

TEC-IVRI Pune organised a training on ‘*Commercial Livestock Farming Opportunities*’ for farmers under TSP programme on 13th September 2023 at Palghar (Maharashtra)

TEC-IVRI Pune in collaboration with *Pashu Sanvardhan Vibhag of Palghar Zilla Parishad* and Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Maharashtra organized a one-day training on ‘*Commercial Livestock Farming Opportunities*’ for tribal farmers under TSP programme on 13th September 2023 at the Training Centre of Poultry Development Unit located in the Palghar district of Maharashtra. A total of 124 farmers actively participated in the training.

The inaugural function of the training was started with the welcome of guests and participants by Dr Siddharth Sabale, local LDO. Dr HP Aithal, Principal Scientist and Station In-charge TEC, in his address informed about the achievements of IVRI, activities undertaken by TEC Pune in Nashik and Nandurbar districts under TSP programme, and potential of commercial livestock farming for sustainable livelihood of tribal farmers.

Dr Pramod Varade, retired Assistant Commissioner of AH, Government of Maharashtra congratulated the participants for participating in the training programme and showing interested in commercial livestock farming. He thanked TEC Pune for organising the training for making aware of local farmers about benefits of cattle, goat and poultry farming.

Dr Prakash Hasnalkar, District Veterinary Officer and Chief Guest of the function addressed participants and motivated them to follow the commercial practices of animal husbandry for higher profits. He applauded the efforts of TEC Pune for successfully organizing training programme for the tribal farmers of Palghar district.

Others present on the occasion were Amol Kamalakar Bhalerao, Scientist TEC Pune, and livestock development officers Dr Santosh Raut, Dr SR Shinde, Dr Shilpa Kargirwar, Dr Madhuvanti Mahajan, Dr Neha Mali and Mr Vishwajeet Deshmukh from Venkys.

After the inaugural session, Dr Pramod Varade delivered a detailed presentation on opportunities in milk production on commercial basis. He spoke about preparing detailed bankable project for commercial cattle farm, tips and approaches to prepare economically viable project, details of subsidy and loan, calculation of economics to understand the year wise profits from commercial milk production and risk management. Dr Madhuvanti Mahajan delivered presentation on accessing funding from National Livestock Mission and use of *Kisan Credit Cards* for commercial livestock projects. She briefly spoke about the technical aspects of scheme and funding possibilities for commercial livestock farming. Thereafter, Dr SR Shinde delivered lecture on management of commercial poultry farming. He highlighted the risks associated with disease infection and our breaks of emerging diseases in poultry sector.

In the post-lunch session, Dr Siddharth Sabale delivered detailed lecture on Commercial goat farming opportunities. During his presentation, various aspects of goat farming including different types of animal husbandry practices, scientific goat management at farmers farm, housing and management requirement for goats, feed and fodder requirements, breeding and reproduction of goats, common diseases and health management practices including deworming and vaccination, and marketing of goats etc. were covered. Thereafter, Dr Shilpa Kargirwar delivered a session to inform participants about the different national and state government schemes

available for commercial livestock farming and provided all necessary details to the participants. This was followed by presentation by Mr Vishwajeet Deshmukh from the vaccine and medicine department of Venkys chicken, who spoke about the medicines and other useful inputs available with Venkys chicken that can be used for better management of commercial poultry farms.

Many participants actively participated in the interaction and discussion. Dr Siddharth Sabale, LDO proposed vote of thanks. Dr Amol Bhalerao from TEC Pune and Dr Siddharth Sabale LDO, TMVP Vasai coordinated the event.



Dr Prakash Hasnalkar, Chief Guest of training program addressing the inaugural session



Dr Pramod Varade delivering a lecture



Dr Madhuvanti Mahajan delivering a presentation in training program



Dr Neha Mali delivering a lecture in training program



Dr Shilpa Kargirwar delivering a presentation



Dr Siddharth Sabale delivering a lecture



Certificate distribution



Certificate distribution



Group photograph of trainees with guests