

Livelihood Security of Tribal Farmers in Adilabad District through Goat Farming

Abstract

To create subsidiary income and employment to small and marginal tribal farmers of Adilabad district, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adilabad introduced Goat farming as a livelihood opportunity to the tribal farmers. Under the Goat farming 40 tribal farmers were selected from the 8 adopted villages of KVK, Adilabad by Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques. Every farmer was given 2 goats with a worth of Rs.8000 and few supplementary medicines and vaccines were also supplied. The net value created under goat farming in 4 years from 2013 to 2017 is Rs. 20, 75,000 and the number of goats is 415. It also found suitable from the point of employment generation per unit utilization of resources. Further it also created regular subsidiary income, goat milk for family consumption and farm yard manure for soil fertility.

Key words: Goat farming, Sustainable income, Livelihood

INTRODUCTION

Adilabad is one of the backward districts in Telangana state. The tribal population of the district as per 2001 census is 4, 16,511 which work out to 16.74% of the total population of the district. Out of 4.16 Lakhs tribal population of the district 2.07 Lakhs inhabit the scheduled areas and covering 44 mandals of 52 mandals in the district. It has some of the unique characters viz. high rainfall (average of 1159.4mm), uneven topography, less irrigation facilities, uneven rainfall distribution, more forest area (43%), low literacy and varied socio economic situations.

Goat is usually referred to as the cow of the poor. Goats are among the main meat-producing animals in India, whose meat (chevon) is one of the choicest meats and has huge domestic demand [1]. Besides meat, goats provide other products like milk, skin, fibre and manure to the farmers. Goat meat has no religious inhibitions and is consumed by all the religions and races in the country. Goat milk is source of cheap protein for the poor people and has medicinal properties. Goats are also major sources of leather and leather products in the country. Goats are simple creature and live in the domestic environment. Rearing of goat is easy and can be done by landless labourers, women and children. Goats can be reared has a

33 viable farming activity and may form source of livelihood and extra income for poor people
 34 in the villages [2]. Goat farming thus provides a good source of living and has great potential
 35 in most part of the country. Goat has the ability to survive on little vegetation and
 36 mountainous regions with little grass. Goat farming suits Adilabad district climate and
 37 economic situation and provide food and nutritional security to the millions of marginal,
 38 small farmers and agricultural labourers in the state. Thus Goats act as a ready to use
 39 economic asset at time of crisis among rural farmers [3]. In view of the above advantages, to
 40 make farming as a sustainable entity among tribal farmers, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adilabad
 41 under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) supplied goats and
 42 few medicines for gotary farming to enhance subsidiary income of tribes.

43 MATERIALS AND METHODS

44 A study was conducted on socio economic levels and livelihood opportunities for tribal
 45 farmers in village through Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques in adopted
 46 villages during 2013 to 2017 given in table 1. Forty beneficiaries were identified, a thorough
 47 PRA were conducted of selected farmers. Each beneficiary given 2 goats (1 male and 1
 48 female), a total of 80 goats were supplied under RKVY and TSP with a worth of Rs. 8000
 49 (Rs.4000/Goat). Training on gotary farming and demonstration on vaccination and rearing
 50 techniques were briefed to the tribal farmers. KVK, Adilabad also supplied vaccines and
 51 medicines with a worth of Rs.1000 per beneficiary.

52 Table 1. Details of adopted villages selected for study

S.No	Year	Village	Mandal	No of Beneficiaries
1	2013	Pataguda	Indravelly	5
2	2013	Gourapur	Indravelly	5
3	2013	Ambugaoan	Thamsi	5
4	2013	Girigoam	Thamsi	5
5	2013	Sirikonda		5
6	2016	Shaikguda	Thalamadugu	5

7		Shareguda	Thalamadugu	5
8	2017	Markaguda	Gudihathnoor	5

53

54 To sustain the gotary farming and creation of subsidiary income, the observations like
 55 number of multiplications (Male and Female goats born), milk yields, manure quantity,
 56 number of male goats sold in the market was recorded [4].

57 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

58 Goat farming created substantial wealth to the tribes and also ensured regular cash flow in
 59 every season in the form of male goats which were sold in the market with a cost of
 60 Rs.5000/per goat. A beneficiary farmer named Shri. Sedam Bhuma S/o Bheem Rao of
 61 Village Pataguda of Indravelly mandal has reared 2 goats into 48 (table 2) with a worth of Rs.
 62 2, 40,000 (48@5000) from 2013 to 2017. It helped him in regular milk for his family and the
 63 manure generated was used in his fields for crop production. The cost benefit ratio is 24.0:1.

