



GOYA PIG VARIETY BOOSTED LIVELIHOODS OF COASTAL FARMERS IN KARNATAKA

Success Story/2026-01

EMPOWERING TRIBAL FARMERS OF KARNATAKA: THE SUCCESS OF GOYA PIG VARIETY

Authors: Dr. Amiya R Sahu, Scientist (Animal Genetics and Breeding)
Dr. Nibedita Nayak, Scientist (Poultry Science)
Dr. Sanjaykumar Udharwar, SMS (Animal Sciences)
Mr. Kiran Hangaragi, YP-I (BSc. Agriculture)

Dr. Gokuldas PP, Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction)
Dr. Shirish Narnaware, Senior Scientist (Veterinary Pathology)
Ms. Samradni Rohit Paiganakar, YP-I (MSc. Biotechnology)

PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS

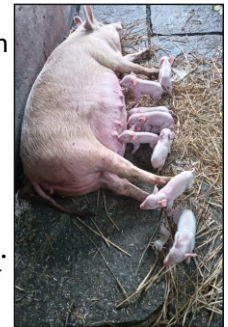
The farmers from tribal communities in Uttar Kannada, Karnataka were mainly engaged in agricultural activities along with dairying and backyard poultry farming. There was no commercial pig farm in that area. To meet the high demand and availability of pork, Michael Siddi along with a group of farmers belonging to the scheduled tribe community from Haliyal, Yellapur, Mundgod and Joida of Uttar Kannada, Karnataka approached at ICAR-CCARI, Goa for technical guidance in scientific pig farming.

INTERVENTIONS

Mr. Michael Siddi, a tribal farmer along with seven other farmers attended a training on “Scientific Pig Farming” under the Scheduled Tribe Component of AICRP on Pig at ICAR-CCARI, Goa in September 2023. During the program, they received two pairs of male and female Goya piglets, concentrate pig feed and medicinal supplements. Goya, a crossbred pig variety with inheritance of 75% Large White Yorkshire and 25% Agonda Goan pig developed specifically for the west-coastal agro-climatic condition. The pig superior growth performance with an average birth weight 1.07 kg, weaning weight 8.25 kg, and marketing weight 75.22 kg at 8 months of age. Again, a training and farm demonstration on Scientific Pig Farming was organized by CCARI, Goa in Sambrani, Haliyal, Uttar Kannada district in February, 2026 benefitting 34 farmers. The farmers were guided on scientific practices such as importance of selecting unrelated breeding stock to avoid inbreeding, regular vaccination and deworming, artificial insemination and balanced feeding of sows to improve overall reproductive and productive performance, proper ventilation, hygiene and bio-security measures for better health and profitability. They were advised to wean piglets after a month of farrowing, record keeping for litter size and weight, health monitoring, and value addition through meat processing. Hotels located 10-12 km from the farms supply surplus food waste, which are cooked before feeding to prevent pathogen transmission and contamination. The performance of Goya pig, an improved crossbred pig variety in farmers’ field was very good with litter size of average 9 piglets and weight up to 80 kg in eight months of age.



Goya Pig



Field performance of Goya sow

IMPACT

One of the most notable and cost-effective practices adopted by these farmers is the effective utilisation of cooked hotel/kitchen waste as a primary feed source which significantly reduces the feed cost without hampering growth and production performance. Following ICAR-CCARI's sustained intervention, seven farmers have scaled up from non-existent setups to medium and large-scale commercial pig farms. The rapid adoption of the Goya pig variety, with an average herd size of 110-150 pigs, has resulted in approximately 200 farrowings and the production of around 1,800 piglets annually on these farms. The sell price of pigs as ₹120-130 per kg live weight and ₹300 per kg dressed weight earning a net annual income of ₹5-6 lakhs per farmer and 30-35 lakhs from this budding group of farmers. The interventions through scientific training and demonstration, institutional support by input distribution, and cost-effective feeding strategies achieved much needed rapid and sustainable economic growth of the tribal farming communities through pig husbandry.



Training organized and input distributed



Pig farm at Joida



Hotel waste as pig feed



Pig farm at Sambrani and Sankankoppa, Haliyal



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Financial support provided by the Nodal Centre, ICAR-National Research Centre on Pig, Guwahati, under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Pig is duly acknowledged. The funding support provided under Institute STC grant of Govt. of India is also acknowledged.