



PET ANIMALS KEEPING ACTIVITY BY RESIDENTS OF MYSORE, KARNATAKA, INDIA

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Abstract: Owning/keeping different species of pet animals has become a social norm in many countries. Pet animals are keeping as a symbiotic relationship by mankind as a source of companionship, pleasure and for protection that facilitates social interaction, fostering connections with other pet animal owners and members of the community. To record the pet animals keeping activity in Mysore, present investigation was conducted during March-June, 2024 by following standard methods. Altogether, 452 residents were selected randomly and grouped them into pet owners, non-pet owners, pet walkers and non-pet walkers at 32 areas which belong to newly established areas, old areas and outskirts of Mysore. More than ten parameters were considered to collect information on pet animals keeping activity using pre-tested questionnaire. Collected data was systematically compiled and analysed using various standard methods, compared between different areas of Mysore using standard statistical tests. Results revealed quite interesting facts as follows. Distribution of pet owners, non-pet owners and pet owners walking with pets distributed at newly established areas in Mysore, old Mysore and outskirts area of Mysore belong to Karnataka and outside Karnataka indicated significant difference. Total 87 residents are new to pet animals keeping and 128 residents are practising pet animals keeping since second generation and only few (41) residents are practicing pet animals keeping since third generation of their family. In Mysore dogs, cats, fishes and birds are commonly used as pets and more number of pet animals are keeping in old Mysore area compared to new and outskirts of Mysore city. Further, majority of the pet owners keep pet animals for hobby and few residents keep pet animals for commercial purpose. Furthermore, highest number of pet owners (98) had 3 to 6 years of experience and 44 pet owners had 6 to 9 years of experience in keeping/rearing pet animals. Pet owners provide home-made food, dry kibbles, wet canned food, raw diet and mixed food to their pets with different feeding schedules which is not alike at different areas of Mysore. Veterinary care such as grooming and vaccination are provided to pet animals as per the standard norms. Every pet owner spend lakhs of rupees on their pet animals in Mysore. In conclusion, the study emphasizes the need for promoting responsible pet ownership and designing effective pet welfare programs to support the growing trend of pet ownership in urban areas like Mysore. These insights are vital for policymakers to maintain and manage pets, urban planners and the community to create pet-friendly environment that would contribute positivity among the owners and their pet animal's well-being.

Key words: Pet animals, keeping activities, Mysore city

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I. INTRODUCTION

Many animal species such as horses, cats, dogs, rabbits and birds are kept as pets at different parts of the world. Pet animals are keeping as a symbiotic relationship by mankind as a source of companionship, pleasure and for protection (<https://www.britannica.com/animal/pet>). It is intertwined with the process of animal domestication (Allen, 1991) across the world including in India. Pet animals offer a wide range of benefits to their owners or guardians or keepers encompassing both physical and emotional well-being. For example, walking with a dog not only provides exercise and fresh air for both the human and the dog, but also facilitates social interaction, fostering connections with other dog owners and members of the community. In addition, pet animals play a crucial role in enhancing the well-being of children in hospitals or elders in nursing homes. By harnessing the innate qualities of different animals, pet therapy serves as a valuable complement to traditional medical treatments, offering holistic support for individuals facing various



challenges and conditions (ASPCA, 2006). Thus, different species of animals are keeping as pets at different parts of the world.

Pets are most frequently acquired for companionship, home protection or the perceived aesthetic appeal of the animals. However, common deterrents to pet ownership include the inability to care for pets while traveling, lack of time and inadequate housing (Leslie *et al.*, 1994) etc. Hence, wellbeing of animals kept as pets is essential and understanding such animals keeping activities is need of the day. In this regard, various species of animals kept as pets are grouped according to the type of premises or habitat where they are reared (<https://www.britannica.com/animal/pet>). Dogs, cats and birds such as Canaries and Parakeets are kept as 'Household Pets'. The jays, magpies and members of the crow family are kept in 'Aviaries'. The reptiles and amphibians (e.g. frogs, toads, snakes, lizards and turtles) require special conditions of heat and moisture and hence they are kept in glassed enclosures called 'Vivaria'. Many people keep fish as 'Aquarium Pets'. Hutch or cage pets (e.g. Rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils and chinchillas) are kept indoors or outdoors under protected conditions. Paddock Pets (e.g. Horses, ponies, donkeys and mules) are stabled outdoors (<https://www.britannica.com/animal/pet>). However, household animal pets, particularly dogs and cats in industrialized societies used by many people susceptible to obesity. Overweight pets have been shown to be at a higher risk of developing diabetes, liver problems, joint pain, kidney failure and cancer. Lack of exercise and high-caloric diets are considered to be the primary contributors to pet obesity. Therefore, understanding the pet animals keeping activities is essential.

