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Investment pattern in goat farming across various flock size categories in tribal sub plan area of Rajasthan

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Abstract

The paper discusses the investment pattern adopted by goat keepers across various flock size categories of Rajasthan. 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. A total of 160 respondents were selected for present study. The investment per goat varies with flock size from Rs. 11586.08 (small category) to Rs.15571.02 (large category). Out of the total investment the investment on goats was highest in all categories followed by shed and equipments in the study area. In the study area the goat farmers between 5 to 18 goats were considered as a small flock size; more than 40 goats were considered as a large flock size and between 18- 40 animals were classified as medium flock size. On an average, total number of goats per household was 13, 33 and 65 in small, medium and large flock size respectively, with an overall average 36 goats per flock size.

Keywords: Investment pattern, goat keepers, flock size

Introduction

The goat sector possesses 38.16 per cent of the total livestock population of the state. The total milk production of Rajasthan is 14.57 million tonnes against 132.9 million tonnes milk production in India (NDDB, 2015). The share of goat milk (1.78 MT) in total milk production is 12.27 percent. Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) area consist of six districts namely Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur, Banswara, Sirohi and Pratapgarh. These districts contribute about 19 percent of total goat population in the state tribal Sub Plan (TSP) area of the state has a rich livestock wealth of 128.10 lakh animals, of which, goat contribute maximum (30.34 %) to total population followed by cattle population (22%) and buffaloes (17 %) as per the 20th livestock census. Out of 6 districts of TSP area, two districts, namely Udaipur and Chittorgarh have been selected purposively on the basis of maximum number of goats in TSP area.

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.

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: Investment pattern in goat farming (Amount in ₹)

Category	Present value of goat	Goat Shed	Dairy Equipments	Total investment	Investment/goat
Small	149500.00(99.26)	952.02(0.01)	167.00(0.0011)	150619.02(100.00)	11586.08
Medium	470250.00(98.80)	5210.00(0.01)	503.00(0.0011)	475963.00(100.00)	14423.12
Large	1002625.00(99.06)	8235.00(0.01)	1256.00(0.0012)	1012116.00(100.00)	15571.02
Overall Average	540791.67	4799.01	642.00	546232.67	13860.23

The investment pattern on goat farming prevails in the study area has been depicted in the table 1. The investment per goat varies with flock size from ₹ 11586.08 (small category) to ₹15571.02 (large category). The investment per goat increases with flock size implies that diseconomies of scale prevail in the study area mainly due to high cost incurred on equipments and shed. Out of the total investment the investment on goats was highest in all categories followed by shed and equipments in the study area. The investment in the goat farming

contribute towards building economy with respect to poverty alleviations, food and nutritional security of rural households in terms of meat, milk, income, capital storage, savings, an insurance against emergencies and serving cultural purposes (Al-Atiyat 2014). Since the goats acts as multi-functional animal and goats are among the main meat-producing animals in India and have huge demand in both domestic and global level.

Table 2: Categorization of goat farming based on flock sizes

Particulars	Small	Medium	Large	Overall
Goat farmers (Nos)	85.00	42.00	33.00	160.00
Flock range (Nos)	5 to 18	18 to 40	> 40	7 to 35
Average flock size (Nos)	13.00	33.00	65.00	36.00
Average yield of goat (litres/day)	2.45	2.5	2.65	2.25

The categorization of the goat framing in the study area depicted in the table 2. The goat rearing farmers’ falls under small, medium and large in the study area were 85, 42 and 33 respectively. The average productivity of goat (liters / day) was 2.45, 2.50 and 2.65 respectively. The findings indicates that goat farmers between 5 to 18 goats were considered as a small flock size; more than 40 goats were considered as a large flock size and between 18 - 40 animals were classified as medium flock size. On an average, total number of goats

per household was 13, 33 and 65 in small, medium and large flock size respectively, with an overall average 36 goats per flock size. The farmers’ falls under small, medium and large in the study area were 85, 42 and 33 respectively. The average milk productivity of goat (liters / day) was 2.45, 2.50 and 2.65, respectively. The milk yield marginally increases with increase in flock size mainly because of managerial skills and scientific management practices employed in the goat farming with respect to feeding practices.

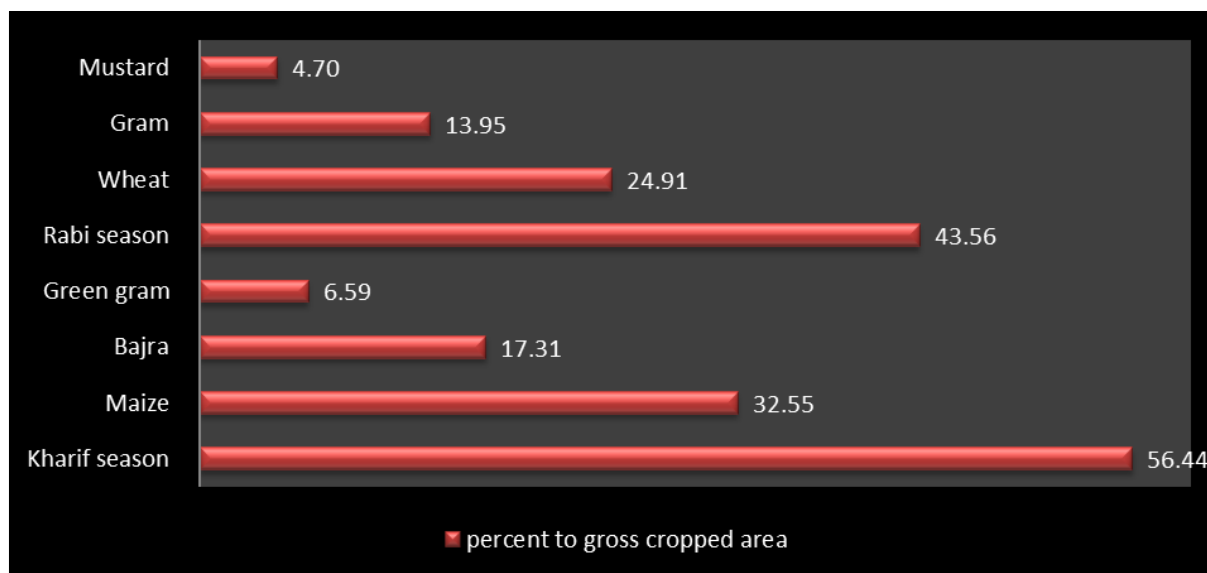


Fig 2: The percent of crops to gross cropped area in the study area.

Conclusion

1. The investment per goat varies with flock size from Rs. 11586.08 (small category) to Rs.15571.02 (large category). Out of the total investment the investment on goats was highest in all categories followed by shed and equipments in the study area.
2. In the study area the goat farmers between 5 to 18 goats

3. On an average, total number of goats per household was 13, 33 and 65 in small, medium and large flock size respectively, with an overall average 36 goats per flock size.

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