

# IGA Newsletter

Keep informed—Stay in Touch—Get Involved

- Fostering the use of goats to provide for the needs of humankind.
- Encouraging research with and development of goats to increase their productivity and usefulness throughout the world.
- Perpetuating the International Conferences on Goats.



## *Apologies from the Secretariat*

Dear members, this newsletter was originally scheduled for release in October/November of 2002. We at the secretariat apologize for the delay and extend to you our promise to ensure that future newsletters will be released in a timely manner. Regrettably, some of the events listed in the newsletter have already been completed. We encourage you to contact the sponsors of these events in order to learn more about what has taken place and any future plans.

## **Twenty Years: IGA has grown into adulthood**

After twenty years as an organization and two years of my presidency, having faced the administrative, financial, scientific, and technical aspects of IGA activities, I believe that it is essential that we accurately define the IGA objectives in a pragmatic and non-philosophical way.

IGA's overall objective is to undertake all relevant actions aimed at the promotion and the development of goat farming and production for the welfare of humankind by:

- facilitating contacts between goat specialists from different regions of the world
- developing and distributing information on goat farming and production
- promoting and supporting the actions of those concerned with goat production, development, and research.

I wish to emphasize that IGA must not play the role of initiator or sponsor of development and research projects and must not be in competition with national or international organisations which have been

## **EDITORIAL**

I am amazed that twenty years have already passed!

IGA marked the anniversary of its first twenty years by taking the opportunity of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production in Cairo to celebrate.

The report (see hereafter) of these celebrations shows the work already achieved and the place taken by IGA within the frame of the institutions specialised in animal production.

founded for these purposes. IGA is dedicated to helping these entities by providing services for which IGA is uniquely positioned to share. IGA's international structure, its collective knowledge, and the willingness of IGA members to share this knowledge makes IGA uniquely positioned to fill this role.

IGA must go further than it has in the past. To follow through with the suggestions from the round-table organised in Cairo (see hereafter the report), IGA must also become a workshop of reflection on the future of the goat sector in the

### *Inside this issue:*

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## Twenty Years: IGA Growth Con't.

different regions of the world. IGA has undertaken several projects since 1982 and particularly since the Tours Conference to reach these objectives. In this Newsletter, several of our colleagues report the progress of these various projects. This demonstrates the dynamic quality of IGA. Unfortunately, IGA lacks the volunteers to achieve all of these useful goals; so many remain in the project stage and have not yet been completed. Please do not hesitate to join us in any of

these activities in order to serve the goat sector all around the world. In that aim, please contact me with information on which type of activity in which you wish to become involved.

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*“IGA must become a workshop of reflection on the future of the goat sector.”*

## IGA Celebrates 20th Anniversary in Cairo

Egypt was a significant venue to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Goat Association. IGA's mission of “Promoting Goats and the People Who Produce Them for the Benefit of Humankind” experienced early support from the Egyptian Association of Animal Science. Goats have played an important role in the lives of rural farmers in this cradle of civilization. Ancient hieroglyphics on the walls of many of the pharaohs tombs depict the goat as an important animal in the life of early Egypt. Dr. Adel Aboul Naga, of Cairo, now working with the United Nations in Pakistan, and formerly a delegate representing Egypt with FAO in Rome, did extensive research with goats in the 70s and 80s. He was one of the founders of IGA and served as President from 1996-2000. Aboul Naga played a key role in organizing the events of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in cooperation with the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the EAAP (European Association of Animal Production) who met for the first time outside of Europe.

Four of IGA's Presidents attended the anniversary. The main celebration with IGA Board Members and their EAAP and Egyptian Colleagues present was held on

The Pharaoh's Nile Cruise. Current President Pierre Morand-Fehr of France welcomed members and guests and spoke of the contribution of IGA. Dr. Jean Boyazoglu, immediate past president also brought greetings to the group and told of the impact of IGA over the past two decades.

In attendance at the Board meeting were: President Pierre Morand-Fehr (France), Founder Warren Foote (USA), Vice-President and organizer of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Goats Norman Casey (South Africa), Jean-Paul Debeuf (France), Executive Secretary of EAAP Jean Boyazoglu (Italy), Past Secretary-Treasurer Rosalee Sinn (USA), Jim DeVries (USA), Secretary-Treasurer Cindy Walla, country representative Stella Zamfirescu (Romania), country representative Ahmed El Aich (Morocco), country representative Tilahun Sahlu (USA), and SRR Editor Ken Plaxton (Netherlands).

## IGA Celebrates 20th Anniversary...Con't.



*IGA Board at work.*

Following the board meeting, a roundtable, coordinated by Adel Aboul Naga, entitled "Contribution of the Goat to Human Livelihood" drew over 100 participants. IGA, Heifer International, and ICARDA, proudly sponsored this event.

After the keynote address by Warren Foote, the roundtable addressed the following topics:

- Goats in the ancient civilizations of Greece, Egypt, and Rome.
- Goats in the modern animal industry
- Goat production in the households in undeveloped regions
- Goat husbandry in harsh conditions
- Networks of goat organizations
- Strategy for developing goat farming in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Following lively discussion, the conclusions of the roundtable were as follows:

- Goats have historically played a very important socio-economic role in the livelihood of man
- The role of goat production is increasingly important in developing countries suffering under harsh conditions
- There is a clear need for the goat industry to promote investment and research, especially in developing countries
- These topics need to be the focus of workshops in the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Goats 2004



*Four Presidents: left to right Jean Boyazoglu, Pierre Morand-Febr, Warren Foote, Adel Aboul Naga*

## Interesting Roundtable in Cairo by Tilahun Sahu

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Goat Association was celebrated by a Roundtable entitled *Contribution of the Goat to Human Livelihood*.

