

Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Rana of Jagni village. Kangra district success story on Goat farming

Name of the institution	Veterinary Hospital, Ranital, Tehsil & Distt Kangra (H.P.)
Name of the scheme	National Livestock Mission (Goat farming) a boon for goatry
Project/ theme identification	Scientific goat farming Goat Husbandry

Situation and background (Importance and objective)

Livestock farming systems in the western Himalayas especially the “Changer” area of district Kangra are complex and generally based on traditional socio-economic considerations, mainly guided by available feed resources. “Changer” belongs to Pahari dialect denoting rough mountainous region with scarcity of water. Agriculture and livestock rearing are the main source of the livelihood of the people. Agriculture is dependent on the monsoon (rain fed agriculture), which is erratic and unpredictable. Small ruminants (Goats) are essential components of the mixed farming system in these regions.

Sh Sanjeev Kumar Rana resident of village Jagni located 25 Kms away from development block Kangra in District Kangra, started rearing milch animals 20 years back. Then he had only nondescript buffalo. Maximum area of this region is unirrigated and dependent on rains. Being a small village there are not ample employment opportunities. In the prevailing topographic and agro-climatic condition of the area under Block Kangra of District Kangra, Sh Sanjeev Kumar Rana has performed exceptionally well as a livestock farmer and was able to integrate it well with vegetable cultivation and forestry for increasing his profits. It is one the best examples of using integrated farming with goat farming as its mainstay.

Goats produce meat, milk, fibre and manure. They are being less prone to toxic effects of toxic shrubs e.g., Lantana camara and sustain well on shrubs and bushes. These play an important role in income generation, capital storage, employment generation and improving household nutrition in this region. Housing requirements and management problems are less with goats and woman and children essentially look after herding, feeding and health care of goats.

Goats are being reared predominantly by the landless and marginal farmers and to a lesser extent by the small farmers too as a means of livelihood. Goats contribute immensely to the subsistence of small holders and landless rural poor of this region. The traditional goat husbandry system operates with the rearing of non-descript goat species in small numbers. There are also farmers, who exclusively rear goats, with a flock size of 10 to 35 goats, but rarely adopt modern practices for better production

Due to lack of awareness among farmers, goats die of diseases and many of the animals do not reach desired growth because of parasitic infestations. So awareness camps under National Livestock Mission (Goat farming) has come as a boon for these most deserving poor farmers and also provided an opportunity for the Veterinarians to implement the scientific goat husbandry practices among the farmers.

Major project/ program activity (Total funds involved / expenditure incurred)

Under National Livestock Mission (Goat Farming) one hundred beneficiaries from different caste categories viz., Gen 7, OBC 62, SC 2, ST 8 which include 44 APL and 25 BPL and eleven women were provided medicines and mineral supplements. A total of 1600 goats were treated during six month long mega drive.

Special efforts for mass awareness and mass deworming were made by organizing camps at the farmers door step. Automatic drenching guns and automatic injectors were used for better drug delivery which highlighted the scientific advancement in goat husbandry in village level field working. Audiovisual documentaries and power-point lectures were presented to bring more impact while delivering lectures. The lectures highlighted various points of scientific goat husbandry viz., Adoption of improved breeds of goats; Purchase Beetal goats for crossbreeding and culling of old stock; FAMCHA anemia detection card in small ruminants for timely deworming; Regular use of dewormers; Strict adherence to vaccination schedules; Measures for ectoparasitic control; Feeding of concentrate and mineral mixtures ; Plantation of *Napier spp* and *Setaria spp* root slips to develop grassland; Castration of undesirable buck and also to avoid in-breeding.

There has been a transition in the life of the farmers. Ravinder Parihar, who is one of the beneficiaries of the scheme, says that “Animal Husbandry Department has done a miracle in my

life, I am very much grateful to them for providing me all sorts of goat development programme services at my doorsteps”.

4 outcome of the project/ program

1. Improved breeding efficiency of bucks
2. High rate of twins among does
3. Improved weight gain and sexual maturity

Sale of good quality bucks and does to other goat farmers



Audiovisual documentary viewing using projector



Indigenous goat rearing in the region



Beneficiaries during a awareness camp



Deworming by means of automatic drenching guns



The ongoing ATMA camp at Jagni where farmers were taught through powerpoint presentations using Projectors



Capacity building camp under ATMA Kangra Block where Sanjeev got motivated to take goatry as vocation



Sanjeev with Beetal goat (Beetal goats are identified by their roman nose and long pendulous ears)



Sanjeev, a dailywage worker, is helped by his wife and other family members in taking care of livestock



Use of goat manure for production of vegetables



Organic vegetables being grown by Sanjeev (In the picture is the local paravet taff member)

Contact Details:

Dr Sarvesh Kumar

Veterinary Officer, Incharge

Veterinary Hospital, Ranital, Tehsil
& District Kangra (H.P.)

Email : dr.sarveshgupta@gmail.com

Phone No: 9413076100