

SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS OF PIG FARMERS IN TAMIL NADU

**D. Balasubramanyam^{1*}, M. Mohanapriya¹, K. Senthilkumar¹, K. Devaki²
and C. Jothika¹**

¹Post Graduate Research Institute in Animal Sciences, Kattupakkam, Tamil Nadu Veterinary
and Animal Sciences University

²Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kattupakkam, TANUVAS
E-mail: dbsagb@yahoo.com (*Corresponding Author)

Abstract: A survey was conducted among 50 pig farmers using an interview schedule to assess the socio economic status in organised pig farms in various districts of Tamil Nadu. More than half (67%) of the piggery farmers lived in nuclear type family followed by joint family (33%) type. More than half (54%) of the piggery farmers belonged to medium family size category followed by small (40%) and large family size (6%). Majority (78%) of the pig farmers belonged to medium family income and an equal percentage (11%) of respondents belonged to both high and low family income categories. They possess primary (40%) to high school (36%), Illiterate (10%) and graduates (14%) education level. More than half (58%) of the pig farmers used iron sheets for housing followed by one-third (32%) of farmers with cement asbestos sheets for housing and only 10% of the farmers used coconut leaf as roof materials. All farms have a separate shed/pen for different age groups, breeder and fattener for easy feeding and to manage the fluctuating climatic conditions.

Keywords: Socio-economic status, Piggery Farmers, Organised Housing Management.

Introduction

India, a country with largest livestock resources in world level which play a fundamental role in rural economy and their livelihood. Among the livestock species, pigs are the most prolific and protein bank for economically weaker sections of the country. Piggery is the sector that directly influences the Socio-economic status of the rural poor, peculiarly the tribal population of the country. The pig farming is act as a rural bank for burdened and socially weaker section of the people. Pig rearing is one of the occupations of the rural peoples of India. They rear pigs as scavenging system for the consumption of meat and also for income. The pig population in India is of indigenous type with poor growth rate and productivity. Pigs have wide adaptability to grow under different agro-climatic conditions. There is a decreasing trend in pig population from 13.29 million (1997) to 10.29 million (2012) and as per 20th Livestock census (2019), India's pig population is 9.06 million (1.7 % of country's livestock). Despite decreasing trends in population, the *desi* pigs still represent a valuable component of indigenous animal genetic resources. A scientific knowledge base on the

farming conditions of indigenous pigs is also not available even though they form an integral part of small holder farming systems and play a significant role in some rural communities for their economic up-liftment.

Materials and Methods

The data collected from 50 pig farmers of various districts of Tamil Nadu with semi structured questionnaire by personal interview. They were the successful pig farmers who attended the training programme in Pig Breeding Unit, Post graduate Research Institute in Animal Sciences, Katupakkam. The related data to socio-economic status of pig farmers were gathered and presented in percentage scale.

Result and Discussion

Table 1 reveals the socio economic profile of pig farmers. It showed that the majority of the pig farmers were males (96%), middle aged (84%) most of them are nuclear family (68%) with medium family size (54%) and medium level annual income. They mostly passed primary followed by high school. Most of them are used iron Sheets (58%) for their animal Housing with separate pens for each age group animals.

Table 1: Socio Economic Profile of Pig Farmers

Particulars		No of Farmers (n=50)	Percentage
Age	25- 30 yrs	05	10%
	30-50 yrs	42	84%
	>50 yrs	03	6%
Education	Illiterate	05	10%
	Primary (1-3Std)	20	40%
	High School (4-12 Std)	18	36%
	Graduate	07	14%
Family Type	Nuclear	34	68%
	Joint	16	32%
Family Size	Small (2-4)	20	40%
	Medium (5-7)	27	54%
	Large (>7)	03	6%

Annual Income	Low (Rs. 70000)	06	12%
	Medium (Rs.75000 – 125000)	38	76%
	High(Rs.> 125000)	06	12%
Animal Housing pattern	Iron Sheet with separate pens	29	58%
	Asbestos with separate pens	16	32%
	Coconut Leaf with separate pens	05	10%

Kath et al., (2019) observed the socio economic status of Tenyi-vo pig farmers in Nagaland as most of the farmers are female, family headed by male, middle aged persons and they are from medium size nuclear family educated upto high school these findings are in accordance with our study in Tamil Nadu. Majunder et al., (2020) reported that most of the pig farmers in Telungana were middle aged (56.25%), Illiterate (62.5%) and less than one Lakh annual Income (95.14%) with Small family Size (87.50%). Our findings are in accordance with Majunder et al., (2020) except family size, in Tamil Nadu the farmers are living in medium family size.

Ahmed et al., (2017) survey of socio economic status of pig farmers in rural communities in Tripura was contrary to our findings. Haldar et al., (2017) perceived the annual income of pig farmers is low to medium, which is concordance with our study.

Conclusion

From this study the farmers are need to be trained for scientific pig farming through short term or long term training programme for feeding and housing management. The Swine industry has lots of constrains for their production and improvement. Extension services also provided to them properly for regular vaccination, deworming and marketing channels to uplift their economic status.

References

- [1] 20th Livestock census (2019). Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying under Ministry of Fisheries. Key results.
- [2] Ahmed, N., Doley, S., Ahmed, K., and Das, B. (2017). Socio-economic status of small scale pig farmers in rural communities of Tripura. *International Journal of Chemical Studies*, **5**: 102-104.

- [3] Haldar, A., Das, D., Saha, B., Pal, P., Das, S., Das, A. and Datta, M. (2017). Smallholder pig farming for rural livelihoods and food security in North East India. *Journal of Animal Research*, **7(3): 471-481**.
- [4] Kath, K.J., Rahman, S., Das, S.K., Goswami, R Chaudhary, J. K., Tochwawng, L and Chutia, B (2019). Socio-Economic Status of Tenyi- vo Pig Farmers of Nagaland, India. *International Journal on Livestock Research*, **9(11): 196-203**
- [5] Majunder, K.P., Harikrishna, Ch., Chandra, A.S and Vekateswaralu, M (2020). A Study on Swine Management Practices in Telungana State. *The Pharma Innovation*, **9(3): 509 – 519**.