



**Development of
Remunerative
Market for Coarse Wool**
PROGRESS REPORT
MARCH -MAY 2005

TASKFORCE
(REPORTING)
GOPI KRISHNA
KAMAL KISHORE
ANURAG RANA
Dr.BAIG
ANAND DHARWAR
Fr.JOE CHENAKALA

Introduction

Shramik Abhivrudhi Sangh working with the nomadic pastorlists (shepherds) in North Karnataka was supported by CALPI to undertake the study on Development of RemunerativeMarket for Coarse Wool. To undertake the study SAS has established a task force consisting of Dr.Kamal Kishore (Wool Scientist) Anand Dharwar (Textile Technolgist) Anand Jukkor (Tool Designer) Dr. Baig,(Vet) Sameer Kanburgi (Appropriate Technology), Fr. Joe Chenakala (Anthropologist), Bapoo Row (StratergicMarketing) and Gopi Krishna (Export Marketing) to steer and ground the project. The report covers activities undertaken by the members from March- May 2005,However some initiatives under taken related to this project, prior to signing of the agreement are also included to give readers a complete picture.

Review of Earlier Studies. & Documents

Kamal Kishore & Gopi Krishna were assigned the responsibility of reviewing research data, studies, and reports on Deccani Wool, The team has established contacts with National Bereau For Animal Genetic Resources in Karnal .Haryana to get access to their data base on Deccanni sheep , Data on the breed characterstics,Productivity, Wool, etc has be collected. The team also visited IDS Dharwar library and collected the report of J Bandhopadhyaya and the evaluation study of Nitya and Sagari on the IDS work with Shepherds.

Task Force Team" s Interaction with Wool artisans/co-operatives (December 12th - 14th 2004)

On 12th of December 2004 a meeting was convened to brain storm on the possible ways to utilize the wool and a wool task force was formed which is headed by me and the other members were Mr. Anand Dharwar, a textile technologist with a wide experience in working on textiles using the rural idiom, who will interface on engineering and macro production aspects. Mr. Anand, an expert on local tooling and troubleshooting, was to study the tooling for artwork and processing of the raw material, Mr. Gopi Krishna to do the necessary networking, marketing and community interface besides determining the structural composition of the workforce. Fr. Joe as head of the project and Dr.Baig the coordinator of the project to feed the ground situation and feasibility of implementing the various ideas.

The summary of the proceeding was firstly to restrict the activity to Belgaum District alone since that itself would mean finding means to utilize almost 300,000 Kg. of wool alone. Secondly to collect various samples of the wool from different areas of Belgaum & neighbouring district and have them analyzed for different parameters. Third aspect was to identify and find the various means of wool utilization which was already being practiced in the District and other adjoining areas. This would enable us to find the quantity being locally used and how best to increase this as well as it would also not result in Jana Jagran duplicating the work already being done. To this end it was decided to tour these areas and collect first hand information besides also review the work in progress in the women's self-help groups.

The group toured Belgaum, Bagalkot and Southern districts of Maharashtra.The lessons learnt after this 4-day tour and the possible strategy is spelt out below.

1. It has become imperative that the sheep shearing be done more scientifically so that each consumer of the wool is able to receive the quality he desires e.g. in the adjoining area namely the Sangli district of Maharashtra in two days of traveling we could find traditional felt making enterprises which were profit making ventures and were utilizing over 24000 io 36000 Kg. (Which works out to 10 to 15% of the wool produced) of wool annually which was procured from Belgaum and adjoining area. This wool was being purchased for Rs. 15 per Kg. However on every Nambda (felt) made they were

accumulating a wastage of 20%, which wool was thrown into the fields and they are ready to pay upto Rs.25 or more if they got a better quality wool, which would entail for them less labour and no wastage. A similar example was seen in a cooperative factory in Belgaum district where again sorting wool was an additional expense as well as the shorter and coarser fiber was resold at a lower price.

