

International Goat Association

September 2012



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The only global organization
on goats and small livestock

XI International Conference on Goats



Gran Canaria, Spain 2012

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11th International Conference on Goats, Canary Islands, Spain, September 23-27, 2012

We are all very excited about the upcoming International Conference on Goats.

This important international conference entitled, *Industrial and rural activities in the goat sector including science, innovation and development*, comes at a challenging time for goats. Climactic changes, world energy problems, and the fight against poverty are all global issues that we in the goat industry are facing.

A special workshop will be organized, thanks to collaboration between the International Goat Association (IGA) and the International Fund on Agriculture and Development (IFAD), on the role of goats in the fight against poverty and operational aspects of building efficient projects with the participation of actors and specialists from all continents.

We hope that all attendees will be able to participate in this workshop, as well as the IGA General Assembly on September 26 at 7 PM.

www.iga-goatworld.com

Attention IGA board members and future board members!

The first Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 23 at 3 PM. Please mark your calendar and be ready to participate. If you have not received a copy of the agenda please contact Christian DeVries at admin@iga-goatworld.com.

Report from Rome -- IGA-IFAD steering committee meeting: Progress made and main findings

Goats, once of little economic or social interest, are now of high importance for the challenges the world has to face: climatic change, water shortages, use of marginal lands, hunger and poverty, environmental degradations. Goats are on the forefront of all these issues.

International donors and investors for fighting poverty are aware and starting believing that finally goats can also help to improve the livelihood of families in developing countries and still to have an economical impact mainly in countries with grow population that use to consume goat meat.

Until now and even now, goat production has not received the same level of attention in research and national policies as cattle, pork or poultry. This is why today there is a huge necessity of elements concerning goat production.

In this sense, the International Goat Association has an important role since it is the only global network dedicated 100% on goat and small livestock systems operating in over 55 countries formed by scientists, veterinarians, farmer organizations, experts and any kind of actor involve in goat production.

This is the reason why The International Fund for the Development of Agriculture has mobilise the expertise of IGA, in its interest of designing and implementing pro-poor goat projects that really help in alleviation of poverty and have an economical impact.

The focus of the agreement between IGA and IFAD has been devoted very clearly to the following specific objectives:

1. Undertaking a Global Knowledge Harvesting on resource-poor small ruminant farming systems that were effective in reducing poverty according to MDGs criteria so that others can apply this know-how;

2. Based on this harvested knowledge, developing a business-like approach to prioritize processes/strategies and sensitize national policy, decision makers and donors about the effectiveness of small ruminants' development to reduce poverty

The first steering committee has met in Rome last June during two days for finalizing the first step of the project: Identification of key success factors for projects involving goats in a pro-poor approach. At the same time, some discussions have made possible to initiate a draft of a business plan approach that aims to help donors and project implementer to design more successful goat projects.

The members of the Steering committee are experienced goat experts working as independent consultants, or scientists in research centres, governments and NGO.

Presenting regions and projects that have been followed by the harvesting knowledge

The meeting went ahead with a presentation of different regions and projects from Latino America, West-East Africa and North-Central-South Asia, which have facilitated the identification of key factors that should be considered in the design and implementation of pro-poor goat projects. A shallow presentation of each project is below. A copy of each full report will be available soon in the IGA web site.

México – Comarca Lagunera: Presentation of a region that has experimented a dairy goat milk development from the exclusive intervention of private sector. The case has been presented by Luis Iñiguez, former ICARDA scientist and now independent consultant on small ruminant development, based in Bolivia.

Venezuela – Estado de Falcón y Lara: Presentation of the impact of various projects creating the basic conditions for intensification of goat production systems dedicated to cheese markets. (Luis Iñiguez)

Argentina – region de Neuquen: Presentation of a characteristic area of nomadic goat farmers that are starting a certification process of Neuquen nomadic kids and fibre development. (Luis Iñiguez).

Brasil – Northeast region: Presentation of various projects for fighting poverty through goat development among them, “CabraUne”, “Cabra Corte”, “Rota do Cordeiro”, “Cabra Nossa”, “Quixada”. Most of them are initiatives that are fostering milk goat production that is purchased by the state for social supply. Presented by Vinicius Pereira Guimarães, scientist in socio-economics in Embrapa Caprino-Ovinos, based in Brazil and completed by a synthetic report written with Jean-Paul Dubeuf.

India – Rajasthan, Udaipur district: Presentation of a project for improving goat production through health monitoring and improving the organization of the market goat meat in poor villages of 2 districts. Comparison with similar projects in Jarkland and Mozambique. Presented by Ramkumar Bendapudi, coordinator of the imGoats project and scientist in the International Livestock Research Institut (ILRI), based in India.

