



Sojat Goat Farming: A turning point in goat farming

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10592160>

Introduction

Agriculture is the country's lifeline and a key sector which provides livelihood to millions poor people in India which is mainly based on monsoon rain fall. The livestock act as a augment income of the farmers, particularly in drought prone Rajasthan state. India is a rich source of the goat gene pool; there are 37 breeds of goat recognized by the National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal (NBAGR, 2023). Goat rearing in India is a very successful enterprise with minimal investment. Goat farming may be done on a local or huge industrial scale. Goats are referred as the "poor man's cow" since they offer high returns and may be used as an investment source. Sojat goat farming may be the turning point in goat rearing in Rajasthan. Sojat goats, which are huge and dual-purpose, are dispersed in Rajasthan's Pali, Jodhpur, Nagaur, and Jaisalmer districts.

Characteristics of Sojat goat

- The coat is white with brown patches on the head, neck, ears, and legs, however pure white coat also found in the field.
- The ears are very long, flat, and drooping.
- Wattles are present in majority of females while completely absent in males.
- The horns are curved and downward oriented, twisted in females while males are completely polled.
- Average adult weight is about 60.0 kg in males and 53.0 kg in females.
- Average daily milk yield = 1060.12±12.59 gm
- Lactation milk yield = 266.64±0.63 kg
- Lactation length = 232.92±1.17days



Image- Young one male Sojat goat



Image- New born of Sojat goat

Reason behind select Sojat goat

- It performs well in stall feed goat livestock rearing.
- It gives maximum returns.
- In comparison to other breeds, their appearance, height, and weight are outstanding.
- Sojat goats are best suited for commercial farming due to their adaptability to a broad range of climates and feeding conditions.
- The mortality and morbidity is less compared to other goat breed.

Importance of Sojat goat

Sojat goat large-sized meat-type animal produces excellent chevon and famous leather. They are considered as moving fertilizer plants and the fixed deposits for the poorest by the virtue of their ready market demand.

Role of Goat in National Economy

The total Meat production in India is 9.77 Million Tonnes in the year 2022-23. The per capita availability is 7.10 Kg/Annum the year 2022-23. The contribution of goat meat in meat production is 14.47%.

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