engaged for 10 months.

Rs.1250 is included as a festival allowance for these dairy promoters based on the Government Orders issued during the Onam season. This amount may vary according to the Government Order.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Rs. 8000} \times \text{10 months} \times \text{162 blocks} \\ &\quad + \text{Rs.1250 (festival allowance)} \times \text{162 Blocks} \\ &= \text{Rs. 131.63 Lakh} \end{aligned}$$

07.09 ASSISTANCE TO STATE FODDER FARM, VALIYATHURA

Plan Outlay – Rs. 3.00 Lakhs

The State Fodder Farm under Dairy Development Department at Valiyathura, Trivandrum is producing fodder for supply to the dairy farmers in and around the city. The Farm also supplies root slips, stem cuttings for fodder propagation in addition to the sale of fodder. A new fodder-training centre has been established at State Fodder Farm, Valiyathura. The treated water from the sewage treatment plant can be used for irrigating the fodder cultivated in the farm. Necessary infrastructure is to be created for

upgrading the farm as **State Fodder Farm cum Fodder Training Centre**. The existing fodder cultivation is to be sustained for supplying fodder and planting material to farmers. It is proposed to set apart a portion of the outlay to meet the expenditures incidental to the activities of the farm, crop maintenance, fodder/ planting material, to dig a Bore well, purchase PVC storage tank, facilities for irrigation using treated water from Sewage treating plant, de-silting of canals, repairs and maintenance of buildings, fencings, transportation, purchase of farm equipment and small implements, a Hydroponic machine for Demonstration purpose, etc. The fund can be utilized for infrastructure developmental activities of SFF, Valiyathura

Any development activity for the state fodder farm shall be undertaken under this scheme component. In case of components not detailed in this DPR, The Assistant Director / Farm Head shall submit a detailed proposal for final approval from the Director, DDD

Plan Outlay (Lump sum Amount) – Rs 3.00 lakh

07.10 FORMULATION OF STATE FODDER PLAN

Plan Assistance – Rs 2.00 Lakh

07.10.01. Need for Formulation of State Fodder Plan

As per the reports based on a study taken up by KCMMF to analyse the production cost of milk in the state, the average gross cost of production of milk in the state was observed to be Rs. 47.65 per litre. The corresponding net Cost of production was Rs.46.33. The actual Cost of production is far more than the procurement price (Rs.37.76) fixed for raw milk (Fat 4.2% and SNF 8.3%) in the state now. The Milma chart price (DCS to farmers) for milk having 4.2% Fat and 8.3% SNF is Rs 37.76, whereas the average net Cost of production is Rs 46.33. This means that the farmers in the sample households are sustaining a loss of Rs 8.57 per litre for the milk supplied in the village dairy cooperatives. It is recommended that a 5% profit margin over and above the net Cost may be ensured to attract more farmers to the APCOS network in Kerala. As per the study, the net cost of production per litre among the subsistence farms (less than 4 cows) comes to Rs. 49.05/-, the medium-sized farms with 4 – 10 cows could produce milk at Rs. 49.33/-, and large-sized farms with more than 10 cows produce milk at the Cost of Rs. 46.68/-.

The high cost of milk production is adversely affecting the dairy sector of the state. This elevated cost factor in production is mainly attributed to the high dependence on compounded cattle feed. At present the compounded cattle feed

is costing around Rs 1450 per bag of 50 kg. As per the present study by KVASU, the cost of milk is approximately around Rs 47.65 per litre of milk produced by a subsistence farmer. The high cost of production and thereby reduced profitability is adversely affecting the dairying activity of the state. More and more farmers are moving away from the sector and young entrepreneurs are getting reluctant to enter to the dairying sector.

Fodder development activities of the state need to be scientifically backed by a State Fodder Plan drafted based on the present scenario, availability of fodder, fodder requirements, gaps, cultivation pattern, distribution pattern etc.

The Kerala State Planning Board has already entrusted the Dairy Development Department to formulate and submit the Kerala State Fodder Policy. For the formulation of this State Fodder Plan, four committees have been established as per G.O. (Rt) No.123/2023/DD dated 12.12.2023 and G.O. (Rt) No.11/2024/DD dated 20.01.2024. These committees include the Drafting Committee, Advisory Committee for the Drafting Committee, Vetting Committee, and High-Power Approval Committee.

07.10.02. Comprehensive Survey

As a part of formulation of State Fodder Plan, the present fodder availability of the state needs to be assessed (block wise / district wise/AEU level and Dairy Zone level) by way of a survey. The type of fodder presently cultivated and the area covered for fodder cultivation related to specific fodder varieties need to be analysed.

The formulation of State Fodder Plan by the Dairy Development Department will be with the support of State Planning Board - GOK, Department of Economics & Statistics, Animal Husbandry Department - GOK, College of Dairy Science and Technology, Tvm coming under KVASU, KLD Board, KAU, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy of KVASU, KCMMF, Regional Unions and Kerala Feeds Limited.

