



ISSN (E): 2277- 7695
ISSN (P): 2349-8242
NAAS Rating: 5.23
TPI 2022; SP-11(1): 1186-1188
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www.thepharmajournal.com

Received: 04-11-2021

Accepted: 06-12-2021

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Socio-economic status of goat farmers in Sirohi Tehsil of Sirohi district, Rajasthan

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Abstract

Total 80 respondents from Sirohi tehsil of Sirohi district from 4 randomly selected villages were used for this study. Total 80 respondents were used in this study. Results showed that The majority of goat owners were middle age category (58.75%), illiterate (47.50%), living in medium size families (50.00%), living joint type family (57.50%), and small land holders (52.50%). Majority of goat owners (60.00%) had medium flock size and medium income from goat rearing (56.25%).

Keywords: socio economic status, goat, Sirohi

Introduction

In India, the livestock and agricultural production are inter-dependent and both are crucial for the livelihood security of the rural population. More than 70 per cent of India's population live in rural areas and rural population is projected to increase in future. Consequently, there is likely to be more pressure on land as most of the rural population depends on agriculture, resulting in an unfavorable land man ratio. With the increasing pressure on land, agriculture alone cannot provide gainful employment to all the rural population. On the other hand, livestock sector forms an important livelihood activity for most of the farmers, supporting agriculture in the form of draught power and supply of farm yard manure, contributing to the food and nutrition security of the household, supplementing income and offering employment opportunities.

Livestock derives food items (meat, milk and eggs) are the great contributor in the Indian economy. This sector is an integral component of Indian agriculture supporting livelihood of more than two third of rural population. The present growth rate in crop production is around 2 per cent, higher growth rates of 6-8 percent in animal husbandry sector would help in achieving the targeted growth rate of 4 per cent for the agriculture as a whole.

Study on the role of rural women and children in the traditional goat production activities in tribal and underdeveloped villages in Sirohi district of Rajasthan is scanty. The nature and extent of involvement of rural men, women and children in goat husbandry in terms of operations. The study revealed that children of goat farmers were not largely involved in strenuous activity of goat rearing. The women of goat farmer's family, in addition to their routine household duties also contributed in goat husbandry activities. The men treat the goat as an additional source of income, without much investment.

Research Methodology

The study was conducted in Sirohi District, Rajasthan, which was selected purposively. The district comprised of 5 tehsils, out of which one tehsils Sirohi was selected. Further, four villages selected from tehsil were identified. From each village 20 respondents were selected randomly. Thus, the entire sample consists of 80 respondents from selected four villages in Sirohi tehsil of Sirohi District, Rajasthan. A list of goat owners of selected villages was prepared with the help of village Sarpanch and Patwari with the criteria to select from all strata, was divided in three categories according to herd size viz. small, medium, large.

The interview method used for data collection. Interview schedule was divided into major parts. First section included profile of respondents and second section was I question related to management practices of goat owners.

Results and Discussions

Socio-economic status of goat owner in Sirohi District, Rajasthan

The profile of goat owner in Sirohi District, Rajasthan has been studied in terms of Age, Education, Size of family, Type of family, Size of land holding and flock size. The same are presented as below.

Age

The data from table 4.1 revealed that majority (58.75 per cent) were in the middle age group followed by young (20.00 per cent) and old (21.25 per cent) age groups according to data shown in table 1. These data revealed that majority of the houses were controlled by middle persons.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their age

Age group	Frequency	Percentage
Below 28 years	16	20.00
29 to 45 years	47	58.75
Above 45 years	17	21.25
Total	80	100.00

Education

The data presented in Table 2 show that out of the total 80 respondents, only 31.25 per cent were in category of illiterate; whereas percentage of literate and educated respondents were 47.50 per cent and 21.25 per cent, respectively.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their education level

Educational group	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	25	31.25
Literate	38	47.50
Educated	17	21.25
Total	80	100.00

Size of land holding

Table 3 shows that out of the total 80 respondents; 52.50 per cent farmers possessed 1 to 2 hectares of land holding, where as 24.25 per cent farmers having less than 1 hectares of land holding and 26.25 per cent farmers having more than 2 hectares land holding.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their size of land holding

Size of land holding	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 1 hectares	17	21.25
1 to 2 hectares	42	52.50
More than 2 hectares	21	26.25
Total	80	100.00

Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to their flock size

Herd Size	Frequency	Percentage
Small (<15 goats)	17	21.25
Medium (15-30 goats)	48	60.00
Large (>30 goats)	15	18.75
Total	80	100.00

Conclusion

It may be concluded that the majority of goat owners were middle age category (58.75%), illiterate (47.50%), living in medium size families (50.00%), living joint type family (57.50%), and small land holders (52.50%). Majority of goat

Income level

The distribution of respondents according to their annual income has been presented in Table 4 It indicates that out of total 80 respondents, 16.25 per cent farmers had annual income below Rs. 40, 000 where as 56.25 per cent and 27.50 per cent farmers had annual income Rs. 40, 000 to Rs. 80, 000 and above Rs. 80,000, respectively.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their income levels

Annual income of respondent	Frequency	Percentage
Below Rs. 40, 000	13	16.25
Rs. 40,000 to 80,000	45	56.25
Above Rs. 80,000	22	27.50
Total	80	100.00

Size of family

The data incorporated in Table 5 indicate that majority of respondents i.e. 50.00 per cent were from medium families (6-9 members) while 27.50 per cent from small families (up to 5 members) and 22.50 per cent large families.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to their family size

Family size	Frequency	Percentage
Small size (upto 5 members)	22	27.50
Medium size (6-9 members)	40	50.00
Large size (above 9 members)	18	22.50
Total	80	100.00

Type of family

The data presented in the table 6 clearly shows that out of total 80 respondents, 42.50 per cent belonged to nuclear families while remaining 57.50 per cent families were joint in their compassion.

Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to their family types

Family Type	Frequency	Percentage
Nuclear families	34	42.50
Joint families	46	57.50
Total	80	100.00

Flock size

It belongs to the number of goats possessed by the respondents. The analysis of data as presented in table 7 revealed that 60.00 per cent of the respondents were having medium size flock followed by small (21.25 per cent) and (18.75 per cent) large size flock. The data indicated that animal husbandry is the second enterprise after crop production in the study area.

owners (60.00%) had medium flock size and medium income from goat rearing (56.25%).

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