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Cropping pattern adopted by goat keepers as subsidiary occupation in tribal sub plan area of Rajasthan

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Abstract
The paper discusses the land use pattern adopted by goat keepers across various flock size categories of Rajasthan. A total of 160 respondents were selected for present study. The small category farmer with 27.20 hectare out of this 17.84% of the area under irrigated whist 82.16% of un-irrigated area. In case of large category farmer owns about 73.59 hectare out of this, 11.34% of the irrigated area and 88.66% un-irrigated area. The medium category farmer possess the highest irrigated area as against of small and large category farmers. In overall out of 147.83 hectare only 25.17 hectare access to irrigation. The prevailing cropping pattern in the study area the main crops grown under kharif season are maize, bajra and green gram whilst in the rabi season are wheat, gram and mustard. The gross cropped area was 261.87 ha out of this, 56.44% of the area under kharif season and 43.56% of the area under rabi season. In the kharif season the maize found to be dominant crop with 85.23 hectare (32.55) per cent to the gross cropped area) followed by bajra (17.31%) and green gram (6.59%). In the Rabi season wheat with 65.23 hectare and 24.91 per cent gross cropped area followed by gram crop (13.95%) and mustard (4.70%). The net cropped area was 147.80 hectare with the cropping intensity of 177.18% in the study area.

Keywords: Cropping pattern, goat keepers, flock size

Introduction
The goat farming is the important and significant source of livelihood security for the rural resource poor. In the state like Rajasthan, the occurrence of drought is most common phenomenon and crops uncertain, the goat farming was adopted by all categories of the farmers. About 80 per cent of goats in the state are owned by the landless, marginal and small farmers which noticeably demonstrate the significance of goats for the livelihood. (Kumar *et al*., 2011). Because they provide tangible benefits such as cash income from animal sales, meat for home consumption, manure, skins, and fiber (Hassen and Tesfaye, 2014). They are also a source of intangible benefits, for example savings, insurance, and for socio-cultural purposes (Dossa and Wollny, 2007).
Despite this, goat farming in India has low income levels, owing to a lack of fodder and knowledge and awareness about improved technologies and management practices, as well as a lack of information and awareness about improved technologies and management practices. Goat farming is the most widely adopted livestock activity in the country, with the potential to become a better source of employment and income for rural people, particularly tribal people who live in less suited conditions

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.

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.

Analysis and Discussion

Table 1: Prevailing cropping pattern in the study area

Sl. No	Particulars	Area (hectare)	percent to GCA
I	Kharif season	147.80	56.44
1	Maize	85.23	32.55
2	Bajra	45.32	17.31
3	Green gram	17.25	6.59
II	Rabi season	114.07	43.56
1	Wheat	65.23	24.91
2	Gram	36.52	13.95
3	Mustard	12.32	4.70
	Gross cropped area	261.87	100.00
	Net cropped area	147.80	
	Cropping intensity (%)	177.18	

The prevailing cropping pattern in the study area has been depicted table 1. The main crops grown under kharif season are maize, bajra and green gram while in the rabi season are wheat, gram and mustard. In the study area gross cropped area was 261.87 hectare out of this, 56.44% of the area under kharif season and 43.56% of the area under rabi season. In the kharif season the maize found to dominant crop with 85.23 hectare (32.55 per cent to the gross cropped area) followed by bajra (17.31%) and green gram (6.59%). Similarly in the rabi season wheat with 65.23 hectare with 24.91 per cent gross cropped area followed by gram crop (13.95%) and mustard (4.70%). The net cropped area was 147.80 hectare with the cropping intensity of 177.18% in the study area. One could observed from the data the maize occupies about 32.55 per cent of the gross cropped area implies that goat rearing farmers are inclined towards such crops could get fodder and main crops such as bajra and wheat.

Table 2: Details of irrigated and un-irrigated area in the study area

Particular	Small	Medium	Large	Overall
Area	27.20	47.04	73.59	147.83
Irrigated	4.85(17.84)	11.98(25.46)	8.34(11.34)	25.17(17.03)
Un-irrigated	22.35(82.16)	35.06(74.54)	65.25(88.66)	122.66(82.97)

Figures in parentheses indicates percentage of total area

The irrigation sources in the study area across the categories depicted in the table 2. The small category farmer with 27.20 hectare out of this 17.84% of the area under irrigated whist 82.16% of un-irrigated area. In case of large category farmer possess about 73.59 hectare out of this, 11.34% of the irrigated area and 88.66% un-irrigated area. The medium category farmer possess the highest irrigated area as against of small and large category farmers. In sum, the un-irrigated area is relatively higher than irrigated area in the study area. At category wise, the area under irrigation was less as compared to un-irrigated area in all the categories due to study area lack of irrigation facilities in the region. In overall out of 147.83 hectare only 25.17 hectare access to irrigation because of bore well facilities. This clearly implies that provides the irrigation facilities in the study area enables for sustainable goat farming in turn improves livelihood of the tribal people who area depends on goat farming.

Conclusion

1. The small category farmer with 27.20 hectare out of this 17.84% of the area under irrigated whist 82.16% of un-irrigated area. In case of large category farmer owns about 73.59 hectare out of this, 11.34% of the irrigated area and 88.66% un-irrigated area.
2. The medium category farmer possess the highest irrigated area as against of small and large category farmers. In overall out of 147.83 hectare only 25.17 hectare access to irrigation.
3. The prevailing cropping pattern in the study area the main crops grown under kharif season are maize, bajra and green gram whilst in the rabi season are wheat, gram and mustard.
4. The gross cropped area was 261.87 ha out of this, 56.44% of the area under kharif season and 43.56% of the area under rabi season.
5. In the kharif season the maize found to be dominant crop with 85.23 hectare (32.55 per cent to the gross cropped area) followed by bajra (17.31%) and green gram (6.59%).
6. In the Rabi season wheat with 65.23 hectare and 24.91 per cent gross cropped area followed by gram crop (13.95%) and mustard (4.70%). The net cropped area was 147.80 hectare with the cropping intensity of 177.18% in the study area.

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