



Discussion with the community on capacity building on germplasm development and dissemination



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Community Based Breeding Program for Sahiwal

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Community based breeding program (CBPP) involves organized breeding activities. They are planned, designed and implemented by individual livestock producers or in cooperation with technical stakeholders to effect genetic improvement within their livestock.

Objectives of community-based breeding programs

- Improving overall herd productivity such as milk yield and reproductive performance.
- Empowering local communities through sustainable breeding practices.
- Breed conservation – Preserve and improve desirable traits in Sahiwal Cattle through selective breeding.

Importance of community-based breeding programs

- Promoting sustainable utilization and conservation of animal genetic resources for food and agriculture.
- The programs initiate systematic breeding at the community level.
- Empowers communities to have an organized animal identification and recording of performance and pedigree data.

The programs are based on the knowledge, needs, perceptions, and active participation of Sahiwal keepers.



Some of Sahiwal elite herd from KALRO Naivasha

Components of CBPP and their roles:

Tier one. Mainly composed nucleus farms of KALRO Dairy Research Institute, advanced Sahiwal ranchers and progressive individuals farmers who have advanced in the Sahiwal cattle breeding. They have also invested considerably in infrastructure to support breeding program.

Roles

The Tier one membership

- Select and mate elite animals
- Use of Accelerated Reproductive Techniques for accelerated genetic
- Target feeding and husbandry support for breeding animals
- Carry out capacity building for lower cadre herds/ranchers
- Source and disseminate superior germplasm.

Tier two is composed of selected multiplier farms with reasonable technical and physical infrastructure.

Roles

- Recipients of elite bulls and heifers from nucleus tier
- Support basic breeding and performance recording
- Producer capacity building.
- Routine feedback channels to tier one



Morung'ore Youth Group, ADS Cheptany and the community in West-Pokot County receiving elite breeding bulls from KALRO Naivasha

Tier three is composed of ordinary pastoralists who are the main recipients of genetic materials material from tier one and two. These are small farms with unimproved Zebu. Here, Sahiwal bulls are used in upgrading the local Zebu herds.

Roles

- Recipients of bulls and heifers from multiplier
- Recipients of culled cows from nucleus farms
- Conduct basic recording
- Routine feedback channels to tier two (multipliers)
- Cross-breeding Sahiwal cattle with Small East Africa Zebu.

