

Goat rearing

2010 -11

Introduction

Goat is a multi functional animal and plays a significant role in the economy and nutrition of landless, small and marginal farmers in the country. Goat rearing is an enterprise which has been practiced by a large section of population in rural areas. Economically goat is ideally suited for poor rural folk especially for marginal and landless laborers due to low maintenance cost, short term return on capital with low risk on capital investment. Goats thrive and add to the rural economy even in areas where it is difficult to raise cows and buffaloes. The multivarious methods of utility of goat render the animal to be labeled as a “poor man’s cow”. Perhaps it is the only farm livestock which fits well for effective utilization in the diverse socio-economic situations of the rural India.

Background

Goat shows a very efficient reproductive performance and resistance against diseases not only in well managed semi stall feeding system but also in severe drought conditions. Goat farming will generate petty cash for house hold requirement in addition to providing balanced food with minimum inputs available in the rural areas. Hence, goat rearing will certainly improve the economic status of majority of rural family from lower socio-economic groups. However, before starting the goat farming it is very essential to acquire knowledge on goat management skills. This will help the farmers in knowing the advantages of goat farming, different types of goat breeds in India, suitability to different climate, types of farming, feeding schedule, breeding methods, types of diseases like PPR, ET, Goat Pox and their effect on goats, labour and fodder management and many more management Styles. Keeping in view, realizing the scope of income that the farmers can generate through goat farming, our Kendra has conducted training programme on “Goat rearing for sustainable livelihood” with the goal of women empowerment in agri-based enterprises and self employment opportunities in animal husbandry.

Objective

1. To improve the socio-economic status of the rural people
2. Self employment for rural youth.
3. Enhancement of livestock & crop productivity through goat based integrated farming

Intervention: Process and Technology

Mr. Arasan, S/o. Mr. Duraisamy residing at Ramanadhapuram Village, Pappakapatti Post, Krishnarayapuram Taluk, Karur District. He worked in Army, after his retirement, he tried to start his own business in his own land. He approached KVK during July 2009 with a request to help him in establishing a subsidiary occupation to supplement his income. Considering the land availability and the potentiality of goat farming in his area, he was advised to establish a goat farm. He also attended the training programme conducted by the Kendra. During the training programme, selection, housing, feeding, disease management and breeding management of goats were taught.

Through training, by knowing the importance of fodder for goats, he approached the Kendra for the supply of Cumbu Napier grass (CO-4) cuttings, good quality seeds of CO (FS) 29, Desmanthus and Subabul for fodder development. He was also provided guidance on fodder cultivation and also feed ration for concentrate feed preparation which would minimize the feed cost under stall fed condition. He initially started the unit with 40 doe and 2 buck of Tellichey breed. At present the stock position is 3 males and 70 females. He sold 54 goats at the age of 4-6 months for breeding purpose in and around the villages. Direct marketing contacts were developed with KVK support.

He is following the scientific method of management as per the training programme and goats are being vaccinated regularly against Peste des petits ruminants (PPR), Foot and Mouth Disease, Haemorrhagic septicaemia and Enterotoxaemia and dewormed periodically. He is in regular touch with our KVK for timely veterinary service. He is visiting our centre or calling by telephone for clarification on practical management problems, as and when required.

