Impact Analysis of Trainings on Goat Production Technology

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ABSTRACT

Farmers of Alwar district are not following improved practices on goat farming *i.e.* breeding, feeding, health, management, production etc. which resulted in poor production performance of the goats. The present study underlines the importance of training programmes on goat farming to the rural youth which will help to recognize knowledge gaps in different areas of goat farming. The impact of the training programme on knowledge gained by rural youth was assessed through pre and post knowledge tests with the help of structured schedule. Majority (58.09%) of the trainees belonged to middle age and had higher secondary level education. They had 5-10 members in the family and land holding was less than 2 ha. Pre and post test score showed highly significant gain in knowledge in all 5 training programmes. This study suggested follow up of trainees is also required for better adoption of goat farming technologies.

Key words: Goat Farming, Impact analysis, Knowledge level, Trainings.

INTRODUCTION

Animal husbandry is essential for the rural livelihood, particularly farmers who have small size of land holdings. Livestock not only contribute to their earnings but provide best assurance against any natural calamity in farming. Goat plays a significant role in providing supplementary income and livelihood to millions of resource poor farmers and landless labours of rural area. India has the largest goat population in the world and majority of goats are reared by the marginal, small farmers and landless labourers under extensive management system (Dixit *et al,* 2014). The current goat population of Rajasthan is 218.40 lakh which in about 12 per cent of total population of goats in the country (20th Livestock census 2019). Mohan *et al* (2009) and Dixit *et al* (2014) mentioned that there is large gap between the improved and existing practices of goat rearing which result in poor production performance. Keeping this in view, the present study was undertaken to study impact of training programmes organised by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Navgaon (Alwar-I) on knowledge gain of rural youth in Alwar district.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was undertaken in Alwar district from Rajasthan. The district is situated in the north-east of Rajasthan between 27°34' and 28°4' north Latitudes and 76°7' and 77°13' east Longitudes. It is bounded on the north and north-east by Gurgaon (of Haryana) and Bharatpur district and on the north-west by Mahendragarh district of Haryana, on the south-west by Jaipur and on the south by Sawai- Madhopur and Jaipur districts. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Navgaon (Alwar-I) organised 10-15 d training programme on goat farming for rural youth of Alwar District. Training programmes were designed according to rural youth training needs and focused on goat breeding, feeding, health, housing, reproduction, value addition, economics and marketing. The impact of the training programme on knowledge gain by rural youth was assessed through pre and post knowledge tests with the help of structured schedule. Knowledge test schedule consisted 50 questions related with different aspect of goat farming *i.e.* breeding, feeding, health, management, production, marketing, decision making in goat farming also asked about the

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Table 1. Socio-economic profile of trainees.   **n=105**

Characteristic	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Age	Young age (up to 25 yr.)	36	34.28
	Middle age (26 to 35 yr.)	61	58.09
	Old age (above 35 yr.)	8	7.63
Education	Illiterate	2	01.90
	Primary Education	9	08.57
	Middle Education	34	32.38
	Higher Secondary	56	53.33
	Graduation	4	03.82
Family Size	Small (up to 5)	19	18.09
	Medium (6-10 members)	58	55.24
	Large (above 10 members)	28	26.67
Land Holding	Landless	21	20.00
	Less than 1 ha	52	49.52
	1 to 3 ha	27	25.72
	Above 3 ha	5	4.76
Experience in farming	1 to 4 yr.	31	29.52
	5 to 10 yr.	48	45.72
	More than 10 yr.	26	24.76
Annual income	Upto Rs. 1 lakh	26	24.76
	Rs. 1lakh to Rs.2 Lakh	71	67.62
	More than 2 lakh	8	7.62

constraints faced by rural youth in goat farming. A well-structured schedule was prepared and information was collected at the start of training and at the end of training course. Information was taken regarding age, education, family size, land holding, annual income and experience in farming. A set of 50 questions were used before and after training to understand the impact of training program on farmers. The data from 105 trainees of goat farming trainings conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Navgaon (Alwar-1) from year 2017 to March 2021were collected and analysed with the help of MS-Excel-2010.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The socio-economic profile of trainees included age, education, family size, land holding, annual income and experience in farming. Majority of the trainees were from the middle-aged group (26 to 35 yr). Age of the trainees of goat farming training ranged between 18 to 43 yr. with an average age of 28.76 yr. Most of the trainees fall under middle aged group because of last two years trainings on goat farming conducted under the attracting and retaining rural youth in agriculture (ARYA) project in which 18-35 age group people were selected as participants of training. This finding was in line

Table 2. Impact on the knowledge level of the participants in training Programme.

Year	No. of participants	Average Knowledge Score		
		Before Training	After Training	t-Values
2017	16	10.53	42.77	12.19**
2018	18	12.98	39.11	13.17**
2019	21	9.14	43.86	11.83**
2020	20	14.38	40.78	13.86**
2021	30	16.96	45.67	16.27**
Total	**105**			

with the result of Shelly (2020) who reported that majority of goat farmers were middle aged in the study on effectiveness of training programme on the adoption behaviour of goat farmers in Punjab.

Education is one of the most significant socioeconomic variables which help to easy understand of technical knowledge related with goat farming. It is evident that formal education in terms of primary education, middle level education, higher secondary and graduation was 08.57, 32.38, 53.33 and 03.82, respectively (Table 1). The outcomes were in accordance with the findings of Sharma *et al* (2007) Tanwar *et al* (2008). In case of family size maximum trainees (55.24 %) had middle level family size (6 to 10 members). Maximum number (49.52%) of trainees possessed less than 1 ha land. 45.72 respondents had 5 to 10 years' experience in farming and majority (67.62 %) had less than 2 lakh annual income. Same findings were found by Dhaka *et al* (2017) and Hundal *et al* (2016).

In the year 2017 , average marks obtained 10.53 by trainees before trainings while after training average score was 42.77 and the t test score showed highly significant gain in knowledge (Table 2). The t- test score for all the trainings was highly significant which shows that trainee's knowledge level increased by attending training programmes. Most of the trainees were aware about the health management of goat but not aware about vaccination

of goats. In case of breeding techniques , trainees score was minimum but after acquiring trainings they scored high in the breeding of goat section. This finding was in line with Dixit *et al* (2014) that average knowledge scores of pre and post training programms were increased significantly in all the training programmes.

CONCLUSION

The present study underlines the importance of training programmes on goat farming to the rural youth. A significant gain in the knowledge was observed in all 5 training programmes. Also found that socio –economic characteristics of trainees influenced gain of knowledge during training programme. These training programmes not only help to improve efficiency of goat farmers by educating them how they can use available resources in most efficient and balanced way but also provide a roadmap to the commercial goat farmers through introducing them with latest goat technologies.

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