

CAMEL DOODH MELA

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The Camel Milk Competition (Doodh Mela) at Government Livestock Farm (GLF), Jugaitpeer, Distt. Bahawalpur was organized on **April 10-12, 2015** by the L&DD Dept with the help of Camel Association of Pakistan (CAP). A lot of preparations were made to organize this event among the Rohi herders. Dr Munir Ahmad Gill, Superintendent of the GLF and Dr Riaz Hussain (Manager, GLF) and their staff were the host of this event who made an extensive arrangements and various committees were constituted to have field work done before the event. The Convener of this event, the honorable DG (Ext) Dr Muhammad Nawaz Saeed took his time out of his busy schedule to look after the arrangements, organization and patronize this milk competition of camels at GLF Jugaitpeer, Bahawalpur. He was accompanied by Dr Rashid Ahmad (DG Res), Dr Khalid M Khan (DLF) and Dr Mansoor Ahmad (Director SR) at this occasion.

Prof Dr Muhammad Younas, President, Camel Association of Pakistan (CAP, UAF), Dr Asim Faraz (CAP, UAF) represented the University. Other celebrities and officials of the L&DD Dept included were Dr Maqsood Akhtar (SRO, BRI), Dr M Sohail A Khan (ADIO), Dr M Asghar Ramay (CDA), Dr Israr Hussain (Director C&E), Dr M Arshad, (DDLO), Dr Amir A Khan Niazi (LES Chak Katora), Dr Amir Bokhari (DD), Dr M Ashraf (DLO, Bahawalnagar), Dr Tahira Yasmeen (VO, MVD), Dr Ali Raza Abbasi (DDLO), Dr M Arif (LES, Haroonabad), Hafiz M Sarfraz (VO), Dr Rab Nawaz Kausar (DLO), Dr M Usman Mazhar (VO), Dr Mazhar Abbas (VO), Dr Kashif Mehmood (VO), Dr Atif Shahzad (VO), Dr Allah Bachaya (APVO), Rao A Qadeer (camel breeder) and Mr Remat Ullah (AO) coupled with many other officials and Farm staff, committee members and camel breeders lead by their rep Mr Faiz Muhammad Khan Baloch. All Committees did a wonderful job in setting this stage on the evening of April 10, 2015. Although weather became harsh, windy, stormy but camel and their herders didn't give up and reached to the site after a great deal of hassle. This Doodh Mela also attracted many farmers and breeders of the area.

First two milking (April 11, 2015, M&E) were made to empty the udders of the competing she camels, while the milkings of April 12, 2015, M&E were counted for competition. Based on the experience of the previous years, this time two separate categories were created for Marecha and Brela she camels.

This was a great event and many Rohi herders participated in this Moot. Cholistan is a place where 60 % of the total camels of Pakistan (I M) are habituated in and around the desert. About 30 breeders of the area participated with their ~ 60 wet animals.

Can you imagine that she Brela camel produced 11.93 kg and Marecha she camel produced 9.59 kg of milk in 24 hrs under desert conditions. The first three winners of Brela breed were Shahid Khan (I), Muhammad Amin (II) and Ata Muhammad (III) who were given cash prizes of **Rs 100,000/-, 50,000/-, and 25,000/-**, respectively. While first three prizes of Marecha were won by Wali Muhammad (I), Manzoor Ahmad (II) and Muhammad Ramzan (III), who were also given the cash prizes of **Rs 100,000/-, 50,000/-, and 25,000/-**, respectively (see Table). Trophies and certificate were given away to the winners and organizers.

The prizes were given away by the President, Camel Association of Pakistan (CAP) and Dr Nawaz Saeed, DG (Ext) Livestock and Dairy Development, 16 Cooper Rd, Lahore. All camel herders were given free feed to their animals and local hospitality to the Rohilla breeders and herders by the GLF staff under the guidance of Dr Munir A Gill and Dr Riaz Hussain.

Breed Winning Position and Name	Address of the Winner	First Milking 12.4.2015 6 am	Second Milking 12.4.2015 6 pm	Total Milk Produced (Kg in 24 hr)
Brela Breed				
1. Shahid Khan s/o Shaheen Khan	Chak 127 Murad, Chistian, Distt Bahawalnagar	5.570	6.360.	11.93
2. Muhammad Amin s/o Haq Nawaz	Chak 129 Murad, Chistian, Distt Bahawalnagar	6.155	5.610	11.76
3. Ata Muhammad s/o Muhammad Saeed	Chak 127 Murad, Chistian, Distt Bahawalnagar	5.440	5.875	11.31
Marecha Breed				
1. Muhammad Ali s/o Ghulam Muhammad	Toba Qaim Sar, Kudh Wala, Yazman, Distt Bahawalpur	4.590	5.00	9.59
2. Manzoor Ahmad s/o Waryam	Toba Jam Sar, Amrot, Fort Abbas, Distt Bahawalnagar	4.625	4.220	8.84
3. Muhammad Ramzan s/o Hassan Bakhsh	Toba Jam Sar, Yazman, Distt Bahawalpur	3.920	3.855	7.77



Shahid Khan s/o Shaheen Khan receiving his prize for
Brela she-camel



Wali Muhammad s/o Ghulam Ali receiving his prize for
Marecha she-camel

The Dept of L&DD Dept exhibited its stall along with other medicine companies. The CAP also displayed its work and achievements. Free literature was distributed among the farmers to increase their awareness and knowledge about camels. Membership forms were also distributed among the participants. The stall of RCCSC, Jhang, Small Ruminants, Poultry Production and other pharmaceutical companies were also there. The DG (Ext) was present on spot, made a visit of all stalls, looked after everything by himself and guided when and where needed during the whole event.

Dance is another important attribute of the camels. The dancing Marecha camels attracted a lot of crowd and media and displayed very beautiful acrobatic dance events towards the end of the competition.

Dr Israr Hussain and his media team also covered the event in a very excellent manner. Much has been published on this topic in the press. Media took this event very high and covered it widely on electronic and print media.

Towards the end of the event, Dr Muhammad Nawaz Saeed, (DG Ext) on behalf of Secretary, Livestock and Dairy Dev Dept. and by himself, extended thanks the hosts, all participants, camel herders, organizers, judges, Universities staff, print and electronic media personals and security staff. He encouraged the Rohi herders and audience to participants in next year's Doodh Mela with full zeal and devotion. Giving away handsome prizes to the participants is a clear testimony that L&DD Dept wants to see our herders happy with smiling faces.

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