

RESEARCH NOTE**Indigenous Technology for Curing the Livestock Ailments in Eastern Uttar Pradesh****J.B. Singh¹, Rajesh Kumar² Y.P. Singh³, G.P. Singh⁴**

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*Corresponding author e-mail: singhjb20@gmail.com***ABSTRACT**

The present study was conducted to document the traditional knowledge related to the animal treatment in Pratapgarh district of U.P state during 2007-08. The data were collected by using structured interview schedule. A total of 52 Kisan Mitra, were randomly selected as respondents. Various indigenous products were found to be used for treatment of 15 different ailments in animals including indigestion, diarrhoea, dysentery, constipation, Tympani, retention of placenta, mastitis etc. In addition, some products from markets like Hing (Asfoetida), Dried ginger powder (Soonth) etc. were found to used for treatment of animals.

Key word: *Traditional knowledge; Animals treatment; Kisan Mitra;*

The agricultural economy of the world in general and in India in particular depends largely on domestic animals because of their pivotal role in dairy and meat industries (Balain, 1988). The value of livestock output (2003-04) account for over 6% of Gross Domestic Product, just a little under one-third of contribution of agriculture & allied sectors. By all accounts, it appears that India has extremely fast growing livestock economy.

Disease problems in high yielding animal and other livestock is major constraints in fast growing livestock economy. Since independence, all efforts in India was concentrated on developing allopathic based veterinary infrastructure entirely under the govt. sector. There has been neglect of traditional systems and knowledge to the extent that many of us, are unaware of ancient literature and some are skeptical about it (Rangnekar, 1983). Modern medicine was thought to be able to solve almost all health problems of humans and animals. But this over estimation of modern medicine has changed in the course of the 'green wave' since the 1970's, which characterized by an increasing demand for natural products in the form of drugs, food and cosmetics and was mainly triggered by the side effects resulting from the increasing use of chemicals in various areas of life

including medicine. The reconsideration of traditional medicinal systems in the industrialized world and the fact modern medicine is too expensive. About 70 percent of livestock being owned by landless marginal & small farmers, so their reach to veterinary doctor and allopathic medicine is limited. Therefore, traditional knowledge for first aid and treatment of animals being very important for growth of Indian livestock sector from farmers point of view. Present study was designed to analyze the traditional knowledge among Kisan Mitra for treatment of animals, who closely related to rural farmers.

METHODOLOGY

A field survey was conducted using structured interview schedule with 52 respondents and information about use of various indigenous products for identified 15 animal ailments for treatment by traditional practice, which evolved by members of the farm community and passed on from generation, or developed on the basis of recent experimentation by farmers. The respondents were made to respond on the use of indigenous products for treatment of various ailments of animals. The selected respondents were the Kisan Mitra operated in the study locale. The selected Kisan Mitra were in the age group

of 20-60 years, and their educational level was between 8th class to PG. We questioned them about domestic remedies for different animal ailments. The collected data were tabulated and analyzed in terms of frequency and percentage.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Categorization of respondents according to personal variables: The Table 1 indicates that the traditional knowledge regarding the treatment of animal ailments is positive relation with education level. Intermediate level respondent's traditional Practice being used 15.15 % more than middle level respondents 6.67 % but less than graduate level respondent 23.08 %.

Table 1. Distribution of respondent on use of traditional knowledge according to their education. (N=52)

S. No	Education Group	No	% (Traditional Practice being used)
1	Upto Middle	04	6.67
2	Intermediate	22	15.15
3	Graduate & above	26	23.08

Table 2. Distribution of respondent on use of traditional knowledge for treatment of the animal ailment (N=52).

S.No	Ailments of animals	No	%
1	Tympani (Afara)	29	55.77
2	Constipation	23	44.23
3	Thorn in tongue	06	11.54
4	Colin pain	05	9.61
5	Dysentery	08	15.38
6	Diarrhoea	20	36.19
7	Indigestion	10	19.23
8	Worm Problem	23	44.25
9	Cough	03	5.77
10	Retention of Placenta	20	38.46
11	Mastitis	02	3.85
12	Prolapses of uterus	00	00
13	Choacking	02	3.85
14	Parturition Fever	04	7.69
15	F.M.D	06	11.54

Use of traditional knowledge to treat the various ailments in animals: The data presented in Table 2 reflected that majority of the respondents used traditional knowledge for treatment of ailments like Tympany (55.77%) , Constipation (44.23%), Warm control (44.23%), while 38.46%, 5.77% and 3.85% for treatment of animals like Retention of placenta, cough and Choacking. A high frequency of use of traditional methods of treatment for animal ailments could be because of the ease in use and also for being economical.

Table 3. Frequency distribution of respondents on use of traditional knowledge in different age categories (N=52)

S. No	Age Group (year)	No	% (Traditional Practice being used)
1	Up to 35	31	16.99
2	36-50	17	21.57
3	Above 50	04	15.00

Data presented in Table 3 indicate that majority of the respondents (59.61%) were in the age group up to 35 years. Data in the table also reflected that respondents of middle age group (36-50yrs) were using more traditional knowledge for the treatment of animal ailments.

CONCLUSION

The results of survey among Kisan Mitra of different block of District Pratapgarh (U.P) revealed that majority of the ailments in animals were treated by using of traditional knowledge. Majority of respondents belonged up to 35 years age group having education level up to graduate and above. The identified traditional indigenous products used for treating animal ailments need to be extended further to easy access to the people. The ingredient/product if validated can be further popularized for its use in other parts of state of Uttar Pradesh.

Paper received on : July 02, 2010

Paper accepted on : September 13, 2010

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