Since pre-historic times, many species of animals especially dogs and cats have had a special place in the heart of residents of India. They have been treated as their friends, partners and companion of deities and symbol of power. Recent years, pet animal's ownership trend is increasing at different parts of the world (<https://worldanimalfoundation.org/advocate/pet-ownership-statistics>). The blend of companionship and economic impact highlighted the integral role of pet animals, which play in shaping domestic and economic landscapes. This enduring emphasis towards petting of different species of animals is mirrored in the pet industries financial health, which has seen consistent growth in line with the expanding number of pet animals owning households at different parts of world including in India. Thus, pet animal's ownership is a fascinating tapestry, reflecting on the deep bond between humans and animals.

In many countries across the world different species of pet animal's ownership has become a social norm. Various researchers (Corson *et al.*, 1981; Kidd and Feldmann, 1981; Wilson and Netting, 1987; Allen *et al.*, 1991; Mariti *et al.*, 2012; Friedmann *et al.*, 2013; Westgarth *et al.*, 2015 and Lyntte 2021;) have studied on various aspects of pet animals at USA, Russia, Scotland, Japan, United Kingdom, China, Georgia, Germany, Austria, Italy, Brazil, Australia, England and Canada. However, in India, several researchers have highlighted the correlation between regular pet interactions and increased life satisfaction, physical activity of pet animal owners and non-owners, role of pets in modifying the relationship between social support and mental health changes and the ongoing trend of urbanization, coupled with a growing demand for animal-based food products in urban areas. Sharma *et al.* (2019 a & b) have reported the pet ownership in urban India and revealed the association pets with human health outcomes such as stress levels, physical activity and social interactions. Anirudh *et al.* (2020) have surveyed to record the pet hygiene practices to prevent illness in both pets and pet owners. In Karnataka, Rao *et al.* (2018) and Menon *et al.* (2018) have identified the benefits and challenges of pet ownership among college students and the effects of pet-assisted therapy on social interaction and communication skills among children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Mysore. Joshi *et al.* (2018) have recorded the attitudes towards stray dogs in Hubli-Dharwar. Sharma *et al.* (2019) have recorded the health benefits of pet ownership among residents of Bengaluru. Kumar *et al.* (2019) investigated the perceptions and practices of pet grooming among pet owners in Mangalore. Volsche *et al.* (2019) have analysed the human attitudes toward pet dogs within the urban social landscape in Bangalore. Rao *et al.* (2021) assessed the knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to responsible pet ownership among residents of Mangalore. Reddy *et al.* (2021) have examined the prevalence and types of pet ownership among residents of Bengaluru and recorded the pet's impact on physical and mental health of human beings. Deshpande *et al.* (2022) have recorded the socio-economic and cultural factors influencing pet adoption and abandonment rates in Hubli-Dharwar. Published reports on pet keeping activities at different parts of Mysore are poor. Hence, present study was undertaken to record the current status of pet animal ownership and keeping activities in the households of old, new and outskirts of Mysore city, Karnataka state.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area: Mysore is one of the historic cities of south India and the former capital of Karnataka state, lies between 12°13' to 12° 22' north latitudes and 76°45' east longitude at an altitude 770 m above mean sea level (Kamath, 2001). Mysore city has highest per cent of literate's population with an average literacy rate 87.67%, of which male and female literacy rate is respectively 90.62 and 84.75% (Census 2011.co.in). Mysore experiences a tropical monsoon type climate, which is a result of the interplay of the two opposing air masses of the north-east and south-west monsoons (mysurulive.in). The maximum temperature 40° C, and the minimum temperature 15°C prevailed during different seasons along with 800 mm rainfall every year (weather.com). The prevailed climate is pleasant during most of the year and encourage the survival of pet animals keeping activity in Mysore throughout the year. Table 1 shows the pet owners (PO's) and non-pet owners (NOP's) chosen for the present study at 32 randomly selected areas in Mysore. Total nine areas were selected in new Mysore, 18 in old Mysore and five in outskirts of Mysore city. Moreover, number of PO's and NPO's selected respectively 256 and 196 in Mysore. Further, 76, 139 and 41 PO's and 58, 106 and 32 NPO's were randomly selected at new, old and outskirts of Mysore respectively (Table 1). Altogether, 452 pet animal keepers were selected during the present study in Mysore city (Table 1).

