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Title: <u>Seasonal variations in milk procurement and</u> <u>milk marketing: a case of the Rajasthan Cooperative</u> <u>Dairy Federation, India</u>

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Abstract: The dairy industry plays a vital role in the economy of the state of Rajasthan. As such, there is a need to understand the requirements of the milk suppliers at the grassroots level. Several initiatives have already been taken by the government and non-government organisations at various levels so as to increase their reliance on and competency in the system. The Rajasthan dairy industry is characterised by the seasonal patterns in milk production and milk consumption; these variations are due to the rhythmic forces which operate in a regular and periodic manner. The objective of the current research study is to statistically analyse monthly data of milk procurement and milk marketing by the Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation, India. This will help the decision makers to be prepared for the seasonal fluctuations associated with the dairy industry.

Keywords: milk procurement; milk marketing; Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation; seasonal variation index; autocorrelation; seasonality; India.

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