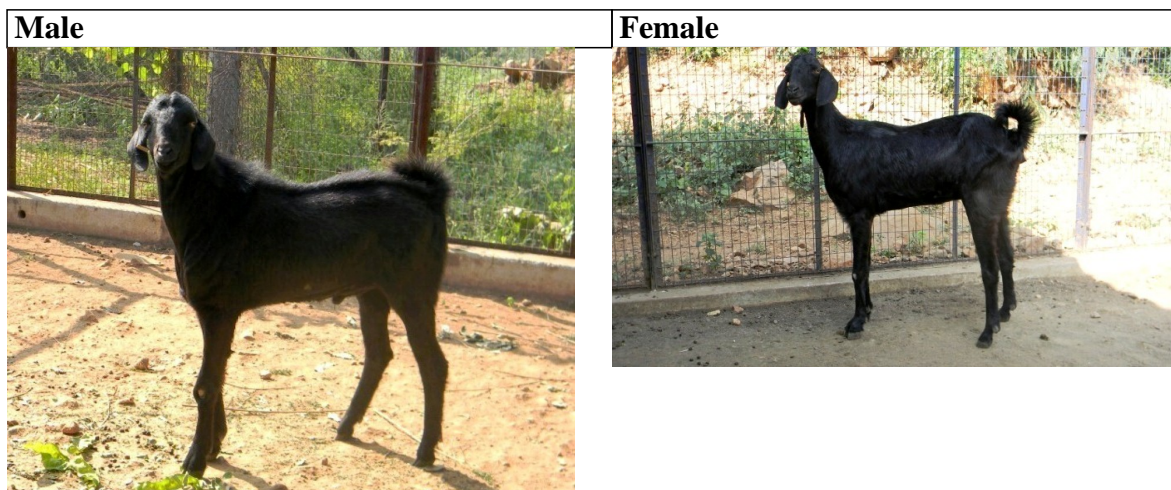


Breed Descriptor of Salem Black (Goat)



Breeding Tract	
State: Tamilnadu	Krishnagiri
	Erode / Periyar
	Dharmapuri
	Salem
Location	
Longitude (deg.)	76.05 - 78.50
Latitude (deg.)	10.35 - 13.01
General Information	
Synonyms	Karuppadu (In vernacular Tamil language)
Origin	Indigenous. The name Salem Black is derived based on the body colour (i.e., complete black body colour) and place of origin i.e., Salem district of Tamil Nadu
Major utility	Meat, Skin and Manure
Comments on utility	Meat of this breed is considered to be very tasty compared to other goats and local preference is totally for chevon from this breed
Comments on breeding tract	Have a confined breeding tract in north-western agro-climatic region of Tamil Nadu, viz., Dharmapuri and Karimangalam blocks of Dharmapuri taluk, Pennagaram block of Pennagaram taluk and Palacode taluk of Dharmapuri district, Mecheri and Kolathur blocks of Mettur taluk of Salem District, Thalavadi block and Andiyur block of Erode district. The mean annual maximum and minimum temperatures are 34.3oC and 21.9oC respectively. The mean annual relative humidity recorded at 08.30h and 17.30h are 77.2 and 55.1 per cent respectively. The average annual rainfall is 1112 mm
Adaptability to environment	Well adapted to the harsh climatic conditions (hot, semi-arid and tropical) of North-western parts of Tamil Nadu
Population	
	Year Population Other information

	2002	86676	Source: Gopu, P. (2002). Genetic Characterization of Salem Black Goat. M.V.Sc. thesis submitted to the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai
Management			
Management system	Extensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing		
Comments on Management	Goats are taken out for browsing up to a distance of three to six kilometers for a period of seven to eight hours daily in the bushes along road sides, uncultivable lands, forest areas and harvested fields. During summer months due to the scarcity of fodder the goats are fed with Acacia pods, tapioca leaves and rind, and dry fodders like groundnut hay, paddy straw and horse gram hay. Feeding of animals with concentrates is also practiced in some flocks. Most of the management activities are carried out by women. Housed mostly during nights in the sheds or pens in the agricultural fields.		
Morphology			
Colour	Completely black with glossy hair coat		
Horn shape and size	No typical horn pattern however mostly directed upward and backward and sharp at the tip. Males: 20cm, Females: 13.7cm		
Visible characteristics	Salem Black goats are tall, long, lean and leggy animals with compact body. Head is medium in length. The eyes are small and bright and the eyelashes are black in colour. The ears are medium in length, leaf-like and semi-pendulous. Neck is thick, broad and well set to the thorax in males.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	80.1	73.6	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	70.2	67.1	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	73.7	69.1	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	38.16	31.58	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)	2.27	2.22	
Performance			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Litter size born	1.6	1.0	4.0
Age at first parturition (months)	14.8	11.0	18.0
Parturition interval (months)	7.1	6.0	9.0

Dressing percentage	50.0
Any Peculiarity of the breed	Reared primarily for meat. Does are not milked. Thrive well in poor fodder resource areas and utilize agri by-products (groundnut haulms and husk and gingili (sesame) haulms etc.)