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# Conference Report - 4th Asian-Australasian Conference on Dairy Goat (AADGC 2018) Tra Vinh University, Vietnam 17-19 October 2018

Written by Beth Miller, IGA President

The Fourth Asian-Australasian Dairy Goat conference (AADGC 2018) was held at Tra Vinh University, Vietnam with nearly 200 participants from 19 countries in the Asia Pacific region and beyond. The theme was Strengthening Development of Dairy Goat Production Adapting to Climate Change. All the papers are published in the proceedings (ISBN 978-604-9). They are also available here: <a href="https://drive.google.com/">https://drive.google.com/</a> file/d/1NR-FA1XVARRSWgVbFjvtj47jt-IEnk\_A/view.

Dairy goat production is increasing across Asia as farmers take advantage of increased prices for goat milk, and governments search for sustainable agricultural

activities in the face of climate change. However, many challenges occur when new farmers take up dairy goat production, especially if they do not have strong livestock or commercial background. Training and technology are two key components of successful dairy goat enterprises, as well as markets and transportation. Key research topics include identification of the genetic merit of locally adapted breeds, and development of new and inexpensive feed resources so dairy goats can reach their genetic potential of milk production.

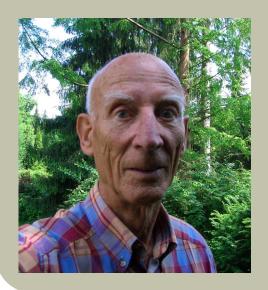
The Asian-Australasian Dairy Goat Network (AADGN) was first organized in 2012 under the leadership of Prof. Juan Boo Liang from the University of Putra, Malaysia. The primary objective of AADGN is to serve all stakeholders including researchers, academicians, policy makers, farmers and investors, and milk and other dairy processors working to promote dairy goat farming in Asia-Australasia and beyond.

Continued on Page 2



Past Coordinator Prof. Juan Boo Liang, and Coordinator-elect Prof. Jun Luo

# Dr. Christian Gall obituary



The International Goat Association is sad to announce the passing of Dr. Christian Gall (July 1, 1927 to January 10, 2019).

Dr. Gall played a huge role in the formation and growth of IGA. He was a member of the first Board of Directors, which played an essential part in establishing IGA as an international entity and in its development and success. The first Board of Directors consisted of many luminaries of the goat world, Jean G. Boyazoglu (Greece/South Africa), C. Devendra (Malaysia), Christian Gall (Germany), George F. W. Haenlein (USA), Peter Holst (Australia), Pierre Morand-Fehr (France),

Maurice Shelton (USA) and Clair E. Terrill (USA).

Dr. Gall was also a professor of Animal Management and Animal Breeding in the Tropics and Subtropics at the University of Hohenheim from 1982 until 1998. He was devoted to scientific research, including the analysis of animal production systems and populations of domestic animals in developing countries in the tropics and subtropics. He was also engaged in academic management, and among other positions, was Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Continued on Page 3 Page 2 IGA Newsletter, March 2019

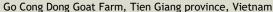
### 4th Asian-Australasian Conference on Dairy Goat (Continued from Page 1)

The AADGN is governed by volunteer country coordinators and a Scientific Committee, who met during the 4th AADGC, along with the Organization Committee. For more information about AADGN, please visit their website.

Professor Jun Luo from Northwest A&F University, Yangling, China was elected the new International Coordinator for the AADGN. Prof. Luo is also IGA's Regional Director for Asia. Read more about Dr. Luo on the IGA Blog.

You can contact Prof. Luo for information about the AADGN at <a href="mailto:luojun1@yahoo.com">luojun1@yahoo.com</a>. The AADGN's Scientific Committee selected Thailand as the host for the 5th Asian-Australasian Dairy Goat Conference in the spring of 2020.







