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Socio economic status of goat farmers in tribal sub plan area of Rajasthan

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Abstract

The paper discusses the socio-economic status of goat farmers in Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) area of Rajasthan. A total of 160 respondents were selected for present study. The demographic details of the goat rearing farmer reveals that average age of the house hold was varied from 45.92 years in small category to 84.85 years in large category. The family type revealed that 73, 34 and 28 are belongs to joint families for small, medium and large farmers respectively as against of 12, 8 and 5 are belongs to nuclear families for small, medium and large category in the study area. The educational attainment in the study area on average 69 members attained education level as against of 91 illiterate in study area. Across the categories the 28 members have attained literacy whilst 57 members are illiterate. On other hand 24 members area literate and 9 members are illiterate in case of large category farmer. In the study area on an average 43 farmers obtained training however, categories' wise 10 members in small category and 12 members participated in large category farmers. One could observe that there are strong associations between the literacy and attending the training programme among the tribal with correlation coefficient of 0.75 for large category goat farmers. The large category farmers with family size of 8 members whereas 5 members in small category.

Keywords: Flock size, socio-economic status, literacy

Introduction

Rajasthan is the largest state in terms of total geographical area with 10.40 percent of the country and 5.67 per cent of total population of India (census, 2011). As per the 2011 census, the human population of Rajasthan was 6.86 crore of this, 75.11 per cent of rural population. The literacy rate of Rajasthan was 67.06 per cent, of which the male and female literacy rates were 80.50 per cent and 19.50 per cent respectively. Rajasthan ranks first in the country in terms of goat population and milk production. Goat meat is a popular meat in the country, and goat milk is preferred for its medicinal properties and importance in human health due to its close proximity to human milk for easy digestion. According to the NSSO, domestic and export demand for goat milk and meat products is expected to rise. From 2003-04 to 2009-10, per capita meat consumption increased from 53 grammes to 61 grams, and demand for goat meat is expected to rise to 2.13 million tones by 2050. (NIANP, 2013). Goat farming is important not only for economic reasons, but also for the nutritional security of millions of tribal people in the country. Goat farming is a profitable and sustainable enterprise for tribal people due to its low capital investment and recurring costs, quick return and low risk, and adaptability to harsh climatic conditions. Thus, it is critical to understand that the socioeconomics of goat farming is required before embarking on any major intervention to improve or develop the farming.

Methodology

Depending upon number of tehsils in each of two districts, Gogunda and Mavli tehsils were selected from Udaipur district likewise Gangrar and Kalpasen tehsils from Chittorgarh district, was selected on the basis of maximum number of goat population.

Table 1: Livestock pattern

Dist/Tehsils	Cattle	Buffalo	Sheep	Goat	Pig
Udaipura	503725	562673	73690	1216407	35
Mavli	47156	65395	5582	64212	25
Gongunda	31216	59534	4380	101579	0
Chittorgarh	297766	428977	22133	405252	1220
Kalpasan	22936	58088	2951	43551	112
Gangrar	29812	31139	2775	38225	3

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Selection of Villages

Out of four selected tehsils, two villages from each tehsil were selected on the basis of maximum number of goat population. The kukarakhera and madri villages from Gogunda tehsil and Khembar and Sindhu villages from Mavli. Whilst, Bhatwerakalan and Jawasiya from Gangrar and Kankarwa and Mugana from Kapasen tehsil. Thus, a total of eight villages spread over two districts were taken for final selection of sample household.

Selection of Households

A complete list of the entire goat rearing households (having at least five does) in the selected villages was prepared. Sample 20 households from each selected village was taken. The total 160 households were selected for the study. Further, all selected households was classified into three flock size categories viz., small, medium and large on the basis of does owned by the goat keepers using cumulative frequency square root method. From four selected villages of Udaipur district,

80 goat rearing households was randomly selected for survey based on probability proportion of number in each flock size category. Thereafter, an equal number of households were drawn from selected four villages of Chittorgarh district in similar way. Thus, in all a total sample of 160 goat rearing households was selected for the present study.

