

Adoption of goat rearing practices in Osmanabad, India

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in two blocks of Osmanabad district of Maharashtra state to know the adoption of goat rearing practices and its relation with profile of goat rearers. Data was collected from ten randomly selected villages from two block of Osmanabad district. The sample of 120 respondents was interviewed with specially developed interview schedule. From the study it was found that majority of the goat rearers were from old age group, having Higher secondary education, with small family size and medium level of income, having marginal land holding, 'goat rearing + farming' as a main occupation with small flock size. Where as most of the goat rearers had low social participation, medium use of sources of information and extension contacts. Regarding adoption, majority of rearers had medium adoption of improved goat rearing practices. From the relational analysis it was found that all the variables except land holding showed positive and significant relation with adoption of goat rearing practices, while age, family size, social participation, sources of information, extension contact and flock size were crucial variables in determining adoption of goat rearing practices.

INTRODUCTION

The livestock sector in India occupies prime importance in Indian economy because 70 % of Indian population depends up on agriculture for its livelihood. India is the leading country in the world in livestock population. Goat population of the world is 767.9 million and India ranks first and contributes 124.4 million. India's milk production is 88.1 million tones and in which goat contributes 3.70 million tones. Goats are reared for milk, meat, skin and mohair. Goat plays a significant role in the economy and nutrition of small farmers, marginal farmers and landless labours in the country. Goat milk is good source of mineral, calcium, phosphorous and vitamins like A, E and B. Goat meat has unique flavour, palatability, less tender and leaner than other meat. With such importance the goat rearing is the best profitable enterprise for the people but this is possible only when there is adoption of improved goat rearing practices by the goat rearers.

The various improved goat rearing practices have been evolved by the researchers in this sector. These improved practices should be adopted by the goat rearers to increase their profit. Keeping all this background in the mind and importance of goats in livestock, the present investigation was undertaken to assess the adoption level of goat rearing practices by the goat rearers in Osmanabad district of Maharashtra.

METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted in two blocks of Osmanabad. Five villages from each block were randomly selected for the study. From each village twelve goat rearers were randomly selected which consisted the sample size of 120 respondents. The interview schedule was specially developed to assess the data on the adoption of goat rearing practices. The data on such aspects were collected with the help of interview schedule by personal interviews. For the analysis of data, statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, correlation coefficient, multiple regression were used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic and personal characteristics of the goat rearers:

Age:

It was revealed that majority of the goat rearers (36.67 %) were from old age group followed by middle age group (32.50 %) and young age group (30.83 %) (Table 1).

Education:

It was observed that majority of the respondents (22.50 %) received the education up to Higher secondary school level. While comparatively, very few (15.83 %) of the goat rearers were illiterate, 19.16 % of them had primary education followed by 21.67 % and 20.84 % of the respondents had received

Key words :

Adoption, Goat rearing practices, Goat rearers.

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