Nubian cross goats at Go Cong Dong Goat Farm, Tien Giang, Vietnam

# Zimbabwe - Goat Farming as a Business: a farmer's manual to successful goat production and marketing

ricultural Research and Extension, Matopos Research Station Represented by J.L.N. Sikosana & T.S. Senda For the Department of Livestock Production and Development Supported by: SNV -Netherlands Development Organization

Compiled by the Department of Ag-

#### Introduction

There are more than 3.5 million goats in Zimbabwe, of which 98 percent are indigenous breeds and owned by the smallholder farmers. Most of them are kept in the drier agro-ecological zones in Natural Ecological Regions IV and V and in tsetse infested areas. Natural Region IV has a low rainfall subject to periodic droughts and extended dry spells. Overall, the importance of goats increases as the rainfall decreases. Goats are hardy and easier animals

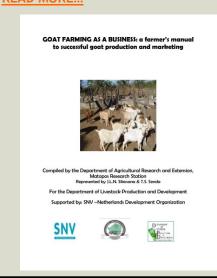
to look after, which can survive under harsh environments.

Goats are reared under extensive farming conditions, mainly for meat (chevon) and to a lesser extent for milk. To some extent productivity of these goats is low due various factors such as high kid mortality and lack of good animal husbandry practices. Goats also provide skins of commercial importance and manure for gardens (and crop fields). In other parts of the world goats are kept for their wool (mohair).

Human populations are growing and creating a significant and increasing demand for additional animal protein foods. The goat can play an important role in meeting these demands. This calls for farmers to put value in their goat enterprises by shifting from subsistence production

to commercial production. It is easier to increase the population of small ruminants (goats and sheep) than large stock. In economic terms the opportunity costs are low for goat production.

### **READ MORE...**



# Dr. Christian Gall obituary (Continued from Page 1)

Hohenheim from 1987 to 1989.

Even after his retirement, Dr. Gall remained active in IGA, serving on our Advisory Board.

Professor Gall was held in high esteem by his colleagues because of his broad academic knowledge and comprehensive experience. We are saddened by his death.

Thoughts from Dr. C. Devendra I was saddened by the sudden demise of Prof. Gall. He was a perfect gentleman, soft-spoken and thorough.

As an animal geneticist, he was highly

respected for his contributions not only in Europe but elsewhere. He was also very interested in animal production in the tropics and the developing countries. This was reflected in his leadership and management contributions to a large FAO project on Goats in Monterey, Mexico, which I believe was successful.

I was pleased to meet him in Tours, France during the First International Conference on Goats in 1971. Professor Gall was a founder of IGA. In the course of continuing discussions during a field trip by bus, I suggested to him that it will be important to form an Association for Goats as a start to address their neglect. He was fully supportive.

Professor Gall wrote the book Goat Production published by Academic Press in 1981. I was pleased to be invited to write two chapters in that book. In later years and more recently, he took to studying the adaptation and performance of pure Holstein cattle and their grades in tropical countries, in which context he wanted some experiences from Asia. We have lost a good friend and a dedicated scientist.

May his soul rest in peace.

With kind regards, Dr. Devendra

### Info Note - Candidate fodder species for goat production in Northern Ghana

Findings from a participatory evaluation exercise within the climate-smart villages of Ghana

Samuel Tetteh Partey, Franklin Avornyo, Mathieu Ouédraogo, Robert Zougmoré

#### Introduction

Livestock production employs over 60% of rural households in the three northern regions of Ghana, making investment in this industry critical for alleviating poverty and enhancing food security. Among other factors, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture reports access to sustainable feed supply as one of the livestock industry's key constraints. As most livestock are kept on a freerange system, forage of fair nutritive value is normally scarce in the dry season due to recurrent droughts, con-

Info Note Candidate fodder species for goat production in ... sel Tetteh Partey, Franklin Avornyo, Mathieu Ouédraogo, Robert Zougmoré

tinuous over-grazing and lack of range improvement interventions. Often, palatable and productive perennial grasses, legumes and herbs become replaced with unpalatable, low quality annual species, with a concomitant loss of soil fertility. The nutritive value of available pasture species is therefore often poor with low levels of crude protein. The predominant small scale, subsistence livestock producers are also challenged with the financial **READ MORE...** 

resources to afford a continuous supplementation of concentrate feeds to their animals. Recent research has been directed to using tree leaves as fodder for livestock due to many advantages such as supply of good quality green fodder even in the dry season as well as high crude protein and minerals contents.

