ADOPTION OF IMPROVED PIG REARING PRACTICES IN ANDHRA PREDESH

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ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out on 95 farmers distributed under semi - urban (37) and rural areas (58) belonging to four mandals of Krishna district in AndhraPredesh..Study revealed that several farmers maintained their pigs according to their socio -economic status and knowledge level.There was a marked improvement in adoption of scientific pig rearing practices with respect to breeding ,feeding, disease control, management both in semi-urban and rural areas after the scientific adoption.

KEYWORDS: Pigs, Scientific Rearing, Adoption.

INTRODUCTION:

Pig production is considered as one of the most important activities for socio-economic upliftment of poor farmers .But the main hindrance in pig farming is non-availability of superior pig germplasm and traditional system of rearing due to poor awareness. Hence the present study was undertaken to examine the existing adoption status of pig farming and impact of interventions on it in the Krishna district of AndhraPredesh.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

A questionnaire was developed to know the response of pig farmers and data were recorded by personal interview method. Areas in the radius of 15 KM from the centre of Vijayawada city were considered as semi- urban, whereas a radius of more than 15 Km were considered as rural areas. The respondents were advised and trained about the importance of scientific pig rearing practices with respect to breeding, feeding, management and disease control. The data were subjected to statistical analysis employing frequencies and proportions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Adoption percentage of rearing pigs of improved variety was 35.14 and 10.34% respectively in semi-urban and rural area before study, which was increased to 91.89% and respectively after the adoption . Before the adoption of scientific practices, most of the farmers of semi-urban areas(48.64%) fed paddy husk along with meager amounts of crushed maize to their pigs followed by hotel waste (18.92%),fermented rice waste (16.22%) and scavenging with house hold waste (16.22%), whereas in rural areas pig keepers kept their pigs on scavenging with house hold waste (77.59%) followed by fermented rice (13.79%), paddy husk with crushed maize(6.90%)and hotel waste (1.72%). Sinha (1989) and Ranjan et al. (2003) reported earlier that hotel waste contains excellent nutritive value which is easily available to farmers of semi- urban areas. In rural areas, hotel waste is not easily available as a result they were advised to feed their pigs with fermented waste which is easily available and it also contains very good nutritive value (Tirkey 1999). At the end of study ,most of the farmers of semi-urban areas (75.68%) adopted to rear their pigs mostly on hotel waste followed by rice fermented waste (16.22%),paddy husk with crushed maize (8.11%) but without scavenging on household waste. Whereas, farmers of rural areas adopted to feed their pigs on fermented rice waste (68.97%) followed by paddy husk with crushed maize (13.79%), hotel waste (8.62%) and scavenging (3.45%) which resulted in maximum benefit to farmers on low investment.

Provision of adequate floor space, proper flooring and height shed also influenced the productivity and increase the incidence of vices have been associated with heavy stocking (Sainsbury, 1979).Present study clearly indicated marked increase from 32.43to% 91.89% in adoption of

housing and adequate floor space comfort to their pigs after the adoption in semi-urban areas. The corresponding increase was 16.22 to 84.48% respectively in rural areas.

In semi urban areas, 16.22% farmers provided concrete flooring, whereas in rural areas most of pig houses were made up of soil, which lead to poor drainage resulting in more disease incidence. After the adoption, 100% farmers of semi -urban areas and 75.86% of rural areas adopted new technology against only 16.22 and 3.45%, respectively before the adoption.

During gestation , farmers were advised to take care of their sows and were advised extra ration for foetal growth and also were advised to keep the sows individually in far rowing pens at least 10 days before the expected date. Only 13.51% farmers of semi -urban areas and none of rural areas were used to follow this guideline before intervention which lead to more abortions and higher piglet mortality. However this adoption was well received by 91.89 and 77.59% of respondents of semi-urban and rural areas, respectively. Similarly there was marked improvement in adoption of improved practices during far rowing i.e removal of placenta, care of new born .

Weaning of the piglets from mother by 56 days was yet another adoption of scientific management which was properly received by the respondents accounting for 94.59 and 70.69%, of semi-urban and rural areas respectively. Whereas 18.92% farmers of semi -urban areas and no farmers of rural background practiced it before adoption.

Castration of male piglets which are unwanted for breeding was practiced by only 8.11% in semi-urban areas and 15.52% in rural areas prior to the adoption which raised to 75.68 and 67.24% in semi-urban and rural areas respectively.

Swine fever is most important diseases of pigs causing high mortality and consequent economic losses. Adoption percentage of vaccine against swine fever was very less (16.22%) in semi-urban areas and nil in rural areas has been raised to 86.21% in semi-urban areas and 100% in rural areas respectively.

pig rearing nowadays become very popular among farmers of rural and semi-urban areas. About, 24.32% farmers of semi-urban areas and 20.69% of rural areas were interested in pig rearing while others did not consider it as source of income .It is proved beyond doubt that interest was created in farmers of both semi-urban and rural segments after the adoption of scientific management practices.

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