The color of wool was also an important criterion for purchase of wool and the black wool, uncontaminated with other colors, fetched a better price. Therefore shearing of the sheep at the right length of wool growth as well as skirting and grading (color, fineness and length) on the shearing table has become very important. On rough calculation the graded wool and some direct selling would result in the shepherd getting more than double the price he is getting for the wool at present. A more detailed survey of the above area would also be required so that all the consumers are identified and a directory compiled for further networking and marketing of wool. Further it was felt that a team should visit Panipat also which appears to still be the largest market for the Deccani wool and study and find out if it was possible to fetch better prices if a similar exercise was done by the shepherd at the time of shearing. The graded wool to be purchased/supplied, which has the desired length, fineness and is of the required color.

b. The carding to be done on possibly cotton cards (Mr. Samir of Phoenix industries should be involved since he has considerable experience in related technologies) and the spinning of wool also to be done on large scale either on shoddy spinning units or the modified Amar Charkhas which would cut down on cost /sale price as it was the single most cost contributing as well as time consuming factor. Further the weaving technique as well as the weaving frame needs to be relooked at so that similar or better quality Kumbliies could be made faster and more efficiently (Mr. Anand Dharwar could make an invaluable contribution on this front). This whole process would reduce the cost in terms of labour input resulting in a competitively priced product and better in quality to boot. Further since the utilization of wool is already occurring in the formal sector e.g. the cooperative visited by the team (which appears to have a sound leadership) the work there needs to be further strengthened and the points enumerated above need to be implemented besides exploring other ways of value addition such as embroidery, patchwork etc. Besides the above mentioned Cooperative at least two more need to be identified where similar work can be carried out so that enough centers are created which can become model centers for dissemination of the ideas besides helping in identifying the variety of pitfalls in the initial phases of the of the programme itself so that remedial measures and solutions are available at hand.

4. Some work has already been started on mobilization of farmers into some kind of cooperative/association (as indicated by Dr. Baig). This area needs further strengthening if we want to achieve higher rates for wool as the survey has already shown that even at present the shepherd is already losing out on Rs.4 to 5 on every Kg. of wool sold. Further, if any kind of grants from the Govt. or other agencies etc. are to be obtained by the farmers for collection and storage of wool these associations will act as the custodians as well as interfacing between the shepherd and the buyer.

5. The other major group, informal, the shepherd women were also visited by the team to evaluate the possibilities of forming them into self-help groups who could be trained to take up activities like weaving, knitting, crocheting etc. to further utilize the wool and create value added products. Of these the first group was not found suitable as they already appear to have other avenues of work specially as farm labour on irrigated land around their villages so they may not be amenable enough to the kind of new work proposed under the project (based on the past experience of the team). The other group visited desperately needs the kind of intervention proposed in the programme and further this was wholly a shepherd village but unfortunately the group formation is at a very initial phase in this village and will require some sustained efforts before they are ready for this kind of work. It was further decided and as suggested by Fr. Joe also that we may not rush into selection of women's self-help groups but the selection be done more carefully and could also be staggered into the next year also, as well as if not enough womenfolk of shepherds can be located it would be advisable to take up other

women's self-help groups.

While doing a general review of the programme it was felt that a true picture of the Deccani breed was not available in the literature which was further confirmed by me when all the published data on Deccani was collected for the last forty years and on top of it what ever is available in the scientific journals projects a very distorted view of the Deccani Breed further it is not compatible with what has been observed by us .Therefore it was decided that at least one herd comprising of about 4 to5 flocks(approximately 200 to300) will be observed and data on all aspects of sheep husbandry will be recorded and followed for at least one year in a migratory flock so that we have authentic scientifically generated data which can be used to convince the powers to be to respond to the needs of the shepherd as well as it can act as base for checking the progress of the programme in the future also. The task force members have established understanding with the following Co-operatives for collaborative project work

- v Sangoli Rayanna Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society, at Sindholi
- v Benkatti Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society, Benkatti, Ramdurg
- v Hirebudnur Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society, Hirebudnur, Saundatti
- v Kundurgi Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society, Kundargi, Baglkot
- v Jagrut Kurbar Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society, Belgaum

The task force team has planned to Interact with shepherds and various cooperatives /other institutions in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and U.P in the month of May/June

TASK FORCE PLANNING MEETING

The task force planning meeting was held on 18th to plan the project activities and assign tasks with deadlines to all the members of the team. The meeting was attended by GopiKrishna , Dr. Baig & Kamal Kishore , Anurag Rana, Bapoo Row and Fr.Joe (Annexure attached)

Wool collection / mapping procurement points

The taskforce team members GopiKrishna , Dr. Baig & Kamal Kishore held meetings with the Village Level Workers s – on 20th April on Grading of Wool & procurement. The task force team members explained the field worker – project the traditional system of grading of wool and requested the VLW to gather local knowledge of grading wool, and in identifying Sheeprds to procure wool, Mr. Gopikrishna & Nazeer Kamal interacted with Shepherds leaders from Migratory Heads on 1st & 2nd May. The team shared with them the details of the project and the spoke them on role of MH Sanghas in the project at the community level.

