

TEC ICAR-IVRI Pune organized one-day training on “Integrated Livestock Farming for Livelihood Improvement” at *Pilkhod* village of Jalgaon District (Maharashtra) under TSP programme on 27th February 2024

Training and Education Centre, ICAR-IVRI Pune in collaboration with *Krishi Vigyan Kendra*, Jalgaon, Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Jalgaon, State Animal Husbandry Department (Government of Maharashtra) and *Krishi Tantra Vidyalyaya*, Pilkhod organized one-day training on “**Integrated Livestock Farming for Livelihood Improvement**” at Pilkhod, Taluka - Chalisgaon, Jalgaon District (Maharashtra) under TSP programme on 27th February 2024.

A total of 228 farmers actively participated in the training programme. Mr Kiran Mandwade, Subject Matter Specialist from KVK, Jalgaon welcomed the guests and participants and informed about the TSP programme and its objectives for the livelihood improvement of resource poor SC farmers through integrated livestock farming. In addition, Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist, TEC Pune, in his address informed about the mandate and activities of IVRI Pune Centre. Other dignitaries present on the occasion were Dr Shamkant Patil, *Jilha Pashudhan Upayukt*, AHD, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mr Pandurang Salve, Deputy Project Director of ATMA, Jalgaon district, and Shri. Ramesh Mahajan, Principal of *Krishi Tantra Vidyalyaya*, Pilkhod.



(Trainees listening to the experts during the training programme)

The training programme commenced with informative lecture by Mr Pandurang Salve, the Deputy Project Director of ATMA, Jalgaon district, who delved into the multifaceted realm of integrated farming strategies aimed at bolstering the livelihoods of Scheduled Tribal communities. With fervor and expertise, Mr Salve expounded upon various State Government schemes and initiatives tailored to integrate farming practices with livestock rearing, offering a holistic approach to sustainable agriculture. Emphasizing the pivotal role of the *Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh Organic Farming Mission*, Mr Salve underscored its mission to prioritize human health, soil vitality, and the augmentation of farmers' income through the implementation of cost-effective technologies. He passionately urged farmers to engage with the mission, highlighting its objectives to establish systems for efficient recycling of farm waste, cultivate robust marketplaces for organic produce, and explore lucrative export avenues.



(Mr Pandurang Salve while delivering a session in the training programme)



(Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist, TEC Pune, addressing the farmers)

Following this, Dr Amol Bhalerao, enlightened the trainees about the potential for entrepreneurship development in rural areas through the adoption of Integrated Livestock Farming. He emphasized the utilization of cost-effective animal feed and encouraged the establishment of food processing units to enhance livelihood opportunities. Dr Bhalerao further advocated for scheduled tribe farmers to come together and form Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) or Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) to strengthen their livelihoods through collective action.



(Dr Shamkant Patil delivering speech on integrated livestock farming)

Furthermore, Dr Shamkant Patil, *Jilha Pashudhan Upayukt*, Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Maharashtra, conducted an educative session to raise awareness about the significance of integrated livestock farming in enhancing farmers' income. He commended the efforts of TEC IVRI Pune in systematically promoting *Osmanabadi* goat farming in Nandurbar district and encouraged farmers to engage with the various government schemes. Dr Patil shared an inspiring anecdote about poultry farming undertaken by women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in urban areas, utilizing state-of-the-art cages. He highlighted the positive impact on their livelihoods and family health, showcasing the potential of such initiatives to uplift rural communities.



(Mr Kiran Mandwade, Subject Matter Specialist from KVK, Jalgaon)

Following this, Mr Kiran Mandwade, Subject Matter Specialist (Animal and Poultry Science) from KVK, Jalgaon, delivered an insightful session on scientific methods of goat farming and integrated farming

techniques with goats. He provided detailed information on various goat breeds, their feeding requirements, and effective disease management practices. Additionally, Mr Mandwade emphasized the importance of cultivating fodder crops to enhance income through integrated livestock farming in Jalgaon district. His session was rich in practical knowledge and actionable insights, empowering participants with valuable tools and strategies for successful goat farming ventures.



(Group photo of women SHG members with the training coordinators)



(Glimpses of certificate distribution to the trainees after the training programme)

The participants enthusiastically engaged in the discussions and deliberations throughout the training session. Certificates were awarded to all participants upon the successful completion of the programme. Dr Kiran Mandwade skillfully compered the event, ensuring smooth flow and coordination. The training session concluded with a formal vote of thanks extended to all attendees by Shri Ramesh Mahajan. Dr Amol Bhalerao and Mr Kiran Mandwade coordinated the training programme effectively, ensuring its success.