Analysis and Discussion

Socio-economic profile of the goat rearing households

The socio-economic profile of the goat rearing households has profound influence on the decision-making process regarding the goat rearing and disposal of milk and live animals to milk marketing channels. This section provides information on demographic detail, prevailing land use pattern, land utilized for goat shed, details of irrigated and un-irrigated area, prevailing cropping pattern in the study area across categories. The relevant general background information of the goat rearing households is presented below

Table 2: Demographic details

Particulars	Small	Medium	Large	Overall
Age (Year)	45.92	46.75	48.85	47.17
Family size (Nos)	5.00	6.00	8.00	7.00
Family type (Nos)				
Nuclear	12.00	8.00	5.00	25.00
Joint	73.00	34.00	28.00	135.00
Education (Nos)				
literate	28.00	17.00	24.00	69.00
illiterate	57.00	25.00	9.00	91.00
participated in training programme	10.00	21.00	12.00	43.00
correlation coefficient (r value) (education with training programme)	0.42	0.61	0.75	0.54

The demographic details of the goat rearing farmers across categories have been depicted in the table 2. The result reveals that average age of the house hold was varied from 45.92 years in small category to 84.85 years in large category with overall age of 47.17 years. This implies that the flock size increases with age of the farmer old aged due to

requirement of higher experience and knowledge to carry out goat farming activities since age of the farmer is important factor in decision making and relatively required higher skill for dairy farming. The findings are in line with Bordoloi *et al.* (2005) who reported that average age of the head increases with farm size.

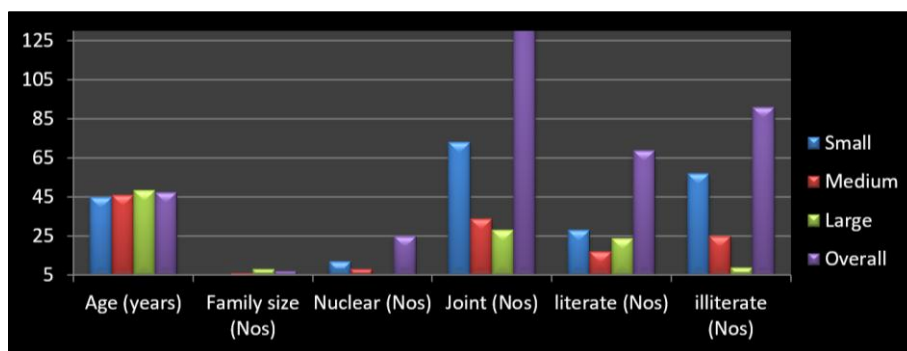


Fig 1: Demographic details of goat rearing farmers.

Analysis of family type revealed that 73, 34 and 28 are belongs to joint families in small, medium and large farmers, respectively as against of 12, 8 and 5 are belongs to nuclear families in small, medium and large category. This reflects the tribes followed old social system where the desire to live and joint life and taking care of elders. It is clear that number of households in both nuclear and joint families are decreased with increase flock size category.

Compulsory and free education up to primary level, equal opportunities for females, realization of importance of education, etc. were the facilitating factors for the marginal

literacy rate among the respondents. The findings shows that on average 69 members attained education level as against of 91 illiterate in study area. One could observe that across the categories for instance small category farmers have 28 members obtained literacy rate whilst 57 members are illiterate whilst, 24 members literate and only 9 members are illiterate in case of large category farmer. Number of illiterate households decreased with increases flock size category. The present findings are disagreement with Haque *et al.* (2014).

The participated in the training programme among the tribal farmer was about 43 members whilst 10 members participated

in the small category whilst 12 members in the large category farmers in the study area. One could observe that there are strong associations between the literacy and attending the training programme among the tribal with correlation coefficient of 0.75 for large category goat farmers.

The family size increases with flock size implies that the goat farming labor intensive enterprise for instance the large category farming with family size of 8 members whereas 5 members in case small category. Goat farming is significantly income and employment generation particularly rural masses (Kumar, 2014).

Conclusion

1. The demographic details of the goat rearing farmer's reveals that average age of the house hold was varied from 45.92 years in small category to 84.85 years in large category.
2. The family type revealed that 73, 34 and 28 are belongs to joint families for small, medium and large farmers respectively as against of 12, 8 and 5 are belongs to nuclear families for small, medium and large category in the study area.
3. The educational attainment in the study area on average 69 members attained education level as against of 91 illiterate in study area.
4. One could observe that there are strong associations between the literacy and attending the training programme among the tribal with correlation coefficient of 0.75 for large category goat farmers.
5. In the study area, the large category farming with family size of 8 members whereas 5 members in small category.

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