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To study the general trade practices of goat in Latur district of Maharashtra

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Abstract

To study the general trade practices, to suggest the ways and means for marketing of goat. Instead of studying all markets, four markets as per geographical distribution of districts were selected *viz.*, Latur, Renapur, Murud and Nalegaon goat markets Majority of 38.33 per cent small and 31.63 per cent medium land holders were involved in the sale and purchase of goats. Osmanabadi breed with 83.33 per cent black colour of goats were preferred by sellers and buyers mostly local market Latur. Mainly adult goats, 60.00 per cent were sold and 73.33 per cent purchased by farmers in selected markets of Latur district. Majority of farmers from Latur district adopted 50.00 per cent broker method followed by 46.63 per cent direct method for marketing of goats. Availability of fodder, drinking water, goat shed was not properly available in the markets. Major reasons for sale of goats were 45.00 per cent fodder problem, 26.67 per cent financial problem.

Keywords: Osmanabadi breed, market, Latur district

Introduction

India is the richest country of the world in the livestock wealth. Livestock contributes 27.28 % to agriculture GDP Goat contributes nearly 10.32% and sheep about 11.1% of the total GDP from livestock sector mainly in form of milk, meat, skin & wool India ranks1st in goat and 2nd in sheep population Small Ruminant Contribute Rs. 24,000 million per annum in rural Economy Paradoxically it receives only 2.5% of public spending on livestock sector. The total goat population in India and Maharashtra is about 135.17 million and 83.33 lakh respectively .Goat population in Latur district is about 665 thousand and it shares 1.5 per cent total goat population of Maharashtra.

Almost all experts and researchers on goat opine that this animal is reared mainly by the poor and weaker section of people in rural areas, as sideline activity. The average size of goat and sheep flock size comprises of 52 and 16 respectively goats. However, in some of the cases, the size of herds is as higher as 14 to 27 heads per farm. When goats are reared for commercial and extension purposes, large number of goats is kept within a single flock. As for example, the 'Osmanabadi' and Sangamneri' breed of goats is commercially reared in Marathwada and the State Goat farms and other research farms also keep large number of goats for extension and research purpose.

Contribution of small ruminants – mainly goat – is remarkable in the rural economy of India. Large sections of rural people are engaged in the rearing of goats. In pastoral and agricultural subsistence societies in India, goats are reared for additional source of income, which considered being a 'live saving account' at time of disaster. For the poor people, goats are also used for the payment of social and ceremonial needs. By nature, goat can easily survive on available grass, shrubs and trees. Among the small ruminants, goat is the most useful animal for providing meat, milk and hide. However, the main product of goat is meat, which is very tasty and preferable against any other types of meat. Goat meat has high protein contents and on the whole, it is highly acceptable to the consumer for its chemical composition, physical texture and microbial profiles.

Goats are distributed across all agro-climatic regions of the country. The density of goat population is highest in the states like West Bengal, Bihar, U.P., Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Jammu and Kashmir. Goat population of India is consists of number of breeds. Some of the breeds produced only fiber, some are reared for meat and milk and some for meat only.

Materials and Methods

1. Selection of markets

Livestock market mostly controlled by Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMC) and grampanchyat in Latur district was selected for the study. The four markets selected represented whole districts as per the geographical spread of the district. These markets are as follows.

MarketsDay of Markets1. LaturSaturday2. RenapurFriday3. MurudTuesday4. NalegaonTuesday

2. Selection of sellers, purchasers and brokers

After selecting the markets, 15 sellers, 15 purchasers and 15 brokers were selected from each market on random sampling basis and they were interviewed.

3. Method of data collection

The information on marketing of goat in Latur district was collected by personal survey interview method. For collection of information from sellers, purchasers, brokers and agricultural produce marketing committees the separate interviews were scheduled special and questionnaire was designed. The nature of information to be collected from these

sources was different from each other.

The information was collected from selected four markets on the weekly market days in the month October, November, December and January.