Methodology: Pilot test was conducted by meeting with a small group of students who were pet owners from University of Mysore. This helped us to prepare questionnaire. Data on pet animals keeping activity was collected by direct interview with the selected participants with the help of pre-tested questionnaire at newly established areas, old areas and outskirts of Mysore city. Total 32 locations were randomly chosen in old Mysore, new Mysore and outskirts of Mysore. Information about the pet ownership, type and number of pet animals owned and the duration of pet ownership, pet care practices, veterinary check-up, feeding schedules, grooming practices, vaccination and expenditure made towards pet animals are collected with the help of pre-tested questionnaire. A stratified random sampling method was employed by selecting newly established areas, old areas and outskirts of Mysore city.

Ethical Considerations: During the present study every care was taken to adhere the ethical principles and consent was taken before initiating this work. Participants were informed about the purpose of the study, their rights as participants and the voluntary nature of their involvement, their right to withdraw from the study at any time without consequence, confidentiality and anonymity.

Statistical Analysis: Collected data was systematically compiled and analysed using various standard methods and compared between different areas of Mysore using student't' test and ANOVA as per Saha (2009).

III. RESULTS

Distribution of pet animal owners: Total 196 non-pet owners (NPO's) who belong to Karnataka (182) and outside Karnataka (14) and there existed a significant difference ($t' = 12.34$; $P > 0.01$) between the pet animal keepers of Mysore who are living at different areas such as new, old and outskirts of Mysore city (Table 2). Moreover, PO's who belong to Karnataka (53) and outside Karnataka (08) and their distribution at new, old and outskirts of Mysore indicated considerable difference ($t' = 2.047$; $P < 0.05$) between the residents of Karnataka and outside Karnataka (Table 2). Further, 195 pet owners who are walking with their pets and their distribution at new, old and outskirts of Mysore didn't show significant difference ($t' = 2.046$; $P < 0.05$) between the residents of Karnataka and outside Karnataka who are living in Mysore city (Table 2). Figure 2 and 3 shows the per cent occurrence of pet owners and their pet keeping activities among residents belong to Karnataka and outside Karnataka in Mysore city. Thus, altogether, 196 NPO's, 61 PO's and 195 pet owners walking with pets (POWP's) keeping pet animals distributed at new, old and outskirts of Mysore who belong to Karnataka and outside Karnataka in Mysore city.

Family history of pet animal's ownership: Table 3 shows the family history of pet animal's ownership in Mysore city. Total 87 residents are new to pet animals keeping and they are practicing since first generation and 128 residents are practising pet animals keeping since second generation and it was followed by 41 residents who are practicing pet animals keeping since third generation (Table 3). Analysis of variance between the pet animals owned since first, second and third generation between new, old and outskirts of Mysore showed significant difference ($F=2.778$; $P > 0.05$) in Mysore (Table 3). Altogether, residents living in old Mysore had good family history of pet animals ownership compared to the residents who are living in new and outskirts of Mysore area.

Different types of pet animals keeping: Various animals are used as pets in Mysore is depicted in Table 4. Highest number of residents (116) living in new, old and outskirts of Mysore have owned dogs and it was followed by cats (33),

fishes (13) and birds (11) (Table 4). However, 83 residents have used dogs along with other animals as pets in Mysore. Analysis of variance between the residents who owned different animals as pets indicated significant difference ($F=4.895$; $P>0.05$) between old, new and outskirts of Mysore (Table 4). Further, residents of old Mysore owned more number of different animals as pets compared to new and outskirts of Mysore city. Further, number of pet animals owned by the residents of Mysore is given in Table 5. Majority of the residents (108) owned one pet animal and it was followed by 72, 34, 28 and 14 residents kept respectively two, three, four and more than five pet animals (Table 5). Moreover, residents of old Mysore owned more number of pet animals compared to new and outskirts of Mysore city (Table 5). Further, analysis of variance between the number of pets owned by new, old and outskirts of Mysore indicated significant difference ($F=3.892$; $P>0.05$) (Table 5) in Mysore city.

