

ENHANCING CLIMATE-RESILIENT LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION THROUGH KONKAN KANYAL GOAT FARMING: A SUCCESS STORY OF MR. ANIRUDHA SURESH GAONKAR, MAYEM, GOA GOA

TRANSFORMING LIVELIHOODS: THE SUCCESS STORY OF A GOAT FARMER

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PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS

Mr. Anirudha Suresh Gaonkar, a 35-year-old farmer from Karbhat, Mayem, in Bicholim taluka of North Goa, encountered numerous difficulties in goat farming, despite possessing 4 hectares of rainfed land designated for paddy cultivation and livestock husbandry. He reared local non-descript goats which exhibited low body weight, poor growth and reproduction. He also experienced more kid mortality due to pneumonia, enteritis and the animals' poor acclimatization to Goa's hot, humid climate. Insufficient income from livestock further restricted his livelihood, while the lack of high-quality manure diminished soil fertility on his farm. He approached ICAR-KVK, CCARI, North Goa for getting remedial measures for profitable goat farming. KVK experts visited his field and identified the constraints such as lack of scientific understanding regarding appropriate housing, nutrition, breeding, and disease management hindered his ability to enhance the productivity and resilience of his goat enterprise.

INTERVENTIONS

Mr. Anirudha Suresh Gaonkar was exposed to the climate-resilient Konkan Kanyal goat under the TDC-NICRA project by ICAR-KVK, CCARI, North Goa, during a capacity-building program on scientific goat farming. The native strain, known for its robust disease resistance and suitability for low-input agricultural systems, was provided to him, along with ongoing technical assistance from KVK specialists. He improved goat-rearing procedures through training, on-farm demonstrations, and hands-on supervision, including better housing, balanced feeding, frequent weight monitoring, timely deworming and vaccination, and effective breeding management. Furthermore, he acquired proficiency in the effective use of goat manure in his rice and cowpea cultivation, thereby enhancing soil quality and fostering an integrated, sustainable agricultural approach.

IMPACT

Mr. Gaonkar observed a significant improvement in goat performance after adopting Konkan Kanyal goats. Male goats attained an average body weight of 28.5 kg, while females reached 23.5 kg at 12 months of age, compared to only 19.2 kg and 17 kg in their previous local male and female goats, respectively. His revenue from goat farming experienced a substantial increase, as a 12-month-old Konkan Kanyal goat fetched a price of approximately ₹22,780, compared to ₹16,316 per goat from local non-descript goats. The female goat gave birth to a healthy female kid in the first kidding; there was no mortality among either kids or adults. The application of nutrient-rich goat manure subsequently augmented soil fertility and increased the productivity of paddy and cowpea cultivated on his property. Overall, the intervention helped him create a climate-resilient, low-input, and sustainable integrated farming system, thereby increasing his livelihood stability. Inspired by his success, five other farmers in Mayem and adjacent villages adopted Konkan Kanyal goat rearing, confirming the technology's viability and profitability for rainfed farmers in Goa.



Konkan Kanyal Goats at FarmerField