

Importance of Goat


DANVEER SINGH YADAV

Assistant Professor

Livestock Production Management


Importance of Goat rearing

- Backbone of economy
- Insurance against crop failure and provides alternate source.
- Important role in income generation
- Capital storage

- 
- Employment generation
 - Improving household nutrition
 - Smaller in size
 - They are easier to manage
 - Require less space
 - Can be easily handled by women and children.


The goat a minicow


- Multipurpose
- In hilly areas goats are also used for hauling light load.
- Rural area goat farming play a vital role to solve unemployment.

- 
- **Economic returns** from keeping goats is high compared to other farming enterprises.
 - Return on capital of up to **50%** and recovery of **70%** of retail price are possible in goat farming.

Goat is a poor man's cow


- Nutritious and easily digestible milk to their babies but also regular source of additional income for poor and landless or marginal farmers.
- Feeding, milking and care of goats does not require much equipments and hard work.
- Capital for livestock and cost of feeding is also low.


- 
- It is very economical to rear goats as they **require a small amount of fodder** and little space for housing.
 - Goats are very **resistant to diseases** also, specially to **tuberculosis**.

- 
- **Four goats** can be maintained as cheaply as **one COW**.
 - In areas where fodder resources are limited and **milch cattle do not thrive**, goats can be **successfully reared as they can thrive** on that class of fodder on which other animals will starve to death.

Sheep are unique

- Sheep are **unique among domestic livestock**
- Diverse environmental conditions
- Utilizing uncultivable waste lands and weeds from fields.

- 
- They contribute to the sustenance of man by supply of **food and raw material for clothing**.
 - Indian sheep possess qualities such as **high resistance to diseases and resistance to heat and water stress**, qualities that are not found in other exotic breeds.

- 
- Sheep is most docile and **earliest domesticated** among farm animals for basic needs of **food and clothing's**.
 - It converts food and roughage **cheaply into good cash products and fertilize land**.

General Information on Goats

- Age at which 1st bred - 12-15 months
- Weight at which 1st bred - 18 Kg
- Age at first kidding - 17-20 months
- Oestrus cycle - 17 -21 days
- Duration of heat - 1 to 2 days

- Gestation period - 150-155 days
- Service period - 90-120 days
- Kidding interval - 8-10 months
- Lactation length 150-200 days
- Optimum dry period 30-45 days

- Milking life of goat 10 years (upto 16 years)
- Sex ratio in kidding 1:1
- Mortality of kids 10%
- Mortality of adults 05%
- Age of castration of fattening 2 to 2.5 month
- Carcass dressing % 35-45%