Dr. Warren C. Foote presented the historical development and evolution of the

International Goat Association that included the history, accomplishments, and challenges faced by IGA during the past twenty years. Dr. Foote pointed out that aside from the founding of the International Goat Association on January 12, 1982, the most significant accomplishment of the association has been the establishment

## Interesting Roundtable in Cairo ...Con't.

and consistent publication of the Small Ruminant Research Journal. Dr. Foote recognized that continuing to focus IGA's efforts on appropriate goals, maintaining strong leadership, and supporting association growth through increased membership as key future challenges of the Association.

Dr. J. Boyazoglu, who presented the role of goats in human civilization, with particular emphasis on agriculture, followed Dr. Foote. He presented the time line of agricultural development since 7000 BC, with the beginning of farming in relation to domestication of goats by humans.

Dr. S. H. B. Lebbie's following presentation covered the role of goats, special attributes of goats, and challenges and constraints of goat production with an emphasis on goat production under household conditions in Africa. He described goats as the most versatile and adaptable animals under the harsh African management and environmental circumstances. He highlighted the ability of goats not only to survive under these conditions but to continue to be productive as a source of high quality protein for many households. He suggested that it is very important to consider the roles of goats as family assets and sources of financial security that extends beyond their roles in meat and milk production when considering goat production under African conditions.

Dr. Luis Iniguez of ICARDA started his presentation by showing a series of slides on the extreme environmental variation and harsh conditions in West and Central Asia. In spite of these conditions, goats have thrived and provided continued production of milk, meat and fiber.

He listed high kid mortality due to parasites, lack of genetic improvement, disorganized and chaotic marketing systems for goat products, and degradation of rangelands due to communal grazing lands without effective policies for sustainable production systems as the major challenges to successful goat production in West and Central Asia.

Dr. P. Morand-Fehr presented the evolution of goat research during the last 20 years and identified the causes of the inefficient performance of goat research while suggesting proposals for future research. From his presentation, it was clear that there were significant scientific advances in goat research in the last 20 years, although there is still much less research being conducted on goats when compared to research on poultry, swine, cattle, and sheep. He attributed this to the lack of financial resources to support goat research coupled with the lack of institutional policies and missions dedicated to carrying out clearly defined basic and applied research on goats. Moreover, he indicated that publication of research on goats is increasing in number; however, there are fewer publications from Asia and Africa, where most of the world's goats thrive, than from Europe and North America which only account for 10% of the world's goats. Dr. Morand-Fehr suggested that more effort be expended in training professionals in goat research, coordination among the scientists and between research centers in standardizing their research protocols to access the information, and identified the need to mobilize international organizations such as FAO, CIHEAM, ILRI, ICARDA, and IGA to support regional research and network systems.

*“When referring to goat production under African conditions, one needs to consider the roles of goats as family assets and sources of financial security...”*

## Interesting Roundtable in Cairo Con't.

In the absence of Dr. G. F. W. Haenlein, Dr. S. Lebbie presented Dr. Haenlein's paper discussing the role of goat milk in human nutrition. The presentation focused on the unique properties of goat milk and its health benefits, with particular reference to alleviating cow milk allergies, genetic polymorphism of caseins in goat milk, and fatty acid composition. The author suggested that a comprehensive and coordinated study on the implications of consumption of goat milk and its products on human health is needed.

Next, Dr. Jean-Paul Dubeuf addressed the present and future status of the goat industry and how it will fit into the new world order and globalization that is taking place. Dr. Dubeuf discussed goat production around the world and the marketing of goat meat, milk, and fiber in developed and developing parts of the world. The author pointed out that there is stiff competition between goat products such as meat, milk, and fiber and similar products from other species available at comparable prices. Goat producers need to be keenly aware of this fact due to increasing globalization. In the end, quality products available at reasonable cost will win the markets.

However, niche markets for goat milk and meat products will continue to expand, particularly in the developed part of the world.

The last presentation was made by Dr. Pierre Morand-Fehr. Dr. Morand-Fehr presented a strategy for development of goat farming into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He pointed out that there was a 50% increase in the goat population during the last 20 years, both in developing and developed countries. However, there has not been significant progress in developing strategies for sustainable goat production in harmony with the environment; thus, goats are still associated with deforestation and desertification in the minds of politicians and policy makers. This results in a significant negative image for the goat industry. On the other hand, goat products in developed parts of the world have gained momentum based on the maximizing niche markets. However, much more remains to be accomplished in terms of production and marketing of quality goat products in developing and developed regions of the world.

All the round-table papers will be published in a special issue of *Small Ruminant Research* in 2003.

## News from IGA

### IGA Secretary

After the resignation of Beth Miller from Heifer International, Cindy Walla was officially appointed to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the International Goat Association. Cindy is the Assistant to Jim DeVries, Vice President for International Programs for Heifer International. Heifer has appointed a Program Assistant, Mr. Noel Mace to assist the Secretary-Treasurer.

All IGA members and particularly the Board members welcomed Cindy and Noel at Cairo and ensured them of all their support for a good beginning to their activities. There is no change in the activities and responsibilities of the IGA Secretary-Treasurer.