During the second meeting , 16th May the VLWS brought samples of wool from different migration heads and the list of shepherds to source wool, and schedule of shearing.

The VLW along with the Task force designate (Ravi) attended shearing session at, Chunchnoor, (Ramdurg) Kabbur (Hukkeri) & Kerur (Gokak) .

Sample of 3kg wool was sent to CSWRI – Testing

Total 1500 kgs – Deccani wool to be procured - @ 300 Kgs from Five pockets Ramdurg, Bagalkot, Chikodi, Haveri & Hiriyur

Sheared wool started arriving – A system for Identification & Grading of procured wool has been evolved - Name of the MH/ Village/ Shepherd/Color/ Quantity

Samples sent to Bhutti Co-op for testing and to decide on the type of Value addition.

Processing, Spinning & Dyeing

The collected wool samples have been dispatched Mr. Anand Dharwar at Bangalore, he is carrying out various tests related to Processing, Spinning & Dyeing. On the processing of wool front, Test are being carried out by Mr. Anand & Mr. Sameer Kanburgi of Phoneix Industries –Belgaum who are engaged in production & distribution of Medleri Charkas, in areas of – Opening of fibres , Carding of wool with different types of Cards, Different methods of Scouring to understand weight losses, Blending of wool with other fibres like Jute, Bannana and Pineapple and Dobuling/Twisting with yarns like Cornhusk ,Silk etc He has established contact with leading (Bio-tech) Group known as Bicon for procurement of Softening Enzymes and other Cellulose fibres, for conducted trials with Protease, Xylanase, Cellulase, and Pectinase on Fibre, Yarn & Wool fabric. The results of initial trial on softening ,reducing lignin content in fibre, are encouraging.

The task force members Gopi Krishna , Sameer have also held discussions with Mr. SR Hiremath of India Development Service – Dharwar .The group is working with Department of Science & Technology for Design & Development of Card. The task force member envisage greater interaction with the group in future on pre-spinning technologies .

TRAINING OF SHEEPHERD WOMEN IN WOOL VALE ADDITION

Dr.Baig and his team shortlisted few villages to initiate the training program , the taskforce team members visited

Chunchnoor, Huvnoor and Madloor for selecting the village for the training program, based on the criteria evolved by the taskforce for selection, Huvnoor has been selected, the field worker have formed 2 womens SHG'S with 15 members each, The womens groups came to Makel Mardi & Rajankatti on an exposure visit in the month April and May , prior to launch of the program, the SHG's are enthusatic to start the training program in month of June 2005

Design & Development

The design & development efforts were initiated by Anurag Rana during her visit to Belgaum between 15th - 22nd April .The initial trip to Belgaum and the areas around was oriented to understand the properties of the local Deccani wool. Through our visits to different training centers I was able to perceive the hand crafted techniques being used locally as well as see the existing infrastructure. She has designed Floor coverings,Bags, Coasters/Mats. The Floor covering of - Size 24 x 36 (inches) with - cotton warp and using Different Wefts namely

1. Wool/Jute/ Sisal mat
2. Wool 2 stripe band
3. Wool/Jute
4. Wool - blending different shades
5. Five bands of wool - black, brown, white, brown black
6. Wool fine + coarse twist (melange)
7. White cotton twist + local wool (melange)
8. Pure black with cotton embroidery edging

Bags.

- 1, Coiled wool bag, cotton thread
2. Round wool fabric bag, leather edges
3. Wool square coiled bag
4. Jute/ banana fibre bag, can be made with felt as well
5. Crochet wool bag
6. Felt small hand bag

Coasters/ mats

Coiled Coasters

Felt wool, embroidered edge coasters

Table mats
Wool runners

Networking with Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute - Avikanagar

The task force members, Gopi Krishna, Kamal Kishore, Anand Dharwar, Anand Jukoor, Anurag Rana, & Nazeer Kamal went on two day visit to CSWRI – Avikanagar from 2nd & 3rd March 2005 to interact with Scientists working with various aspects of Sheep and Wool in the Country. During the visit we met and interacted with Prof Gupta, Dr. Patni and Dr. Pokaran from Wool Textiles Department on various aspects of Coarse Wool, The team learnt from them the efforts undertaken by the institute over the last decade on utilization of coarse wool.

