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Status of Farm Mechanization under Animal Farming in Bastar Plateau agro-climatic Zone of Chhattisgarh

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Abstract—*In the context of increasing commercialization of agriculture, mechanization is very important. Domestic work animals exist in all regions of the world. In India, the energy for ploughing two-thirds of the cultivated area comes from animal power. This study was conducted in Bastar plateau agro-climatic zone of Chhattisgarh State. Two districts were selected from the zone. In which two blocks were selected from each district purposely (based on draught animal population and animal drawn implements). Three villages were selected from each block and ten respondents randomly selected from each village. The purpose of this study was to analyze the status of farm mechanization under the animal farming system, availability of draught animal population, identification of animal drawn and other farm implements and their utilization for agricultural production. The required data of the study were collected with the help of a detailed proforma which was developed prior to survey, after consulting the literature available as suggested by the different researchers. Bastar plateau occupies about 15% of the total geographical area. Average draught animal power availability of Bastar plateau was 0.208 kW/ha. In Bastar plateau zone highest utilization of draught animal power recorded value is 257 h/ha in Masora village and lowest value 193 h/ha in Bagmohalai village. The study reveals that the majority of the respondents about 96 per cent used country plough as a primary tillage implement, 96 per cent used traditional wooden plank as a secondary tillage implement in the zone. Low level of mechanization is mainly due to small and scattered farms, lack of knowledge and poor economy. Looking to this constraints high horse power (large size machines) and costly agricultural machines are not suitable in the region. Therefore, improved animal drawn implements can play the important role in improvement of mechanization status.*

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