## IGA News Continued....

IGA and its President take this opportunity to thank Heifer International for its support to IGA in general and specifically for the role of Secretary-Treasurer.

Should you need to contact either, their email addresses follow:

Cindy Walla: [cindy.walla@heifer.org](mailto:cindy.walla@heifer.org)

Noel Mace : [noel.mace@heifer.org](mailto:noel.mace@heifer.org)

### Country Representatives

It is with sadness and regret that we announce the death of our Colleague Rueben Njwe, IGA country representative for Cameroon.

During the board meeting held in Cairo on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002, Beth Miller, former IGA Secretary-Treasurer, was appointed as Country Representative for Central USA

### Constitution

IGA's new constitution has been approved. Of a total of 192 eligible ballots, 99 were received on time and validated on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002. Unfortunately many members received the vote material by post mail too late. The results are: 97 yes and 2 no; giving a 98% majority of approvals and 51% of total voting ballots.

### Partnership with CIRVAL

In 2002, IGA developed an operational partnership with CIRVAL, the International Resource Center for Valorization of Information in Small Ruminants Dairy Sectors (<http://www.cirval.asso.fr/webanglais/index.htm>). This center, settled under the auspices of FAO, the International Dairy Federation and the European

Association of Animal Production, develops specialized documentation and information services. This partnership is an opportunity for both organizations and the goat sector to promote and strengthen their activities.

### IGA Web site

(<http://www.iga-goatworld.org>)

In 2002, the IGA website was improved with new pages and more regular updating with news from IGA and IGA country representatives as well as IGA regional events.

The IGA website gives full access to the .pdf files of:

- The Communications and posters of the VII<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Goats (Tours, France, May 2000)
- The papers of the Boer Goat Conference in China.

In 2003, the IGA website will have a gateway for Goat Information with direct access to the major references on goats in English. A clear directory will enable the user to search all technical, scientific, economic information on goats by subject.

### IGA Projects

- *The Inventory of goat organizations*

*What is the need for such an Inventory?*

One of the main objectives of IGA is the promotion of goat activities everywhere in the world. The first step in achieving this ambitious objective is the identification of the main organizations involved in goat activities. The first edition of this inventory contains about 60 organizations in very diverse

*See Page 19  
for special  
two-year  
membership  
rate!*

## IGA News Continued....

sectors including breeding, non-governmental, genetic improvement, dairies, research centers, extension organizations, et. al.

IGA Country Representatives and Board Members identified the organizations included in the first release. Though many organizations have been listed, there are several that have yet to be included and will need to be added for the updated editions. If you notice that an organization has been left out, please contact your Country Representative or the IGA secretariat.

### *How is the Inventory used?*

The inventory is a dynamic and interactive database. The inventory supports searches for organizations by country and activity. Each organizational entry has contact information and website links.

The inventory has been published on CD-Rom and will be distributed to all country representatives, board members, CIRVAL members, and IGA members at large who request a copy.

### **Nominations**

- Jean Boyazoglu will leave the position of Executive President of the European Association for Animal Production in order to assume the position of head of the Regional Activities Department for International Organization for Epizootics (O.I.E.) effective the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2003.
- Christopher Lu has been appointed Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of the University of Hawaii at Hilo.  
New e-mail address:  
[chrislu@hawaii.edu](mailto:chrislu@hawaii.edu)  
Phone: (808) 974-7700  
Fax: (808) 974-7622

- Sahr Lebbie has left his position as Regional Coordinator of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and has been nominated as Country Director for Heifer Project International in Cameroon.  
Dr. Lebbie's new e-mail address:  
[hpicam@refinedct.net](mailto:hpicam@refinedct.net)

### **Newsletter**

Due to his recent promotion and increased duties, Chris Lu has resigned from his responsibilities concerning the IGA newsletter. President Pierre Morand-Fehr is handling content and relationships with authors. Secretary-treasurer Cindy Walla is in charge of the conception, publication, and distribution of the newsletter. Three issues are to be published per year.

### **Publications**

Many copies of the proceedings of the Symposium on the Boer Goat (China 2001), are available for \$20 USD per copy plus shipping of \$6 USD. If paying by check, please add \$4 USD per check for processing. If you are in need of multiple copies, please combine orders so that shipping costs can be kept to a minimum.

For more information on ordering, please contact:

Qisan Zhang, Program Assistant,  
HPI China Office  
C-8, Tian Le Jia Yuan,  
No. 10, Section 4,  
Yi Huan Nan Road,  
Chengdu, Sichuan Province,  
610041, CHINA

Tel: +86 28 5562245

Fax: +86 28 5564364

Email: [qisan@hpichina.org](mailto:qisan@hpichina.org)

*Inventory of  
goat related  
organizations  
now available  
on CD-ROM!*

## 8th International Conference on Goats (ICGSA)

All IGA members are invited to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Goats (ICGSA), to be held in Pretoria, South Africa from Sunday 4 July to Friday 9 July 2004. This event will be held under the auspices of the International Goat Association in collaboration with the South African Society for Animal Science and the University of Pretoria.

The 8<sup>th</sup> ICGSA will be held on the main campus of the University of Pretoria. The university of Pretoria located 30-minutes from Johannesburg International Airport. Shopping malls and other services are within walking distance of the campus. Accommodations will be with select rated hotels, guesthouses, and university residences in close proximity to the venue. July is in the middle of the South African winter and dry season. Temperatures will range from a crisp and cool 5 C in the morning to 20 C in the afternoon.