Purpose of owning pet animals: Table 6 shows the purpose of owning the pet animals for different reasons in Mysore. Total 158 residents keep pet animals for hobby and it was followed by 68 residents keep pet animals for commercial purpose and five residents keep pet animals for other reasons in Mysore. Analysis of variance between the purposes of owning the pet animals at different areas of Mysore indicated significant difference ($F=6.970$; $P>0.05$) (Table 6). Majority of the residents who live in old Mysore keep animals as pets for hobby (83), commercial (37), recreation (14) and other reasons (3 only) and it was comparatively higher than that of new and outskirts of Mysore city (Table 6).

Experience in pet animals keeping: Experience of rearing/keeping the pet animals by the pet owners in Mysore is shown in Table 7. Highest number of pet owners (98) have 3 to 6 years of experience and it was followed by 64 pet owners who have 1 to 3 years in keeping/rearing the pet animals. Around 44 pet owners have 6 to 9 years of experience in keeping/rearing pet animals. However, 21, 18 and 11 pet owners respectively have 9 to 12, 12 to 15 and more than 15 years of experience at different areas of Mysore (Table 7). Analysis of variance between the years of experience with pet owners residing at new, old, and outskirts of Mysore indicated significant difference ($F=3.846$; $P>0.05$) in Mysore city (Table 7).

Food of pet animals: Table 8 shows the different type of food given to pet animals by pet keepers in Mysore. Home-made food, dry kibbles, wet canned food, raw diet and mixed food are given to pet animals by pet keepers in Mysore. Majority of the pet owners (176) are providing mixed food to pet animals and it was followed by home-made food given by 58 pet owners in Mysore. However, very few (7 to 11) pet owners provide dry kibbles, wet canned food and raw diet to pet animals in Mysore. Further, analysis of variance between the type of food provided to pet animals by pet owners residing at new, old and outskirts of Mysore indicated significant difference ($F=10.632$; $P>0.05$) (Table 8). Interestingly, this practice is more in old Mysore compared to other areas of Mysore city.

Feeding schedules: Table 9 shows the feeding schedules of pet animals in Mysore city. Majority (149) pet keepers provide food two times per day to their pets and it was followed by 68 pet keepers did provide three times a day and around 32 pet keepers provide only once per day (Table 9). However, few (7) pet keepers providing more than three times per day. Analysis of variance of feed given to pet animals by pet keepers between the new, old and outskirts indicated that there is a significant difference ($F=767.907$; $P>0.01$) in Mysore city (Table 9). Thus, feeding schedules of pet animals per was not uniform but, did vary significantly in Mysore city.

Care taken on pet animals: Veterinary care such as grooming and vaccination taken to pet animals by pet keepers in Mysore is shown in Table 10. Majority (172) of the pet animal keepers do grooming on their own and it was attended by professional groomer by 66 pet keepers. However, quite a good number (52) of pet keepers perform the grooming on their own along with the use of professionals. Analysis of variance between the grooming activity conducted by new, old and outskirts of Mysore indicated significant difference ($F=6.703$; $P>0.05$) among the pet animal keepers in Mysore city (Table 10). Further, majority (204) of the pet keepers vaccinate their pet animals biannually and only few (52) pet keepers do vaccination to their pet animals once in a year (Table 10). However, vaccination schedule didn't varied significantly, but varied considerably (Table 10).

Financial investment on pet animal's food: Table 11 shows the overall financial investment made on food of pet animals by pet keepers in Mysore city. The expenditure made towards the food of pet animals was varied considerably, but didn't show significant difference ($F=0.351$; $P<0.05$) between pet keepers who are living in new, old and outskirts of Mysore city (Table 11). Highest number (117) of pet keepers spending rupees 2 to 3 lakh per month and it was followed by good number of residents (58) have spent rupees one to two lakhs per month (Table 11). However, only few (three) residents, who are living in old Mysore area are spending more than 10 lakh rupees per month. Hence, the amount spent towards the food of pet animals ranged between one lakh to more than 10 lakh rupees in Mysore city (Table 11).

