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# Impact On Production And Marketing Of Small Ruminants In Selected Urban Communities Of Salem District

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## ABSTRACT

Challenges of Small Ruminants Production in Selected Urban Communities in Agriculture, which entails land cultivation for crop production and rearing of farm animals for man and industrial use, is traditionally carried out in the rural areas. The trend of crop and livestock production has however shifted to urban communities where a number of people cultivate land for crop production, mostly arable crops, and rearing of farm animals. As observed in rural communities, commonly raised farm animals in urban areas, particularly in Salem communities include sheep, goat, poultry, pig, rabbits and fishes. to describe the socioeconomic characteristics of urban sheep and goat rearers, examine the number of sheep and goats owned by each of the rearers, To identify the employed production system of sheep and goat management by the rearers, This study based on primary data sources. This study covered 42 respondents those are get to challenges of small ruminant's production from in Salem district. The data was collected by using a structured questionnaire blended with suitable open enter question. Some statistical tools are used like percentage, table also used. Based on the outcome of this study, it was concluded that management of sheep and goats in urban communities of Salem, Tamilnadu State is greatly challenged by a number of factors which could be categorized as feed and feeding, health, environmental, marketing and routine management related challenges.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Agriculture, which entails land cultivation for crop production and rearing of farm animals for man and industrial use, is traditionally carried out in the rural areas. The trend of crop and livestock production has however shifted to urban communities where a number of people cultivate land for crop production, mostly arable crops, and rearing of farm animals. As observed in rural communities, commonly raised farm animals in urban areas, particularly in Salem communities include sheep, goat, poultry, pig, rabbits and fishes. While poultry and fishes are commercially produced in the urban areas farm animals such as sheep, goat, pig and rabbits are largely produced at subsistence level, or at most, on small scale production. The subsistence level of production may have been borne out of high cost of feeding and maintenance of the farm animals and longer maturity period it takes the animals to attain table or market size, or optimum breeding and slaughter weight as opined by Specifically, it takes sheep and goats between 2 and 2½years to attain table size against the range of two to six months it takes poultry and fishes to attain table size. Although, sheep and goats command high market value during the festive seasons, meat from

 

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these small ruminants are less patronized or consumed outside the festive seasons owing to the fact that sheep and goat meats are relatively expensive in relation to beef and fish, which are cheaper and as such have become ready source of protein for consumption by most households in the urban communities.

Nevertheless, rearing of the small ruminant animals sheep and goats, in urban areas has continued to be on the increase largely due to procreative abilities of the animals. For instance both sheep and goat produce or give birth to young ones within a relatively short time of five months. While sheep mostly produce between one and two lambs, goats on the other hand pro- duce twin and at times triplets, and these takes place twice a year for both sheep and goats. In addition, the reared small ruminants served as ready or emergency source of income and meat for households as the animal could be sold or slaughtered in time of dare financial needs Notwithstanding these advantages of sheep and goat rearing in the urban areas, management of these farm animals has greatly been challenged or hampered by a number of production and environmental factors. According to Conroy these challenges affect the animals in terms of number (that is kept by households) and productivity. On this ground, the study delved into identifying the actual environmental and production/management factors that challenged sheep and goat rearing in selected urban communities of Salem. In addition, the study proposed possible ways of ameliorating the identified challenges to sheep and goat rearing in the study area specifically.

## 2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**Otunaiya Abiodun Olanrewaju et al (2015)** Subsistent level of indigenous small ruminant meat production in Nigeria limits its supply and consequently, accounted for its high prices. The study examined the willingness to pay for indigenous small ruminant meat in Ijebu division of Ogun state, Nigeria. A multistage sampling technique was used to select 120 rural households used for the study. The results of the descriptive and Logit regression analyses revealed that rural households head in the study area are mostly females, attained appreciable level of literacy with a means of livelihood and mostly in their middle age. These rural households consumed small ruminant meat regularly, well educated about the nutritional value of the ruminant meat, and mostly, willing to pay the market price of small ruminant meat whenever they are ready to consume the meat. Factors influencing their willingness to pay for small ruminant meat are age of the household head, occupation, distance from market, and price of small ruminant meat. The study recommends the establishment of slaughter houses and small ruminant meat market to consumption areas and in various villages to broaden the market as well as providing improved market access to producers.