The conference will consist of plenary papers, posters, and roundtable discussions on special topics. Details for the submission of posters for public presentation and an accompanying short paper for the conference proceedings can be obtained from the website at: [www.icgsa.co.za](http://www.icgsa.co.za) or the ICGSA secretariat at:  
Secretariat 8<sup>th</sup> ICGSA,  
South Africa 2004  
P.O. Box 102100  
Morleta Plaza  
Pretoria, 0167  
SOUTH AFRICA  
phone: 2712 420 6029  
fax: 2712 420 3290  
email: [icgsa@postino.up.ac.za](mailto:icgsa@postino.up.ac.za)  
Registration fee will be \$500 per delegate.

## IGA Board Meeting in Cairo, Egypt 31 August—3 September

The meeting opened with a welcome given by Dr. Pierre Morand-Fehr to all Board members and Country Representatives. It was noted that this was the first IGA Board meeting to have the participation of Country Representatives.

Sadly, the Board was informed of the death of the IGA Country Representative for Cameroon, Dr. Reuben Njwe. Dr. Njwe passed away in May following a two-year battle with cancer.

Pierre gave a brief update regarding the role of the IGA in promoting goat management and the sale of goat products to improve human nutrition, social welfare and sustainable development.

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The celebratory dinner held aboard the Pharaoh's riverboat was a great success. The accomplishments of the IGA over the past 20 years were acknowledged to the 60 participants, including several Egyptian dignitaries.

### Individual and Institutional Memberships

Cindy Walla gave a brief update regarding the membership status of the IGA. With the assistance of Noel Mace, she is attempting to update all membership records in the database to ensure that the information is correct. A current



## IGA Board Meeting in Cairo, Egypt....Con't.

listing of the membership was distributed to the Board and Country Representatives present for their assistance in reviewing and updating the information. The Secretariat is also working with Elsevier to clear up any outstanding problems with subscriptions to the SRR journal.

A goal of reaching 500 individual IGA memberships and 50 institutional memberships by the 2004 conference was set. In addition, a motion was made and passed to offer a special 2-year rate for 2003-2004 memberships. Individual memberships will be \$60; memberships with a SRR subscription, \$260. One-year memberships will be at the regular rate. It was also suggested that the benefits of the SRR be highlighted in the membership brochure and on the IGA web site.

Heifer International has agreed to pay for one-year IGA memberships with a SRR subscription for up to 12 new Country Representatives in developing countries per year to encourage growth.

### **IGA Financial Situation and Projection of 2003 Budget**

Due to the recent turnover of the Secretary-Treasurer position, a comprehensive financial report was not made available to the Board. A summary was submitted for review. A more comprehensive report, as well as a proposed budget for 2003 will be distributed to the Board in November.

### **Report on Regional Conferences: Past and Future**

Dr. Pu Jiabi gave a brief overview of the first regional conference held in China in October 2001 on Boer Goats. There were approximately 120 participants. The purpose of the conference was to promote pure breeding and cross breeding of Boer goats.

A regional conference on milk quality is scheduled to be held in Mexico in September 2002 (contact Mr. M. Galina). Though the conference is not being supported financially by IGA, institutional memberships to IGA will be promoted there.

A conference on Goats and Mountain Farming will be held in Italy in October 2002 (contact Dr. Corti). More information may be found at the IGA web site: [www.iga-goatworld.org](http://www.iga-goatworld.org)

### **Report on 8<sup>th</sup> ICG Pretoria 4-9 July 2004 (Norman Casey)**

A presentation of the schedule and plans for the International Conference on Goats to be held in 2004 was given by Norman Casey. A web site has been developed at: [www.icgsa.co.za](http://www.icgsa.co.za), which will include online registration. The current program consists of the following sessions:

1. Foresight on Goat Research
2. Social Environment
3. Physical Environment and Infrastructure
4. Business Environment
5. Nutrition
6. Genetics and Biodiversity
7. Physiology
8. Health
9. Goat Products
10. International Relationships and Trading
11. The Goat in Philosophy and Perspective

Roundtable discussions include:

1. Towards achieving social and economic equity through goat farming
2. Nutrient requirements
3. Application of genomic developments

*Read here about discussions that took place at the roundtable.*

## IGA Board Meeting in Cairo, Egypt....Con't.

4. Strategies for monitoring health and sanitation
5. Concept of quality standards for goat products
6. Information and technology transfer in support of business development

Thus far, \$10,000 has been paid for deposits on facilities and accommodations. The early registration fee will be \$500. Late registration fees will be \$575. It is expected that the conference will be able to return a positive balance. Attempts will be made to organize scholarships and travel allowances for students as well as sponsorships for sessions and/or roundtable discussions. Norman mentioned a possibility of obtaining \$20,000 from the South African government.

An IGA Board meeting will be held in South Africa in 2003 to see the venue and make recommendations. Pierre Morand-Fehr, Adel Aboul Naga, Jean Boyazoglu and Sahr Lebbie will be in attendance. Other Board members will have the option of attending as well.

### Country Representative Activities

Beth Miller was appointed the Country Representative for the Central USA area.

### Next IGA Board Meeting

An electronic meeting to address the 2003 budget, plans for Pretoria, and to confirm future meeting dates will be held in early 2003.

