Studies on Different Temperature Humidity Index Models in Relation with Production Traits for HF × GIR Halfbreds

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ABSTRACT

The data on production performance of HF × Girhalfbreds maintained at Research cum Development Project on Cattle (RCDP), Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri district, Ahmednagar, (M.H) were utilized for present study. The least squares means of total milk yield (kg), lactation length (days), dry period (days) and peak milk yield (kg) were estimated by considering the effects of period of calving, season of calving and lactation order as non-genetic factors. Then data were corrected for significant non-genetic factor effect and effect of THI was estimated. Then data were corrected for significant non genetic factor effect and effect of THI was estimated. The THI had significant influence on production traits TMY and PMY, indicating that the HF × Girhalfbreds were acclimitised to the local climate due to optimum feeding with sound management are provided. However, the THI had non-significant influence on trait LL and DP.

Keywords
HF × Girhalfbreds, TMY, LL, DP, PMY, THI

Introduction

The THI was extensively used in hot region all over the world to evaluate the effect of heat stress on dairy cows. It is currently used to estimate cooling necessity of dairy cattle in order to improve the efficiency of management strategies to alleviate the negative effect of heat stress. Increased pressure for intensified milk production and simultaneous rise in environmental temperature due to global warming has increased the thermal load on dairy animals. Elevated environmental temperature combined with high humidity causes discomfort and escalates the stress level in animals which is reflected in terms of reduced physiological and metabolic activities that results in reduced growth, drop in production and reproduction in farm animals. Heat stress is one of the most vital environmental stressor that has negative impact on milk yield, milk composition (fat%, SNF%, protein % etc). Construction of Temperature Humidity Index (THI) by combining several climatological parameters like dry bulb, wet bulb temperature along with relative humidity to quantify the thermal stress is one of the best method to assess heat stress on animals. Several research workers have reported that
there exists a threshold THI value, above which the negative effects of heat stress is observed on animals. Mitigation strategies to combat heat stress includes selection of heat tolerant animals and their breeding, inclusion of heat tolerance as a trait while constructing selection index, providing balanced nutrition to the animals and implementation of good ventilation along with suitable cooling system in the farm (Behera et al., 2020).

**Materials and Methods**

The data of HF × Girhalfbreds maintained at Research Cum-Development Project on Cattle, M.P.K.V., Rahuri for a period from 2009 to 2019 (10 years) were collected for present investigation for following Traits: a) Productive traits: 1) Total lactation milk yield (kg), 2) Lactation length (days), 3) Dry period (days), 4) Peak milk yield (kg). To examine the Production traits, the research data was classified into 3 periods of calving viz. P₁ (2009-2011), P₂ (2012-2014), P₃ (2015 above); 3 seasons of calving, viz. S₁ (Rainy) June-September, S₂ (Winter) October-January and S₃ (Summer) February-May; 5 order of lactation viz. L₁ (first lactation), L₂ second lactation, L₃ third lactation, L₄ fourth lactation, L₅ fifth lactation; The effects of non-genetic factors like period of calving, season of calving and lactation order were estimated by using least-square analysis as suggested by Harvey (1990). The model was used with the assumption that different components being fitted into the model were as linear, independent and additive.

The model used was as follows:

**Model I**

\[ Y_{ijkl} = \mu + A_i + B_j + C_k + e_{ijkl} \]

where \( Y_{ijkl} \), observation of \( i^{th} \) animal, \( k^{th} \) parity, \( j^{th} \) season of calving, \( i^{th} \) period of calving; \( \mu \) overall mean, \( A_i \) fixed effect of \( i^{th} \) period of calving (1 to 3), \( B_j \) fixed effect of \( j^{th} \) season of calving (1 to 3), \( C_k \) fixed effect of \( k^{th} \) parity (1 to 5); \( e_{ijkl} \) random error \( \sim NID (0, \sigma^2e) \).

**Correction of data**

Whenever the effects found significant data were corrected and used for further analysis.

The data on different production traits were corrected for the significant effects of period of calving, season of calving and lactation order. The corrected data were used to find out the effect of THI on production traits.

