

**STATUS OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IN URBAN, VILLAGE AND
REMOTE AREAS IN BATTICALOA DISTRICT**

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BY

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ABSTRACT

Eastern Province is well known as an agricultural province. In Batticaloa district agriculture, livestock and fisheries has been the primary economic activity for centuries. Next to paddy cultivation, income source of farmers is animal husbandry.

This study was designed to analyze the status of livestock production in urban, village and remote areas in Batticaloa district. Farm families from Eravur, Chenkaladi and Karadiyanaru were selected for representing urban, village and remote areas for this study. Ninety farmers from veterinary ranges of Batticaloa district were randomly selected to collect necessary information using well-structured pre-tested questionnaire. The collected data were coded and entered in excel sheet and transferred to SPSS for analysis.

The study revealed that majority of farmers occupied with livestock farming as main occupation and primary income source in remote area than urban and village areas with more than 5 year experience. Most of the farmers were medium holders (53.3%) in remote area and small holders (48.3%) in urban area. All farmers from all study area have own land for their farming activities. Almost 91% of respondents in village area practiced farming with semi permanent structure of housing compare to urban and remote areas.

According to this survey, majority of respondents in whole study area were rearing cattle than other type of livestock. Most part of the poultry farmers are located in remote area compare to urban and village areas. And also commonly goat and buffalo rearing farmers are located in urban area. Greater part of farmers in urban, village and remote areas rearing local cross breeds of livestock. Ten percent of farmers in whole study area have improved breeds. Nearly everyone in whole study areas practiced

semi intensive rearing system than other rearing system. While farmers in remote (89.7%) and village (80%) areas were adapting to natural breeding than artificial breeding, 37.5% of farmers from urban area practicing artificial breeding method.

This survey revealed that majority of the farmers rearing cattle for milk purpose than meat in whole study areas. Most of the poultry farmers are rearing poultry for both egg and meat purpose. Almost all respondents in whole study area are rearing buffalo for only milk purpose. All respondents in urban and village areas are rearing goat for meat and milk purpose meanwhile 60% of farmers in remote area is rearing for only meat purpose. All the cattle and buffalo farmers in whole study areas used both roughages and concentrates and majority of the poultry farmers also used both concentrates and roughages. Goat farmers in whole study area are mostly used only roughages for their animals.

This study revealed that less disease prevalence is at whole study areas. Because of good veterinary service is existing near to these areas to enrich their farming activities. And also it helps in farmers profitable. Cattle plays vital role in those areas namely urban, village and remote areas. Management aspects are well appropriate for village areas compare to urban and remote areas.

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