

EFFECT OF RKVY PROJECT OVER EXTENT OF ADOPTION OF SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENTAL PRACTICES ON BENEFICIARIES OF SHEEP REARERS IN CHITTOOR DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract: A survey was conducted with a sample of 38 sheep beneficiaries selected from purposively from selected mandals in Chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh. As part of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) programme under the guidance of Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University directed Livestock Research Station (LRS) Palamaner to supply Superior Germplasm of Nellore sheep to the needy farmers that aims in genetic improvement of farmers flock. When the impression of the rearers on the scientific management practices was elicited; regular deworming (84.21%), removal of aged rams and ewes (73.68%), regular deticking (55.26%) and timely vaccination (52.63%) were regarded as the most important interventions and the adoption of which improved after RKVY project implementation.

Keywords: Sheep rearers, RKVY, Managemental Practices.

INTRODUCTION

To spur growth in Agriculture and allied sectors, the National Development Council (NDC) in its meeting held on 29th May, 2007 resolved that a special Additional Central Assistance Scheme called Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) be launched, to bring about quantifiable changes in the production and productivity of various components of Agriculture and allied sectors. Accordingly Government of Andhra Pradesh has identified Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University as one of the nodal agencies to implement the RKVY project. As part of RKVY programme, the university in the year 2009-10 identified Livestock Research Station (LRS) Palamaner to supply Superior Germplasm of Nellore sheep to the needy farmers that aims in genetic improvement of farmers flocks and in turn bring about improvement in socio-economic status of downtrodden rural poor. Hence the present study is to assess the impact of the RKVY Programme on extent of adoption of scientific managemental practices its beneficiaries of sheep.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Desired number of superior breeding rams depending upon the flock size are distributed to the selected farmers, along with other inputs like concentrate feed, medicines and vaccines. In addition minimum training in feeding, breeding and other routine farm operations are imparted to the beneficiaries. They are properly advised about the importance of record keeping. A total number of 38 beneficiaries were selected as sample for the study within the selected mandals of Chittoor district. This number was based on the criterion that they should have completed a minimum period of 3 years in running the enterprise.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Extent of adoption of scientific managemental practices in sheep rearing		
Particulars	Before RKVY project intervention	After project implementation
Feeding of concentrates	4 (10.52%)	9 (23.68%)
Timely vaccination	9 (23.68%)	20 (52.63%)
Care of pregnant ewes	3 (7.89%)	10 (26.31%)
Removal of old rams and ewes	15 (39.47%)	28 (73.68%)
Regular deworming	20 (52.63%)	32 (84.21%)
Regular de-ticking	14 (36.84%)	21 (55.26%)
Flushing	0	11 (28.94%)

On perusal of Table 1 it was revealed that, due to RKVY project intervention various managemental practices related to sheep rearing were improved. Percentage of farmers feeding concentrates was very low. This was primarily because of lack of awareness and low economic status of sheep farmers and it was improved from 5.26% to 23.68% which was in line with the findings of Senthilkumar *et.al.*, (2013) due to project intervention. In the light of the RKVY training programmes conducted at LRS, palamaner, the adoption rate of timely vaccination was increased from 23.68% to 52.63% as the beneficiaries recognized its importance and these results were corroborated with the findings of Rajapandi *et.al.*, in their study over Coimbatore sheep in Tamil Nadu. Taking care of pregnant ewes was increased from 7.89% to 26.31%, whereas awareness of farmers in culling of old rams and ewes was increased from 39.47% to 73.68% which is not in line with Djang Fordjour *et.al.*, in a study

in Ghana (2004) where culling practice was primarily focused over social needs of owners, removal of excess males, poor mothering ability & stunted growth.

The percentage of farmers, adopting the practice of deworming their sheep was increased from 52.63% to 84.21%. Similar findings were reported by Rajanna *et.al.*, in their study area in Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh. Whereas a rise from 36.84% to 55.26% was observed in adoption of de-ticking programme, which was contrary to the findings of Ekambaram *et.al.*, in Mahabubnagar goats (2011). None of the sheep farmers knew the vital importance of flushing until project intervention. However due to project intervention, 28.94% of farmers adopted the same. Adoption of scientific managemental practices ensures a better run of the business without an iota of doubt. But the question that always surfaces is the accessibility of technology to the farmers/rearers and the second one is the winning the acceptance of the rearers. When these two are achieved, it signals the efficient management of an enterprise. After the implementation of the RKVY project every managemental practice was better adopted by the beneficiaries.

Regular deworming, removal of old rams and ewes, regular de-ticking and timely vaccination were the practices whose adoption was very high among the practices identified. The adoption of other practices too changed positively. This analysis brings to the fore that adoption by scientific management practices received a fillip after the introduction of RKVY.

Conclusions

Impression of the rearers on the scientific managment practices was elicited; regular deworming, removal of aged rams and ewes, regular deticking and timely vaccination were regarded as the most important interventions and the adoption of which improved after RKVY project implementation.

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