**Selvaraju. G. (2014)** Sheep pox is one of the major viral diseases of sheep; it cause serious socio-economic or public health consequences, and is of major importance in the international trade of animals and animal products. An epidemiological study was undertaken to assess the crude and specific measures of morbidity, mortality and case fatality against sheep pox. In this study, a total of 15 sheep pox outbreaks were selected by active and passive surveillances in north-west agro climatic zone of Tamil Nadu, India. Overall morbidity, mortality and case fatality rates were 7.20%, 2.42% and 33.57% respectively. Morbidity, mortality and case fatality rates were higher in young than adult animals. Morbidity, mortality and case fatality rates were higher in Trichy black

 

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than Mecheri breed and Non-descriptor. Disease frequency was higher in females than males. The present study concludes significant age, breed and sex predisposing exist in the outbreaks of sheep pox.

## 3. OBJECTIVES

- To describe the socioeconomic characteristics of urban sheep and goat rearers,
- To examine the number of sheep and goats owned by each of the rearers,

## METHODOLOGY

This study based on primary data sources. This study covered 42 respondents those are get to challenges of small ruminant's production from in Salem district. The primary data have been collected through structure questionnaires from small ruminants have members the sample respondents a cross section of different age, sex, geography, education, levels of representative sample for such an exploratory study. The data was collected by using a structured questionnaire blended with suitable open enter question. Some statistical tools are used like percentage, table also used.

## 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE URBAN SHEEP AND GOAT REARERS

| CHARACTERISTICS | NO OF RESPONDENTS | PERCENTAGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sex | | |
| Male | 27 | 64 |
| Female | 15 | 36 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |
| Age-wise distribution | | |
| Less than 25 | 11 | 26 |
| 25-50 | 16 | 38 |
| Above 50 | 15 | 36 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |
| Literacy level | | |
| Illiterate | 19 | 45 |
| Primary | 8 | 19 |
| Middle | 15 | 36 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |
| Marital Status | | |
| Married | 28 | 67 |
| Widow | 14 | 33 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Family Size | | |
| 1 member | 12 | 28 |
| 2 member | 8 | 19 |
| 4 member | 15 | 36 |
| More than 4 member | 7 | 17 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |
| Type of Houses | | |
| Asbestos | 16 | 38 |
| Tiled | 20 | 48 |
| Concrete | 6 | 14 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |
| Annual Income | | |
| Less than 20000 | 25 | 60 |
| 20000-40000 | 12 | 28 |
| More then 40000 | 5 | 12 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |
| Landholding | | |
| Less than 1 acre | 8 | 19 |
| 1 acre – 2 acre | 15 | 36 |
| More than 2 acre | 19 | 45 |
| Total | 42 | 100 |

Sources: primary data

**TABLE NO 1**

The above table 1 show socio-economic profile of the respondent's majority of the respondents (64 per cent) was male respondents. Followed by 38 per cent respondents in the age group of 25-50years.45 per cent of the respondents were illiterate and 67 per cent respondents had married.36 per cent of the respondent's family size is 15 members.48 per cent of the respondents had tiled house.60 percent of the respondents were in Less than 20000 and 36 percent of the respondents had been in 1 acre – 2 acre.

