

**LIVESTOCK RESEARCH STATION
MAHABOBNAGAR – 509 001.**

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Objectives:

- To study and evaluate the performance characteristics of Deccani sheep in their native breeding tract under farm conditions and in Shepherds flocks.
- To supply genetically superior germplasm to shepherds for genetic improvement of shepherds flocks to get maximum gains.
- To study and improve the reproductive and productive performance of Goats which thrive under hot and harsh climatic conditions where the vegetation is sparse and poor.
- To carryout studies on the relative merits of intensive, semi-intensive and extensive sheep rearing systems.
- To conduct on farm and off farm training programmes to small and marginal farmers, shepherds in sheep husbandry activities. To give trainings for veterinary & Para veterinary staff engaged in sheep developmental activities by refreshing their knowledge.
- To study and demonstrate the different Fodder conservation methods like hay and silage preparation to shepherds, so that the surplus fodder can be used during lean periods.
- To develop and establish mixed farming techniques like Silvi-Pasture System, Silvi Horti Pasture System and Horti-Pasture Systems for optimizing sheep production to get maximum output from limited area of land and to serve as demonstration units to the farmers and business entrepreneurs.
- To develop improved package of practices in sheep husbandry for adoption by shepherds, small and marginal farmers and business entrepreneurs.
- Selective breeding of Mahabubnagar Goats under semi intensive system of rearing.
- To study the phenotypic characters like body weights at birth, weaning, 6 and 12 months.
- To study the Reproductive performance.

1. Research Programmes :

- Weaned Ram Lambs are reared in intensive and semi intensive system. The average daily gain was raised from 82 to 100 gms. in intensive system as against 50 to 60 gms. in semi intensive system.

- Analyzed the growth performance of Deccani Sheep under farm conditions by recording the body weights at 3,6,9 and 12 months of age.
- Selective Breeding programme in Deccani breed of Sheep to study the performance characteristics.
- Studied the performance characteristics in Mahabubnagar local goats by selective breeding.
- Studied on the performance of weaned kids fed on complete diet (40% red gram straw) under intensive system of rearing. Males have shown high daily gain of 95 gm. And in females 75.33 gm. 50% of dressing percentage was recorded.
- Farming System Research was conducted for integration of livestock and horticultural gardens and agricultural crops to enable to obtain more income from a unit area.
- Intensive system of sheep rearing with perennial fodder crops and permanent irrigation facilities like permanent sprinklers, under ground pipe line is established in 6 acres. The work is under progress.

2. Farmer oriented programmes or activities :

- Farmer training programmes.
- Fodder Museum for demonstration and
- Supply of fodder slips.

3. Research Projects :

- Title – "Genetic improvement in Deccani Sheep by superior germplasm at multiplication centres"
- Duration – 2008-09 to 2014-15
- Funding Agency – Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)