

Constraints for grassland development in Kadesara Kala village, Lalitpur, Bundelkhand: A case study

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Introduction

India is maintaining a livestock population of over 500 million and has a grim situation of forage and feed deficit to the tune of 35.6% green fodder, 10.95% crop residues and 44% concentrate. In term of nutrients, the deficit is expected to the tune of 24.6 and 19.9% respectively by the year 2020. The gap is to be bridged up through development as well as extension of appropriate fodder production technologies suitable for different farming situation strategies. Fifty-eight % of the available fodder comes from grazing land and 42% from stall feeding with crop residues (30%) and leaf fodder (12%). Grasses constitute the majority (88%) of fodder available in Uttar Pradesh (GOUP, 1994). However, the role of grasslands cannot be under judged, as the large animal populations owned by small, marginal and landless farm family strive upon these. The livestock sector achieved an average growth rate of 4.8 per cent during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (Economic Survey, 2012-13) and it contributed 3.6 percent of national GDP during the Eleventh Plan. In the same tune, the contribution from this sector is expected to improve because increasing purchasing power is favoring the proportion of protein from animal source in the human diets. Further, The Indian livestock sector is becoming more competitive participant in the world market. All this largely depends, however, on improvement and sufficiency in the production of feeds and forages. Notwithstanding the above, the grasslands and pastureland in the country are continuously shrinking. The paper addresses important issues limiting the development of new grasslands in semiarid Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh particularly the Lalitpur district.

Materials and Methods

An effort was made to develop grassland in Kadesara Kalan village of Lalitpur district of Uttar Pradesh with stake holders' participation. Series of group discussion, meeting and personal contacts were made to make the effort successful. However, the stake holders vetuded individual farmers using CPR land for to grazing and resilient near a livestock.

Results and Discussion

The following specific problems were faced.

Social issues

1. Open grazing
2. Security
3. Lack of awareness

Environmental issue

1. Limited rain
2. Availability of water/moisture
3. Uneven distribution of rain
4. Thrush climate

Technological issue

1. Topography
2. Poor land quality
3. Small land holding
4. Over grazing pressure

References

GOUP 1994. National Forestry Action Programme: Uttar Pradesh Forestry Sector Review Analysis and Issues. Prepared for GOI, Ministry of Environment and Forestry.