**Temperature humidity index models**

Seven reported THI models were used to compute temperature humidity index as follows:

**THI models Reference**

THI₁ = \( [0.4 \times (Tdb + Twb)] \times 1.8 + 32 + 15 \) Thom(1959)

THI₂ = \( (0.35 \times Tdb + 0.65 \times Twb) \times 1.8 + 32 \) Bianca (1962)

THI₃ = \( (0.15 \times Tdb + 0.85 \times Twb) \times 1.8 + 32 \) Bianca (1962)

THI₄ = \( (Tdb + Twb) \times 0.72 + 40.6 \) NRC (1971)

THI₅ = \( (0.55 \times Tdb + 0.2 \times Tdp) \times 1.8 + 32 + 17.5 \) NRC (1971)

THI₆ = \( (1.8 \times Tdb + 32) - (0.55 -0.00 55 \times RH) \times (1.8 \times Tdb - 26.8) \) NRC (1971)

THI₇ = \( (0.8 \times Tdb) + [(RH/100) \times (Tdb - 14.4)] + 46.4 \) (Mader et al., 2006)
Tdb: dry bulb temperature; Twb: wet bulb temperature; RH: relative humidity; Tdp: dew point temperature. Tdb, Twb and Tdp were measured in °C and RH was measured in %.

Monthly THI was computed using the environmental parameters and effect of THI was seen on traits under study by using following model.

**Model II**

\[ Y_{ij} = \mu + \text{THI}_i + e_{ij} \]

- Observation on \( j^{th} \) parameters for \( i^{th} \) THI value range

- Overall mean

- Effect of \( i^{th} \) THI value range

- Random error associated with NID ~ (0, \( \sigma^2_e \))

7 different THI values as THI1 in 6 Ranges THI11 (71-74), THI12 (74-77), THI13 (77-80), THI14 (80-83), THI15 (83-86), THI6 (86-89); THI2 in 5 Ranges THI21 (60-64), THI22 (64-68), THI23 (68-72), THI24 (72-76), THI25 (76-80); THI3 in 5 Ranges THI31 (58-62), THI32 (62-66), THI33 (66-70), THI34 (70-74), THI35 (74-78); THI4 in 4 Ranges THI41 (65-69), THI42 (69-73), THI43 (73-77), THI44 (77-81); THI5 in 6 Ranges THI51 (72-75), THI52 (75-78), THI53 (78-81), THI54 (81-84), THI55 (84-87), THI56 (87-90); THI6 in 4 Ranges THI61 (65-70), THI62 (70-75), THI63 (75-80), THI64 (80-85); THI7 in 4 Ranges THI71 (65-69), THI72 (69-73), THI73 (73-77), THI74 (77-81).

**Duncan’s Multiple Range Test (DMRT)**

Duncan’s Multiple Range Test as modified by Kramer (1957) was used to make pair wise comparison among the least square means with the use of inverse elements and root mean squares for error.

If the values:

\[ (Y_i - Y_j) \times \frac{2}{C_{ii} + C_{jj} + 2 C_{ij}} > \sigma^2_e, Z(P, ne) \]

Where,

- \( Y_i - Y_j \): Difference between two least squares means
- \( C_{ii} \): Corresponding \( i^{th} \) diagonal elements of C matrix
- \( C_{jj} \): Corresponding \( j^{th} \) diagonal elements of C matrix
- \( Z(P, ne) \): Standardized range value in Duncan’s table at the chosen level of probability for the error degrees of freedom
- \( P \): Number of means involved in the comparison
- \( \sigma^2_e \): Root mean squares for error

