

Success Stories: Green Fodder Based Integrated Sheep/Goat Cum Poultry Farming for Sustainable Income Round the Year

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Shri. Ravi Dandin from Kallur village of Dharwad taluka owns 1.20 acres of land with good irrigation facility. He was getting an annual income of Rs. 44000/- with conventional farming he was facing problem of running the family with low income from agriculture. He thought of starting a subsidiary activity to compensate his family income and one of the ideas suggested was Sheep/Goat farming. He visited KVK, Dharwad during 2021 for consultancy service and after that attended Sheep/Goat training. Constant suggestion from Scientists, regular consultancies and field visits helped him to start his own Integrated Sheep/Goat cum Poultry farming unit with intervention of new technologies in green fodder cultivation and scientific rearing of sheep and goat rearing.



Fig. 1. Shri. Ravi Dandin attending Scientific sheep/goat farming training from ICAR-KVK Dharwad

Interventions

Process

During the initial visits of farmer, it was observed that he was growing maize as main crop and was not getting sufficient income. He consulted the KVK Scientists for establishing sheep/goat farm as subsidiary income source. Scientists advised him to attend training and he followed their suggestion. ICAR-KVK, Dharwad had organized vocational training programme on Scientific sheep/goat farming. The training oriented him regarding the basics of

sheep/goat farming, feed and fodder management with special reference to green fodder cultivation and feeding to reduce the cost of cultivation along with exposure trip to successful entrepreneurs. After completion of the training, he established sheep/goat farming in an area of 60*30 feet with the raised integrated stall-fed housing system to rear the sheep/goat and poultry birds. He started growing of improved varieties perennial grassed and legumes such as Hy Naper (DHN-6), guinea grass (IGFRI-7), multicut fodder sorghum (CoFS-29), Lucerne and bund planting of Sesbania, drum stich and curry leaf to supplement leguminous and nutritional green fodder. Presently he is having 50 sheep, 50 goats and 400 local poultry birds.



Fig. 2. Farmer collecting eggs at poultry unit

Technology: KVK Scientists made timely visit and guided the farmer in feed, fodder and disease management, established fodder cafeteria of Hy Naper (DHN-6), guinea grass (IGFRI-7), multicut fodder sorghum (CoFS-29), Lucerne and bund planting of Sesbania, drum stich and curry leaf followed vaccination protocol for sheep/goat and poultry. He has grown Hy Naper (DHN-6), guinea grass (IGFRI-7), multicut fodder sorghum (CoFS-29), Lucerne and bund planting of Sesbania, drum stich and curry leaf in 0.75 acre of land for feeding sheep and goat. Deccani, Nari suvarna, Yalaga and Sirrohi, Osmanabadi, Beetal were the major sheep and goat breeds maintained in stall fed housing system. He feed

the animals with concentrated balance feed ration consisting of groundnut, urd dal and bengalgram husk.



Fig. 3. Trainees visiting sheep/goat cum poultry unit of Shri Ravi Dandin

Output and outcome

Impact

Horizontal Spread: With his experience and knowledge, he has become the master trainer for

integrated sheep/goat cum poultry farming training programmes. The participants of sheep, goat and poultry farming training organized by KVK, Dharwad regularly visits his farm for practical experience. More than 80 farmers, 60 students and 10 extension officials visited his farm for consultancy and already 10 farmers/ rural youths started their own integrated sheep/goat cum poultry farming unit.

Economic gains

Presently with the integrated unit he is getting an annual gross income of Rs. 6,12,000/-. Major contribution is from sheep/goat farming, i.e., Rs. 4 lakh from sale of sheep/goat and Rs. 2,16,000/- from sale of eggs and birds with the BC ratio of 4.08.

Employment Generation: Adoption of integrated sheep/goat cum poultry farming provided regular employment for two labours throughout the season along with crop cultivation practices. Hence integrated sheep/goat cum poultry farming is a additional sustainable source of income for the farming community during the era of climate change.
