



# Extent of adoption of goat farming technologies and problems faced by goat keepers in adoption of goat farming technology

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**ABSTRACT :** The 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 seasonal variation in goat prices, non-availability of credit facilities, high cost and non-availability of concentrate mixtures, non-availability of veterinary hospitals and doctors near to villages were the major problems faced by goat keepers. The study also revealed that majority of the respondent goat keepers had medium level of adoption on selected goat farming practices.

**KEY WORDS :** Problems, Goat farming technology, Goat keepers, Extent of adoption

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## INTRODUCTION

Goat is the backbone of economy for 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. Socio-economic and other behavioral aspects of goat keepers might be influencing the adoption of management practices. There might be certain kind of relationship between these aspects and adoption of goat management practices in addition to the natural resources available to

them for goat farming. Furthermore, goat keepers might be facing certain constraints, particularly securing of loan to meet their financial requirement, marketing of goat and non-availability of goat health protection measures.

## MATERIAL 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 a sample of grazing land and fodder available for goats. A sample of 120 respondents was drawn from the 10 selective villages dominant in goat rearing activity from Chandur Railway tahsil of Amravati district. The data were collected by a face to face interview technique by contacting personally the selected goat keepers. The goat keepers were contacted on the grazing lands or at their homes as per their convenience. For measuring the level of adoption of management practices of goat keepers, a list of practices regarding goat keeping was prepared by

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referring the published literature krushi savadhini, of Dr. P.D.K.V. Akola and from hand book of Animal Husbandary published by ICAR. The problems which are based on different type of difficulties faced by goat keepers are presented in the following table in nine groups.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The figures in the Table 1 shows the problems reported by the respondents in adoption of improved goat farming technologies.

### Breeds of goat :

It is found 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.

The above observation are endorsed and confirmed by the findings made by Mohi and Bhatti (2006) and Kumar (2007).

### Lack of training centres :

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

### Housing management problems :

It is 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.

The above findings are similar with the findings made by Dhuppe *et al.* (2008) and Gujar and Pathodiya (2008).

### Management of goats during kidding :

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.

These findings are similar with the findings made by Meena and Malik (2009) and Thombre *et al.* (2010).

**Table 1: List of problems faced by goat keepers in adoption of goat farming technology**

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

**Management of kids :**

It is 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.

The above findings are similar with the findings made by Kumar (2007).

**Breeding management :**

It is found that 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.

The above findings are similar with the findings made by Gujar *et al.* (2007) and Kumar *et al.* (2006).

**Credit facility for goat rearing :**

It is found that 65.83 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of government role and difficult terms and conditions of credit institution.

The above findings are similar with the findings made by Jain and Pandey (2000) and Thakshal and Marapan (2011).

**Feeding problem :**

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

**Problem of marketing :**

It is found that 87.5 per cent of the respondents reported the problem of lack of markets in local areas, while 91.66 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of seasonal variation in goat prices.

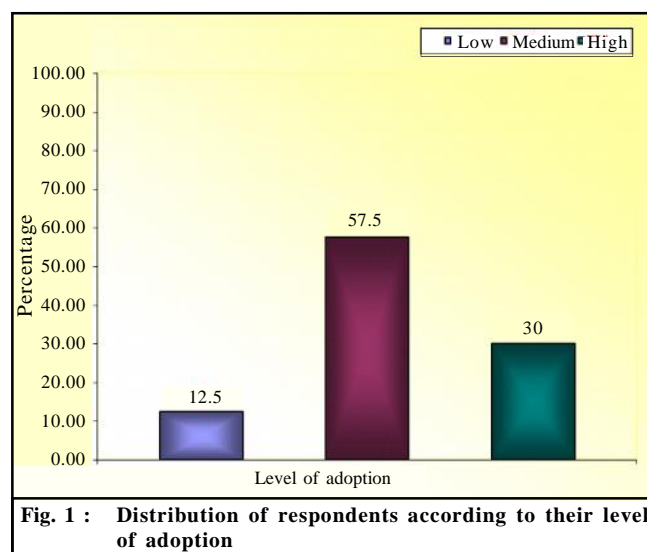
The above findings are similar with the findings made by Kareemulla *et al.* (2010).

From the Table 2 it was seen that 57.5 per cent of the respondent goat keepers had medium level of adoption on selected goat farming practices, while 30.00 per cent of the respondents had reported high level of adoption and only 12.5 per cent of the respondents reported low

level of adoption. This finding clearly shows that the majority of the goat keepers were medium level adopters of improved goat farming practices.

This finding is supported by the finding made by Veeranna (2000); Wadkar *et al.* (2009) and Meena *et al.* (2011), who reported medium adoption by majority of the respondents.

Here, it was necessary to convince the goat keepers about importance of the use of improved practices for increasing their income, standard of living and overall development. A planned intensive effort by the extension agency in co-ordination with the department of Animal Husbandry is felt very much important for better adoption of improved goat rearing practices resulting into higher income.



**Fig. 1 : Distribution of respondents according to their level of adoption**

**Conclusion :**

It was found that a majority of the goat keepers were not aware about breeding, feeding and diseases management practices and had a medium level of adoption of improved goat farming technology. This implies that the extension agencies concerned with livestock development need to orient their programme towards educating the goat keepers regarding these practices of goat rearing and management by giving training, organizing field tours and conducting demonstration.

The lack of good quality breeding stock being a major

**Table 2 : Distribution of respondents according to their adoption level of goat farming technology**

Sr. No.	Respondents	Adoption level of respondent			Total
		Low	Medium	High	
1.	Total	15 (12.5)	69 (57.5)	36 (30.00)	120

problem in commercialization of goat production, the farms managed on scientific lines should be encouraged to become the centres of production of superior quality breeding animals.

Non-availability of veterinary facilities, lack of grazing lands, low selling prices of goats, marketing of goats and lack of markets is also a major problem faced by majority of the goat keepers. It implies establishment, strengthening a co-operative marketing mechanism so that they may purchase inputs for goat farming and also the sale of goats and its products.

Livestock development department and extension agencies which are concerned with goat development have to make conscious efforts for rapid diffusion of goat husbandry management innovations to the goat keepers. This can be done by arranging tours, exhibitions, shows, demonstrations and contact with progressive goat keepers.

Large number of goat keepers were not knowing about improved and prolific breeds recommended and released by the state Agricultural Universities. Hence, the study suggested that intensive efforts should be made by extension workers for making awareness and spread of knowledge among goat keepers about the innovations.

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