4. Information about goat

4.1 Breed of animal

This point was consider to know which type of breeds generally comes for marketing in different selected markets of Latur district.

4.2 Age of animal

Mainly the goats were categorized in three different groups depending on age *i.e.* young, adult and old and group wise study was undertaken for the different age groups.

4.3 Period of survey

The goat markets start from October-November to December-January in selected markets. Therefore the survey was carried out during peak period of market.

Results and Discussion

1. Size of land holding of goat seller and buyers

Goat sellers engaged in marketing of goat were categorized according to their land holding (Table 1 and Table 2) as marginal (up to 1 ha), small (1.01 to 2 ha), medium (2.01 to 4 ha) and large (above 4 ha).

Table 1: Distribution of goat sellers according to their land holding in selected markets

Sr. No.	Category of farmers		Total			
		Latur	Renapur	Murud	Nalegaon	1 Otal
1	Marginal (up to 1 ha)	01 (06.67)	03 (20.00)	03 (20.00)	03 (20.00)	10 (16.67)
2	Small (1.01 to 2 ha)	07 (46.67)	02 (13.33)	05 (33.33)	07 (46.67)	21 (35.00)
3	Medium (2.01 to 4 ha)	05 (33.33)	07 (46.67)	03 (20.00)	03 (20.00)	18 (30.00)
4	Large (above 4 ha)	02 (13.33)	03 (20.00)	04 (26.67)	02 (13.33)	11 (18.33)
	Total	15 (100)	15 (100)	15 (100)	15 (100)	60 (100)

Figures in parentheses indicates percentage

It is observed from Table 1 that goat sellers from marginal land holding group were 6.67, 20.00, 20.00 and 20.00 per cent in Latur, Renapur, Murud and Nalegaon, respectively. Goat sellers from small land holding group were 46.67, 13.33, 33.33 and 46.67 per cent in Latur, Renapur, Murud and Nalegaon goat markets, respectively. While 33.33, 46.67, 20.00 and 20.00 per cent from medium land holding group were observed in above markets. However, the sellers from the large land holding group 13.33, 20.00, 26.67 and 13.33

per cent goat were noticed from respective markets.

This trend of goat sellers indicates that majority sellers were from small land holding group (35.00%) involved in selling of goat followed by medium farmers (30.00%), large farmers (18.33%) and marginal farmers (16.67%) in all the selected markets of Latur district. Khatun *et al.* (2012) reported that the landless and marginal farmers were brought significantly higher number of goats to the markets for sale than that of small and medium farmers.

Table 2: Distribution of goat buyers according to their land holding in selected markets

Sr. No.	Cotogony of formore		Total			
	Category of farmers	Latur	Renapur	Murud	Nalegaon	Total
1	Marginal (up to 1 ha)	06 (40.00)	04 (26.67)	02 (13.33)	01 (6.67)	13 (21.67)
2	Small (1.01 to 2 ha)	03 (20.00)	05 (33.33)	04 (26.67)	05 (33.33)	17 (28.33)
3	Medium (2.01 to 4 ha)	05 (33.33)	04 (26.67)	06 (40.00)	04 (26.67)	19 (31.67)
4	Large (above 4 ha)	01 (06.67)	02 (13.33)	03 (20.00)	05 (33.33)	11 (18.33)
	Total	15 (100)	15 (100)	15 (100)	15 (100)	60 (100)

Figures in parentheses indicates percentage

It is observed from Table 2 that goat buyers observed from marginal land holding group were 40.00, 26.67, 13.33 and 6.67 per cent in Latur, Renapur, Murud and Nalegaon goat markets, respectively. The corresponding goat buyers from small land holding group were 20.00, 33.33, 26.67 and 33.33

per cent medium land holding group were 33.33, 26.67, 40.00 and 26.67 per cent, while from large land holding group were 6.67, 13.33, 20.00 and 33.33 per cent.

It is observed that, majority of goat buyers farmers were from medium land holding group (31.67%) followed by small

(28.33%), marginal (21.67%), and large land holding group (18.33%).

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