In the Lawra and Jirapa Districts of the Upper West Region of Ghana, the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change and Agriculture (CCAFS) established a ClimateSmart Village (CSV), an agriculture research for development site where various agricultural innovations are tested on their potential to deliver on any of the 3 pillars (productivity, adaptation and mitigation) of climate-smart agriculture (CSA). Among many CSA options at the CSV, the integration of multipurpose trees on farmlands is promoted as a CSA practice for improving fodder availability, increasing overall farm productivity, improving ecological resilience and providing farmers with important safety net opportunities against climaterelated risks. In this study, we used a participatory approach to document and characterize fodder trees and shrubs that are prioritized by farmers for livestock production.

Documentation of fodder species was based on questionnaire interviews, focus group discussions and desktop reviews. Top fodder species selected by farmers were characterized for the nutritional composition and intake by farmer preferred livestock.

# Update — Second Asian Regional Conference on Goats (ARCG 2019)

Faculty of Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Fisheries, Agriculture and Forestry University, Chitwan, Nepal in collaboration with the International Goat Association (IGA) is organizing the second Asian Regional Conference on Goats (ARCG 2019). The theme of the conference is 'goats for food, nutrition and economic security in developing world.' The conference will be held on 20-23 October 2019 in Chitwan, Nepal in support of Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Department of Livestock Services; Nepal Agricultural Research Council; Heifer International Nepal and University Grants Commission. The main aim of the conference is to gather researchers, academicians and development entities to exchange knowledge and technologies generated in the field of goat research and development across the globe.

#### Thematic areas

- Goat as a source of food and economic security in the developing world
- Goat production policies, socioeconomics, and value chain development
- Goat husbandry management
- Goat feeding and nutrition management
- Phenomics, genomics and biotechnology for enhanced goat production
- Health management and disease control
- Advancement in goat product processing

Prospective authors are invited to submit abstracts of their original and unpublished work on conference themes by June 1, 2019. The length of

### Important dates and deadlines

Deadline for abstract submission	June 01, 2019
Notification of acceptance and call for full papers	July 01, 2019
Deadline for submission of full papers	August 15, 2019
Presenting author registration	August 20, 2019
Review/feedback on full papers	September 01, 2019
Re-submission of full papers	September 30, 2019
Early registration deadline	September 30, 2019
On-site registration	October 20, 2019
Conference inauguration	October 20, 2019
Conference tour	October 22, 2019
Conference concludes	October 23, 2019

the abstract should not exceed 300 words written in Arial 11 font size. Detail instruction about abstract submission is available at

http://afu.edu.np/vet/arcg2019-abstract-submission-and-guidelines.

All abstracts will be peer-reviewed for their acceptance and making decisions regarding the type of presentation (oral or poster). All abstracts and full papers accepted for the conference will be published in the proceedings of the conference.

### Conference registration

We encourage the delegates to register for the event online. Please visit the conference website <a href="http://afu.edu.np/vet/arcg2019">http://afu.edu.np/vet/arcg2019</a> for more details. Pay the registration fee

through online bank transfer to the following account. The transaction details should be uploaded online during registration.

A/C Number: 0080721970019 A/C Holders' Name: Conference Ac-

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Name of Bank: Himalayan Bank Lim-

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Contact us:

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Agriculture and Forestry University,

Chitwan, Nepal

Mobile: +977 9855060704 Email: arcg2019@afu.edu.np Website: www.afu.edu.np/vet/

arcg2019

# Registration fees

Participants' category	Early registration	On-site registration		
National Delegates representing INGOs/NGOs	NRs 10,000	10,500		
National Delegates representing GOs	NRs 6,000	6,500		
Association and Individual Delegates	NRs 5,000	5,500		
Student Delegates	NRs 4,000	4,500		
Participants from SAARC Nations	USD 200	210		
Foreign Delegates	USD 400	410		
Accompanying person fee	USD 150	160		

All registered participant fees include shuttle service to the conference center, congress bag, admittance to the scientific sessions, 4 lunches, coffee breaks, and a gala dinner. Accompanying person fees include welcome reception and a beautiful excursion.