India – Rajasthan, Bikaner and Alwar districts: Presentation of two regions where have been implemented “Passes on the Gift”[®] Heifer Project International Presented by Dilip Bhandari, programme officer of HPI for Asia and South Pacific, based in USA.

Indonesia – Central Java: Presentation of the impact of a goat rearing project in a emergency intervention after a major earthquake. Comments by Jean-Paul DUBEUF on a future scientific publication.

Tajikistan – Soghd region and Gorno-Badakhshan region: Presentation of two different regions with a common strategy for the development of high quality fiber production. Presented by Barbara Richkowsky, small ruminant specialist in ICARDA, based initially in Syria (now in Ethiopia).



Tajikistan – south western Khatlon region. Presentation of a project to support small-scale goat production. Presented by Nazan Koluman, scientist and Professor in the Kucurova University, Turkey.

Turkey: Presentation of the current situation and some national strategies for small ruminant development. Presented by Nazan Koluman in collaboration with Irfan Daskiran, officer in charge of small ruminant development projects in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey.

Kenya: Presentation of strengths and potentialities of the dairy goat sector. Presented by Christie Peacock, independent consultant for goat research and development based in Kenya and chairperson of SIDA

Northwestern Senegal: Presentation of two near goat milk production projects based on the introduction of a pure Canarian goats and training. Presented by Juan Capote, consultant for the projects, scientist in the Canarian Agricultural Research Institute (ICIA) based in Spain with the analysis of Jean-Paul Dubeuf.

Cape Verde: Presentation of the current status of goats cheese producers and their potential development. Presented by Remedios Carrasco, agro-territorial independent consultant, based in Spain.

Marocco – Arganeraie: Presentation of goat meat development project in the Argane tree Biosphere Reserve Area. Presented by Jean-Paul Dubeuf, involved in a research project in Morocco as Scientist on Action for the Development of Agriculture in the INRA. Based in Corsica (France).

Defining the main key success factors for goat pro-poor projects

During and after the presentation of goat projects and regions, discussions helped to go forward on the definition of key factors for goat pro-poor projects. The main defined are the following: the pre-existence of a market, the Initial know-how and production structure, the social capital, the access to

water and feed, the policies, the government commitment, the support of institutions and other organizations, the infrastructures, the whole project design and implementation.

Those identified factors could be applied for every type of development project. So the main issue will be to identify clearly what are the specific conditions in the SR and goat sector to evaluate these factors.

Initiating a businesslike approach for pro-poor goat projects

Once the key factors was identified, the steering committee went ahead with the next step: the design of a businesslike approach for goat pro-poor projects.

When development projects are designed economic aspects are very often forgotten. Before the project implementation, their financial, social and environmental returns have to be identified. Donors need to know what return they could expect. As it has been often repeated during the meeting, “a donor wants to know how many people can get out from poverty after investing a specific amount of money”. As said as well during the meeting, “An investor wants to know: where he has to put money? Where he has to invest? If he has the minimum requirements to set-up a project? What it needed to be done to reach the minimum requirements?... For funding a project proposal for a large amount of money in a developing country it is needed a business-oriented approach. And this is the challenge for the next months of the project: to fix some points of a systematic approach, to propose several scenarios for the three commodities: milk, meat, and fiber.

The next steering committee appointment: the International Conference on Goats!

A seminar will end the small-grant project during the International Conference on Goats 2012 that is going to be held in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain) on September from 23rd to 27th. The final seminar is scheduled on Tuesday the 25th. If you want to take part to this seminar and/or to receive further information, then contact-us at remedios.iga.goats@gmail.com.

Report from India -- Exploring the IMGOATS project in Rajasthan

Within the IGA/IFAD project, comparative analysis has been planned to scale-up the success factors of the pro-poor projects involving goats.

After the Brazilian, Turkish and Tadjik cases, we began the Indian cases and a case study of the IMGOATS project (IM for improving market and for Indian Mozambique). This project financed by IFAD, European Commission is led for 3 years by BAIF, an important Indian NGO with scientific support of ILRI. This project has two sites: Jarkhand and Rajasthan.

The mission focused on the Rajasthan case with a field visit and the participation in the National Advisory Committee in Udaipur, February 11, 2012. The IMGOATS project is implemented in India and Mozambique with the same methodology.

