

ADOPTION OF GOYA PIGS ENHANCES PROFITABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY FOR A PIG FARMER IN BARDEZ, NORTH GOA

TRANSFORMING LIVELIHOODS: THE SUCCESS STORY OF A PIG FARMER

Authors: Dr. Udhawar S.V., SMS (Animal Science), KVK North Goa
Dr. N. Bommayasamy, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK North Goa
Dr. Amiya Ranjan Sahu, Scientist (Animal Genetics and Breeding)
Dr. Gokuldas P.P., Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction)

PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS

Mr. Joaquin Filipe Dsouza from Corjuem, Bardez, had been rearing local pigs for the last 15 years, but faced persistent limitations that reduced the viability of his farm. The piglets had very low birth weights of around 400 g, and the litter size remained small at only 6-7 piglets. The adult pigs grew slowly, reaching just 40-43 kg body weight at 11-12 months, leading to low market value and reduced income. These constraints made pig farming less profitable and restricted his ability to improve his livelihood.

INTERVENTIONS

ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa, introduced the climate-resilient, high-performing Goya pig variety under the Frontline Demonstrations to enhance productivity without increasing existing input costs, ensuring economic feasibility and sustainability for the farmer, and overcoming the productivity constraints associated with local pig rearing. The Goya pig variety, developed under the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Pig at ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (CCARI), Goa, was supplied as quality breeding stock to his farm. Along with the introduction of improved germplasm, KVK scientists provided continuous technical guidance, regular monitoring, and on-farm advisory services on scientific pig management practices. A comparative demonstration between Goya pigs and local pigs was undertaken to assess growth performance and economic returns, and to scientifically assess the superiority of the improved variety under local agro-climatic conditions.

IMPACT

Mr Joaquin Filipe Dsouza recorded a remarkable improvement in productivity and profitability of his piggery enterprise. The average piglet birth weight and total litter birth weight increased significantly to average 937.5 g and 9.75 piglets, which were 2.36 times and 50% higher than local piglets (400 g), respectively. The growth performance of Goya pigs was substantially superior, with male and female pigs attaining body weights of 91.9 kg and 87.5 kg, respectively, at 11 months of age, whereas local pigs reached only 44.5 kg during the same period. The augmented growth led to an increase in market value, with the sale price per Goya pig reaching ₹16,129, compared to ₹7,347 for local pigs, without incurring any additional input costs. Mr Joaquin is now earning a net annual income of roughly ₹3.0 lakhs from pig farming. He expressed satisfaction with the increased growth rate, improved litter health, more feed conversion efficiency, market demand for Goya pigs, and sustainability, which helps make pig farming a feasible and profitable livelihood for him.



Distribution of piglets in training



Farmer's Pig herd



Farrowed sows with piglets

