

**TEC- IVRI, Pune organised training programme, *Kisan Goshti*, Farmers Field School and distributed goats to tribal farmers at *Dhadgaon, Nandurbar* (Maharashtra) on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023 under TSP Programme**

TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune along with CINI (Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives), an associated organization of Tata Trusts, organised one day training on “*Goat farming for the livelihood improvement of farmers*” at *Dhadgaon* village, *Dhadgaon* taluka of *Nandurbar* district (Maharashtra) under TSP programme on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023. Dr Sachin G Chaudhari, Senior Technical Officer, CINI welcomed the guests and participants. Ms Madhuri B Valvi, President of FPC thanked IVRI and CINI for organizing training programme for the tribal farmers. Dr SK Das, Pr. Scientist, TEC, in his address informed the participants about the activities of the Center, status of TSP programme organized by IVRI in Nandurbar district and prospects of goat farming for livelihood improvement of the tribal farmers. Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist, TEC, talked about the entrepreneurship development through goat farming. Mr Maheshkumar P Ganapure, livestock consultant, informed about the impact of goat farming in the district.

The training included lectures in local Marathi language on “*Housing and general management of goat*” and “*Feeds and feeding management of goat*” by Dr Maheshkumar P Ganapure, “*Breeds and breeding management of goat*” by Mr Sanjay R Kokane (DST Trainer), and “*Diseases and health management of goat*” by Dr Sachin G Chaudhuri. Two beneficiary farmers also shared their experiences for the greater benefit of trainees. A total of 257 farmers including 9 women, actively participated and interacted during the training. Certificate was also distributed to all the participants. During

On 24<sup>th</sup> August, goat distribution programme was organised at *Dhadgaon* village. Before input distribution, a survey of farmers was done to get information about the socio-economic condition of farmers and selection of beneficiaries. Cast certificate and ID proof of all the selected beneficiary farmers (five) were verified and an MOU was signed with farmers before distribution of inputs. After checking the health status and weight, the goats were picked and distributed to the selected farmer beneficiaries. One unit of adult Osmanabadi goat consisting of one male and four females, along with 150 kg pelleted goat feed and 2 kg of mineral mixture were distributed to each beneficiary farmer. The farmers were informed about the necessary measures to be taken to overcome transportation stress, and routine deworming and vaccination schedule for the goats. On the occasion, a *Kisan Goshti* was also organised to discuss different aspects of livestock farming in the area. Dr SK Das informed about the housing and general management, and feeding of goats,

diseases of goats, and deworming and vaccination schedule of goats etc. Twenty six farmers and 3 officials of CINI attended the programme.

The first-ever Farmers Field School (FFS) in the *Dhadgaon* taluka of Nandurbar district was established by TEC IVRI Pune on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023. The establishment of this FFS on goat farming holds immense promise in hill ecosystem of Nandurbar by bringing together goat farmers from the region. The initiative aims to create an interactive space where participants can collectively observe and discuss the dynamics of goat farming performance. This approach not only fosters knowledge sharing but also promotes the horizontal expansion of the *Osmanabadi* goat breed. The objective of the FFS is to enhance the skills and understanding of goat farmers, enabling them to make informed decisions that positively impact their livelihoods. Training and Education Centre IVRI Pune, and CIN Tata Trusts Office, are working hand in hand to provide a sustainable platform for local farmers to exchange ideas, collaborate and elevate their farming practices. This FFS marks a significant step towards empowering farmers to become self-reliant problem solvers, fostering an enriched farming community in the Nandurbar district. The facilitators of the FFS are Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist (Agri. Extn) and Dr SK Das, Pr. Scientist (LPM) from TEC Pune and Dr Sachin G Choudhari, Sr Technical Officer, CINI Tata Trusts Office of Dhadgaon, who will coordinate the weekly meetings of goat farmers. Twenty six farmers and 3 officials of CINI attended the programme.

Dr SK Das, Pr. Scientist and Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist from TEC Pune, and Dr Sachin G Chaudhari, Senior Technical Officer, CINI, coordinated all the programmes.



*Participants of the training programme at Dhadgaon, Nandurbar on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023*



*Address of farmers in the training programme by Dr SK Das*



*Address to farmers by Dr Amol Bhalerao in training programme*



*Dr Maheshkumar P Ganapure, Livestock Consultant, delivering lecture during the training*



*Group photo of participants of the training programme*



*Recording of live weight before distribution of goats at Dhadgaon, Nandurbar*



*Distribution of Osmanabadi goats, feed and mineral mixture at Dhadgaon, Nandurbar*



*Farmer Field School (FFS) at Dhadgaon, Nandurbar on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023*

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