

ADOPTION OF BREEDING MANAGEMENT PRACTICES BY GOAT KEEPERS

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ABSTRACT

The goat is an animal that adapts to almost any climate and can sustain on spare forage and under extreme climatic condition. Proper and better care of breeding stock helps in developing good breed and getting good returns too. The present study was undertaken with the objective to study the extent of adoption of breeding management practices in goat farming by goat keeper in Dahod district of Gujarat. The data were collected with the help of well constructed and pretested interview schedule. The data was analyzed by using suitable statistical methods viz frequency, percentage etc. It was observed from the study that all the goat keepers (85.00 per cent) adopted the dual-purpose breed of goat. None of goat keepers adopted milch purpose, wool purpose, meat purpose and exotic breeds of goats as well as practice of castration of male kid and maintain a ratio of 1:20 for breeding a buck:doe. Cent percent of the respondents followed natural method of breeding in goat rearing and care should be taken of the doe during pregnancy (95.00 per cent) while less than fifty per cent of respondents make observation during kidding: night duty. Very few respondents completely adopted separate kidding space (23.00 per cent) and pregnancy diagnosis through veterinary expert/doctor (1.00 per cent) and prepared a bedding material during pregnancy of animals.

Keywords : goat keepers, breeding, practices, management

INTRODUCTION

Goat is the important livelihood source for landless and marginal farmers in many parts of the country as well as Goat rearing can be made a profitable venture for them with very low investments. A national goat research program in India with major stations at Assam, Andhra Pradesh, and Hyderabad provides an integrated approach with emphasis on crossbreeding to increase milk production (J. Lindsay Falvey,). Breeding practices have much influence on milk production and ultimately the economy of the farmers (Chaudhary et al., 2016). Selection and judging of the breeding stock are the first and foremost steps to start with any breeding programme. Appearance of the animal alone is not always a reliable guide to its breeding value as its appearance depends on the inheritance it has received from its parents and on the environment in which it grows up. The goat is generally considered to be a 'short-day' breeder with the peak incidence of breeding activity occurring in the autumn and early winter. During the breeding season, males engage in fighting other bucks and in breeding does, and may devote little time to feeding. They draw heavily on body reserves. Sometimes they stop eating during the mating season and lose up to 17% of their body weight between August and October. Breeding males may serve does up to 20 times a day

and 350 services seem to be possible in a limited breeding season.

Productivity of Indian goats is comparatively lower than many other developing countries. Average meat yield from a goat in India is only 10kg against about 20kg in Sri Lanka and 17kg in Pakistan (FAO, 2013). Knowledge of livestock farmer about various husbandry practices such as breeding, feeding and managements of animals, determines largely the success or failure of a livestock enterprise. At the same time, adoption behavior of livestock farmers depends on knowledge, economic motivation, family education status, extension agency contact, social participation and income (Kumar et al., 2014). If breeding and other management practices fit in the proper operation, it would be possible to reach the desired level of milk and meat production. Considering the vitality of above stated facts, the present study was carried out with specific object to determine the extent of adoption of breeding practices by goat keepers.

OBJECTIVE

To know the adoption of breeding management practices by goat keepers

METHODOLOGY

Dahod is a tribal dominated district of Gujarat state and their traditional occupation of rearing cattle, buffaloes, goats, and sheep, pig and desi fowls. Evidently, Goat farming is an enterprise which has been practiced by a large section of population in rural areas. The present study was conducted in Dahod district of Gujarat. Out of eight talukas of Dahod district, two talukas namely Garbada and Dhanpur, were selected for the study. Ten villages and from each selected village, 10 livestock keepers having goats were randomly selected making the total sample of 100. The Data were collected by interview schedule. Data were analyzed by appropriate statistical methods.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Information regarding the practice wise adoption of

livestock keepers of breeding management practices of goat farming is presented as Table .

