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IGA Newsletter

January 2013



Letter from the President

Dear IGA members,

As you know we are starting a new term for our organization. During the last one, we have made several and important improvements: the quality and impact of SRR have increased considerably; our website has improved and now is much more dynamic and manageable and lastly the International Conference on Goats was an example of the continued scientific interest in our meetings.

The most important achievement, from my point of view, during the last few years has been the involvement of our organization, for the first time, in a project closely linked with the alleviation of poverty, which is one of the objectives of our organization. Behind the project is the hard work done by IGA's Past President, Jean-Paul Dubeuf, for which I would like to offer my sincere thanks. Fortunately, he is an active member of the Executive Committee and he has accepted to continue leading IGA's activities in this way.

The last term was atypical because we had a world meeting in Recife in 2010. Probably, as a consequence, we didn't have regional meetings during that period. Of course, one of our objectives is to promote regional meetings and I am glad to be able to tell you that we expect to have a couple of regional meetings in the following years: one in Norway in 2013 and the other one in Hungary and Romania in 2014.

In addition, Turkey will organize the next (XII) International Conference on Goats. Turkey is a great country with millions of goats and a relevant research level. Leading the organization of ICG is an active team with a wide background concerning goats. I think these will all be successful events and I encourage you all to attend them. We would greatly appreciate your support.

Finally, we cannot forget an objective that has beset us: the promotion of our organization at the local, national and international level. This is not a challenge only for the President, the Executive Committee or the Board. It should be a challenge for all IGA members, and especially for our Country Representatives and Regional Directors. These Representatives and Directors need to be active in each area and this is not presently the case. Now that we have a new and dynamic board, our target should be to increase the activities of our organization around the world, no matter how many Country Representatives we have. The important thing is to have a group of active leaders who are highly conscientious about our objectives.

I know that achieving this goal will be very difficult, but not impossible, as long as we all work together. I thank you in advance for your support.

Best wishes for the holiday season and the New Year,
Dr. Juan Capote
IGA President

Interesting articles from *Small Ruminant Research*

There are so many wonderful articles to read in *Small Ruminant Research*. Here are a few of our favorites. Find SRR @: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/small-ruminant-research>

If you're an IGA member but you don't have access to SRR, then please contact Christian DeVries (admin@iga-world.com).

Conference Summary of Dairy Goats in Asia: Current status, Multifunctional Contribution to Food Security and Potential Improvements

The justification for improving dairy goats and increased milk production in Asia is driven by several important factors, e.g. the demand for higher priced goat milk, compared to dairy cow milk; specific benefits of goat milk in human nutrition and food security; the need for more animal protein and genetic diversity. The world goat population of approximately 921 million includes 570 breeds. In the developing countries, there exist over 30 potentially important indigenous "improver breeds", 15 of which are in Asia. "Improver breeds" being defined as potentially important breeds, capable of making a special genetic contribution – having above average levels of performance potential to enhance productivity, or being specially adapted to particular harsh environments.

IGA members can read more or download a copy, [click here](#).

Estimation of genetic parameters for fleece traits in yearling Inner Mongolia Cashmere goats

The objective of this study was to determine the genetic parameters and variance components of the economically important fleece traits staple fineness (SF), staple length (SL), fiber diameter (FD) and fiber length (FL) in yearling Inner Mongolia Cashmere goats (IMWC). Data collected in 2008–2011 from 5 Arbas Cashmere goat flocks were analyzed.

IGA members can read more or download a copy, [click here](#).

Disproportionate thermophysiological strain between intensively- and extensively-managed goats during summer

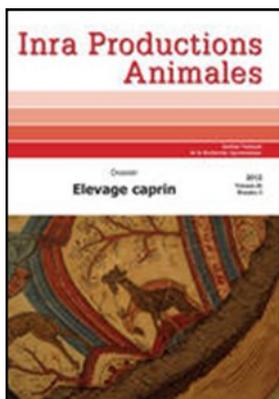
Goat keeping is feasible for smallholder farmers in many world regions especially those best suited for extensive management. However, summertime grazing in arid zones entails major challenges to animal thermoregulation and well-being. An experiment was conducted to evaluate the thermoregulatory performance and selected hemogramic parameters in intensively (INT) or extensively (EXT) managed goat kids (N=14).

IGA members can read more or download a copy, [click here](#).

Changes in goat milk fatty acids during abrupt transition from indoor to pasture diet

Goal of this study was to evaluate the kinetics of goat milk fatty acids during abrupt transition from indoor to pasture-based diets. Twelve Valdostana goats in mid-lactation reared indoors and fed hay and concentrates for 40 days were abruptly brought outdoors on natural pasture and fed fresh grass ad libitum.

IGA members can read more or download a copy, [click here](#).



Special issue, recent advances in goat research

“Productions Animales”

A special issue on last advances on goat research in France has been recently published by The French Journal Productions Animales.

The articles published under the coordination of Pierre Morand-Fehr are in open access [ELEVAGE CAPRIN - Productions animales](#)

American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control



Advancing modern parasite control for sheep, goat, and camelid producers

American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control

You're invited to participate in the ACSRPC 10th Anniversary Integrated Parasite Management Train-the-Trainer Symposium at Fort Valley State University (FVSU) in Fort Valley, Georgia on May 20-22, 2013. The first two days of the conference will be open to the general public and local producers, while the third day will be for invited trainers, who will then disseminate IPM principles to small ruminant industry stakeholders nationwide.

The ACSRPC was formed in response to the critical state of the small ruminant industry associated with the emergence of anthelmintic resistant worms. ACSRPC is a group of scientists, veterinarians, and extension specialists devoted to (1) developing novel methods for sustainable control of gastrointestinal nematodes (GIN) in small ruminants and (2) educating the stakeholders in the small ruminant industry on the most up to date methods and recommendations for control of GIN.

Formed in 2002, the ACSRPC collectively made possible accomplishments that could never have been achieved individually, leading to both the development of an integrated parasite management (IPM) approach to controlling parasites, and the development of an IPM training module. This sensible and sustainable approach includes applying "smart drenching" principles when using anthelmintics, utilizing appropriate and creative pasture management strategies, use of FAMACHA© (a novel idea for rapid diagnosis of Haemonchus contortus (Barber's Pole worm) infection in goats and sheep) for applying targeted selective treatments, and application of novel, non-chemical treatment technologies.

[Click here to read more.](#)

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**Don't forget to
download a membership
application today**

