SENEGAL DAIRY GENETICS:
MILK YIELD OF DAIRY CATTLE IN SENEGAL

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Milk measurements from first four rounds of longitudinal monitoring were used to estimate the daily milk yield and predicting lactation curve for indigenous and crossbreed dairy cattle.

Based on farmer-given breed-types following common groups were observed:

1. **GROUP A**: indigenous breeds Zebu Gobra and Zebu Maure

2. **GROUP B**: crosses between Zebu Gobra (75%) and Guzerat (25%)

3. **GROUP C**: crosses between Zebu Gobra (50%) and purebred taurine (50%)

On a test day the milk yield was measured on both morning and evening milking. If either one of the test day samples was not recorded the daily milk yield was estimated.

A model was used to predict lactation curve from daily milk yield.

Daily milk yield differs between indigenous Zebu breeds and Zebu-taurine crosses. With information on lactation records for different breed-types Senegalese small-holder farms will be able to better select the best animals for their needs.