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India Livestock Farmers Embracing Full Fat Soybeans for Lactating Buffaloes

International Marketing Asia Subcontinent consultant Dr. Ramesh Thaper is working with India's National Dairy Research Institute to increase the use of full fat soybeans as a source of good quality protein and fat for Murrah buffaloes. According to Thaper, buffalo herds in Haryana state, which number about 200,000, could potentially consume as much as 2.2 million bushels of soybeans annually. This developing feed source creates uses for direct soybean consumption, in turn supporting the reverse marketing efforts in the region, Thaper said. India's Murrah buffaloes are heralded because they yield a substantial amount of milk per lactation. To maintain and even increase an animal's milk production, the National Dairy Research Institute recommends one kilogram of full fat soybeans per buffalo per day for 300 days of milk yield, in addition to traditional feed.



The activities of the U.S. Soybean Export Council to expand international markets for U.S. soybeans and soy products are made possible by producer checkoff dollars invested by the United Soybean Board and various State Soybean Councils, support from cooperating industry, and through the American Soybean Association's investment of cost-share funding provided by USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service.