Want to learn more about the IMGOATS project: <http://imgoats.org/>
See some photos of the field visit: [click here](#)

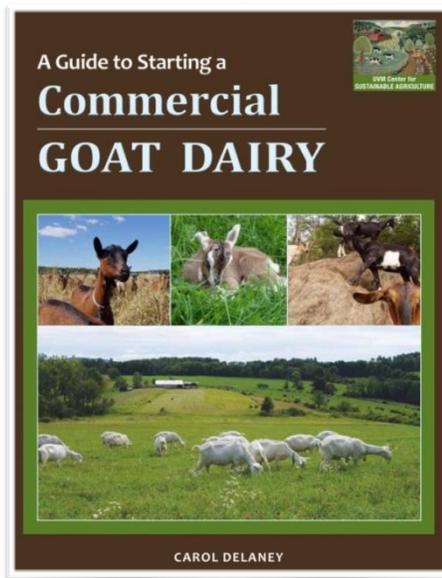
Report from Brasil -- IGA-IFAD project: A mission in Northeastern Brasil to explore projects

Within the IGA/IFAD project, comparative analysis has been planned to scale-up the success factors of the pro-poor projects involving goats.

We began with the NE Brazilian case, where most of the North Eastern states developed dairy goat project several years ago. Dr. Juan Capote and Jean-Paul Dubeuf participated in the SINCORTE seminar last November with many interviews of the main stake holders.

After the field visits to Cariri and Lajes in the Rio Grande do Norte State were organized.

To see more photos from Cariri, Paraiba, [click here](#)
To see more photos from Lajes, [click here](#)



Book Announcement: *A Guide to Starting a Commercial Goat Dairy*

Turning a passion into a viable business is a line-in-the-sand decision, and a new book by Northeast SARE Farmer Grant Specialist Carol Delaney, *A Guide to Starting a Commercial Goat Dairy*, covers what farmers should consider when planning a goat dairy startup. It also fills a gap—there are many periodicals and books with information about cow dairying, and this adds some needed weight on the small ruminant side of the scale.

Delaney has taken information developed over her ten years as the Vermont small ruminant dairy specialist and enriched it with

practical, science-based information. For example, in the chapter on feeding, the diet recommendations stem, in part, from the results of Delaney's Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) grant, "Implementing goat nutrition programs for improvement of farm sustainability." Topics are illustrated with many photos and tables and include time and financial management, recordkeeping, goat selection, the cost of raising replacements, nutrition, grazing and marketing.

Delaney wrote most of the chapters, but there are also contributors from Extension, the Vermont Dairy Herd Improvement Association, Vermont Butter and Cheese Creamery, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, and private dairy consultants. These chapters offer material on equipment, barn and cheese facilities, udder health, out-of-season breeding, and milk measurement recording. The guide ends with a list of recommended books and contacts that draws on local, national, and international resources.

The result is a clear, close look at the needs of dairy goats and how goat farms connect to regional milk, meat, and livestock markets, along with an emphasis on how to set up records that measure success in terms of time and money. And while the guide was written with the Vermont farmer in mind and includes contributions from Vermont farmers, the content will be useful to any farmer in the Northeast.

Delaney's travels in Canada and Europe let her include recommendations for efficient milking parlor design, kid feeding, and barn cleaning from these non-US sources, and there is also advice on recordkeeping specific to taxes, costs of production, business planning, and even exiting the business, an often overlooked subject. Whether you want to sell fluid milk from a large 400-goat dairy or make cheese from a 40-goat operation, the guide will give equipment lists and space requirements that scale up or down and draw on both local and international sources.

The underlying philosophy draws on the principles of holistic management, which emphasizes that all parties, including the ones working off the farm, are planners and participants during startup. Delaney puts an emphasis on the culture in agriculture, which encourages farmers to expand and share their knowledge with other farmers and the community, and to only operate the farm if they continue to love and enjoy the work.

A Guide to Starting a Commercial Goat Dairy is 160 pages and was funded by the University of Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Vermont Sheep and Goat Association, US Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, and Vermont Butter and Cheese Creamery.

It's available in print from the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture for \$25 (includes shipping), and can be ordered or **download free at this link**. Contact Carol Delaney for more information or for workshops and speaking engagements at cdhornofplenty@gmail.com.

Uganda -- A testimony on a pro-poor goat project

Where do we go from here?

What's happening at the moment? Very similar things to what has been happening for the past two years, but under the surface things have changed a lot. In Uganda, people are taking the programme more seriously. Some of the earliest projects are beginning to see results – meaning that the farmers like the look of the fast-growing crossbred goats, and they are now getting milk that did not have before. A lot of new groups have contacted us, asking us to extend the programme into their areas.



