

12.2 Providing loans for upgrading of replacement stock.

About three-fourths of all cows are of Baladi strains, which are characterized by a relatively low productivity. Freisians are almost as well adapted to local conditions, but they are much better producers of milk and meat. Heifers of certified strains are available in local and Israeli markets, but the main reason for not moving more heavily to Freisians is their considerably higher cost.

The expansion in the population of Freisian cows in peasant herds could be accelerated by providing adequate loans at concessional terms. Lending for this purpose could be delegated to local cooperatives or voluntary agencies.