

## ERS-IVRI, Kolkata organized DAPST (TSP) activities at the adopted tribal village –Sabdarnagar

The poor landless tribal farmers were intervened and motivated to take up small ruminant rearing for a better livelihood through critical input support and imparting training. Several activities



under DAPST were carried out at Sabdarnagar village, Naoda Block, Murshidabad, WB on 14.03.2023. This village has been jointly adopted by the ERS-IVRI, Kolkata Dhaanya Ganga Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Since the year 2020,



The village is under the activity area of an institute project- *'improvement of livelihood of tribal farmers through input-cum-extension supports and propagation of small ruminant breeds'*. The programme

included a brief training of farmers on scientific goat/sheep rearing, Kisan Gosthi cum awareness, distribution of inputs (Sheep, Goat, Feed, Mineral mixture, health supplements), Animal Health camp, demonstrations and follow-up of earlier programmes. Dr T K Biswas (Nodal Officer, TSP), and Dr D Mondal, PS, ERS-IVRI, Kolkata while Dr Arkaprabha Shee from Dhaanya Ganga Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramakrishna



Mission, Sargachi, Murshidabad jointly executed the programme. Two separate programmes were conducted – one with fresh beneficiaries (n=25, 19F + 6M) and another one (n=53, 38F + 15M) with the beneficiaries who received the extension and input support earlier.

### Survey of the beneficiaries

The fresh batch of beneficiaries were inspired and motivated by the old batch of beneficiaries to take up small ruminant farming in the village. Earlier the village was surveyed for basic demographic data. Based on the interest and economic



background of the villages, 25 families were selected. Most of the farmers have very poor incomes, have very primitive knowledge of animal farming, are landless, and work as agricultural laborers. It was observed that most poor

farmers were unable to purchase livestock for rearing on the other hand they feel that goat/sheep rearing will improve their livelihood substantially.

### **Training on scientific sheep & goat farming and Awareness camp**

A brief on field training on scientific sheep and goat farming was also conducted. Dr. T. K. Biswas briefed the beneficiaries about the purpose and modalities of the programme and elaborately discussed on



‘Opportunities of small ruminants farming for landless farmers’ covering therein the breeding, feeding, management and economic aspects. Dr D



Mondal delivered a lecture on-Healthcare Management of sheep and goat’ and discussed on important diseases of small ruminants and their control/ preventives measures. He also

explained the importance of livestock sector in general and small ruminant farming in particular and its role in uplifting socio-economic conditions of rural people. Dr. Shee gave a detailed presentation on management and care of small ruminants as well as benefit of large scale farming, he also discussed the need of vaccination, deworming, nutrients requirement etc. During the



programme and as a part of awareness campaign, leaflets on various aspects of goat and sheep rearing written in vernacular language were distributed among the beneficiaries.

## Demonstrations of technologies



The farmers are ignorant of the use of wool from sheep and they do not practice shearing of wool. A demonstration of shearing wool by electric shearing machine and by scissors was organized where

the farmers were trained. Another demonstration on the castration of male kids using burdizzo was done. Farmers were also given on-hand training in dispensing medicine to their animals. A great degree of interest and enthusiasm was observed among the trainees.

## Input distribution and animal health camp

Inputs were distributed among a fresh group of beneficiary. A total of 25 female goats (Black Bengal) and 25 female sheep (Garole breed), 2500 Kg of sheep/goat feed, mineral mixture, anthelmintic drugs, appetizers, growth



supplements, and other medicines for their livestock were distributed among the beneficiaries. Each beneficiary received two animals (one sheep and one goat), 100 kg of concentrate feed and other medicines. Other beneficiaries (3 old batches) also received medicines as per their requirement.