We met Dr. Dhirender Singh from the Parasitology to learn about his work on Control Gastro Intestinal Neematodes infections and his experiments in production of organic meat. We found his work very interesting and of immense value to our region.

The team met Dr. Kareem & Dr. Jhakmoula animal nutritionist to discuss on feed lots for Lamb fattening, Ram lamb production and production of feed blocks during the droughts.

The team discussed with Dr. VK Singh – Director CSWRI on the various aspects of Sheepherding in North Karnataka, the state of Deccani Sheep and shared with him on the efforts of Shramik Abhivrudhi Sangh in addressing the issues and concerns of Shepherd in the region. The team impressed upon them the urgent need of institute to intervene in areas of Disease & Prophylaxis and Coarse Wool Utilization to support and complement our efforts. The director agreed to bring in a team of Scientists to the region. The field visit schedule was finalized in the month of April 2005.

On the 3rd March we visited Tonk to see the Felting industry, the task force team saw a felt making by Nadaf communities in cottage scale, and a small scale industry producing industrial grade felt products. The discussions with the felt producers and with the small scale entrepreneur has given us immense insights on aspects of felt industry and its potential.

CSWRI SCIENTISTS VISIT TO BELGAUM & BAGALKOT

The task force team (Fr. Joe, Dr. Baig, Gopi Krishna, Kamal Kishore, Anand Dharwar, Anurag Rana, & Nazeer Kamal) Mr. Poojari – President of Federation of Karnataks Sheep Rearers, Wool Spinners & Weavers Co-op Societies, Dr. VK Singh, Dr. DK Singh, and Dr. Pokaran visited the region from 15th April – 17th April. The task force team upon arrival in Belgaum held a meeting with the JJ field workers, to get an overview of State of Sheepherding in the region and the status of Deccani

On the 15/04/05 the team visited Kkoppa in Belgaum taluk, and Chunchnoor in Ramdurg taluk to meet shepherds and inspect flocks for Collection of Blood & Smear Samples – PPR, Blue Tongue. Dr. Dhirender Singh collected about blood & Smear samples from 10 animals for PPR, 6 animals infected with Blue Tongue, 4 animals with GIN infections.

On 16/04/05 - the team visited Sangoli Rayanna Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society, at Sindholi the biggest co-op in the district to see the infrastructure, technology, and the Process of Barrack Banklet production. Dr. Pokaran interacted with Co-op members and officials to collect information on production aspects, he also collected samples of Wool & finished products for analysis.

The team to see the use of finer lamb wool and production of superior products of Deccani wool in the region, visited Kundargi Sheep Rearers & Wool Spinners Co-op Society in Bagalkot District. Mr. Poojari who was part of the team showed us the finer kambalis produced by their co-op and also organized meeting with the SHG members for interaction with CSWRI officials. (See Detailed report- Annexure II)

Follow-up of the Scientis Visit

Dr. Kamal Kishore has been following with CSWRI, with Dr. Dhirender Singh, Dr. VK Singh, Dr. Pokaran & Dr. Patni, The blood & smear blood serum and fecal samples taken by the team during their visit were analyzed and the results revealed positive for Blue Tounge & PPR, blue tounge strain has been identified. Dr. Dhirender Singh has sent the samples and the reports IVRI - Rai Bareilly for confirmation and development of vaccines for Blue Tounge. Dr. RK. Singh has agreed to do the DNA profiling - Blue Tounge, and Dr. Neemi Chand will be working on developing a vaccine for this strain. The detailed reports of these efforts are awaited.

STRATEGIC MARKETING & MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Bapoo Row has taken up the task of evolving Strategic Marketing plan, he has contacted industries consuming

Industrial grade felts, in the automobile sector, and also he is exploring the demand in Forging, Insulation and other sectors. The task force to test market the product has booked stand space in forthcoming India Gifts & Handicrafts Fair held at Pragati Maidan New Delhi in the last week of September 2005.

TASK FORCE PLANNING MEETING (Annexure I)

Wool collection / mapping procurement points - Dr. Baig

Identify shepherds to collect wool

Total qty required for initial sampling and development – 5 quintals

Approx. 1500 pure deccani flock to be sheared

300 animals in 5 different pockets – this will help identify different qualities from each area. (traditional grading to be identified simultaneously after collecting the initial sampling qty.)

Grade wool according to the colour and area, write the specifications of the same with each wool type and store. Ensure that the sheep is washed before shearing and note the cost price.