**Results and Discussion**

**Effect of THI on total milk yield**

The overall least squares mean of total milk yield in HF × Girhalfbreds was 2612.89 ± 95.51 kg. According to the above investigation the effect of THI7 on total milk yield of HF × Girhalfbreds was significant. The differences in the total milk yield of HF × Girhalfbreds in THI 71 significantly higher than THI 72, THI 74 and THI 73. The differences in the total milk yield of HF × Girhalfbreds in THI 71 significantly higher than THI 72, THI 74 and THI 73. The differences in the total milk yield of HF × Girhalfbreds in THI 71 significantly higher than THI 72, THI 74 and THI 73. The differences in the total milk yield of HF × Girhalfbreds in THI 71 significantly higher than THI 72, THI 74 and THI 73.
Table 1: Least Square means of TMY, LL, DP and PMY in HF × Girhalfbreds

| Effect | N   | Least Square Means |
|--------|-----|--------------------|
|        |     | Total Milk Yield   | Lactation Length | Dry period | Peak milk yield |
| µ      |     | 2612.89 ± 95.51    | 280.13 ± 6.58    | 155.58 ± 9.74 | 15.80 ± 0.40 |
| THI11  | 9   | 2561.20 ± 330.16   | 284.11 ± 22.75   | 110.55 ± 33.70 | 15.60bc ± 1.40 |
| THI12  | 27  | 3131.56 ± 190.62   | 296.70 ± 13.13   | 146.22 ± 19.45 | 16.77a ± 0.81 |
| THI13  | 32  | 2641.57 ± 175.09   | 283.43 ± 12.06   | 146.93 ± 17.87 | 16.50ab ± 0.74 |
| THI14  | 52  | 2380.86 ± 137.35   | 293.57 ± 9.46    | 136.36 ± 14.02 | 14.05ab ± 0.58 |
| THI15  | 40  | 2551.16 ± 156.61   | 275.17 ± 10.79   | 153.52 ± 15.98 | 16.47bc ± 0.66 |
| THI16  | 9   | 2411.02 ± 330.16   | 247.77 ± 22.75   | 239.88 ± 33.70 | 15.44± ± 1.40  |
| THI21  | 10  | 2746.28 ± 317.52   | 288.20 ± 21.46   | 105.50 ± 31.97 | 16.20 ± 1.36   |
| THI22  | 34  | 2921.82 ± 172.20   | 290.97 ± 11.64   | 154.61 ± 17.33 | 16.55 ± 0.73   |
| THI23  | 31  | 2566.78 ± 180.34   | 279.12 ± 12.19   | 147.00 ± 18.15 | 15.92 ± 0.77   |
| THI24  | 62  | 2506.01 ± 127.52   | 296.00 ± 8.62    | 131.58 ± 12.83 | 14.90 ± 0.54   |
| THI25  | 32  | 2435.50 ± 177.50   | 261.28 ± 12.00   | 187.78 ± 17.87 | 15.84 ± 0.76   |
| THI31  | 15  | 2861.71 ± 259.74   | 290.00 ± 17.71   | 120.20 ± 26.48 | 16.72 ± 1.11   |
| THI32  | 49  | 2600.58 ± 143.71   | 280.49 ± 9.80    | 155.91 ± 14.65 | 15.76 ± 0.61   |
| THI33  | 24  | 2855.10 ± 205.34   | 289.91 ± 14.00   | 133.50 ± 20.94 | 16.74 ± 0.88   |
| THI34  | 59  | 2539.01 ± 130.97   | 291.62 ± 8.93    | 144.49 ± 13.35 | 15.06 ± 0.56   |
| THI35  | 22  | 2318.42 ± 214.48   | 267.40 ± 14.63   | 175.63 ± 21.87 | 15.27 ± 0.91   |
| THI41  | 18  | 3079.85 ± 234.64   | 284.88 ± 15.95   | 139.05 ± 23.95 | 17.75 ± 1.00   |
| THI42  | 48  | 2728.68 ± 143.69   | 289.16 ± 9.76    | 137.58 ± 14.67 | 16.07 ± 0.61   |
| THI43  | 68  | 2466.19 ± 120.72   | 294.38 ± 8.20    | 139.27 ± 12.32 | 14.83 ± 0.51   |
| THI44  | 35  | 2444.81 ± 168.27   | 260.42 ± 11.43   | 184.51 ± 17.18 | 15.70 ± 0.71   |
| THI51  | 9   | 2561.20 ± 331.68   | 284.11 ± 22.62   | 110.55 ± 33.82 | 15.60 ± 1.42   |
| THI52  | 27  | 3131.56 ± 191.49   | 296.70 ± 13.06   | 146.22 ± 19.52 | 16.77 ± 0.82   |
| THI53  | 37  | 2520.26 ± 163.58   | 279.27 ± 11.15   | 153.91 ± 16.68 | 15.91 ± 0.70   |
| THI54  | 52  | 2483.22 ± 137.98   | 298.80 ± 9.41    | 130.92 ± 14.07 | 14.55 ± 0.59   |
| THI55  | 34  | 2511.08 ± 170.65   | 269.67 ± 11.63   | 158.47 ± 17.40 | 16.41 ± 0.73   |
| THI56  | 10  | 2432.68 ± 314.66   | 253.30 ± 21.46   | 220.20 ± 32.08 | 15.30 ± 1.35   |
| THI61  | 23  | 3135.92 ± 207.07   | 289.82 ± 14.27   | 131.47 ± 21.09 | 17.13 ± 0.89   |
| THI62  | 51  | 2564.40 ± 139.05   | 286.49 ± 9.58    | 150.11 ± 14.16 | 15.59 ± 0.60   |
| THI63  | 88  | 2497.54 ± 105.86   | 285.52 ± 7.29    | 143.60 ± 10.78 | 15.32 ± 0.45   |
| THI64  | 7   | 2427.02 ± 375.34   | 248.28 ± 25.87   | 245.57 ± 38.23 | 15.94 ± 1.62   |
| THI71  | 15  | 3012.69ab ± 255.13 | 284.53 ± 17.56   | 132.26 ± 26.44 | 17.36ab ± 1.09 |
| THI72  | 41  | 2897.63ab ± 154.32 | 297.43 ± 10.62   | 141.00 ± 15.99 | 16.36ab ± 0.66 |
| THI73  | 68  | 2395.66bc ± 119.82 | 288.39 ± 8.25    | 140.83 ± 12.41 | 14.54bc ± 0.51 |
| THI74  | 45  | 2506.34ab ± 147.30 | 268.15 ± 10.14   | 170.97 ± 15.26 | 16.20bc ± 0.63 |