Overall expenditure made on pet animals: Table 12 shows the expenditure made on pet animals by NPO's, PO's and POWWP's in different areas of Mysore. Both NPO's, PO's and POWWP's are spending lakhs of rupees on pet animals for their maintenance every year. Comparatively, residents who are NPO's, PO's and POWWP's living in old Mysore area are spending more money than that of new and outskirts of Mysore city (Table 12). Further, analysis of variance between one to more than ten lakhs of rupees spending towards the pet animals keeping indicated no significant difference between NPO's ($F=0.855$; $P<0.05$), Pet owners with non-pet walkers (POWNPWs') ($F=1.927$; $P<0.05$) and POWPW's ($F=1.383$; $P<0.05$) resided in new, old and outskirts of Mysore (Table 12). Thus, residents who owned pet animals residing in different areas of Mysore are spending lakhs of rupees every year in Mysore.

IV. DISCUSSION

In recent years, ongoing trend of urbanization is coupled with a growing demand for animal-based food products that increased the rise in livestock operations within cities and their outskirts (Joshi *et al.*, 2018). The physical activity, mental health and social interaction are improved when an individual own a pet animal (Menon *et al.*, 2018) and it could increase the life satisfaction which is correlation with the regular pet interactions. In Mysore, dogs, cats, fishes and birds are commonly kept as pets. Moreover, pet animals owning is not alike, it differed significantly at newly established area of Mysore, old Mysore and outskirts of Mysore. Pet ownership in urban areas of India revealed the association of pets with human health outcomes such as stress levels, physical activity and social interactions (Sharma *et al.*, 2019). The stress levels between pet owners and non-pet owners indicated considerable variation in their stress levels and it was high among the non-pet owners. Pet owners experience higher levels of happiness and better psychological well-being compared to non-pet owners (Joshi *et al.*, 2018; Menon *et al.*, 2018). However, many pet owners are not take pets outside the residence for walking and not walking with their pets in Mysore. Only few pet owners are taking outside the residence for walking and such pets have been shown to be at a higher risk of developing diabetes, liver problems, joint pain, kidney failure and cancer (<https://en.wikipedia.org>). Lack of exercise and high-caloric diets are considered to be the primary contributors to pet obesity (<https://healthforanimals.org/reports>). Therefore, every pet owners should take outside the pets at least once in a day for walking for a period of at least one hour. Further, pet animal's ownership is quite interesting in Mysore city. Several residents who are living in newly established areas are new to pet animals keeping and many residents have owned different species of pet animals since second and third generations in their family. Hence, experience with owning a pets varied significantly among the residents of different areas of Mysore. Comparatively, residents of old Mysore owned more number of pet animals compared to new area of Mysore and outskirts Mysore. Moreover, majority of the residents keep pet animals for hobby and few residents keep pet animals for commercial purpose.

Pet owners provide home-made food, dry kibbles, wet canned food, raw diet and mixed food to their pets and feeding schedules are not alike at different areas of Mysore. Although, veterinary care such as grooming and vaccination are taken to pet animals as per the standard norms, but majority of pet keepers groom their pet animals on their own and only few pet owners uses professional groomers. Moreover, vaccination is also not uniformly followed at different areas of Mysore. Surprisingly, every pet owners living at different areas of Mysore spend lakhs of rupees for the food and maintenance pet animals. Despite, various deterrents inability to care for pets while traveling, lack of time and inadequate housing (Leslie *et al.*, 1994) occurs during pets keeping, most of the pet owners are taking every care towards pet animals. Hence, wellbeing of animals kept as pets is essential and understanding such animals keeping activities is need of the day. In this regard, various species of animals kept as pets are grouped according to the type of premises or habitat where they are reared (<https://healthforanimals.org/reports>).

In addition, pet animals play a crucial role in enhancing the well-being of children in hospitals or elders in nursing homes. Certain animals are used as therapy animals, involved with their trained handlers, engage in pet therapy sessions to achieve specific physical, social and cognitive or emotional goals with patients. By harnessing the innate qualities of different animals, pet therapy serves as a valuable complement to traditional medical treatments, offering holistic support for individuals facing various challenges and conditions (ASPCA, 2006). Thus, different species of animals are keeping as pets at different parts of the world.

