Eastern Regional Station, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata Organised Training on “Scientific Goat Farming” at Kalyani Campus during 20th to 22nd August, 2019

Eastern Regional Station, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata organized a three-day farmers’ training on “Scientific Goat Farming” during 20th to 22nd August, 2019 at its Kalyani farm complex, where an elite flock of Black Bengal goat is being maintained. A total of twenty-six (26) beneficiaries, mostly progressive farmers and unemployed youths, covering three states of India viz. West Bengal, Odisha and Bihar attended the training programme.

At the outset, the programme started with address by Dr P. S. Banerjee, Station In-charge, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata who welcomed the participants and briefed them about the importance of goat rearing in rural economy in terms of employment generation and nutritional security. The inaugural session was followed by imparting theoretical knowledge covering, health, nutritional and management aspects. Dr S. Naskar, Principal Scientist and In-charge, Kalyani Farm elaborated on “Housing and General Management Practices in Rearing of Goat”. During the deliberation, Dr Naskar covered low cost housing, routine goat farm management practices, care and management of pregnant does, new born kids, bucks and yearlings.
Speaking on the occasion, Dr Tapas Kumar Biswas, Scientist discussed on “Breed types and Breeding of Goat” and advised the participants to breed goat through selection method for better productivity. Dr B. C. Das, Principal Scientist focussed on “Stress Management in Goats”, particularly during transportation and summer season and suggested remedial measures to overcome the problem. Dr R. Bhar, Principal Scientist delivered a talk on “Integrated feeds and feeding practices in Black Bengal Goat” and during the discourse, Dr Bhar stressed upon the usefulness of locally available low cost conventional and non-conventional feedstuffs. With focus to enhance farm income and improve livelihood security, Dr P. K. Nanda, Principal Scientist suggested the participants to take up “Integrated Goat-cum-Fish Farming” for better utilisation of land and water resources and conversion of farm waste into valuable fish protein. To create awareness among the participants, a lecture on “Water conservation: Strategies and Management” was also arranged and delivered by Dr Ritesh Saha, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore, West Bengal.

Diseases, notably of bacterial, viral and parasitic origins, are mainly responsible for affecting the production, productivity and marketing of livestock and goat is no exception to this. To address the animal health issues, Dr P. S. Banerjee, Station In-charge discussed on “Management Strategies to Prevent and Control Common Parasitic Diseases
in Goat” and precautionary measures to be taken under field conditions whereas Dr. Subhasish Bandyopadhyay, Principal Scientist delivered a talk on “Gastro-intestinal Nematodes in Small Ruminants and their Control”. Dr. P. Dandapat, Principal Scientist delivered a talk on “Bacterial Diseases in Goat and their Control”. During the discussion, Dr. Dandapat elaborately discussed the signs and symptoms of important bacterial diseases like brucellosis, anthrax, mastitis, haemorrhagic septicemia, metabolic and other diseases, including pneumonia. Dr. Samiran Bandyopadhyay, Senior Scientist of the Regional Station highlighted the issue of prudent use of antibiotics resulting in development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and associated risk factors in small ruminants and the way forward to overcome the burgeoning problem. In his deliberation, Dr. S. C. Das, Principal Scientist discussed on “Zoonotic Diseases in Goat and their Control” while Dr. D. Mondal, Principal Scientist elaborated on “Goat Kid Mortality: Prevention and Control”. Dr. B. Mondal, Principal Scientist spoke on “Viral diseases of Goat and their Prevention”. The trainees were also explained at length about common but important viral diseases viz. Peste Des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Orf and goat pox. Dr. G. K. Das, Principal Scientist delivered a talk on “Various Reproductive Disorders in Goats” and during his interaction highlighted the important reproductive disorders resulting in
abortion, retention of placenta, stillbirth, dystocia etc. in goat. Dr U. K. Bandyopadhyay, Principal Scientist and In-charge (Training) during his talk appraised the trainees on “Importance of Vaccination and Biosecurity Management in Goat” and stressed upon the need to follow vaccination schedule to prevent diseases and sufferings often associated with animals. Dr A. K. Das, Senior Scientist discussed on “Prospects of Goat Meat Value Chain” as an avenue to enhance farmers’ income” in an elaborative way and stressed upon the outcomes of value chain in terms of its contribution to house-hold income, well-being and employment generating opportunities.

Trainees were given hands-on practical exposure on handling, care and management of pregnant does, new born kids, bucks and yearlings, hoof trimming and method of castration by Dr. Syamal Naskar, Principal Scientist and Farm In-charge in a detailed way. During this period, Dr Naskar also demonstrated the procedure of recording of data, identification of animals by tagging methods to the trainees as well.

Before completion of the programme, a group discussion was held followed by distribution of certificates to the trainees by the Station, In-charge, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata. At the end of the programme, vote of thanks was proposed by Dr U. K. Bandyopadhyay, In-charge (training) and Co-ordinator of the programme.