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# Bedouins' Indigenous Knowledge utilized in Raising of Small Ruminants in Sinai Peninsula

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## Abstract:

The purpose of this study is to: identify the IK utilized by Bedouins of Sinai in raising small ruminants (goats and sheep), verify the compatibility of the IK utilized in raising of small under saline conditions with the corresponding SK provided by farming systems specialists under saline and draught conditions, to assess Bedouins' opinions on characteristics of the SK, and on the important of the IK in comparison with the SK. Data were collected from 90 Bedouin small ruminants-breeders, 75 of them are from North Sinai governorate and the other 15 are from South Sinai governorate using observations, structured interviews, and in-depth unstructured interviews during January to April 2013. In-depth interviews were conducted toward the end of April 2013, with 10 scientists specialized in animal production. Frequencies and percentages were used for data display and presentation. Bedouins' indigenous terms used in goats and sheep production were explored, the IK utilized in raising were determined, the scientific compatibility of the IK were verified, Bedouins' perception of SK characteristics were identified, and their knowledge on the important of IK in comparison with the SK were assessed. Finally, actions for utilizing IK by agricultural extension were suggested.

## Keywords:

Indigenous Knowledge, Small Ruminants, Saline Conditions, Bedouins, Sinai Peninsula, Egypt, Extension Recommendations

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