Similar type of observations were made by Rao *et al.* (2018), Menon *et al.* (2018), Joshi *et al.* (2018), Sharma *et al.* (2019), Kumar *et al.* (2019), Reddy *et al.* (2021), Deshpande *et al.* (2022) in Hubli-Dharwar, Bangalore, Mangalore and other parts of Karnataka. Further, pet-assisted therapy on psychological well-being is more useful among elderly residents in cities (Sharma *et al.*, 2019). Thus, pets bring moments of joy and unparalleled companionship bring into human lives. It is more common among adults living independently in urban areas. Providing a more natural and enriching environment

can help alleviate stress and promote a better quality of life for pet animals. These findings underscore the therapeutic potential of pet interactions in managing stress and promoting cardiovascular health.

Thus, pet animal's ownership help achieve self-perceptions among older people (Kidd and Feldmann, 1981) and with elderly women (Ory and Goldberg, 1983). It also improve the adult's attitudes toward pet animals (Kidd and Kidd, 1989) thereby pet animal's ownership improve some aspects of human health and behaviour (James, 1991). Hunt *et al.* (1992) has recorded the role of small animals in social interactions between strangers and pets are important for human beings (Archer, 1997). The quality of life of the pet dog could influence the owner and dog's characteristics (<https://healthforanimals.org/reports>), in turn it help improve the human-pet dynamics in cross cultural perspectives and thus, pet owners stay well and happy (Heiss and Hormes, 2018). Therefore, pet animals should be treated as friends, partners and companion of deities and symbol of power (<https://healthforanimals.org/reports>). Pet animal's ownership trend is increasing at urban areas and pet animals help play pivotal role in shaping domestic and economic landscapes. Thus, pet animal's ownership is a fascinating tapestry, reflecting on the deep bond between humans and animals and expanding number of pet animals owning households at different areas of Mysore. Our observations are on par with the observations of Sanders (2000), Simpson (2000), Allen *et al.* (1991), Rao *et al.* (2018), Menon *et al.* (2018), Joshi *et al.* (2018), Sharma *et al.* (2019), Kumar *et al.* (2019), Reddy *et al.* (2021), Deshpande *et al.* (2022).

V. SUMMARY

- Altogether, 196 non-pet owners, 61 pet owners and 195 pet owners walking with pets distributed at newly established areas in Mysore city, old Mysore and outskirts area of Mysore city, where people belong to Karnataka and outside Karnataka.
- Distribution of pet owners and non-pet owners of Karnataka and outside Karnataka in newly established, old and outskirts of Mysore city indicated significant difference.
- Pet owners walking with their pet animal's distribution at new, old and outskirts of Mysore didn't show significant difference among the Karnataka and outside Karnataka people in Mysore.
- Family history of pet animal's ownership is quite interesting in Mysore city.
- Total 87 residents are new to pet animals keeping and 128 residents are practising pet animals keeping since second generation and only 41 residents are practicing pet animals keeping since third generation of their family.
- In Mysore dogs, cats, fishes and birds are commonly keep as pets.
- Residents of old Mysore owned more number of pet animals compared to new and outskirts Mysore city.
- Majority of residents keep pet animals for hobby and few residents keep pet animals for commercial purpose in Mysore.
- Highest number of pet owners (98) have 3 to 6 years of experience and it was followed by 64 pet owners who have 1 to 3 years in keeping/rearing the pet animals. Around 44 pet owners have 6 to 9 years of experience in keeping/rearing pet animals.
- Pet owners provide home-made food, dry kibbles, wet canned food, raw diet and mixed food to their pets in Mysore. Interestingly, majority of the pet owners (176) provide mixed food to pet animals.
- Feeding schedules are not alike, but, majority (149) of pet keepers provide food two times per day to their pets.
- Veterinary care such as grooming and vaccination taken to pet animals as per the norms. However, majority of pet keepers groom their pet animals on their own and only few pet owners uses professional groomers.
- Majority (204) of the pet keepers vaccinate their pet animals biannually and only few (52) pet keepers do vaccination to their pet animals once in a year.
- Every pet owners spend lakhs of rupees on their pet animals and it didn't show significant difference between pet keepers living in newly established area of Mysore, old Mysore area and outskirts of Mysore city.

VI. CONCLUSION

Pet animals (e.g. Dogs, cats, fishes, birds etc.) are keeping offers a wide range of benefits to their owners or guardians or keepers encompassing both physical and emotional well-being. For example, walking with a dog not only provides exercise and fresh air for both the human and the dog, but also facilitates social interaction, fostering connections with other dog owners and members of the community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Pet owners should take the pet animals outside the residence for walking.