It was observed from the table that vast majority of goat keepers (85.00 per cent) adopted the dual-purpose breed of goat. There have been at least two major driven forces which encourage goat keepers' of the region. One of them is a gradually growing interest in goat meat and milk. According to many consumers in the region, goat is the most frequently consumed meat and is hardly subsidized for weal or muffon. Goat milk is also considered healthier as it is believed to have a lower level of fat. None of livestock keepers adopted milch purpose, wool purpose, meat purpose and exotic breeds of goats as well as practice of castration of male kid and maintain a ratio of 1:20 for breeding a buck:doe. These findings were similar that of the findings of Lahoti and Chole. (2010).

Table 1 : Distribution of the Goat keepers according to their breeding management practices of goat farming

n=100

Sr. No.	Breeding Management	Adoption			Total Score	Mean Score	Rank
		Complete	Partial	No			
A	Breeds of goats						
1	Milch purpose breeds of goats	0 (0.00)	05 (5.00)	95 (95.00)	105	1.05	III
2	Meat purpose breeds	0 (0.00)	15 (15.00)	85 (85.00)	115	1.15	II
3	Dual purpose breeds	85 (85.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	255	2.55	I
4	Wool purpose breeds	0 (0.00)	00 (0.00)	100 (100.00)	100	1.00	IV
5	Exotic Breeds	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	100 (100.00)	100	1.00	IV
B	Type of Breeding						
1	Natural Breeding	100 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	300	3.00	I
2	Artificial Breeding	00 (00.00)	0 (0.00)	100 (100.00)	100	1.00	II
3	Castration of male kids	0 (0.00)	03 (3.00)	97 (97.00)	103	1.03	VII
4	Pregnancy diagnosis thoroughverinary expert/doctor	01 (1.00)	06 (6.00)	93 (93.00)	108	1.08	VI
5	Care during pregnancy	95 (95.00)	05 (5.00)	0 (0.00)	295	2.95	I
6	Observation during Kidding: Night duty	46 (46.00)	22 (22.00)	32 (32.00)	214	2.14	II
7	Maintain a ratio of 1:20 for breeding a buck:goat	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	100 (100.00)	100	1.00	V
8	Prepared a bedding during pregnancy of animals	06 (6.00)	62 (62.00)	32 (32.00)	174	1.74	IV
9	Separate Kidding space	23 (23.00)	35 (35.00)	42 (42.00)	181	1.81	III

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

Cent percent of the respondents followed natural method of breeding in goat rearing and care should be taken of the doe during pregnancy (95.00 per cent) while less than fifty per cent of respondents make observation during Kidding: Night duty. The main reason given was that natural mating was less complicated, so it was better than selective breeding. A lack of good breeding stock and the misconception that if one has good breeding stock that breeding outside of one's own herd or selective breeding within a herd is not necessary were also cited as obstacles to selective breeding. Most farmers surveyed did not understand the advantages of selective breeding. Ismet Boz (2015) in his study reported that majority of respondents (75.7%) used natural breeding methods and more than half of the respondents (57.1%) reared goats with after half-milking the mother.

Very few respondents completely adopted separate kidding space (23.00 per cent) and pregnancy diagnosis through veterinary expert/doctor (1.00 per cent) and prepared a bedding material during pregnancy of animals. Sasane et al.(2015) and Vahora et al. (2016) reported in their study that All the goat keepers completely adopted the management practices like semi-stalled goat rearing methods, selection by heredity, parents giving 2-3 kids, breeding age of buck, culling, heat detection, natural breeding, management of newly born kids,disease management of black quarter, hemorrhage septicemia, rinder pest and protection from exo-parasites.

CONCLUSION

From the above findings, could be concluded that goat keepers had adopted dual purpose bred of goat and Cent percent of the respondents followed natural method of breeding in goat rearing. Majority goat keepers had not maintain a ratio of 1:20 for breeding a buck:goat and not followed a castration of male kids. The policy makers have to orient their programmes to arrange training programmes, exhibitions and visits to disseminate the improved breeding practices, of and promote the artificial breeding, increase awareness as well as benefits of artificial breeding among

the got keepers which will surely increase the yield of goat keepers and indirectly their living of standard.

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