

GOAT UNIT

Nucleus herd of Salem Black goats has been maintained at this station to carryout various genetic improvement programmes and to supply superior germplasm to the farmers. Salem Black goats are distributed in north-western agro climatic zone of Tamil Nadu and are reared mainly for meat. The name “Salem Black” has been derived from its place of origin and coat colour. The name *Salem* has been derived from the place called Salem (i.e., Salem district of Tamil Nadu), where this breed has been actually originated. Since the coat is completely black in colour it is called as “Salem Black”. Salem Black goats are tall animals with lean body and the coat colour is completely black. In adults, both males and females have horns and they are ash grey to grey in colour with no typical horn pattern. They have long, lean and straight legs squarely set under the body. **The distinguishing features of this breed are early sexual maturity, better adaptability to harsh climatic conditions and higher prolificacy.**



Body weight (kg) of Salem Black goat				
Sex	Birth weight	Weaning weight	6- months weight	12 months weight
Male	2.34 ± 0.04	9.76 ± 0.20	13.90 ± 0.69	21.91 ± 0.90
Female	2.21 ± 0.04	8.60 ± 0.21	12.49 ± 0.52	18.94 ± 0.56
Overall mean	2.28 ± 0.02	9.18 ± 0.14	13.09 ± 0.43	20.43 ± 0.53