- Residents who are new to pet animals keeping should get training rear the pet animals as per the standard pet animals keeping norms.
- Pet animals like cats, fishes and birds should be taken care by vaccinating them periodically.
- Pet owners should provide necessary nutritional food with appropriate schedules to pet animals as per the recommendation of veterinary professionals.
- Pet owners should periodically undertake health check-up including vaccination to their pet animals as per the recommendations of veterinary professionals.

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Table 1. Pet owners and non-pet owners recorded in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	No. of place visited	No. of respondent (Non-pet owners)	No. of respondents (Pet owners)	Total
1.	New Mysore	9	58	76	134
2.	Old Mysore	18	106	139	245
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	5	32	41	73
Total		32	196	256	452

Table 2. Pet animal keepers recorded in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Non-pet owners belong to		Total	Pet owners belong to		Total	Pet owners walking with pets		Total
		Karnataka	Outside Karnataka		Karnataka	Outside Karnataka		Karnataka	Outside Karnataka	
1.	New Mysore	68	4	72	13	2	15	52	2	54
2.	Old Mysore	88	7	95	26	4	30	96	3	99
3.	Outskirts of Mysore	26	3	29	14	2	16	40	2	42
Total		182	14	196	53	8	61	188	7	195
Mean		60.67	4.67		17.67	2.67		62.67	2.33	
± SD		± 25.84	± 1.70	-	± 9.91	± 0.94	-	± 24.07	± 0.47	-
't' value		12.34 S			2.047 NS			2.046 NS		

Note: S: Value is significant at 1% level; NS: Values are not significant.

Table 3. Family history of pet ownership in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Pet animals owned since			Total
		1 st Generation	2 nd Generation	3 rd Generation	
1.	New Mysore	23	36	10	69
2.	Old Mysore	45	66	22	133
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	19	26	9	54
Total		87	128	41	256
Mean		29	42.67	13.67	
± SD		± 11.02	± 16.98	± 6.21	-
'F' value		2.778 S			

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.05% level.

Table 4. Different pets owned by residents of Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Name of the pet animal					Total
		Cat	Dog	Fish	Bird	Others	
1.	New Mysore	10	32	3	3	22	70
2.	Old Mysore	16	62	8	6	46	138
3.	Outskirts of Mysore	7	22	2	2	15	48
Total		33	116	13	11	83	256
Mean		11	38.67	4.33	3.67	27.67	
± SD		± 3.74	± 15.34	± 2.49	± 1.70	± 12.13	-
'F' value		4.895 S					

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.05% level.

Table 5. Number of pets owned by the residents of Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	No. of pets owned					Total
		One	Two	Three	Four	>Five	
1.	New Mysore	30	18	7	5	3	63
2.	Old Mysore	56	38	22	19	8	143
3.	Outskirts of Mysore	22	16	5	4	3	50
Total		108	72	34	28	14	256
Mean		36	24	11.33	9.33	4.67	-
± SD		± 14.56	± 9.93	± 7.59	± 6.86	± 2.36	
'F' value		3.892 S					

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.05% level.

Table 6. Purpose of owning pet animals in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Purpose of owning the pet animals				Total
		Hobby	Commercial	Recreation	Others	
1.	New Mysore	40	18	6	2	66
2.	Old Mysore	83	37	14	3	137
3.	Outskirts of Mysore	35	13	5	-	53
Total		158	68	25	5	256
Mean		52.67	22.67	8.33	1.67	-
± SD		± 20.28	± 9.01	± 4.45	± 1.33	
'F' value		6.970 S				

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.05% level.

Table 7. Experience in rearing/keeping the pet animals in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Years of experience in pet animals rearing/keeping						Total
		1 to 3	3 to 6	6 to 9	9 to 12	12 to 15	>15	
1.	New Mysore	18	26	10	3	5	4	66
2.	Old Mysore	34	50	24	18	9	6	141
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	12	22	10	-	4	1	49
Total		64	98	44	21	18	11	256
Mean		21.33	32.67	14.67	7.0	6.0	3.67	-
± SD		± 8.43	± 12.07	± 6.86	± 8.49	± 2.16	± 1.97	
'F' value		3.846 S						

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.05% level.

