

Khillar: An Excellent Indigenous Breed

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SUMMARY

Four principal types of Khillaris are prevalent in Maharashtra State. Hanam Khillar (sometimes Atpadi Mahal), is prevalent in southern Maharashtra. In Kolhapur and Satara and adjoining areas. Mhaswad Khillari live mostly in Man & Khatav talukas of Satara District. In the area of the Satpura range of hills comprising the West Khandesh district Tapi Khillari or Thillari predominate. Nakali Khillari is of more recent origin. Nakali means "imitation". It is found in adjacent areas of these regions. There is every reason to believe that the Khillari breed, with its several varieties, owes its origin to the Hillikar breed of cattle from Mysore State. Unlike some of the other breeds of cattle in India, it does not take its name from a geographical area. Khillar means a herd of cattle, while Khillari means belonging to Khillar; hence the herdsman is known as Khillari; in the Satpura range of hills, he is known as Thillari.

INTRODUCTION

There are four principal types of Khillaris prevalent in the different regions of Bombay State. The variety Hanam Khillar, or sometimes known as Atpadi Mahal (the word Mahal shows strong similarity of cattle of Mysore State), is prevalent in the southern Mahratta States of Bombay. In the districts of Sholapur and Satara and the adjoining areas the variety known as Mhaswad Khillari is prevalent. In the area of the Satpura range of hills comprising the West Khandesh district the variety prevalent is known as Tapi Khillari or Thillari. A variety of more recent origin known as Nakali Khillari - Nakali means "imitation" - is found in adjacent areas of these regions. In the southern Mahratta States and the districts of Sholapur and Satara the Khillaris are bred by cultivators. In these regions the size of the herd is small, usually not more than one or two cows. In the Satpura ranges the Khillaris are bred by professional breeders known as Thillaris. These breeders produce bulls and bullocks for which there is always a very good demand. Besides their extensive use in their home tracts they are used in the adjacent districts of Poona, Ahmednager, Nasik and Bijapur. Khillaris are classified as "medium fast draft."



Khillar:
A New Flame of Life
The Pride of Maharashtra

Characteristics of Khillar Breed

We all know about the animals weight and height, the Khillar breed is about 4.5 ft to 5.5 ft tall and weighs about 350 to 450 kg. The typical individual of animal having compact and tight skinned body, with clean feature and well developed hindquarter the four varieties of khillar about colour of the breed have different in species the Deccan plateau the Atapadi and Mhaswad type of khillar are grayish white in colour in this type of species the male having deeper colour over the hindquarter with particular gray and white patches of colour (mottling) of the face. The second ones varieties of khillar breed is Tapti Khillari white reddish nose and hooves. Nakali khilari is greyish with brick dust colour over the forequarter of animal. The typical Khillari animal is compact and tight skinned, with clean cut features. The whole appearance is like a compact cylinder with stout, strongly set limbs. There is a slight rise in the level of the back towards the pelvis. The ribs are well sprung and give the trunk a barrel shape. The hindquarters are squarely developed and the coup is well-moulded. The gait of the Khillari is quick and spirited.

The Khillaris of the Deccan plateau, the Mhaswad and the Atapadi Mahal types are grayish white in color. The color in the males is deeper over the forequarters and hindquarters, with peculiar gray and white mottles markings on the face. The Tapti Khillari is white with caroty nose and caroty hooves. The Nakali Khillari is gray with tawny or brickdust color over the forequarters. Newly born calves have rust red colored polls, but this color disappears within a couple of months.

The forehead in Khillaris is long and narrow with a gradual convex bulge backwards toward the horns. A distinct groove runs in the center of the forehead from the nasal bridge to the center of the poll. The face is lean and long with smooth, tightly drawn skin. The nasal bridge is sharp and prominent. The muzzle is frequently mottled in color, a pink muzzle is not like by some breeders. Eyes are set in elongated fashion and are rather small, though prominent and often a little bulging; thick, wavy skin folds around the eyes give them a dull appearance and not often liked. Ears are small, pointed and always held sideways. The ears are pale yellow colored inside. Horns are long and pointed and follow the backward curve of the forehead. They are placed close together at the root and grow backwards for half the length and then turn upwards in a smooth bow shape peculiar to this breed. The horns are thick at the base and taper to a fine point. Black colored horns are preferred though pink colored horns are frequently seen, especially in Tapti Khillaris.

The neck is rather short. The dewlap is light with very little fold. The hump in males is firm fleshed and of moderate size. The shoulders are tightly muscled, well set in and merge smoothly with the cylindrical shape of the body. The legs are clean cut, round and straight. The hooves are black with digits closely set. The base of the hoof is small. The barrel is cylindrical. The lines of the back and belly are observed to be almost parallel. The navel flap, as well as the sheath, is tight and close to the abdomen. Hindquarters are well muscled. The tail is just touching the hock joint. The skin is soft and pliable though tightly drawn over the body. The hairs are fine, short and glossy.

The typical specimen is compact and tight skinned, with clean cut features and squarely developed hindquarters. The appearance is compact with stout strong limbs. The pelvis is slightly higher than the shoulders. The Khillaris of the Deccan plateau, the Mhaswad and the Atapadi Mahal types are greyish white in colour. The males have deeper colour over the forequarters and hindquarters, with peculiar grey and white mottling on the face. The Tapti Khillari is white with reddish nose and hooves. The Nakali Khillari is grey with tawny or brickdust color over the forequarters. Newly born calves have rust red coloured polls, but this disappears within months. Khillaris have a long narrow head with long horns sweeping back and then upward in a distinctive bow, and tapering to a fine point. The ears, coloured yellow inside are small, pointed and held sideways. The legs are round and straight with black hooves. The coat is fine, short and glossy.

Some Benefits of Khillar Breed

There are several benefits of khillar breed of animal / cattle but some benefits are mainly important in daily routine life is given below:

- The covering of milk yield from khillar (female cow) is mainly is small quantity but in that milk content
- Because of humped bull of khillar breed which aries slightly more than other breed of cattle. Hence the useful to transport the heavy load easily and pull easily forward.

- In indigineous cow, The milk product of obtained from cow milk such as khoa, curd, channa, shrikhand and butter etc,
- Specially Khillar breed of cattle are mostly incuse in bull running compition , excellent breed to this competition and helpful for economical point of you benefit for them.

CONCLUSION

In Maharashtra, Khillar breed is not only breed of cattle but also it is very prestigious and god enlightened breed of cattle. Khillar breed of cattle animal are superordinary , peculiar exceptional ,unique important of these breed of species popular in Maharashtra and also in India.

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