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Sociological profile of Sojat goat keepers in Pali and Jalore

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Abstract

This survey experiment was conducted in Pali and Jalore districts selected purposely keeping in view the fact that the district has highest goat population in Rajasthan. The study revealed that out of 160 respondents, majority (72.50%) of the respondents belongs to the joint family composition, while 27.50 per cent had nuclear family. Majority (58.12%) of the respondents had large family, while 41.88 per cent had small family size. 47.50 per cent goat keepers had up to 1 ha. of land holdings (marginal farmers), whereas, 33.12 per cent of the goat keepers had 1 to 2 ha. of land holdings (small farmers), 13.75 per cent had 2 to 4 ha. of land holdings (semi-medium farmers) and only 5.63 per cent of the goat keepers had 4 to 10 ha. Land holdings (medium farmers). None of the goat keepers in the study were having more than 10 ha. land. Majority (75.00%) of respondents had pucca house and 20.00 per cent had kachcha houses, while 5.00 per cent respondents had mixed type of houses. The majority (70.00%) of the respondents had medium flock size, whereas, 20.00 per cent had small flock size, while 10.00 per cent respondents had large flock size. Total 4320 Sojat goats were maintained by 160 goat keepers selected under present study. In all, 2674 (61.89%) were adult females (doe's), 140 (3.24%) were adult males (breeding bucks) and remaining 1506 (34.86%) were young stock. The population of female was higher in all age group while the male population was lower in all the categories of sojat goats.

Keywords: Sojat goat, type of family, family size, land holding, type of house, flock size and composition of goat surveyed

1. Introduction

The goat is versatile animal. It is known as poor man's cow. Goats can be kept with little expense in the marginal and undulating lands. Goat rearing is an enterprise that has been practice by a large section of population in rural areas. Goats have served the humankind in earning its livelihood by selling live animals or its products and byproducts. They contribute to livestock industry in terms of milk, meat, skin, hair offal, and dung. In difficult situations, goats may thrive on accessible shrubs and trees.

Livestock production is an important source of income for rural poor in India. About 70 per cent of the livestock production is in the hands of small and marginal farmers and landless labourers who own less than 30 per cent of the land area. Animal husbandry sector has a huge potential for providing gainful employment to rural women. Goat rearing is one of the most remunerative farming enterprises in India, providing income, employment and nutritional security to millions of marginal, small farmers and agricultural labourers. India has a goat population of 148.9 millions in which puducherry is having 73,630 goats according to the 20th Livestock census. Goats are popularly known as 'Poor man's cow' and they are mostly associated with poor, landless and marginal farmers.

In Rajasthan the total population is 20.84 million. Total meat production including goat meat was 5.9 million Tone in 2012-13 as compared to 1.9 million tons in 2001-02. ^[1] In Rajasthan state goat farming has become an income generating activity for every class of society whether they are landless or land holder, resource poor or progressive farmer and irrespective of their occupation. Hence, with this background the present study was conducted to know the sociological Profile of Sojat Goat Keepers in Pali and Jalore districts of Rajasthan.

2. Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Pali and Jalore districts selected purposely keeping in view the fact that the district has highest goat population in Rajasthan.

2.1 Selection of Tehsil: Two tehsils from each identified district were selected for present

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study on the basis of maximum number of Sojat goats. Thus, in all four tehsils were taken for the study. The name of selected tehsils from identified districts has been given in Table 1

2.2 Selection of Villages: A complete list of all the villages from the selected tehsils where the Sojat goat is reared by the farmers will be prepared with the help of personnel of department of Animal Husbandry. From the list so prepared, four villages were selected from each selected tehsilon the basis of maximum number of Sojat goats reared by the

farmers. Thus, total sixteen villages were identified for the present investigation.