## Report on Small Ruminant Research by Ken Plaxton

### 1. Publication Schedule 2002

(Vols. 43-46)

- Vols. 43-45/2 published
- Vols. 47-50 to be announced for 2003

In 2003, Vol. 50 will be published! This could include Cumulative Author and Subject indexes for Vols 26-50.

### 2. Special Issues

Published:

- Sheep and Goat Diseases and Productivity (Guest Editor: Robinson) – published as Vol. 45/2 (August)

In Preparation:

- Nutrition of Small Ruminants (Guest Editors: Ben Salem,

Morand-Fehr and Treacher) – manuscripts to be submitted later this year

- IGA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary issue (Guest Editor: Haenlein)
- Nutrient Requirements of Goats (Sahlu) – series of 10 papers – possibly special issue in 2003?

### 3. European Editorial Office

All submissions should be sent to the Editorial Office in Amsterdam to the attention of Nienke de Jong, the coordinator of the refereeing process

Since initiation (January 2002) approx. 190 manuscripts have been submitted!

## Small Ruminant Research Report Con't.

### 4. Print publication times

(acceptance to publication)

Vol. 43/1	4.4 months
Vol. 43/2	4.3 months
Vol. 43/3	4.9 months
Average Vol. 43 = 4.5 months	
Vol. 44/1	3.4 months
Vol. 44/2	4.2 months
Vol. 44/3	3.3 months
Average Vol. 44 = 3.7 months	
Vol. 45/1	4.3 months
Vol. 45/2	Robinson special issue
Vol. 45/3	4.1 months
Average Vol. 45 = 4.2 months	

Mr. Plaxton pointed out that the present print publication times contrast very favorably with those in recent years (which for a time were in excess of 12 months)!

### 5. IGA member subscriptions

<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u> August
104	67	80

Current institutional subscription level is just over 200 (approx. 3% fall in 2001).

### 6. Impact Factor

The latest Impact Factor figures for Small Ruminant Research are:

<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
0.396 (31 <sup>st</sup> )	0.369 (30 <sup>th</sup> )

2001 Impact Factor showed slight improvement, but remember that this reflects on papers published in previous 2 years (i.e. 1999 and 2000).

### 7. Electronic developments

#### *Electronic usage of SRR:*

- Total full-text article downloads in 2001 : approx. 14,500
- Total full-text article downloads in past 12 months : approx. 18,000

The number of full-text downloads continues to rise as electronic usage of/access to SRR increases. Some of the print subscription cancellations (3% drop) are undoubtedly being converted into electronic subscriptions.

#### (ii) *Articles in Press*

Elsevier's Articles in Press service has recently been introduced for all journals including SRR. This means that accepted papers are indicated on the web as corrected proofs within a few weeks of acceptance and long before they are included in print issues. They are, therefore, 'available online' to those with subscription access relatively soon after final acceptance.

## News from countries

### FRANCE

- A one-day workshop on "The role of goat farming in the French society during the 20<sup>th</sup> century" will take place at the Chambre d'Agriculture of the Region Poitou-Charentes (at Mignaloux – 90 minutes from Paris by train) on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002, from 09:10 am to 05:30 pm.

This workshop invites all those interested in goat farming, its past, and its future, to attend. No

## News From Countries Continued

attendance fees are required. The Société Française d'Ethnozootéchnie is organizing this workshop in coordination with the European Association for Animal Production participates.

For further information, please contact one of the two coordinators of the programme:

Pierre Morand-Fehr, by e-mail: [morand@inapg.inra.fr](mailto:morand@inapg.inra.fr)

Jean-Claude Le Jaouen, by e-mail : [jean-claude.le-jaouen@inst-elevage.asso.fr](mailto:jean-claude.le-jaouen@inst-elevage.asso.fr)

An extension book, The Goat Farming « L'élevage des chèvres » (159 p.) has just been published in French by Gilbert Toussaint, Country Representative for France. The book is published by "Editions de Vecchi S.A." – 52, rue Montmartre – F. 75002 PARIS. This book presents good advice on breed choices, nutrition, pathology and prophylaxy, reproduction, milk production, trading, and economical aspects of goat production. Price of the book: 13.37 €. To purchase this book, please contact Gilbert Toussaint by e-mail:

[gilbert.toussaint@wanadoo.fr](mailto:gilbert.toussaint@wanadoo.fr).

### TUNISIA

A 198-page book, Sustainable animal farming in limited sized farms in the West-Northern Tunisia, has just been published on the results of a project of cooperation between Belgium and Tunisia on goat farming in northwest Tunisia. This interesting document was drafted by C. Kayouli et A. Buldgen and is of special

significance to coordinators of agricultural development. The book is published by: Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques de Gambroux, Belgique – Unité de Zootechnie

### SOUTH AFRICA

#### ***1. Goat Webpage developed at the Library of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria***

Amelia Breytenbach, in the Library of the Faculty of Veterinary Science has developed a Goat Webpage. Please visit this site, which has useful links to other sources of information. The address of the Webpage is:

[www.up.ac.za/asservices/ais/vet/goatweb.html](http://www.up.ac.za/asservices/ais/vet/goatweb.html)

#### ***2. A Small Ruminant Research and Development Network for South Africa (SA SR-NET) and for the SADC Region (SADC SR-NET) has been established.***

The Network is growing, and people are encouraged to join. It is linked to networks in other countries in southern Africa. News and information are distributed, and the idea is to include as many people as possible in South Africa who are interested in small ruminant production. For information, contact Ned Donkin, email:

[ndonkin@op.up.ac.za](mailto:ndonkin@op.up.ac.za),

Heleen Els email:

[hels@op.up.ac.za](mailto:hels@op.up.ac.za),

or Gavin MacGregor e-mail:

[hpsagm@mweb.co.za](mailto:hpsagm@mweb.co.za).