#### Co-organizers











### Getting to know IGA members: Dr. Terry A. Gipson

Dr. Terry A. Gipson was born into a farming family in southeast Missouri. In high school, Terry was active in FFA and attained the rank of State Farmer. He also showed FFA steers during high school.

Terry earned his B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Missouri in 1978. From 1978 through 1981, he served in the Peace Corps in Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo). Terry first served as a teacher at the Institut Professionnel Vétérinaire de Loda in northeastern Zaire and taught Zootechnie (Animal Husbandry) I and Zootechnie II in French. Topics taught included breeding and genetics, reproduction, nutrition, pasture and animal management, and live animal evaluation. Later, Dr. Gipson served as a Peace Corps Volunteer Leader in southeastern Zaire, and his responsibilities included supervision of volunteers in the field, visitation of prospective volunteer sites and interaction with Zairean authorities.

Following his Peace Corps experience, Dr. Gipson entered graduate school, earning an M.S. from the University of Missouri in 1984. His thesis topic was Genetic and Phenotypic Parameter Estimates for Scrotal Circumference and Semen Traits in Angus, Polled Hereford, and Simmental Bulls. Dr. Gipson then pursued his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois with a doctoral thesis subject of Lactation Curves in Dairy Goats and was awarded his doctorate in 1989. During his doctoral studies at the University of Illinois, he was inducted into national honor societies Phi Kappa Phi and Gamma Sigma Delta. Terry was instrumental in organizing the Langston University chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta in 2002.

Immediately following his doctorate, Terry, along with his family, returned to Africa as an agricultural missionary with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Senegal, West Africa from 1989 to 1991. His primary responsibility was animal husbandry ex-

tension work among Fulani herders.

Upon his return to the U.S., Dr. Gipson entered a Research Associate Post doctoral position at Langston University from 1991 through 1993. At Langston, he was involved in breeding for year-round cashmere production.

Terry joined Virginia State University in 1993 as an Assistant Professor in the Meat Goat Program. At VSU, he held a split appointment in research and extension. His research emphasis while at VSU included the evaluation of an accelerated kidding system and parasite-resistance in several goat breeds.



In 1998, Terry returned to Langston University. His primary responsibilities are in Cooperative Extension; he is the Goat Extension Leader and coordinates the outreach program for the goat program. However, Terry supports all three components of Langston University's land-grant mission; teaching, research, and extension.

Terry currently teaches Animal Science 4333 "Agricultural Statistics" and Animal Science 4133 "Animal Breeding." In the past, he has taught Animal Science 1124 "Introduction to Animal Science" and Animal Science 4413 "Animal Husbandry." He enjoys the interaction with students and the joy of enlarging and enriching their animal science experience.

Terry has been the author or coauthor on numerous scientific articles concerning goat breeding, production, and parasitism in goats. Several of his recent scientific articles have dealt with energy requirements for grazing animals and have incorporated technologies such as GIS mapping, GPS collars, heart rate monitors, and pedometers/accelerometers in the calculation of energy expenditures.

For his Cooperative Extension responsibilities, Terry coordinates the entire outreach program for the goat program. He has coordinated and overseen the annual Goat Field Day. Under his leadership, the annual Goat Field Day has increased in national recognition and attendance, and now it routinely has more than 250 registered participants. Terry is also the editor of the quarterly goat newsletter and the webmaster of the website for the goat program. In both capacities, Terry solicits new information from collaborators and disseminates that information to producers via these two delivery systems. Under his leadership, these two delivery systems have been rejuvenated and enhanced annually.

