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Port Blair, Friday, November 19, 2021

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## Farmers' Corner- A Knowledge Hub

### Andaman local pig

Andaman local pig, also known as Andaman desi pig, is an indigenous pig germplasm of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and is distributed in different islands of Andaman group of islands. They are reared by the local farmers since time immemorial. As per latest census, total population of this breed is 8700 with 1450 number of breedable males and 2130 number of breedable females. They are sturdy and medium in size and black (mostly) or brownish in colour. Neck and



back portion hairs are very thick as well as long whereas hairs on the sides and flank regions are shorter and thinner relatively. The most commonly observed feature is slightly downward arching curvature of the back (low back). They attain body weight of 60-75 kg for male and 55-65 kg for female at 1 year of age under field condition. Height ranges from 65 to 89 cm. Average adult body lengths for male and female are  $115.80 \pm 2.05$  cm and  $104.60 \pm 1.28$  cm respectively. Snout is short to medium with slight concave type. Ears are short and erected upwards (no hanging ears). Litter size at farrowing ranges from 6-13. They are fast runners and evolved to thrive under low-input management system of Andaman group of Islands. Molecular study indicated high genetic diversity of the breed which is indicative of strong ability of the breed to adapt to environmental changes and withstand impending climate change. ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair and Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, A&N Administration maintain and propagate the pure germplasm of Andaman local pig.

**Benefit:** This pig breed is very much adapted to the local microenvironment of Andaman and has the ability to withstand impending climate change.

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