



## Adoption of goat farming technology by goat keepers

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**ABSTRACT :** The main focus of study was on adoption of goat farming technologies by goat keepers. It was observed that the characteristics namely, age, education, family size, annual income, social participation, source of information, knowledge, scientific orientation, economic motivation, and proximity to urban area had positive and significant relationship with adoption level. However, the relationship between land holding and herd size with adoption level were found non-significantly related. The major problems faced by goat keepers in adoption of goat farming technology were lack of knowledge regarding improved breeds, non-availability of improved breeds, lack of training centres, lack of grazing land, high mortality in kids, lack of markets and non-availability of veterinary hospitals and doctors near to villages.

**KEY WORDS :** Goat farming, Technology, Adoption

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### INTRODUCTION

Goat is the backbone of economy of small and landless farmers in India. It is an insurance against crop failure and provides alternate source of livelihood to farmers all the year round. Goat plays an important role in income generation, capital storage, employment generation and improving household nutrition. Being smaller in size they are easier to manage, require less space and can be easily handled by women and children.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was carried out in Chandur Railway Panchayat Samiti of Amravati district in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra State. The study was mainly confined to Chandur Railway Tahsil, because Chandur Railway is hilly area and there is ample of grazing land and fodder available for goats. A sample of 120 respondents was drawn from 10 selective villages dominant in goat rearing activity from Chandur Railway Tahsil of Amravati district.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It was observed from Table 1 that the characteristics namely, education, social participation, source of information, knowledge, scientific orientation, economic motivation and proximity to urban area had positive and significant relationship with adoption level of the respondents at 0.01 per cent level of significance, while age, family size and annual income had also positive and significant relationship with adoption level of the respondents at 0.05 per cent level of significance.

However, the relationship between other characteristics of respondents namely, land holding and herd size and their adoption level were found non-significant.

The findings of the present study are similar with the results of Khalache *et al.* (2007) and Wadkar *et al.* (2009).

#### Problems faced by the respondents while adoption of goat farming technology:

The problems which are based on different type of difficulties faced by respondents are presented in the following table in nine groups.

From Table 2 it was observed that 64.16 per cent of the respondents expressed lack of knowledge regarding improved breeds of goats and 75.00 per cent of the respondents faced the problem about non availability of improved and prolific breeds of goat in local market. Regarding the training centres

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**Table 1 : Coefficient of correlation of selected characteristics of respondents with their adoption level**

Sr. No	Variables	Adoption	
		'r' value	't' value
1.	Age	0.1835	2.02*
2.	Education	0.2958	3.36**
3.	Family size	0.1940	2.15*
4.	Land holding	0.0672	0.732 NS
5.	Flock size	0.1239	1.35 NS
6.	Annual income	0.2190	2.42*
7.	Social participation	0.2510	2.81**
8.	Source of information	0.3931	4.63**
9.	Knowledge	0.3964	4.68**
10.	Scientific orientation	0.2719	3.06**
11.	Economic motivation	0.3073	3.50**
12.	Proximity to urban area	0.2365	2.63**

NS=Non-significant, \* and \*\* indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively

56.66 per cent of the respondents reported that they have problem of non-availability of the training centres on goats.

It was found that majority of the goat keepers reported the problem regarding grazing as 49.16 per cent of the goat keepers faced the shortage of grazing land, while 29.16 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of recurrent diarrhoea and ectoparasites. Regarding management of goats during kidding, 89.17 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of non-availability of veterinaries and hospitals near

to villages.

It was found that 25.00 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of losses due to wild animals, while 74.16 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of high mortality in kids due to diseases. Nearly 55.83 per cent of the respondents reported the problem of lack of quality breeding bucks, while 23.33 per cent of the respondents reported the problem of abortion.

About 66 per cent of the respondents faced the problem

**Table 2 : List of the difficulties faced by the respondents in adoption of goat farming technology**

Sr. No.	Name of problems	Number of respondents	Percentage
1.	<b>Breeds of goat :</b>		
	Lack of knowledge regarding improved breeds of goats.	77	64.16
	Non availability of improved and prolific breeds of goats.	90	75.00
2.	Lack of training centres in the urban areas	68	56.66
3.	<b>Housing management :</b>		
	Lack of grazing land.	59	49.16
	Problems of recurrent diarrhoea and ectoparasites.	35	29.16
4.	<b>Management of goats during kidding :</b>		
	Non-availability of veterinaries and hospitals.	107	89.16
5.	<b>Management of kids :</b>		
	Losses from wild animals.	30	25.00
	High mortality due to diseases.	89	74.16
6.	<b>Breeding management :</b>		
	Lack of breeding buck.	67	55.83
	Problems of abortion.	28	23.33
7..	<b>Feeding problems :</b>		
	No special concentrate mixture is available.	25	20.83
	Feeding concentrate to bucks is not possible due to high cost.	28	23.33
8.	<b>Credit facility for goat rearing :</b>		
	Government role and difficult terms and conditions of credit institutions.	79	65.83
9.	<b>Problems of marketing :</b>		
	Lack of markets of goats in local area.	18	15.00
	Problem of seasonal variation in goat prices.	17	14.66

of government role and difficult terms and conditions of credit institution. The findings are similar to results of Thakshal and Marapan. (2011).

It was found that 20.83 per cent of the respondents reported that no special concentrate mixture was available, while 23.33 per cent of the respondents reported the problem of feeding concentrates to bucks which was not possible due to high cost.

It was observed that 15 per cent of the respondents reported the problem of lack of markets in local areas, while 14.66 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of seasonal variation in goat prices.

The present results are similar to the findings of Kareemulla *et al.* (2010).

#### Conclusion:

The findings revealed that in goat farming practices, out of the selected characteristics, land holding and flock size showed non-significant relationship towards adoption of improved goat management practices. Hence, the study

suggests that intensive efforts should be made by extension workers to the increase adoption of improved technologies by goat keepers for increasing their income level and standard of living.

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