#### **3. Small Ruminant Conference, October 2002**

A successful Small Ruminant conference was held from 30th September to

## Small Ruminant Research Report Con't.

4<sup>th</sup> October 2002, in co-operation with the Developing Animal Agriculture Interest Group of the South African Society for Animal Science (SASAS-DAAIG), at Jan Kempdorp near Kimberley in the Northern Cape Province.

### 4. The Fifth International Sheep Veterinary Congress, 2001

This Congress was held at Stellenbosch, South Africa, in January 2001. A wide range of papers were presented encompassing management as well as veterinary aspects of sheep and goat production. The proceedings are available on a CD from Gareth Bath by e-mail: [gfbath@op.up.ac.za](mailto:gfbath@op.up.ac.za) or Ken Pettey by e-mail: [kpettey@op.up.ac.za](mailto:kpettey@op.up.ac.za).

The website for the Congress is: <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/lhpg>. There is also a link from the IGA website: <http://www.iga-goatworld.org/>.

### 5. The Eighth International Conference on Goats (2004)

In 2004, the Eighth International Conference on Goats (ICG) will be held in South Africa. This will be the first time the International Conference on Goats will be held on the African continent. The intention is to make it an unique opportunity for southern Africa and not just for South Africa. In order to ensure that this conference is a great success, we are looking for support from all those involved in the goat production field.

Norman Casey of the University of Pretoria is the Chairman of the Organizing Committee (e-mail: [icgsa@icon.co.za](mailto:icgsa@icon.co.za)). The website is located at: [www.icgsa.co.za](http://www.icgsa.co.za)

### 6. Other goat information sources

- World-wide, angora goat breeders produce four million kg of mohair each year. At present time, prices are very favourable. There is a wide selection of excellent animals to choose from. For more information about the industry, visit the website: [www.mohair.co.za](http://www.mohair.co.za), or contact Frans Loots by e-mail: [info@mohair.co.za](mailto:info@mohair.co.za)
- As the best meat producing goat breed, Boergoats are in great demand. There is a wide selection of breeders to choose from. For more information visit the website: <http://studbook.co.za/boergoat/index.html> or contact the Society at by e-mail: [society@studbook.co.za](mailto:society@studbook.co.za)
- For information about other breed societies, go to the Goat Webpage (<http://www.iga-goatworld.org/>).
- A wide range of organizations carries out research on goats across the world. For a review see: Ramsay & Donkin (2000): A review of the current status of goat research and development in South Africa.

*For more information on goats, visit the websites mentioned on this page.*

## Goat Situation in Different Countries

### Conditions of Goat Breeding in Peru

By Cristina Matossian de Pardo and Oscar Arroyo Barreto. ONG PROCABRA.  
Av. Pablo Carriquiry 890, San Isidro, Lima27, Peru—Email: procabra@terra.com.pe

Goat Breeding in Peru started in the sixteenth century with the introduction of the Murciana, Malaguena and Granadine Spanish breeds that were initially brought to the coastal valleys and the Andes. Goat breeding has always been linked to farmers of scarce resources who were generally surrounded by a difficult environment. These farmers and the environment have combined to produce the actual *creole goat* which has good strength but a low level of production. Despite this, presently there are about two million goats in Peru that produce 18000 tons of milk and 9000 tons of meat. Goats in Peru provide sustenance to over 210,000 families, which represent around 1,200,000 people.

At present, goat breeding faces several difficulties. In respect to production in general, almost all goats are raised under what we refer to as an extensive system, with an apparent low production due to the fact that they are only allowed to feed in pastures with no additional supplements. The herd is raised all together, under deficient sanitary conditions and, therefore, a high death rate of newborn kids results. There is a total lack of a genetic improvement plan. Most of the production of cheese is made with non-pasteurized milk, which can lead to Malta Fever in humans. These farmers do not have access to credit and they do not have any facilities to commercialize the resulting sub-products. There are no official systems of generation and transfer of technology. Vaccination programs, medicine and technical assistance are limited. Most

goat breeders are adult. The majority of their children migrate to the cities and do not continue with the breeding of the herd. Often the breeder is forced to do extra work in other places in order to make a living. This, together with the continuous movement of the herd limits an armonious development of the family and the adequate education of the children. Their homes are often primitive with little services.

In Peru we have tried several alternative technologies in hopes of encouraging an improvement in Peru's breeds. Unfortunately these alternatives have not been adequately broadcast or adopted. The general tendency for the global improvement of the goat species is a shift that results in the producers of migrant goats settling in permanent places. It is hoped that goat producers in Peru will move from the present extensive production system to a semi-intensive and eventually to an intensive program. Adequate feeding and husbandry practices can lead to an acceptable milk production which, together with proper elaboration methods and pasteurization of milk will make cheeses of better quality, will achieve higher market prices. At present, some of the local universities and PROCABRA are developing important technological projects to improve the production of Peru's herds and the standard of living for Peruvian goat breeders.