Terry is a member of the International Goat Association and serves on the Communications Committee. This Committee is responsible for identifying articles or other materials that can be shared with members and the public, and offering feedback and suggestions to improve the website, blog, Facebook page and Newsletter.

For the past several years, Terry has been the supervisor of the meat buck performance test, which has grown from an average enrollment of 15 bucks to an average of 50 bucks per year. He also co-supervises the Langston Goat DHI laboratory, which services the dairy goat industry. Terry is the organizer of several annual producer workshops, including the Continued on Page 10

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### Profile - Dr. Mamta Dhawan

### Country Representative for India

Mamta is a veterinarian with over 20 years of varied experience ranging from international organizations like GALVmed, South Asia Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Programme (FAO and National Dairy Development Board of India joint programme), Animal Husbandry Department of Rajasthan, and various animal welfare organizations.

She has been pro-actively championing the need for mainstreaming Community Animal Health Workers as a means of reaching veterinary services for control of PPR and Goat Pox to smallholder goat farmers to increase their incomes and nutritional security.



She has worked extensively in policy influencing and advocacy of policies that favor smallholder farmers' access to veterinary products, services, and extension. In her last appointment as Regional Manager for South Asia, Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines, she trained in gender mainstreaming of programs and projects and focussed on reaching out to women farmers that keep goats and poultry through field projects.

Want to learn more about our other Country Representatives? Click here.

# Microorganism used in goat's milk cheese has anti-inflammatory properties

The bacterium *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* EM 1107, used in the production of goat milk cheese, was able to survive the digestive process and to control intestinal inflammatory responses. This was the research carried out at the Federal University of Paraíba (UFPB) in partnership with Embrapa and published in the *Journal of Functional Foods*.

of the Caatinga that are studied by Embrapa Goats and Sheep (EC) and partner institutions to be ingredients of dairy products beneficial to health. Among them, a 100% national goat cheese that will have this bacterium in its composition and that is already being tested in the dairy of the Carnaúba Farm, in Taperoá, Paraíba.

**READ MORE...** 

The microorganism is one of the isolates of dairy products

## Microrganismo usado em queijo de leite de cabra apresenta propriedades antiinflamatórias

A bactéria Lactobacillus rhamnosus EM 1107, empregada na produção de queijo de leite de cabra, apresentou capacidade de sobreviver ao processo digestivo e controlar respostas inflamatórias intestinais. Foi o que mostrou pesquisa executada na Universidade Federal da Paraíba (UFPB) em parceria com a Embrapa e publicada na revista Journal of Functional Foods.

O microrganismo é um dos isolados de produtos lácteos da

Caatinga que são estudados pela Embrapa Caprinos e Ovinos (CE) e instituições parceiras para serem ingredientes de produtos lácteos benéficos à saúde. Entre eles, um queijo caprino 100% nacional que terá essa bactéria em sua composição e que já está sendo testado no laticínio da Fazenda Carnaúba, em Taperoá, na Paraíba.

CONSULTE MAIS INFORMAÇÃO...

### Are you an IGA member?

You can pay your membership online through the <a href="IGA Store">IGA Store</a>
Now is a great time to join:

- IGA memberships are effective for 1 year from the date you join.
- All IGA memberships include online access to <u>Small Ruminant</u>

### Research.

- Participate in IGA projects, such as the IGA Consulting Group.
- Access to the MEMBERS area of the IGA website, where you get exclusive information, access to IGA member documents, etc.
- Submit articles for publication in the IGA Newsletter.
- Opportunities for leadership and participation in IGA committees.
- IGA is the voice of goat researchers & producers at national & international levels.



## Goat Industry in the United Kingdom

#### 1. Introduction

In the United Kingdom, the production of goat milk has changed drastically in the last ten years. The industry is continuously looking for significant future developments in areas such as artificial insemination and genomics, disease control, mortality reduction and protocols for rearing kids.

