

Adoption of Improved Goat keeping Practices in Jalaun District of U.P.

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Abstract

Goat rearing is the traditional means of sustaining income, employment and family health among rural poorers. Now days goat rearing is emerge as a beneficial business among farmers. The goats are mostly rear in rainfed and undulated areas of country. Among these areas Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and their district Jalaun is best suited for goat rearing due to their geographical situation. On this background a study regarding ground realities of goat keepers and goat keeping practices was plan during 2014. For this purpose Jalaun district was purposively selected and datas were collected form 120 goat keepers. The findings of the study show that majority of the goat keepers belong to backward class group. The literacy level was found high with average land holding 1.62 h. Goat rearing contribute about 20 percent contribution in total family income. The flock size was about 18 goats among marginal farmers which was just double from small, medium farmers group. The goat keepers having medium adoption level regarding improved practices of goat rearing. Goat keepers were poor in adopting health care hygiene and breeding related knowledge. The association between extent of adoption and attributes of goat keepers were found independent to each other.

Keywords: Adoption, Association, Goat, Practices, Rural, Socio-economic Profile

About 60 percent countries population depend upon agriculture and allied activities, while the role of agriculture sector in Gross Domestic Product is about 14 percent, so increasing the income of farmers is a great challenges. With agriculture, it is costumary to rear livestock as a source of some extra income. Among all livestock species goat occupies an important place in Indian economy since it contributes effectively in nutrition, employment and livelihood security to the subsistence small, marginal farmers and landless poorers. Less capital investment, external inputs, high adoptability to variable feeds, low risk – quick return and easy integration with

crops and livestock has made it animal of choice (M.K. Singh, et al, 2014). Therefore, goat is popularly known as poor men's cow. The share of goats to the total milk yield and meat production of India was recorded as 3.82% and 69.35%, respectively (R. Prasad, et al. 2013). The value of the output from goat milk and meat was estimated as Rs. 44.3 billion and 71.66 billion respectively during 2004-05 (GOI, 2006).

India has largest population of goats in the world with rich diversity and suitability for each regions. Among several regions, rainfed region including Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh also well suited for goat keeping. Undulating topography, residual

and low depth of soil with several revines produces sufficient vegetation for goats. Monocropping issue of this region also promote to goat keeping as a main source of feed during kharif and zaid season. Among all seven districts of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh, one district namely, Jalaun having highest goats population i.e. 257389 with varied diversity. District Jalaun, almost all the cultivated lands are dependent on rains of crop production and goat keeping is fashion due to good marketing facility. The goat is dwarf and tiny animal which is easily manageable even by poorest among poor. Because of its high production of marketable commodities such as milk, meat, hair, skin and mannures, Thus, goat provide income, employment, nutrition and supporting crop production by providing cash for the purchase of critical inputs (M.K. Singh, *et al.* 2014).

With the introduction of improved goat keeping practices it has now became possible to increase the production potential of goats. The goat keepers should adopt feeding, breeding, diseases and other management practices in scientific manner to get desired / maximum benefits. It is widely recognized fact that neither flow of goat husbandry innovations to farming commonly in the rural sectors in neither rapid nor smooth. (Mohan *et al.*, 2009). On this line the current investigation was carried out with following objectives.

1. To know the socio-economic profile of Goat keepers in Jalaun District.
2. To study the extent of adoption of improved practices of goat keepers.
3. To study the association between extent of adoption and personal attributes of the goat keepers.

Materials and Methods

The study was purposively conducted in Jalaun district of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh due to highest goat population in the district. Block Dakor and Maheba were also selected purposively due to occurrence of undulating revines and less

cultivable area most suited for goat keepers. From each block two villages were selected having more number of goat keepers and categorized as small, medium and large keepers. From each category 10 keepers were selected randomly to make a total of 30 respondents from each village. Thus, 120 respondents from block Dakor and Maheba were selected for data collection. Data were collected with the help of structured schedule by personally with the help of two agricultural graduation students. Collected data were tabulated & analyzed in the light of objective.