## Goat Situation in Cyprus

By Christos Papachristoforou

In Cyprus, where over 250 thousand goats are maintained, goat production is very important. There are 1,810 herds with 10 or more goats with an average of 86 animals per herd. Mixed herds of sheep and goats account for 1340 herds with 76 sheep and 66 goats per herd on average. The goat population consists of the improved Damascus (Shami) goat (18%), the local Machaeras goat (20%), other local goats (12%), and a large proportion (50%) of crossbred animals.

The production systems range from extensive, in the mountainous western part of the island where local goats utilize the natural vegetation, to the semi-intensive and intensive systems characterized by minimal or zero grazing and in-the-shed feeding. Due to the hot and dry climate, there is usually a shortage of roughage and, therefore, the daily allowance of roughage is kept at a minimum, especially for animals in the non-productive stages, with concentrates making up the basic part of their daily ration.

The main goat products are meat and milk. Kids are weaned at 7 weeks and then fattened until slaughtered. Kids are commonly slaughtered at the age of 4 to 5 months yielding carcasses between 18 and 24 kg.

## Goat Sector in Portugal

By Alfredo Texeira

In 2000 the goat population of Portugal was 623,000 head, 162,000 less than 1997 (785 000 head) 188,000 less than 1995, confirming a downward trend since 1992 (862,000 head). The

An annual slaughter of 210 thousand kids, producing 4,850 tons of meat, results in revenue around U.S. \$18.5 million. The growth rate of the improved Damascus breed is exceptionally high, male kids, irrespective of method of birth, grow at 230 g/day from 50 to 120 days of age (average of 426 obs). Dressing is 55% (cold carcass) with 65.5% lean, 21.6% bone and 12.8% fat. Both the Damascus and the Machaeras goats are prolific with a litter size of 2 for adult animals. The production of goat milk is close to 29,000 tons annually valued and at U.S. \$11.2 million (raw material). The milk is used by the dairy industry, either alone or mixed with sheep milk, for the production of the local halloumi cheese and also for yoghurt, anari (made from whey after removal of curd), and other types of cheese. Milk yield after weaning for the Damascus and Machaeras breeds is 430 kg (4.2% fat) and 140 kg (6.0% fat), respectively. During the last decade, the goat industry has shown steady growth.

*“The milk is used by the dairy industry, either alone or mixed with sheep milk...”*

dominant region of goat production is the Alentejo (South) followed by Beira (Centre East) and Trás-os-Montes (North East) regions.

## Goat Sector in Portugal Con't.

There are 5 predominate goat breeds: Algarvia in Algarve Region, Serpentina in Alentejo Region, Charnequeira Centre and Alentejo, Serrana in North and Centre and Bravia in the North. The most important local breed is the Serrana and is the only goat breed not endangered. All breeds have a National Breed Association with their own herd-book. In spite of the small quantity of animals recorded on Goat Herd Books, only 7.8 % of the total population, we suppose that the majority of goat farmers are not registered in the breed associations.

The average flock size is smaller in northern and central Portugal than in the south. Family farms are predominant in the North. Most of the flocks are very heterogeneous and it is very common find different genotypes in the same flock, animals from crosses between local and some animals from exotic breeds as well Murciana Granadina, Sannen and Alpina are common. A large proportion of goat flocks are kept on transhumance and extensive systems with natural meadows, forest meadows and stubble fields. Of domestic animals, goats are one of the most well adapted to the nature and harsh climate of the interior of Portugal. This is one of the reasons why kid meat and goat cheese could be considered as nature products in Portugal.

All breeds are milk and meat producers with the exception of Bravia that is only bred to produce meat. In Portugal there is one meat goat with protected designation of origin (Cabrito Transmontano), three meat goats with protected geographical indication (Cabrito das Terras Altas do Minho, Cabrito do Barroso, Cabrito da Beira) and one cheese goat with protected

designation of origin (Queijo de cabra Transmontano). Meat Consumers prefer the young kids, 4 to 8 weeks old, from milk-goat herds. The kids are cooked according to a classical cuisine in which the traditional method is to grill or roast the whole carcass, which weighs no more than 7-10 kg. The traditional consumption peaks are Easter and Christmas. Consumption tends to be mainly of light carcasses, fresh, rose-colored meat that is tender and without fat. Some goats are milked and the cheese produced is sold in small markets as regional products.

During 2001 the program AGRO, from the Agriculture Ministry of Portugal approved the following research projects on goats:

- Improvement in milking conditions of sheep and goat farms in Trás-os-Montes. Scientific Coordinator: Alfredo Teixeira. Institution responsible: Escola Superior Agrária do Instituto Politécnico de Bragança;
- Characterization of the products with denomination of protected origin: "Cabrito transmontano" and "Borrego Terrincho". Scientific Coordinator: Alfredo Teixeira. Institution responsible: Escola Superior Agrária do Instituto Politécnico de Bragança;
- Study of the authenticity of the sheep cheese "Terrincho" and of goat cheese "Transmontano". Scientific Coordinator: António Peres. Institution responsible: Escola Superior Agrária do Instituto Politécnico de Bragança;
- Study and monitoring of browsing places used by sheep and goats established in Q. pyrenaica, Q. suber and Q. ilex forests. Scientific Coordinator: Alfredo