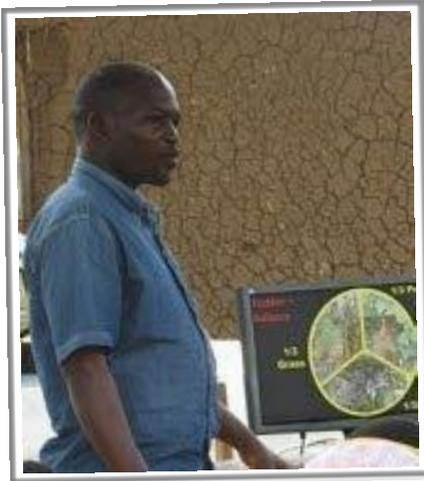
Can we take on the extra work? Should we?

Yes. The JOYGoat Development Programme was formed to fill a serious gap in the development scene in Uganda. Goat breeds are needed that are both productive and adapted to Ugandan conditions – and those animals just aren't there. We've demonstrated that there is an interest and a will to make it happen, but our scale of operation is not quite big enough. It is no good doing the work in a small corner, or even a few small corners. When the new breed is developed there must be enough of them so that they are visible to anyone in Uganda and also available to anyone in Uganda. In order to achieve that, we need to reach at least 1% of the population of the country over the next ten years. Currently, there are two very keen field officers. (David Mukalazi, left, based in Masaka and David Lyakia, right, based in Mbale.) They are overseeing the breeding in villages where we have already placed goats, as well as adding new areas, but we will need at least six more people to reach our target.



The program has managed to equip the two Davids, and send them out with an average income of just under £1,000 per month. Additionally, we have supplied a lot of high-grade bucks to the villages they have trained. That is good value for money. However, by the end of 2012, we will need double that amount per month in order to do what we want to do.

We are very grateful to a group of friends who are setting up a registered charity in the UK to support the work, but a charity is nothing without strong supporters. I must say thank you to all the people who have given money that has got us as where we are now, and I am appealing for others to join them in giving something each month. If you are able to help us in this way, please contact us at the address below.



Friends of JOY Goat Development Programme Uganda
c/o Hope Christian Centre
184 Horsenden Lane South
Perivale, Greenford
Middlesex, UB6 7NT
www.joygoats.org.uk

Special thanks to Ned Donkin for sharing this information with us.

France -- Goat Heritage in Corsica

At the University Claude Bernard in Lyon, Dr. Sandra Hughes has compared the DNA of Corsican goats and that of their ancestors found in bones from the 12th to the 14th century. The result: it is the same. Thanks to insularity and a traditional farming system, the goats keep “an extraordinary genetic variety.” “This in contrast to their counterparts in continental ultra selected goats.” It is important to save a so “rich in genes for resistance and adaptation to difficult environments” heritage.

Sent in and translated by JP Dubeuf, INRA from “Le Nouvel Observateur,” Paris n°2468, February 2012.



Malaysia -- First Asia Dairy Goat Conference

FAO joined with the University Putra Malaysia (UPM), Department of Veterinary Science, Malaysia and the International Dairy Federation (IDF) in organizing the First Asia Dairy Goat Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 9 to 12 April 2012.



The main conclusions and recommendations communicated by the organizers were:

- There is huge demand for goat milk in Asian countries.
- The sale price of goat milk is 2 to 4 times higher than that of cow's milk in Asian countries.
- The goat milk processing industry is not well developed in Asia and there is a need to address this issue through public-private partnerships.
- R&D work on goat production has remained neglected and there is a need to generate new knowledge in the areas of nutrition, health, reproduction and genetic diversity and to collate and disseminate the already available information.
- The extension work and training of goat farmers should be given top priority.
- Development of sound and relevant policy options, institutional building and linking farmers to markets should be addressed, leading to both increase in goat milk production and processing of goat milk.
- South-South and North-South collaboration should be promoted in areas that lead to increase in goat milk production and processing.

The Conference proceedings will be available on FAO and UPM websites in the coming months. The International Goat Association has shown its interest to be informed about the network that has been initiated in this First Asian Goat Conference.

More information on: [click here](#)

11th International Conference on Goats -- proceedings published in *Small Ruminant Research*

The proceedings of the Xth International Conference on goats in Recife have been published in Small Ruminant Research. Our congratulations to the RECIFE ICG Scientific Committee!

The title of the issue is "Technological development and associative attempts to a sustainable goat production", SRR, Volume 98, Issues 1-3 (2011), pages 1-206, and was edited by Marta Suely Madruga.

All IGA members have an access to this issue.

IGA membership changes!

We have some exciting news! IGA memberships are now effective for 1 year from the date that you renew. If you renew your membership now, then it will not need to be renewed until September 2013.

Sign-up for an IGA membership or renew your membership now. **Download an application from our website** and send it to Christian DeVries: admin@iga-goatworld.com.

International Goat Association
12709 Grassy Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72210
Phone or fax: 1-501-251-9391
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