

Training women in small ruminant husbandry and health

Problem statement

- Small ruminant diseases are among the main production constraints in small ruminant production. The resulting impacts, economic, social and health, however affects household members differently.
- Women play a critical roles in small ruminant husbandry and health practices.
- Women are mainly responsible of safety and wellbeing of the livestock reared around the homestead and they rely on income from small ruminants to fulfill their reproductive role in the household.
- Few livestock related training activities target women and their specific needs.
- Women's roles continue to be ignored and underappreciated in livestock projects and interventions, despite small ruminants being an important productive assets for women they can easily own and manage.



Key messages and solutions

- Training on animal husbandry and health management practices in small ruminant production take into account different gender roles.
- Awareness creation on causes, control and prevention of small ruminant diseases focusing on issues particular relevant for women and risk of exposure to zoonotic diseases in the small ruminant management activities they perform.
- Train and involve women animal health/extension workers in the intervention.
- Training targeted at women considering their available time and around their home since they cannot leave the household for extended periods of time.

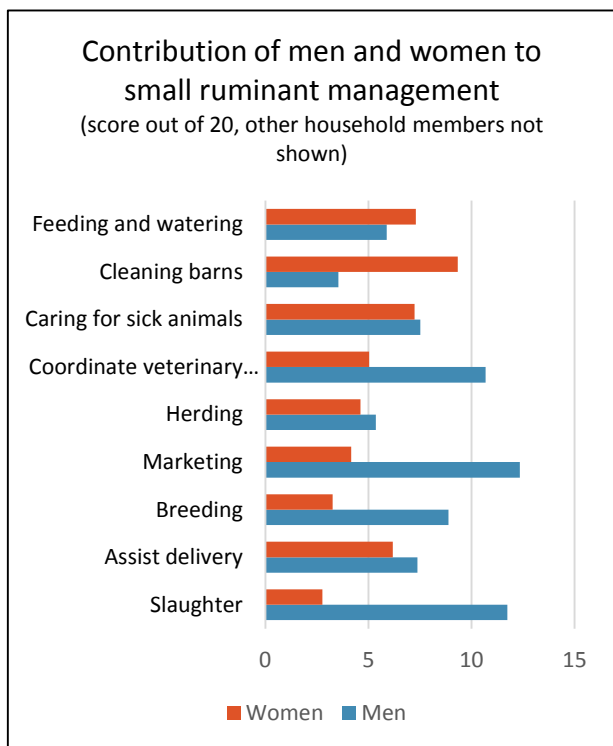


Benefits

- Improved knowledge of women on small ruminant management
- Reduced risk of exposure to zoonotic diseases
- Women are empowered in contributing to decision making related to small ruminant management
- Improved productivity of small ruminants

Evidence

- Women play a crucial role in small ruminant production and are at risk of exposure to zoonotic diseases.



- Findings also indicated that women are more severely affected by small ruminant diseases compared to men.

Suitability

- Training activities need to be scheduled around women's availability to ensure attendance.
- It will require involvement of veterinarians from the national research institutions and agricultural offices, ideally female extension workers can be involved.
- The intervention complements interventions on health, breeding and gender.

Resource requirements (low to high)

Land	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Water	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Labour	● ● ○ ○ ○
Cash	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Access to inputs	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Knowledge and skills	● ● ● ● ○

Impact areas (low to high)

Food security	● ● ● ○ ○
Human nutrition	● ● ○ ○ ○
Employment and livelihoods	● ● ○ ○ ○
Natural resources base	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Gender empowerment	● ● ● ● ○
Market linkages	● ○ ○ ○ ○

Value chain focus



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