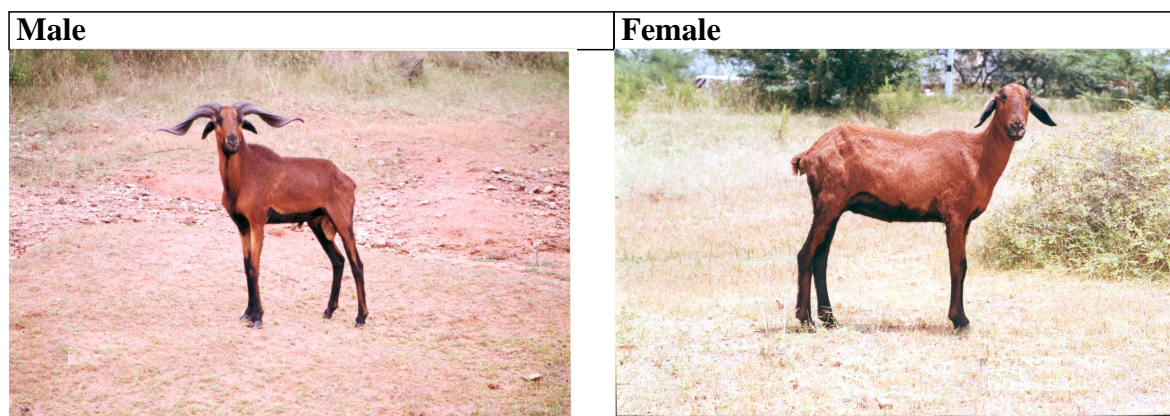


Breed Descriptor of Kilakarsal (Sheep)



Breeding Tract			
State: Tamilnadu		Thoothukudi/Tuticorin	
		Tirunelveli	
Location			
Longitude (deg.)		77.50 - 78.40	
Latitude (deg.)		9.20 - 9.40	
General Information			
Synonyms		Keethakkaraisal, Karuvai, Keezha	
Origin		In Tamil, Kila/Adi means bottom, Karisal/ Karuvai means black colour. As the ventral part of the sheep is black in colour, the Tamil names of Kilakarsal, Kilakaruvai or Adikaraisal are used. The place of origin of the breed was erstwhile Ramnad district (now Ramanathapuram district, parts of Thoothukudi/Tirunelveli and Virudhunagar districts.	
Major utility		Food - Meat	
Comments on utility		The breed is known since Sethur Maharaja Rule; This type of sheep has been described as Karuvi adu during early 1900's in local songs of nomadic sheep grazing people of Manur block of Tirunelveli district.	
Comments on breeding tract			
Adaptability to environment			
Population			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2011	1325	Source: Annual report (2011) of ICAR NBAGR scheme on In situ conservation of Kilakarsal sheep breed.

	2013	37114	Source: Estimated Livestock Population Breed Wise Based on Breed Survey 2013. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, New Delhi
Management			
Management system	Extensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing		
Comments on Management			
Morphology			
Colour	Dark tan coat dorsally, black colour ventrally – under belly and inner side of legs. Black colour noticed above eyelids and either side of the lower jaw.		
Horn shape and size	Horns are found in males only. Rams have well developed flat and twisted horns extending horizontally and laterally.		
Visible characteristics	Eyes are prominent with black streak near the inner canthus. Ears are leaf like, semi pendulous and medium sized. Body is covered with short and coloured hair. Rams have long hair along the ventral surface of neck.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	69.79	68.37	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	56.48	55.41	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	75.28	69.54	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	24.75	21.94	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)	2.89	2.65	
Performance			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Litter size born	1.0		
Age at first parturition (months)	23.32	15.0	30.0
Parturition interval (months)	10.5	5.5	19.0
Any Peculiarity of the breed			