Results and Discussion

Socio-economic profile of Goat keepers in Jalaun district

Socio-economic profile of goat keepers presented in Table 1 on the basis of collected data. The population of goat keepers indicate the maximum number i.e. 62 percent goat keepers belong to backward class followed by schedule and general caste group. The average family size was near to 6 members in a family with 75 percent literacy.

Table 1. Socio-economic profile of goat keepers (N = 120)

S. No.	Particular	Socio-economic data
1.	Caste Group (%)	
	General	9
	Backward	62
	Schedule	29
2	Family size (average number)	5.92
3	Literacy (%)	75.00
4	Average land holding (h)	1.62
5	Average income /Y Rs.	53227
6	Average income from cropping (%)	32.50
7	Average income from Goat (%)	19.70
8	Average income from other livestock species (%)	27.50
9	Average income from labour (%)	23.27

10	Flock size among marginal farmers (number)	17.80
11	Flock size among small farmers (number)	9.50
12	Flock size among medium farmers (number)	8.10
13	Flock size among large farmers (number)	4.50

This means Goat keeping practice not related to educational status of people. Data also indicate that average land holding of goat keepers was 1.62 h while they distributed among marginal, small, medium and large holding group. Average income from goat keeping i.e. 19.70 percent share contribute in total income plays greater role in income and employment generation. The table also reveals that marginal farmers having just near/near to double flock size as compare to small and medium farmers. It means the income share form goat is more for marginal farmers.

Extent of adoption of Goat Keepers

Improved goat keeping practices are the scientific recommendations for increasing production potential of goats. The extent of adoption data regarding improved goat keeping practices were depicted in Table-2.

Table 2: Goat keepers distribution on the basis of extent of adoption (N = 120)

Adoption level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (below 9.63)	20	16.66
Medium (9.63 to 13.91)	64	53.34
High (above 13.91)	36	30.00
Total	120	100.00

The Table 2 reveals that 53.34 percent goat keepers were in the medium adoption group, followed by 30 percent in high adoption and 16.66 percent in low adoption group. It means improved goat keeping training and skill up-gradation is required.

Table 3. Adoption of improved goat keeping practices

S. No.	Improved practices	Goat keepers mean percent score	Rank order
1	Breeding related	8.93	V
2	Feeding related	14.87	III
3	Management related		
	(a) housing	28.06	I
	(b) Milking	19.00	II
	(c) Health care & hygiene	13.61	IV
	Overall	17.95	

In Table 3 improved practices wise adoption of goat keepers, mean percent score (MPS) were calculated. Data as indicated in table that housing practices had first rank with MPS 28.06 followed by milking and feeding related practices had rank II and III with MPS 19 and 14.87. Practices pertaining to health care & hygiene and breeding issue the adoption level were poor and ranked IV & V with MPS 13.61 and 8.93. It means more need of training to goat keepers regarding health care & hygiene as well as breeding related issues among goat keepers of Jalaun district.

Association between extent of adoption and goat keepers attributes

The X^2 test were used for analysis of association between extent of adoption and attributes of goat keepers.

Table 4: Association between extent of adoption and personal attributes of goat keepers.

S. No.	Variables	X^2 test value
1	Age	2.821 x^2
2	Education	1.327 x^2
3	Caste	1.231 x^2
4	Size of family	1.022 x^2
5	Hard size	1.063 x^2
6	Land holding size	4.031 x^2

NS = Non significant at 5% level of significant.

The data of table 4 indicate that personal characteristics of goat keepers like age, education, caste, family size, herd size and land holding size had no significant association with adoption level of goat keepers. It means personal attributes and level of adoption are independent to each other.

Conclusion

The findings of the study concluded that goat keeping enterprized dominated by backward class with good educational status. The average income from goat keeping was about 20 percent of total income but marginal farmers had about 18 goats with mere share in total income. About 53 percent goat keepers had medium level of adoption about improved goat keeping practices while personal attributes of goat keepers had not played significant role in adopting improved practices regarding goat keeping. Extent of adoption shows that housing, milking and feeding

related practices show good adoption scenario as compare to health care & hygiene and breeding related. Hence it is an urgent need to train goat keepers for sustaining their income in order to increase milk and meat production.

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