



Constraints in goat farming in Bidar district of Karnataka state

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● ABSTRACT ●

The present study was undertaken to explore the constraints in goat rearing in Bidar district of Karnataka in India. For this study, 70 respondents from six Livestock Interest Groups (LIGs), which have undertaken Bidri goat rearing as an income generating activity under DBT (Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi) funded project and who had more than two years of experience in goat rearing were selected from six villages in four Talukas of Bidar district. The study revealed that majority of the respondents were facing the problems with respect to availability of fodder during summer season, disease problems, wild animal's attacks on goats, problem of ticks, housing problem in rainy and winter season.

KEY WORDS : Goat farming, Constraints, Goat rearing

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● INTRODUCTION ●

Constraints are the problems or the difficulties faced by the goat keepers in the day to day management of goat husbandry practices. In India, rural people in general and farming community in specific are facing a variety of advents like either floods or droughts based on different geographic and agro-climatic regions, which lead to non-availability of fodder and water thus, finally resulting in diseases and poor production performance in their livestock, causing great concern in the development of the rural livelihood.

Diversification in income generating activities (*i.e.* rearing dairy animals, sheep and goat, poultry, piggyery) is one of the major steps that could help the farming community to come out of such advents and can provide sustainable livelihoods to rural poor. In such advent conditions, goat husbandry can act as an important source of livelihood for the rural poor, particularly for women, landless and marginal farmers living in the interior areas, who do not have other means of survival. Goat is ideally

suitable for the poorest of the poor because of short gestation period, low risk capital investment and low cost of maintenance. Goat rearing being a traditional practice among the rural poor, is wisely considered as a "poor man's cow". With an objective of finding out such constraints in goat husbandry as perceived by goat keepers of Bidar district of Karnataka region the following study was undertaken.

● MATERIALS AND METHODS ●

Bidar district was purposively selected for the present study because it is one of the most backward districts in the Karnataka state and is having high level of rural poverty (about 50 per cent), and goat rearing is one of the major livestock rearing activities practiced by the majority of the rural households especially landless agricultural labourers, and small and marginal farmers. Apart from this, there were 18 LIGs promoted (in similar line with SHGs concept) by Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension, Veterinary College, Bidar, Karnataka. Out of these 18 LIGs three men and three women LIGs who had more than two years of goat rearing experience were selected for the study. Three men LIGs had ten members each and two women LIGs had ten members each and one women LIG had 20 members, thus constituted a total of 70 respondents. The data were collected through semi-structured interview schedule and focussed group discussion. The data collected were

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