Nonetheless, the goat industry is not a notable livestock sector in the United Kingdom, as evidenced by the evolution in the number of animals during the last 25 years (Figure 1). According to FAO census data, the total number of animals was at a maximum in 1990, followed by a continuous decline until the beginning of the 2000s. After that, the number of heads showed an upswing with some peaks and valleys, and a linear increase from 2010 to 2016 (FAOSTAT, 2016). The largest concentrations of commercial goat operations are found in York, Somerset and Worcestershire counties, all of them located in England.

Figure 1. Evolution of goat number in the United Kingdom from 1990 to 2016 (FAOSTAT)



Although the official figure currently is around 90,000 goats, the British dairy goat industry is in reality composed of between 40,000 to 45,000 goats that produce less than 34 million liters of commercial milk, the rest of the animals having either no commercial use or being kept as pets.

In comparison, the production of milk from dairy cows, with 1.9 million heads, reached just under 15 billion liters of milk (2014/2015). Therefore, the dairy goat sector has little economic importance.

### 2. Breeds and management systems

In Great Britain, dairy goats are not well adapted to the cold and humid conditions of the country, so most of them are housed indoors with enough space for freedom of movement.

The breeds used by British producers are Saanen,

Toggenburg and British Alpine, and in some cases Anglo-Nubian, the latter being more widespread in other areas of the planet despite its British origin (Picture 1).

Picture 1. Anglo-Nubian goats in Great Britain



Genetic improvement is insufficient, there are practically no records, and there is a need to improve these goat breeds to make them more productive. Research grants were recently awarded to Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) (https://www.sruc.ac.uk/) to help decipher their genome. This is a vital study that will help close the gaps between goat genomics and advanced research that has been carried out in other species of livestock.

Feeding is based on the use of maize silage and concentrates in mangers. Grazing is practically non-existent in British commercial goat farms.

The market of goat products in the United Kingdom Fresh goat milk (pasteurized / UHT) occupies the first place as a dairy product and is more important than cheese and yogurt (Picture 2). However, it constitutes a small proportion of the total dairy sector in the United Kingdom and covers only a few percents.

Picture 2. Whole, semi-skimmed and skimmed goat milk in English supermarkets



Continued on Page 8

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# Goat Industry in the United Kingdom (Continued from Page 7)

The major quantity of goat cheese made in the United Kingdom uses imported goat milk, mainly from the Netherlands and Belgium. Also, a large proportion of goat cheese is imported from France, a country that has a well-known and much more developed goat sector structure (Picture 3). Goat cheese (local or imported) is now among the top 10 products of this type consumed in the United Kingdom.

Picture 3. French goat cheeses



St Helen's Farms (https://www.sthelensfarm.co.uk/), the high technology and efficiency goat dairy company established by D. Angus Wielkopolski has been working on improving productivity of their own herds during the last twenty years.

Thanks to a well-designed breeding strategy and high levels of improvement, as well as the use of technology, goats reach up to 1,400 L of milk per year. The feeding is computerized and the goats are milked three times daily.

The diversification of their processed products is important: milk in different formats, yoghurts, ice creams, cheeses (Picture 4).

Picture 4. Marketing logo of the dairy goat company "St Helen's Farm"

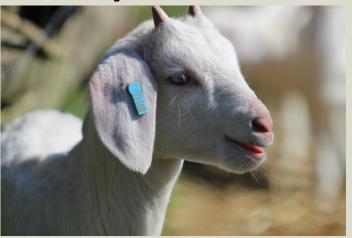


Concerning goat meat, approximately 50,000 dairy goat kids are butchered annually at a young age, although no reliable data are available (Picture 5). This procedure is conducted according to the guidelines of the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals) establishing that when there is no market chain for these kids, they must be subjected to a humane butchering to avoid possible ill-treatment.

Nevertheless, there is a growing market for goat meat, providing an incentive for some producers. The greater demand for goat meat comes from ethnic minorities residing in the United Kingdom, but much of the product is imported.

There is also a certain demand in the "black" market for goat meat from some of these ethnic or cultural groups, whose methods of butchering (e.g., halal) and/or preparation of the meat do not meet the health and environmental safety requirements in force in the United Kingdom.

