

Original Research Article

Constraints of Goat Husbandry Practices Faced by Goat Keepers in Amravati District, India

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Amravati district of Maharashtra state. The sample was drawn from the three takula viz., Chandur bazaar, Morshi, Chandur Railway where functional goat keepers in larger numbers were in existence. Thus, 80 goat keepers were selected which constituted the sample respondents for the present study. Data were collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of pre-tested structured interview schedule in face to face situation. Collected data were tabulated. Correlation and regression analysis for interpretation of the findings were calculated. Two hypotheses were set for the study and were tested for acceptance or rejection. The findings with regards to constraints faced by the goat keepers in adoption of goat husbandry practices revealed that non availability of descript breeds of goat, lack of technical knowledge, fluctuation of prices and unavailability of market were of prime importance for majority of the respondents. The highest percentage of respondents lack of market availability. As regards to improve breeding majority of the respondents were lack of technical knowledge, Followed by lack of improved breed and non-availability of improved goat breed on lower rate. Whereas High cost of animals and their maintenance in rainy season and Susceptible to disease in rainy season. In improved feeding majority of the respondents were Lack of Knowledge about balance feed, Followed by respondents were Lack of concentrate feed on lower rate and lack of postural land, Whereas lack of sufficient green fodder and feed scarcity in dry season.

Keywords

Constrains, Goat keeper, Technical knowledge, Goat rearing

Introduction

Livestock agriculture plays an important role in the agro-based economy in India. Amongst livestock, goats have been treated as neglected species. Goat is one of the most neglected domestic animal species in terms of technical knowhow. The goat was the earliest ruminant domesticated around 9000 to 7000 B. C. (Banerjee, 1998). The contribution of goats is especially important in rural areas where goats are closely associated with the poorest of the poor and hence termed as 'poor

man's cow' and are popularly known as a 'readymade milk bank'. In short, goat keeping is a good enterprise for the following reasons:

1. Initial investment is relatively low as compared to cattle and buffalo.
2. Their hardiness and wider adaptability under extreme climatic conditions.
3. Goat can thrive well on wide range of feeds and fodder (tree leaves, bushes, weeds) which are not commonly consumed by other farm animals.
4. Being a small ruminant animal, it can be

easily managed by family member (women and children).

5. Feeding, milking and caring, it requires less equipment's and material.
6. High incidence of multiple births, short gestation period (150 days).
7. Space requirement for housing as compared to other animals is very less.

Thus, economically, goat is a cheap animal for rearing and suited to landless labour, marginal farmers, village artisans and also to people who are living below poverty line, as a regular source of additional income, as well as, nutritious and easily digestible milk for their babies. Thus in rural area, goat rearing provides employment and a regular flow of income to the families of marginal farmers and landless labour. Goat milk which is known for its therapeutic value and recommended for patients suffering from peptic ulcers, infantile diarrhoea, liver disfunction, jaundice, acidosis and insomnia (Sanyal, 1993). The urine and manure from goat is several times rich in nitrogen and phosphorus than the manures from buffaloes and cows. Goat meat chevon is preferred by non-vegetarian Indians. Demand is always higher than availability. The mean rate of slaughter of goat is now around 41 per cent and the mean rate of mortality around 15.5 per cent. Indian goat skin is used for in India and exportation to western countries. Indian goat hair in the form of 'Pashmina and Mohair' is amongst the best in the world.

Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Amravati district of Maharashtra state. The sample was drawn from the three takula viz., Chandur bazaar, Morshi, Chandur Railway where functional goat keepers in larger numbers were in existence. Thus, 80 goat keepers were selected which constituted the sample respondents for the present study. The statistical methods and tests such as

frequency and percentage were used for the analysis of data.

Results and Discussion

The technological constraints as perceived by goat keepers in adoption of recommended goat management practices are presented in the Table 1. Among several technological constraints as regards to improved breeding, Majority 42.5 per cent of the respondents were of lack of market availability. As regards to improve breeding majority 33.75 per cent of the respondents were lack of technical knowledge, Followed by (22.50%) lack of improved breed and non-availability of improved goat breed on lower rate. Whereas High cost of animals and their maintenance in rainy season and Susceptible to disease in rainy season were 18.75 per cent.

In improved feeding majority 33.75 per cent of respondents were Lack of Knowledge about balance feed, Followed by 25 per cent of respondents were Lack of concentrate feed on lower rate and 23.75 per cent lack of postural land, whereas 22.5 percent lack of sufficient green fodder and feed scarcity in dry season.

As regards in disease control majority of respondents 27.5 per cent were faced problem of costly medicine and unavailable on proper time in the village and High cost of vaccines and unavailability of required vaccine at proper time, Followed by 25 per cent of respondents faced Non availability of veterinary doctors on proper time. The observations of Rahul Dhude (2012) lend support to the findings of the study.

Hence, concluded in this study high category of adoption, the percentage of goat keepers was comparatively less because while adopting the goat husbandry practices they did face many problems and there problems

critical obstacles in the process of adoption of goat husbandry practices by the respondents.

Table.1 Distribution of respondents according to the constraints faced by the goat keepers

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency (N=80)	Percentage
1.	Lack of technical knowledge	27	33.75
2.	High cost of animals and their maintenance in rainy season	15	18.75
3.	Lack of improved breed	18	22.50
4.	Non availability of improved goat breed on low cost	18	22.50
5.	Susceptible to disease in rainy season	15	18.75
B.	Disease control		
1.	Non availability of veterinary doctors on proper time	20	73.75
2.	Medicines are costly and unavailable on proper time in the village	22	43.75
3.	Treatments and fees of doctors are costly	19	58.75
4.	Lack of knowledge	19	51.25
5.	High cost of vaccines and unavailability of required vaccine at proper time	22	60.00
C.	Management		
1.	Lack of sufficient facilities	10	12.50
2.	Shortage of space	18	22.50
3.	Difficult to manage the attack of disease in rainy and cold season	14	17.50
4.	Lack of proper knowledge about modern housing pattern	27	33.75
5.	Lack of market availability	34	42.50

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