## Goat Sector in Portugal Con't.

- Teixeira. Institution responsible: Escola Superior Agrária do Instituto Politécnico de Bragança;
- Genetics preservation of Portuguese sheep breeds (Merina Preta and Campaniça) and the goat breed Serpentina. Scientific Coordinator: Claudino Matos. Institution responsible: Direcção Regional de Agricultura do Alentejo.
  - Milk production selection of goat breed Serpentina on basis of molecular marker. Scientific Coordinator: Carlos Bettencourt. Institution responsible: Direcção Regional de Agricultura do Alentejo.
  - Sensory characterization of cheeses made by sheep and goat milk from Centre region; application to "Queijo da Serra Velho". Scientific Coordinator: João de Noronha. Institution responsible: Escola Superior Agrária de Coimbra.
  - Sheep and goat milk production in Minho - characterization of production and processing network and new technology demonstration. Scientific Coordinator: José Teixeira. Institution responsible: Universidade do Minho.
  - Development and demonstration of artificial insemination in Portuguese local goat breeds. Scientific Coordinator: Ramiro Mascarenhas. Institution responsible: Estação Zootécnica Nacional.
  - Achieving and valuation of cured goat cheese in Algarve. Scientific Coordinator: João Dias. Direcção Regional de Agricultura do Algarve.
  - Cheese from Transmontana goat - characterization of milk from goat Serrana, ecotype transmontano and its cheese with denomination of protected origin. Scientific Coordinator: Maria Barbosa. . Institution responsible: Instituto Nacional de Engenharia e Tecnologia Industrial Supported by Sapiens Program from the Ministry of Science and Technology of Portugal:
  - The use of ultrasounds to assess sheep and goat carcass and body composition. Scientific Coordinator: Alfredo Teixeira. Institution responsible: Escola Superior Agrária do Instituto Politécnico de Bragança.

## Goat Situation in Albania by Kristaq Kume

Goats provide about 7.4% of total milk production and 16.5% of total meat production in Albania. About 55% of goat flocks are managed in the hilly and mountainous regions of Albania. These regions account for about 60% of Albanian territory and residence for nearly 40% of the human population, of which more than 70% reside in poor rural areas. Small ruminant farming is one of the main production activities in these regions of Albania. Goats account for nearly

55% of the total milk production and almost 28% of meat production in these poor areas.

In Albania, the majority of goats are of a pure local breed. Imported breeds like Saanen and Alpine and their crosses with Albanian local breeds constitute about 1% of the total goat population. In comparison with other species of domestic animals, the goat population of Albania has the

## Goat Situation in Albania Con't.

greatest variety of genetic resources. It is characterized by an important variability of coloring. Single colored animals (black, brown, white, reddish) or different color combinations can be found. In general, the coat is long and coarse. The males are horned with various types of horns. Breeding can take place at 18 month of age, under intensive conditions animals can even be bred within the first year. Kidding takes place between November - March. Fertility is about 95-100%. Prolificacy is 105-115% The marketable milk production varies from 80 - 250 kg, following a suckling period of 2.5-3.5 months. The kids are slaughtered just after weaning, yielding a carcass weight of 8-12 kg of good quality meat.

*"In Albania there are three main systems of goat production."*

Very extensive husbandry systems are applied to local goat breeds, which play a major role in the rural economy of the harsh mountainous and semi-mountainous regions of the country. Extensive grazing conditions are thus utilized, which would otherwise not be utilized. Currently, the goat population is experiencing a downward trend.

In Albania there are three main systems of goat production:

- **Home-fed system:** A small number of goats (3-6 head) are kept by the family in order to meet its need for goat milk, cheese and kid meat. In 2001, about 17% of the total goat population was kept under this system.
- **Extensive with transhumance:** In this system the hardy local breeds are usually moved to hilly areas in the nearby mountains. The goats remain in the mountains from early summer until October. These goats are mainly used for

for production of milk for cheese and meat. Kids that are going to be slaughtered are allowed to suckle for a long period to produce young slaughter animals. The feeding is based on grazing and only at the end of gestation and in the suckling period are concentrates given to them. The kids follow their mother to pasture. They are slaughtered at a live weight of 15 - 20 kg. In this system the main objective is meat production.

- **Extensive without transhumance:** In this system the goat are not moved to other areas, but stay in permanent installations near the villages in hills and graze nearby. The major products are milk and milk-fed kids, after a suckling period of 3 - 4 months.

Research and development in the genetic differences between different Albanian local goat breeds and other regional breeds has been carried out. The polymorphism of DNA has been evaluated. In Albania two scientific groups are responsible for this field of research. The amount of field level management of this genetic resource is very low. Limited financial resources exist to implement the National Action Plan and lack of a financial public policy for direct financial support of the owners of local goat breeds have significant negative effect on application of this genetic knowledge. Consequently, the local goat population is under the effect of genetic erosion. Particularity, "Capore e Mokrres" and "Dukati" goat populations may be classified as endangered populations. The flocks of both "Capore" and "Dukati" have experienced a change in their color pigmentation from

## Goat Situation in Albania Con't.

uncolored to red and from black to multicolor respectively. Lack of a successful genetic program and infrastructure responsible for the implementation of such a program are the main factors contributing to the decline these local breeds. The "Vela" and "Liqenasi" goat populations are listed as vulnerable but have no conservation or management programs.

In Albania, the "ALBAGENE" Association has been dedicated to the foundation of goat farmers associations and has two main goals:

- Conservation and development of genetic goat resources
- Transfer of new technologies and knowledge for sustainable goat production



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