Picture 5. Sannen goat kid



### Acknowledgements

Many thanks to D. Angus Wielkopolski for his help in writing this article.

Materials for this report were provided by Heather Rose Briggs, IGA Country Representative for the United Kingdom. The original article was written in Spanish with the collaboration of Francisco de Asís Ruiz Morales, IGA Regional Director for Western Europe

(igaespana@gmail.com), edited by Juan Capote (icapote1@gmail.com), IGA Past-President, and published in Tierras Caprino 2018, no. 22, page 44. Jean-Marie Luginbuhl, IGA Secretary-Treasurer (imlugin@ncsu.edu) translated the original article into English.

### El sector caprino en Reino Unido

Heather Briggs, Representante de la International Goat Associations en Reino Unido

#### INTRODUCCIÓN

La producción de leche de cabra ha cambiado drásticamente en los últimos 10 años en el Reino Unido. La actividad está continuamente mirando hacia un desarrollo significativo en áreas como la inseminación artificial y la genómica, el control de enfermedades, la reducción de la mortalidad y los protocolos de cri-



anza de los cabritos.

A pesar de ello, el caprino no es un sector ganadero destacable en Reino Unido, si vemos la evolución en el número de cabezas en los últimos 25 años (Figura 1) el censo marca un máximo donde comienzan la serie de datos de la FAO en el año 1990, un descenso continuo hasta inicio de los años 2000, seguido de un aumento constante de las cabezas, sobretodo hasta el año 2008, que el incremento se vuelve más errático y casi estancado (FAOSTAT, 2016). Las concentraciones más grandes de cabras comerciales se encuentran en los condados de York, Somerset v Worcestershire, todos ellos en Inglaterra.

A pesar de que la cifra oficial en la actualidad marca alrededor de unos 90 mil caprinos, en realidad, la industria británica de cabra lechera está compuesta por entre 40 a 45 mil cabras que producen menos de 34 millones de litros de leche comercial, el resto de los animales o bien no tienen uso comercial o bien se usan como mascotas.

En comparación, la producción de leche de vaca, cuya cabaña alcanza 1,9 millones de cabezas, alcanza poco menos de 15 mil millones de litros de leche (2014/5). Por tanto es un sector, el de la leche de cabra, con poca importancia económica.

El tamaño medio de las explotaciones comerciales se sitúa entre las 700-1000 cabras, que son gestionadas por 2-3 personas más el propietario de la misma. En estas explotaciones se realizan dos ordeños al día, en sistemas estabulados donde el pastoreo es casi inexistente.

El bienestar animal y los aspectos medioambientales son esenciales en el funcionamiento de las explotaciones caprinas lecheras en Gran Bretaña. Esto permite que las explotaciones cuenten con una certificación la Red Tractor Accreditation (https://www.redtractor.org.uk/). Este es uno de los instrumentos que promueve estándares de calidad internacional sobre higiene, bienestar y cuidado del medioambiente bajo la dirección del logotipo de Red Tractor.

LEE MAS...

# **Book Announcement - That Sheep May Safely Graze**

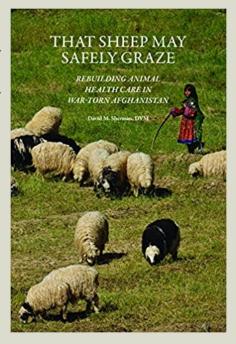
That Sheep May Safely Graze is written by David Sherman, former Editorin-Chief of *Small Ruminant Research*, 2001-2005.

Veterinarian and global goat health expert David Sherman shares his bigpicture view of the development challenges in Afghanistan based on his years of living there. He illustrates the importance of animal health, often overlooked by development experts, so readers can appreciate how healthy sheep and goats provide livelihoods for rural people, food for hungry cities, and wool for beautiful carpets. The book contains numerous short and charming vignettes that vary from quiet delight in small farm life to portraits of fas-

cinating individuals to frustration with ever-changing political agendas. Most importantly, David invites readers to see the dignity and humanity in his Afghan colleagues and ordinary villagers. Western development aid has resulted in too few successes, but this highly readable account of Afghanistan's veterinary field unit project is a "how-to" of effective assistance that improves the lives of animals and the people who depend on them.