Table 8. Food provided to pet animals by pet keepers in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Type of food					Total
		Home Made	Dry Kibbles	Wet Canned Food	Raw Diet	Mixed Food	
1.	New Mysore	16	2	1	2	49	70
2.	Old Mysore	30	8	3	4	89	134
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	12	1	-	1	38	52
Total		58	11	4	7	176	256
Mean		19.33	3.67	1.33	2.33	58.67	-
±		±	±	±	±	±	
SD		8.47	3.13	1.33	1.33	21.67	
'F' value		10.632 S					

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.01% level.

Table 9. Feeding schedules for animal pets followed by pet owners in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Feed given				Total
		Once	Twice	Thrice	Many times	
1.	New Mysore	9	40	21	2	72
2.	Old Mysore	18	76	35	4	133
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	5	33	12	1	51
Total		32	149	68	7	256
Mean		10.67	49.67	22.67	2.33	-
±		±	±	±	±	
SD		5.59	18.57	8.43	1.33	
'F' value		767.907 S				

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.01% level.

Table 10. Veterinary care taken to animal pets by pet owners in Mysore

Sl. No.	Area	Grooming				Vaccination		
		Self	Professionals	Both	Total	Annually	Biannually	Total
1.	New Mysore	48	21	14	73	14	59	73
2.	Old Mysore	88	35	28	135	28	109	137
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	36	10	10	48	10	36	46
Total		172	66	52	256	52	204	256

Mean ± SD	57.33 ± 21.89	22 ± 7.70	6 ± 4.32	-	17.33 ± 7.26	68.0 ± 27.46	-
'F' value	6.703 S				't' value = 1.316 NS		

Note: S: Value is significant at 0.01% level. NS: Value is not significant.

Table 11. Expenditure made on pets by different type of pet owners in Mysore

Type of pet owners/Area		Investment on pet animals (in Lakhs/year)						Total		
		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	>10			
Non-Pet Owners (NPO) (n=196)	New Mysore	14	9	8	9	10	2	52		
	Old Mysore	26	17	29	16	20	7	115		
	Outskirt of Mysore	7	5	5	4	7	1	29		
	Total	47	31	42	29	37	10	196		
	Mean ± SD	15.67 ± 6.92	10.33 ± 4.6	14 ± 9.42	9.67 ± 4.29	12.33 ± 5.67	3.33 ± 2.54	-		
	'F' value	0.855 NS								
Type of pet owners/Area		Investment on pet animals (in Lakhs/year)						Total		
		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	>10			
Pet Owners (n=256)	Non-Pet Walkers (NPW)	New Mysore	2	4	6	2	3	-	17	
		Old Mysore	3	8	10	6	5	1	33	
		Outskirt of Mysore	1	2	5	2	0	-	10	
		Total	6	14	21	10	8	1	60	
		Mean ± SD	2 ± 0.82	4.67 ± 2.79	7 ± 2.16	3.33 ± 1.95	2.67 ± 1.88	0.33 ± 0.47	-	
		'F' value	1.927 NS							
	Pet Walkers (PW)	Type of pet owners/Area		Investment on pet animals (in Lakhs/year)						Total
				1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	>10	
		New Mysore		9	13	12	5	8	2	49
		Old Mysore		20	29	30	18	15	4	116
Outskirt of Mysore		7	10	7	4	2	1	31		
Total		36	52	49	27	25	7	196		
Mean ± SD		12 ± 5.71	17.33 ± 8.05	16.33 ± 8.63	9 ± 6.05	14 ± 6.98	2.33 ± 1.25	-		
'F' value		1.383 NS								

Note: NS: Values are not significant.

Table 12. Overall financial investment made food of pet animal's by pet keepers in Mysore

Sl. No.	Place	Rupees in thousands per month							Total
		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	5 to 6	7 to 8	8 to 9	> 10	
1.	New Mysore	16	30	7	5	9	2	-	69
2.	Old Mysore	32	64	18	14	7	3	3	141
3.	Outskirt of Mysore	10	23	3	4	5	1	-	46
Total		58	117	28	23	21	6	3	256
Mean ± SD		19.33 ± 8.63	39 ± 16.99	9.33 ± 6.15	7.67 ± 4.60	7 ± 1.63	2 ± 0.82	1.0 ± 1.41	-
'F value		0.351 NS							

Note: NS: Value is not significant.