

5037 A Ewe

Sheep investment

In rural areas in the Mysore District of Karnataka, India, sheep rearing is one of the best activities for employment and income generation. Sheep provide employment for the rural poor who tend to them. Sheep are used to graze farmland and they also produce rich manure that is much used in local organic farming. Ewes produce on average 3 lambs/rams over a two year period. To begin with only rams are sold but once the flock has grown to a sufficient size both lambs and rams are sold for profit.

For marginalised rural groups (landless labourers, small or marginal farmers and dalits) owning sheep can literally transform lives and provide a route out of poverty. Rural people have some knowledge of sheep rearing and it does not require special skills or private land for grazing. Thus the gift of a lamb, ram or ewe will provide instant employment. The provision of supplementary feed, vet support and sheds for protection from the elements is also being met by Good Givers.

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