64 Table 2. Economics of beneficiary Gotary farming farmer

65

Name of the Farmer			Sedam Bhuma S/o Bheem Rao
Village/ Mandal			Pataguda/Indravelly /Adilabad
Live stock distributed to beneficiary under RKVY			Goats (2 No)
Year	2013	2016	2017
No. of Goats per Year	2	28	48
Value	2 @ 4000 =8,000	28 @ 5000 =1,40,000	48 @ 5000 =2,40,000

66

67 The date shown in table 3 revealed that beneficiaries in the year 2013 had more of number
 68 goats ranging from 27 to 132 per village. Where as in the year 2016 beneficiaries from
 69 Shaikguda and Shareguda village had 32 and 36 goats respectively. Altogether forty
 70 beneficiaries from 2013 to 2017 created a worth of 20, 75,000 with a 415 number of goats
 71 from initial 80 Goats with a worth of Rs. 3, 50,000. The average cost benefits ratio is 5.9:1.

72

73

74 Table 3. Economics of beneficiaries with Goat farming in different villages.
 75
 76

S.No	Year	Village	No of beneficiaries	Unit size & value given (Rs.) by KVK	Present value (Worth in Rs.)
1	2013	Pataguda	5	2X 5 =10 @ 4000= 40000	132 @5000 = 660000
2	2013	Gourapur	5	2X 5 =10 @ 4000= 40000	100 @5000 =500000
3	2013	Ambuguan	5	2X 5 =10 @ 4000= 40000	30 @5000 = 150000
4	2013	Girigoam	5	2X 5 =10 @ 4000= 40000	58 @5000= 290000
5	2013	Sirikonda	5	2X 5 =10 @ 4000= 40000	27 @5000 = 135000
6	2016	Shaikguda	5	2 X5 @5000= 50000	32 @5000 =
7		Shareguda	5	2 X5 @5000= 50000	36@5000
8	2017	Markaguda	5	2 X5 @5000= 50000	---
Total :			40	80 Goats with a worth given Rs. 3,50,000	Generated 415 Goats with a worth of Rs. 20,75,000

77
 78
 79 Goat farming reduced the migration of rural youth to urban areas. Also adopting Goat
 80 farming, one can use efficiently family labour and also ensures regular milk to the family
 81 which is highly nutritious. The manure generated was used in the fields for organic
 82 cultivation. Even few beneficiaries sold the manure to the other farmers and made income out
 83 of it.

84 The results which are revealed in this goat farming are in line with the ambitious flag ship
 85 scheme called Sheep distribution by government of Telangana. This scheme leads to a
 86 quantum of jump in rural economy. It paved way for the up liftment of a section of
 87 community in the state. Provision of financial subsidy to this skilled community for rearing
 88 sheep on a large scale will facilitate not only their economic development but also facilitate
 89 production of adequate quality of meat in the state. It is also aimed to make Telangana a hub

for meat export in near future like hub of IT and Pharma. The traditional shepherd families will be supported with the supply of (20+1) sheep on 75% subsidy with a total project outlay of Rs. 5,000 crores.

CONCLUSION

Goat farming is one of the best unique livelihood opportunities for the tribal farmers in the district. It can generate subsidiary income, utilizes family labour and provides year round nutritious milk to the family. Further an integrated farming system inclusive of goat farming offer unique opportunities for maintaining and extending biodiversity. The emphasis should be on small livestock such as chicken, sheep and goat in accordance with constant income. This would enable the farmers to enhance their productivity and reduce cost of their production.

REFERENCES

1. Shalander Kumar (2007). Commercial Goat Farming in India: An Emerging Agri-Business Opportunity. Agricultural Economics Research Review Vol. 20 (Conference Issue), pp 503-520.
2. Chander, M and Rathod, P.K., (2015). Livestock Innovation System: Reinventing public research and extension system in India, Indian Journal of Animal Science. 85 (11):1155-1163.
3. Lebbie, P.R., Ranganathan, T.T., Simon, S and Pradeep, C.A. (2010). Knowledge of farm women on Wayanad District, Kerala about goat rearing practices, Indian J. of Animal Sci., 44 (1):61-63.
4. Sahu B, Praful R, Atul Dange, and Devchand S (2017). Livelihood Security of Tribal Farmers by Integration of Different Enterprises. J Krishi Vigyan. 5(2): 97-99.