2.3 Selection of respondents: For selection of respondents a list of Sojat goat owners were collected from the agriculture supervisor, gram sevak of respective village. From the obtained list, 10 farmers were selected randomly from each identified village. Thus, the total sample were of 160 Sojat goat farmers. The details of village wise selected respondents are given in following table

Village-wise selected respondents

Selected Districts	Selected Tehsils	Selected Villages	Selected respondents	Total
A. Pali	Sojat	Siyat	10	40
		Bilawas	10	
		Bagawas	10	
		Surayta	10	
	Marwar	Bali	10	40
		Halawat	10	
		Iisal	10	
		Jaitpura	10	
B. Jalore	Ahore	Ajitpura	10	40
		Bala	10	
		Bhooti	10	
		Chandrai	10	
	Jalor	Balwara	10	40
		Kolar	10	
		Nagni	10	
		Raniwara	10	
Total				160

2.4 Construction of Schedule for Data Collection: To gather the required information from the respondents, the interview schedule was developed keeping in view the objectives of the study. The interview schedule was pre-tested in the field before actually conducting survey.

type of family, family size, land holding, type of house, flock size and composition of goat surveyed of the respondents presented in following subsequent tables.

3. Results and Discussion

3. General profile of goat owners

The results of data regarding personal characteristics viz.,

3.1.1 Type of family of respondents

On the basis of type of family, the respondents were classified into two categories viz., nuclear family and joint family.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their type of family (n=160)

S.No	Type of family	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Joint	60	75.00	56	70.00	116	72.50
2.	Nuclear	20	25.00	24	30.00	44	27.50
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The data Table 1 indicates that out of 160 respondents, majority (72.50%) of the respondents belongs to the joint family composition, while 27.50 per cent had nuclear family.

respondents were classified into two categories viz., small family (up to 5 members) and large family (above 5 members).

3.2 Family size of respondents

On the basis of number of members in the family, the

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their family size (n=160)

S. No	Family size	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Small (up to 5)	35	43.75	32	40.00	67	41.88
2.	Large (above 5)	45	56.25	48	60.00	93	58.12
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The data Table 2 indicates that out of 160 respondents, majority (58.12%) of the respondents had large family, while 41.88 per cent had small family size. Similar trend was observed in both Pali and Jalore district. These results are in agreement with the findings of [8], Mishra *et al.*, (2012), [3], [4] and [2].

3.3 Land holding of respondents

On the basis of size of land holding, the respondents were classified into five categories viz., marginal (< 1 ha.), small (1-2ha.), semi-medium (2-4 ha.), medium (4-10 ha.) and large (above10 ha.). Their frequencies were counted and converted into percentage for all the categories of respondents.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their land holding (n=160)

S. No	Category	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Marginal (<1.00ha.)	39	48.75	37	46.25	76	47.50
2.	Small (1.00-2.00 ha.)	27	33.75	26	32.50	53	33.12
3.	Semi-Medium (2.00-4.00 ha.)	9	11.25	13	16.25	22	13.75
4.	Medium (4.00-10.00 ha.)	5	6.25	4	5.00	9	5.63
5.	Large (>10.00 ha.)	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The distribution of the goat keepers according to their land holdings are presented in the Table 3. The data regarding land holdings indicate that out of total 160 respondents, 47.50 per cent goat keepers had up to 1 ha. of land holdings (marginal farmers), whereas, 33.12 per cent of the goat keepers had 1 to 2 ha. of land holdings (small farmers), 13.75 per cent had 2 to 4 ha. of land holdings (semi-medium farmers), and only 5.63 per cent of the goat keepers had 4 to 10 ha. Land holdings (medium farmers). None of the goat keepers in the study were

having more than 10 ha. land. These results are close to the findings of [7, 8, 6, 2].

