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Success Stories on Intensive Salem Black Goat Rearing

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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.

Background Information

Salem Black goats are distributed in north-western agro climatic zone of Tamil Nadu and are 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. They are mainly distributed in Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri and adjoining areas of Erode and Namakkal districts. Salem Black goats with true-to-type are present in Mettur and Omalur taluks of Salem district as well as Pennagaram, Palakkodu and Harur taluks of Dharmapuri district.

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.

An unemployed farmer Mr. Selvam resident of village-Palacode, Dharmapuri district -TamilNadu was a beneficiary of KVK on farm trail on Improvement of immune status and weight gain of kids by supplementation of specific mineral

mixture and mineral block for goats in Dharmapuri district (2017-2018), Assessing the adaptation and reproduction potential of cross bred of Tellicherry and Boer breed (2016-2017) and attended a Training Programme on Commercial Goat Farming organized by KVK Dharmapuri Being inspired and motivated by the scientists of KVK he started a Goat Farm with salem black goat (Selva goat farm) in his village in the year 2019. He is 50 years old, having higher secondary education, having one acre land and he used to rear goats for the regular source of income and he could able to get very low income.

KVK Intervention

Following Technical guidance was given on package of practice for goat rearing.

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.

Health Management

- Supplementation of salt lick for maintains 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 and Hemorrhagic septicemia.

Result and Outcomes

Mr. Selvam has established the farm with 5 local breed goat reared under stall-fed intensive system of management. Initially he faced a number of problems like high cost of production, mortality and low price of the produce. The scientist from KVK visited his farm and suggested changes like breed (Salem), preparing pure breed animals as breeding stock and effective marketing strategy and strengthening linkages with the other farmers. Simultaneously he also received technical guidance from the scientists of KVK on health management of goats. Consequently his goat farming became viable and profitable.

Mr. Selvam remained continuously in touch with the scientists of KVK Dharmapuri through Scientist-Farmer Interactive Meets and Seminars and has been using latest scientific information on goat production for his benefit. The mortality in adults and kids, which was 8 and 30% respectively in the beginning, now has decreased to about 2% to 7 % per annum. Presently he has

10 goats in his farm and prepares pure breed animals mainly of Salem black breed of goat for selling them as breeding stock to the farmers and entrepreneurs. He also has some sheep of Macheri breed. He sells his goats only on live body weight basis at the rate of Rs. 300.00 per kg of live body weight. At present the annual gross revenue of the goat farm is Rs. 1 lakh and total annual expenditure is Rs. 30,000.00 giving an annual net income of Rs. 70000.00. Mr. Selvam has become a well-recognized commercial goat farmer of Palacode Region and various related government departments, NGOs and farmers consider him as a progressive goat farmer. He is being invited as a resource person on goat husbandry in different training programmes organized by the Animal Husbandry department and local NGOs. Till date about 150 farmers and trainees have visited his farm. Now he is developing and strengthening linkages with the small/ traditional goat farmers of the area for taking up breed improvement and organized marketing.

Table 1: Economic report of goat rearing (10+1 numbers)

Particulars	Expenditure(Rs.)
Total numbers of animal	10+1
Expenditure	
<u>Green Fodder</u>	
Green fodder requirement 7kg /day for 11 goats for 30 days $7 \times 11 \times 30 = 2310$ kg x2x5 months	23,100
<u>Dry fodder</u>	
$3 \times 11 \times 60 = 990$ kgx Rs.5	4,950
Concentrate feed 200 grams/day $(2.2 \text{kg} \times 150) = \text{Rs.} 3000 \times 5$ months	15,000
Total expenditure	43,050
Income	
2kids/doe	20 kids
Animal attain 15 kg /5 month @ Rs.5000/goat for 20 goats	1,00,000
Net income $(100000 - 43050) \times 2$	1,13,900
This is for	
Net income	1,13,900

Success Point

As a result of technological intervention by the KVK, Dharmapuri the farmer had obtained good revenue. Intensive Salem black goat rearing with 10+1 numbers along with improved rearing technologies of goats' farmer can get Rs. 1,20,000.00 per year. Small and marginal farmer can get more income through intensive system of Salem black goat rearing.



Figure 1: Salem black goat -health assessment

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.



Figure 2: Fodder bank (CO BN 5)

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.