Limb health in rural conditions

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Lameness is one of the most important factors in cow health. Milk loss, fertility reduction and early culling are the most important outcomes of lameness. In rural area with improving breeding techniques and affinity of the owners to high producing cows, the importance of lameness was increased and needs more scientific works.

In current field study 2200 cows aged between 6 month to 13 years old were included. Data of age, breed, pregnancy, ratio, volume of concentrate, hoof trimmings were recorded in each cow. The above mentioned cows were kept in 400 rural farms in Lorestan province. Locomotion status of the cows (Back posture and leg scoring were evaluated.

Sixty percent of the cows over 5 parity had leg score 2 (deviation between 17-24) and were classified as moderately lame cows. Forty percent of the cows with parities between 2-5 were not normal and in the last group (cows between 6 month to two years) hoof deformities specially in the age less than 12 month were recorded.

Breeding techniques and changes of owners idea were affected on lameness status and may provide high financial loss. Lack of knowledge, lack of education and belief in this part can be corrected by intensive programs**.**

Study on annual and seasonal lameness prevalence in dairy cattle herds of kermanshah province: the first comprehensive study

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Lameness is one of the most important causes of economic loses in dairy cattle industry around the world. Therefor having information about the incidence, prevalence and causes of lameness in each area is necessary to design therapeutic, controlling and preventive measures. Kermanshah province; in west of Iran, has a considerable numbers of industrial dairy farms with about 10000 Holstein cow population. There was no any comprehensive study which had been done on lameness prevalence in Kermanshah dairies; though, this study was planned to evaluate lameness prevalence in industrial diary cattle herds in this province. This survey was performed in one-year duration (4 seasons) during years 2014 -2015 in 12 herds with various population. Regarding the herds sizes they were divided into 4 groups (small herds, n:5, medium herds, n:3, relatively large herds, n:2 and large herds n:2). Locomotion scoring (LS) was done based on 5 point Sprecher method in each 4 separate seasons. Cows with LS 3-5 were considered having lameness. Total of the 12605 cows have been scored in all seasons and the average annual lameness prevalence was calculated as 37.4%. The total number