The maximum total milk yield in THI7, within range 1 i.e., THI71 (3012.69 ± 255.13) and minimum total milk yield in THI 73 (2395.66 ± 199.82). This results was in accordance with Ghavi Hossein-Zadeh et al., (2012), V. Gantner et al., (2012), H. Hammami et al., (2013), ForoughZare-Tamami et al.(2017), Behera et al., (2017), Habeeb, (2020) in dairy cows.

Effect of THI on Lactation Length

The overall least squares mean of total milk yield in HF × Girhalfbreds was 280.13 ± 6.58 days.

According to the above investigation the effect of none of the THI was significant on lactation length of HF × Girhalfbreds. This results was in accordance with Ghavi...
Effect of THI on Dry Period

The overall least squares mean of dry period in HF × Girhalfbreds was 155.58 ± 9.74 days. According to the above investigation the effect of none of the THI was significant on dry period of HF × Girhalfbreds. This results was in accordance with Ghavi Hossein-Zadeh et al., (2012), V. Gantner et al., (2012), H. Hammami et al., (2013), Forough Zare-Tamami et al., (2017), Behera et al., (2017), Habeeb, (2020) in dairy cows.

Effect of THI on Peak Milk Yield

The overall least squares mean of peak milk yield in HF × Girhalfbreds was 15.80 ±0.40 kg. According to the above investigation the effect of THI1 and THI7 on peak milk yield of HF × Girhalfbreds, was significant. The differences in the peak milk yield of cows in THI 12 significantly higher than THI13, THI 15, THI 11, THI 16 and THI 14 were at par to each other and THI71 significantly higher than THI72, THI74 and THI73 were at par each other. The maximum monthly milk yield first in THI1, within range 2 i.e., THI 12 (16.77 ± 0.81) and in THI7, within range 1 i.e., THI71(17.36 ± 1.09) and minimum monthly milk yield first in THI 14 (14.05 ± 0.58) and in THI7,within range 3 i.e., THI73 (14.54 ±0.51). This results was in accordance with GhaviHossein-Zadeh et al., (2012), Gantner et al., (2012), Behera et al., (2017) in dairy cows.

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