**NUMBER OF GOATS OWNED, AND THE EMPLOYED PRODUCTION SYSTEM OF GOAT MANAGEMENT BY THE RESPONDENTS**

| VARIABLES | NO OF RESPONDENTS | PERCENTAGE |
|---|---|---|
| **NUMBER OF SHEEP OWNED** | | |
| ≤ 5 | 6 | 14 |
| 6 – 10 | 10 | 24 |
| 11 – 15 | 14 | 33 |
| ≥ 16 | 12 | 29 |
| **Total** | **42** | **100** |
| **NUMBER OF GOATS OWNED** | | |
| ≤ 5 | 10 | 24 |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 6 – 10 | 17 | 40 |
| 11 – 15 | 11 | 26 |
| ≥ 16 | 4 | 10 |
| **Total** | **42** | **100** |
| **PURPOSE OF PRODUCTION** | | |
| Household consumption | 12 | 28 |
| Marketing | 15 | 36 |
| Home consumption and marketing | 15 | 36 |
| **TOTAL** | **42** | **100** |
| **EXPERIENCE** | | |
| ≤ 2years | 12 | 28 |
| 3 – 5years | 8 | 19 |
| ≥ 9years | 7 | 17 |
| **TOTAL** | **42** | **100** |
| **MANAGEMENT SYSTEM** | | |
| Exclusively extensive management system | 11 | 26 |
| Exclusively intensive management system | 16 | 38 |
| Semi-intensive management system | 15 | 36 |
| **TOTAL** | **42** | **100** |

Sources: primary data

**TABLE NO 2**

The above table 2 shows that the goats owned and the employed production system of goat management of the respondents 33 percent was 11 – 15 sheep only owned and followed that the 40 percent in the respondents 6 – 10 of goat only owned and 36 percent of the respondents in Home consumption and marketing have been the 36 percent of the respondents 6 – 8years and 38 percent of the respondents in Exclusively intensive management system.

## CHALLENGES TO EFFECTIVE SHEEP AND GOAT MANAGEMENT IN THE URBAN COMMUNITIES

| VARIABLES | NO OF RESPONDENTS | PERCENTAGE |
|---|---|---|
| High cost of feeding | 2 | 5 |
| Incidence of pest and diseases | 4 | 9 |
| Sudden death of the farm animals without visible cause | 5 | 11 |
| High cost of Medicare | 1 | 2 |
| Sustenance of injury by the animals | 3 | 7 |
| High time consumption | 1 | 2 |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| High cost of Labour or tenders of the animals | 2 | 5 |
| Low productivity performance of the animals | 4 | 9 |
| Problem of herding | 5 | 11 |
| Theft of the farm animals | 3 | 7 |
| Problem of off-season feeding | 4 | 4 |
| Environmental nuisance of the animals | 2 | 5 |
| Poor market structure for the animals | 2 | 5 |
| Problem of housing for the animals | 2 | 5 |
| Problem of sourcing feed variety for the animal | 4 | 9 |
| **TOTAL** | **42** | **100** |

Sources: primary data

**TABLE NO 3**

The above table 3 shows that the Challenges to effective sheep and goat management in the urban communities in Variables 11 percent of the respondent in Sudden death of the farm animals without visible cause and followed that 9 percent of the respondent was Low productivity performance of the animals and the 7 percent of the respondents the Theft of the farm animals. At the 5 percent only of the respondents in Poor market structure for the animals in had been that the 4 percent of the respondents was Incidence of pest and diseases 2 percent of the respondents was the High cost of Medicare of the respondents.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Based on the outcome of this study, it was concluded that management of sheep and goats in urban communities of Salem, Tamilnadu State is greatly challenged by a number of factors which could be categorized as feed and feeding, health, environmental, marketing and routine management related challenges. The feed and feeding related challenges were however outstanding among all the identified challenges. In view of this, and all other challenges to effective sheep and goat rearing, there is need to take a conscious and in depth look at the challenges holistically and have they adequately addressed by stakeholders in urban agriculture and livestock production for effective urban production of small ruminants. Meanwhile, keepers of sheep and goats can embark on the following recommendation to ensure successful management.

## 6. REFERENCE

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