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Success Stories on Intensive Salem Black Goat Rearing under ARYA Programme

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Abstract

Goat is one of the ancient domesticated animals in India and considered as poor man's cow. Goat farming business is not a new idea in India. And the climate and geographical conditions of Tamil Nadu is very suitable for raising goats commercially. The major problems in goat rearing are poor weight gain, infertility, fodder scarcity and lack of twin birth. Hence, to address the problem package of practices of has been demonstrated in the farmers' field. The farmers are not adopting the package of practice for goat rearing and also not aware of varieties of goat for breeding and meat purpose. With a little external support from KVK Dharmapuri under attracting and retaining youth in agriculture, allied activities (ARYA) by initiating small farm enterprises, the young farming communities in Dharmapuri district have shown that it is possible to improve health and livelihoods.

Background Information

The Salem Black is an important meat goat breed in the North-Western part of Tamil Nadu, India. The native tract of this breed is the Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Erode, Karur and Namakkal districts of Tamil Nadu. Salem Black goats are tall animals, completely black in colour and reared mainly for meat. The name "Salem Black" has been derived from its place of origin and coat colour. The name Salem has been derived from the place called Salem (*i.e.*, Salem districts of Tamil Nadu), where this breed has been actually originated. Since, this breed is completely black in colour; called as Salem Black goats. It has synonym *viz.*, Karuppuadu.

Salem Black goats are tall animals with lean body and the coat colour is completely black in colour. The head is medium in length with medium to broad forehead. The ears are medium in size, leaf like and semi-pendulous. In adults, both males and females have horns and they are ash grey to grey in colour with no typical horn pattern. They have long, lean and straight legs squarely set under the body. The hooves and dewclaws are grey in colour. The tail is thin, medium in length and curled upwards. Males have fairly long, straight and rough hairs on the neck and withers and all other parts have short and soft hairs. Udder is not well developed. It is small and round and tightly attached to the belly with small conical teats placed laterally. Salem Black goats have considerable production potential under semi-arid, tropical conditions of north-western agro-climatic zone of Tamil Nadu. The distinguishing features of this breed are early sexual maturity, better adaptability to harsh climatic condition and higher prolific.

KVK Dharmapuri has identified 60 youth having less than 35 years of age for developing entrepreneurial aptitude on goat rearing. The entrepreneurial units were established at their

location depending upon market potential of the enterprises. The purpose was to establish economic models for youth in the village so that youths get attracted in agriculture and overall rural situation is improved. The scheme was conducted in Dharmapuri district by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri during 2019-2022 through ARYA programme funded by Zone-X, ICAR-ATARI, Hyderabad. Interested farmers have divided into two groups, each group carries 30 farmers. Among 60 farmers received one day on campus training programme at KVK on selection, handling, feeding, breeding, disease management, fodder production and care of new born kids and second day as exposure training at Mecheri Sheep Research Station, Pottaneri, Salem.

Th. S. Gokul, an innovative farmer from Pangunatham, Nallampalli, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu was successful in intensive goat farming. He is 31 years old, having completed Master philosophy (M.Phil) in Botany, having 08 acre land and he used to rear goats for the regular source of income and he could able to get very low income. Seeking solution to these problems he approached KVK, Dharmapuri and KVK has provided package of practice for commercial dairy cow rearing.

Intervention by KVK

Following technical guidance was given on package of practice for Salem black goat rearing.

1. Fodder Unit Establishment

- Trained to cultivate leguminous and non-leguminous fodder like CO(BN)5, CO(FS)31, Valimasal and Subabul as a border line tree.
- Trained to rear Salem black goat.
- Azolla supplement for reducing fodder cost and supplementing additional nutritional to goat.

2. Health Management

- Supplementation of salt lick and TANUVAS small ruminant mineral mixture for maintain good health.
- Regular deworming against Trematode, Cestode and Nematode with rotation of drugs for preventing formation of drug resistance.
- In addition with green fodder 200 grams of oil cakes will be provided for extra meat production.
- Vaccination against PPR, Goat pox and Hemorrhagic septicemia.

Results and Outcome

As a result of technological intervention by the KVK, Dharmapuri the farmer had obtained good revenue. So 22+5 goat farmers can get two lakhs per year and also family members itself can engage in goat farming no need of outside labour. Small land holders can get good income from intensive system of goat farming.

Table 1: Economics of Salem black goat rearing

Particulars	Expenditure (Rs.)
Numbers of animal	(22+5) Nos.
Expenditure	
Green Fodder	56,700.00
Green fodder requirement 7 kg per day for 11 goats for 30 days $7 \times 27 \times 30 = 2310$ kg $\times 2 \times 5$ months	
Dry Fodder	24,300.00
$3 \times 27 \times 60 = 4860$ kg @ Rs. 5.00 per kg	
Concentrate feed 200 grams per day per goat for 5 months $(2.2 \text{ kg} \times 150) = \text{Rs. } 3,000.00 \times 5$ months	25,920.00
Total Expenditure	1,06,920.00
Income	
2 Kids per Doe	44 kids
Animal attain 15 kg per 5 month @ Rs. 5,000.00 per goat for 44 goats	2,20,000.00
Net Income $(2,20,000.00 - 1,06,920.00) \times 2$	2,26,160.00
Net Income	2,26,160.00



Figure 1: Salem black goat - health assessment



Figure 2: Fodder bank [CO(BN)5]

Success Point

As a result of technological intervention by the KVK, Dharmapuri the farmer had obtained good revenue. Intensive Salem black goat rearing with 22+5 numbers along with improved rearing technologies of goats farmer can get Rs. 2, 26,160.00 per year. Small and marginal farmer can get more income through intensive system of Salem black goat rearing.

Conclusion

Concerning difficult environmental conditions, goats are probably the most well-adapted farm animals, and due to its cheap management and good meat

and milk production, goats have been considered one of the ancient animals to be domesticated all over the world. But these animals also contribute to a sustainable farming, Intensive goat production all over the world, with selected high production breeds, namely for meat production, enabling higher productions with lower effort, in order to feed more population from the developing countries.