The Survey part coming under the study will be technically guided by The Department of Economic & Statistics, GOK and will be carried out with the support and help of Dairy Business Management and Extension wing experts of College of Dairy Science and Technology coming under KVASU Thiruvananthapuram & AHD - GOK.

The services of Departmental officials (Directorate level, District level & DESU level, Dairy Promoters, Women Cattle Care Workers, KSDMIC personnel) A-Help personnel and Pashusakhi personnel of AHD and officials of Department of Economics & Statistics shall be utilized for completing the survey part in regard to formulation of Kerala State Fodder Policy.

The survey part shall be completed with the help of a mobile app & web app developed by a start-up mission. The selection process of the start-up mission will be responsibility of Department of Economics & Statistics.

07.10.03. Financial Outlay

An amount of **Rs. 2.00 lakh** has been earmarked for conducting the survey and meeting various expenses associated with the formulation of the State Fodder Plan.

07.10.04. Conclusion

The State Fodder Plan is a critical initiative aimed at addressing the fodder scarcity challenges faced by livestock farmers in Kerala. By implementing this, the state can achieve sustainable fodder production, improve livestock nutrition, enhance rural livelihoods, and contribute to the overall development of the livestock sector and rural economy.

07.11 IMPLEMENTATION, DOCUMENTATION AND MONITORING

Plan Outlay – Rs. 1.23 Lakhs

Rs. 1.23 Lakh is set apart for meeting documentation, monitoring, implementation and evaluation charges for the above-mentioned schemes.

07.12 FODDER OE, FODDER TA & FODDER POL

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES : 2026-27		
2404-00-102-77-34-OC-03 OTHER ITEMS		
SCHEME COMPONENTS	2026-27	
	TOTAL COST	TOTAL SUBSIDY
	(Lakhs)	(Lakhs)
2404-00-102-77-04 TE (1) TOUR TA	14.810	14.81
2404-00-102-77-05 OE-4 OTHER ITEMS	4.930	4.93
2404-00-102-77-45-POL	9.860	9.86

TA shall be extended to only technical officers of the Dairy Development Department

08 IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SCHEMES UNDER FODDER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Block Level Officer (Dairy Extension Officer / Sr. Dairy Extension Officer) shall be the implementing officer of this scheme component. The concerned Dairy Farm Instructors and Dairy Promoters shall assist the Implementing officer.

Banner in prescribed format and size shall be displayed in all plots above 50 cents. Photograph of the fodder development activity is mandatory for all selected beneficiaries

Monitoring of the District level programme shall be the responsibility of the District Deputy Director. The Assistant Directors of the District (Technical Assistant & Quality Control Officer) shall assist the District officer. The District Deputy Director shall report periodically the progress of the scheme component to the Directorate. The Farm Superintendent, SFF Valiyathura shall be the implementing officer for fodder development activities at State Fodder Farm, Valiyathura

The Director, Dairy Development shall monitor the state wide progress of the scheme component. The Joint Director (Planning), The Deputy Director (Planning) and the officers of Project Cell shall assist the Director for making periodic assessment regarding the progress of this scheme component.

09.CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

SI.NO	ACTIVITY	PERIOD
1	Administrative Sanction Orders.	before 30.04.2026
2	Propaganda for the programme	before 07.07.2026
3	Selection of beneficiaries	before 25.07.2026
4	Training at District Level	before 15.07.2026
5	Land Preparation activities at selected plots	before 10.08.2026
6	Fodder Cultivation activities	Aug, 2026 – Oct, 2026
7	Project Evaluation	before 15.11.2026

8	Release of Plan Assistance	before 15.12.2026
9	Documentation of the Programme	before 07.01.2027
10	State Level Evaluation	before 25.01.2027

10. CONCLUSION

The above schemes will help to nurture the fodder development activities of the state, will generate self-employment opportunities and will help to reduce the feed cost and thereby ensuring the socio-economic security of the farmers.

DIRECTOR

ANNEXURE

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION OF FODDER IN FARMERS FIELDS AND DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES : 2026-27 REGISTRATION FEES & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DETAILS <b style="color: red;">REGISTRATION FEES REMITTANCE HOA : 0404-00-800-86				
SI.NO	SCHEME COMPONENTS	2026-27 (REVISED)		
		NO OF UNITS	UNIT COST	UNIT SUBSIDY
			(Rs)	(Rs)
1	Assistance for cultivation of Hybrid Napier in farm lands			
	20 cents and above	180	86500	38000
	Below 20 cents	0	19250	19250
2	Assistance for automation and mechanisation of fodder cultivation activities			
	Irrigation assistance	180	30000	15000
	Irrigation assistance - above one acre	180	60000	30000
	Mechanisation assistance	180	30000	15000
3	Assistance for comprehensive and massive fodder cultivation in barren and unutilised lands	180	175000	105000
4	Fodder Hubs / Fodder Marketing Units through Dairy Co-operatives by JLGs / SHGs / Other registered groups	180	100000	75000