Wool samples to be sent to Dr. Kamal for identifying the wool quality

Color chart to be maintained for reference

Wool to be put together quality wise – coarse/ fine after report from Doc. Kamal

Send wool for sampling and keep point of origin records.

Dr. Baig to collect wool from any one flock – 2, 4, 6, teeth and full teeth of only black deccani. This would need to be done specifically to understand the change in colour and microns.

Make standard grading modules to be followed for future and standardize costing for the same.

Time schedule –

Schedule an immediate meeting with the Barefoot doctors and Dr. Kamal, Gopi to begin the shearing process – collect material by April end.

Wool Sampling - Anand Dharwad

Scouring - understand weight loss

Spinning – spin wool and blend with cotton, jute and viscose in different proportions. Do approx. Costs of the same.

Dyeing – Vegetable dyeing in 3-4 standard shades – like reds, blues, brown, yellow, and about 5 shades in Acid dyes.

Felting – small swatches to be developed in hand felting using different techniques. Felt the kambli in small swatches and document the process and the final out come

Weaving

Enzyme finishing – finish the local woven kambli and do different washes, add softening agents to understand the feel and effect after each wash.

TIME SCHEDULE

Approx. 30 kgs of fine and coarse wool to be sent to Anand ASAP

25 April 2005 – enzyme wash samples to be sent to Belgaum.

End May - all sampling to be worked out and sent to Belgaum.

Wool sampling in Avikanagar –

Wool felting – sheets to be developed in 3 thickness. Machine felting and hand felting to be done in 3 x 5' sizes. Blending different colours while felting in different areas of the felted sheets.

Mould felt into shapes by heat setting.

Felt yarn

Spinning – blends to be developed with viscose in the 15, 30, 50 proportion.

Machine spinning into different counts.

Time schedule

Wool testing – of 30 kgs ASAP

Design Development – Anurag

Initial sampling while in Belgaum to understand the properties of the local wool and develop new products and derive innovative designs. – April end.

Collect different samples developed in Avikanagar and Anand in terms of wool blends, felts etc. Collect the samples developed in Belgaum. - May

Visit Avikanagar / Tonk to develop felt - 10 June

Develop new designs, concepts on paper and send to Belgaum - 15 June

Work on a colour palette for September fair 2005

Coordinate with Sumit to explain new concepts.

Visit Belgaum for sample development – 4 July'05

Visit Bangalore for review meeting – End August

Work on the resample

Develop according to the colour palette - range for September fair

Work schedule for Gopi

To buy black kambli's from Pujari's village and send to Anand

Mapping / procurement of wool –April / May

Data collection on the grading system

Collection of data of the wool arriving post May / June after the shearing is done in the project area – 12 mandi's

Review of existing studies on Deccani sheep and wool

Coordinate with remaining team members

v Oversee wool collection in the selected areas

v Oversee sampling as per the given designs and coordinate with Anurag

v Coordinate with the Avikanagar wool testing, felt making and with Dr. Kamal in terms of research and development.

v Strategize with Mr. Bapoo Rao on the marketing of the wool products

Identification of groups for formulation of training module

Identification of trainers
Scheduling training calendar
Conducting trainings
Logistics of the project progress
Networking and information dissemination with the pastoral e groups

BAPOO ROW

Marketing survey and research, product costing – Bapoo Row
Understanding the production process to put a relevant costing module
Developing/ proposing software for accounting purposes
Market survey of domestic market – rural and urban, International markets
Understanding institutional sales
Developing product identity – brochures

Work schedule for Dr. Kamal Kishore

Follow-up with CSWRI Testing of wool, Spinning – various counts, Blends'
Felting of coarse grade wool' - Technical & Decorative
Machine Spinning – Semi worsted, Worsted Yarns alternative on Cotton frames
Cost-effective Machine spinning
Test reports & Samples
Wool Grading System
Wool Shearing & Procurement
Testing of Samples – Wool area/age/color wise
Evolving of Consumption strategies
Follow-up with Designer, Textile Technologist for Process & Product
Co-coordinating with Gopi Krishna on networking, Information Dissemination

Time schedule

Survey & Compilation of Scientific literature on Deccani – May- June
Visit to CSWRI – 1st week of June
Task Force review meeting – August
Field visits / Approval of Samples for Production - September 1st Week
Network meeting – October last week

Annexure –II

Networking with Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute –Avika nagar – Malpura –Rajasthan

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Product Desian &

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