

TEC, ICAR-IVRI Pune, distributed poultry birds & feed, and organised trainings in Hingoli district (Maharashtra) on 8th and 9th March 2023 under SCSP programme

On the eve of World Women's Day, TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune in collaboration with State Animal Husbandry Department and College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Parbhani, organized two training programmes on "*Scientific Backyard Poultry farming*" at Aundha, and "*Livestock Farming Opportunities*" at Narshi Namdev and distributed poultry birds at Ajegaon village of Sengaoon taluka and Anjanwada village of Aundha taluka of Hingoli district under SCSP programme on 8th and 9th March, 2023.

The inaugural function of the training programme on "*Scientific Backyard Poultry Farming*" was held on 8th March 2023 at Aundha. During the occasion, Dr VV Deskmukh, Associate Dean, College of Veterinary Sciences, Parbhani, was the Chief Guest. Others present on the occasion were Dr D Takalikar, DD, Department of AH, Hingoli; Dr MG Nikam (Asst. Professor), Dr Vinayak Ingale (Asst. Professor) and Dr Tukaram Bhuktar (Farm In-charge) from COVS, Parbhani; and Dr D Dharmadhikari (LDO). Dr HP Aithal, Principal Scientist and Station In-charge TEC, welcomed all the guests and participants and informed the participants about the institute activities, aims and objectives of SCSP programme and the activities undertaken by TEC in Nashik and Pune districts. He also stressed on the potentiality of goat and backyard poultry farming for sustainable livelihood of small and marginal farmers. Dr Deskmukh appreciated the efforts of ICAR-IVRI and requested the participant to keep in touch with the institute and the college for any inputs on poultry and goat farming. Dr Sanghratna V Bahire, Scientist, TEC Pune, in his address spoke on the importance and conduct of the training. Dr D Dharmadhikari, LDO from the State AH Dept. compered the proceedings.

During the training programme, a total of 256 participants from Parbhani, Hingoli and Washim district participated, wherein 113 trainees were women; most of participants were goat and/or poultry farmers. Dr D Takalekar, DD Hingoli, narrated about different Govt. schemes on livestock farming. Dr Sanghratna Bahire and Dr Vinayak Ingale gave lectures on different topics such as "Different types of animal husbandry practices for livelihood", "Scientific goat management at farmers farm", "Housing and management requirement of goats", "Feed and fodder requirement of goats", "Breeding and reproduction of goats", "Health management and common diseases of the goats", and "Marketing of goats" etc. Dr Sanghratna Bahire also spoke on the management, housing, routine deworming and vaccination of goats and the necessary measures to be taken to overcome seasonal stress. He highlighted on all agriculture-allied livestock farming opportunities for additional source of income. Dr MG Nikam spoke on all the aspects of backyard poultry farming, like types of birds, brooding management, feeding and feed formulation, housing management, diseases and their control, vaccination, etc. Dr D Dharmadhikari briefed about fodder management and Dr Tukaram Bhuktar motivated farmers about livestock farming. Many participants actively participated in the interaction and discussion.

On 9th March 2023, another training programme on "*Livestock Farming Opportunities*" was organised at Narshi Namdev village of Hingoli. Dr Dinesh Takalikar, DD, Hingoli, was the Chief Guest of the inaugurated function. He appreciated TEC Pune for organising the training on the most relevant topic and highlighted about government support, schemes and importance of livestock farming. Dr HP Aithal welcomed the guests and participants, and spoke on various activities carried out by IVRI, especially on SCSP and TSP programmes and their importance in livelihood improvement. Others present on the occasion were Dr MG Nikam, Dr Vinayk Ingale, and Dr Tukaram Bhuktar from College of Veterinary Science, Parbhani, and Mr Prushottam Kute (NGO), social worker,

and Gram-panchayat members. Mr Kutte briefed about various government schemes, like NLM, NABARD, AHD, MLDP, RKVY, District schemes etc. and how to get benefit from those schemes. Expert lectures on various aspects of scientific livestock farming such as management, housing, feeding and feed management, routine deworming and vaccination, various diseases and health management etc. were delivered. A total of 122 farmers participated in the training including 18 women.



Address by Dr VV Deskmukh, Chief Guest during inaugural function of training at Aundha



Dr Sanghratna addressing the participants at Aundha



A large number of women participants in the training at Aundha



Group photograph of guests, experts and participants of training at Aundha

On 9th March, 2023 poultry distribution programmes were organised at *Ajegaon* village of Sengaon taluka and *Anjanwada* village of Aundha taluka of Hingoli district. Beneficiaries, village farmers, Sarpanch, Gram-panchayat Members and young entrepreneurs attended the programme. Before the input distribution, *Kisan Goshti* was conducted in both villages and about 60 farmers actively participated. Different aspects of scientific management of dairy, goatry and poultry were discussed and they were also enlightened about the Farmer Producer Company and its importance. Dr Sanghratna Bahire also informed the farmers about IVRI Pune project, rules and regulation of this scheme and importance of backyard poultry rearing, care and management of chicks, housing managements, feeding, use of household residues and waste, vaccination, cleanness in shelter, egg production, egg incubation methods, brooding and marketing strategies, etc.

Detailed information was collected in structured format about the socio-economic condition, land holding, number of livestock and other farming details of the identified beneficiary farmers and an MOU was signed. Subsequently 30 farmers (15 each in two villages) were distributed 40 Kaveri birds (45 days old, 40 birds each), along with finisher feed (100 kg each), feeder (12 kg), waterer (10 lit.) and protecting net. Dr HP Aithal in his address to the beneficiary farmers and informed about the terms and conditions of poultry bird distribution. Dr Tukaram Bhuktar, COVS Parbhani, addressed the farmers and told them to maintain the birds properly and thanked ICAR-IVRI Pune for taking efforts to improve the livelihood of resource poor SC farmers through backyard poultry farming. Dr Sanghratna V Bahire, Scientist, TEC, addressed the farmers and gave tips on poultry management, feeding, brooding and marketing of backyard poultry.

Two days' training and bird distribution programmes were coordinated by Dr Sanghratna V. Bahire (TEC Pune), Dr Tukaram Bhuktar (COVAS, Parbhani), Dr D Dharmadhikari (LDO, TMVP, Aundha, Hingoli) and Mr Purushottam Kute, NGO.



Distribution of poultry birds and other inputs at Ajegaon village



40 day old birds distributed at Ajegaon village

