



# Mithun : A Promising Component For The Livestock Production System In The North Eastern Hill Region



National Research Centre on Mithun  
(Indian Council of Agricultural Research)  
Jharnapani, Medziphema  
Nagaland – 797 106



ICAR

# **Mithun : A Promising Component For The Livestock Production System In The North Eastern Hill Region**



**भारतकृषि  
ICAR**

**2006**

National Research Centre on Mithun  
(Indian Council of Agricultural Research)  
Jharnapani, Medziphema  
Nagaland – 797 106





*Contributors:* A. Dhali, S. Rajkhowa, B. Prakash, M. Mondal and A Mech

*Compiled and Edited by:* A. Dhali and C. Rajkhowa

*Published by:* Director

National Research Centre on Mithun

Jharnapani, Medziphema, Nagaland – 797 106

Tel Fax: 03862247341, rajkhowa\_c@rediffmail.com

*Printed at:* saraighat offset press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati - 21

# Preface

**M**ithun (*Bos frontalis*), the pride animal of North- Eastern hills, is a rare species of livestock. This animal is confined to the North Eastern Hill region of our country and also found in Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh as well as Yunan province of China. This animal has got great potential for Meat, Milk and hide. According to 2003 census, out of the total mithun population (0.25 million) in India, 75% animals are from Arunachal Pradesh followed by 16 % from Nagaland, 08 % from Manipur and 01% from Mizoram.

This animal is well adapted in steep jungles at an elevation ranged from 300-3000 m MSL and has got important place in Economic, Social, cultural and religious life of tribal people of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram. This is an underutilized animal and has got a great potential for quality meat, milk and leather production. The quality of meat, milk as well as leather of this animal is very good and there is a great scope to promote this animal as an organic meat and milk producer. National research Centre on Mithun, ICAR, has taken up many research programme in the various fields to develop different package of practices to improve the productivity of this animal along with germplasm conservation and documented various information

Based on some of these information generated, this document has been prepared in simple language for the benefit of different people engaged in the activities related to Livestock production in general and Mithun production in particular.

I hope this document will be able to help to convince the livestock farmers to give an insight to the scope of this animal for placing it as an important component in hilly livestock production system for improving the productivity of the animal and thereby uplift the economy of the tribal farmers.



(Chandan Rajkhowa)

# Contents

Sl. No.	Topic	Page No.
1	Introduction	1
2	Habitat, distribution and strains	1
3	Socio economic importance	1 - 5
4	Existing rearing system	6
5	Scientific rearing system	7 - 14
	Housing management	7
	Feeding management	8 - 12
	Breeding management	13 - 14
6	Common diseases and their prevention and control	15 - 20