3.4 Type of house of respondents

The data depicted in Table 4 indicate that out of 160 respondents, majority (75.00%) of respondents had pucca house and 20.00 per cent had kachcha houses, while 5.00 per cent respondents had mixed type of houses.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their type of house (n=160)

S.No	Type of house	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Kachcha	17	21.25	15	18.75	32	20.00
2.	Pucca	57	71.25	63	78.75	120	75.00
3.	Mixed	6	7.50	2	2.50	8	5.00
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

3.5 Flock size of respondents

On the basis of number of goats in the flock, the respondents were classified into three categories viz., small flock (<15

goats), medium flock (15-30 goats) and large flock (>30 goats). Their frequencies were counted and converted into percentage for all the categories of respondents.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents on the basis of flock size of goat (n=160)

S. No	Flock size	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Small flock (<15 Goats)	12	15.00	20	25.00	32	20.00
2.	Medium flock (15-30 Goats)	58	72.50	54	67.50	112	70.00
3.	Large flock (>30 Goats)	10	12.50	6	7.50	16	10.00
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The data presented in Table 5 showed that the majority (70.00%) of the respondents had medium flock size, whereas, 20.00 per cent had small flock size, while 10.00 per cent respondents had large flock size. These findings contradict with the observation of [6] and [2].

3.6 Composition of goat surveyed

Total 4320 Sojat goats were maintained by 160 goat keepers selected under present study. In all, 2674 (61.89%) were adult females (doe's), 140 (3.24%) were adult males (breeding bucks) and remaining 1506 (34.86%) were young stock (Table-6).

Table 6: Composition of goat surveyed

S. No	Category	No. of animals	% of total
1	Adult female/Doe	2674	61.89
2	Adult male /Buck	140	3.24
3	Young stock	1506	34.86
Total		4320	100.00

3.7 Composition of young stock

Total young stock was further divided into five categories

based on their age wise 0-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12 and 12-18 months of age separately for males and females. (Table 7).

Table 7: Composition of young stock

S. No.	Age groups	Number of animals	% of total
1	0-3 Months-Male	48	3.18
2	0-3 Months-Female	53	3.51
3	3-6 Months-Male	171	11.35
4	3-6 Months-Female	320	21.24
5	6-9 Months-Male	87	5.77
6	6-9 Months-Female	322	21.38
7	9-12 Months-Male	55	3.65
8	9-12 Months-Female	253	16.79
9	12-18 Months-Male	42	2.78
10	12-18 Months -Female	155	10.29
Total		1506	100.00

Out of total 1506 young stock surveyed, the per cent young stock in 0-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12, and 12-18 month of age group was 3.18, 11.35, 5.77, 3.65, 2.78, and 3.51, 21.24, 21.38, 16.79 and 10.29 respectively for male and female. The population of female was higher in all age group while the male population was lower in all the categories.

5. Conclusion

It was found that 72.50 per cent respondents belonged to joint and 27.50 per cent respondents belonged to nuclear family. It was observed that 58.12 per cent respondents belonged to large family size and remaining 41.88 per cent respondents belonged to small family size. It was concluded that 47.50 per cent goat keepers had up to 1 ha. of land holdings (marginal farmers), followed by 33.12 per cent of the goat keepers had 1 to 2 ha. of land holdings (small farmers), 13.75 per cent had 2 to 4 ha. of land holdings (semi-medium farmers) and only 5.63 per cent of the goat keepers had 4 to 10 ha. land holdings (medium farmers). It was found that majority (75.00%) of respondents had pucca house and 20.00 per cent had kachcha houses, while 5.00 per cent respondents had mixed type of houses. It was observed that majority (70.00%) of the respondents had medium flock size, whereas, 20.00 per cent had small flock size, and 10.00 per cent respondents had large flock size. It was concluded that out of 4320 Sojat goats reared by selected by 160 owners, 2674 (61.89%) were adult females (doe's), 140 (3.24%) were adult males (breeding bucks) and remaining 1506 (34.86%) were young stock. Observed data regarding composition of young stock showed that out of total 1506 young stock surveyed, the per cent young stock in 0-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12, and 12-18 month of age group was 3.18, 11.35, 5.77, 3.65, 2.78, and 3.51, 21.24, 21.38, 16.79 and 10.29 respectively for male and female.

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