Beth A. Miller — President, International Goat Association

This book is available from <u>Amazon</u> in paperback or <u>Kindle editions</u>.



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### Profile - Yoshiaki Hayashi

### Country Representative for Japan

Yoshi is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Agriculture at Meijo University. He is the Country Coordinator for the Asian Australasian Dairy Goat Network and the current Secretariat for the Japan Goat Network. Yoshi is also a member of the International Advisory Committee for the Conference on Sustainable Animal Agriculture for Developing Countries.

Yoshi received his Ph.D. in Animal Nutrition from the Graduate School for International Development and

Cooperation, Hiroshima University. His doctoral thesis was, "Studies on feeding management on milk production of dairy buffalo and cattle in Tarai, Nepal."

Yoshi has more than 20 publication credits, including a recent, article in the Net Journal of Agricultural Science, "Comparative evaluation of odorous compound absorption between goat milk and cow milk."

Want to learn more about our other Country Representatives? Click here.

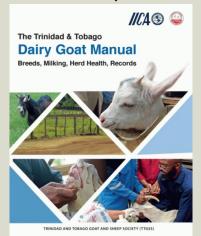


# The Trinidad & Tobago Dairy Goat Manual Breeds, Milking, Herd Health, Records

#### Summary

The information contained in this manual describes the important aspects of dairy goat production in Trinidad and Tobago. Its purpose is to help you and other farmers improve your production. The manual assumes that you are interested in dairy goat production, but it does not assume that you know anything about rearing them. This manual provides you with some basic knowledge and technologies about various aspects of dairy goat production including but not limited to: choosing good goats, nutrition, feeding, breeding, grooming, disease control and treatment. There is a chapter which gives an example of proper record keeping tables and even includes a herd projection table for a twenty-doe unit.

**READ MORE...** 



# Getting to know IGA members: Dr. Terry A. Gipson (Continued from Page 5)

artificial insemination workshops and he established the first-ever internal parasite workshops for the goat program. Terry, in collaboration with the Outreach Specialist, organized a comprehensive series of workshops on goat management targeting the enhancement of knowledge, skills, and abilities of minority farmers.

He was a team leader on a multiinstitution project to develop a webbased certification system for goat production and a comprehensive meat goat production handbook. Terry has authored and received funding for several extension grants. One grant was to develop instructional material for small-scale goat producers, and another was to develop a Summer Institute in goat production for minority farmers. He also serves on the leadership team for the Goat Industry Community of Practice for the eXtension.org project funded by USDA CSREES. He continues to advance the Cooperative Extension mission and has had an extremely positive effect upon the goat extension program.

Terry also lends his expertise to several international development projects. He was a team member for Langston University's project in Armenia, and his primary responsibility was in animal breeding and genetic improvement activities in the Armenia Improved Dairy Goat project. He was

also a team member for Langston University's Ethiopia project, where his primary responsibility was to provide expertise in animal breeding and genetics for the Ethiopian Sheep and Goat Productivity Improvement Program. Terry encourages his students to consider volunteerism and volunteers, himself, whenever the opportunity arises, on several USAID Farmer -to-Farmer (F-t-F) Programs.

In his spare time, Terry enjoys spending time with his wife, their three children, and two grandchildren. He also enjoys nature, especially birdwatching, and volunteering for various activities at their church.

### Small Ruminant Research in Numbers

Written by S.Y. Landau, Editor-in-Chief, Small Ruminant Research (Elsevier)

Small Ruminant Research (SRR) is the official journal of the International Goat Association (IGA). Good science, relevance to small ruminant farming, and novelty are the major criteria of publication of our journal. Maintaining the quality of English is an everlasting challenge, as the majority of our contributors, reviewers and associate editors are not native English speakers.

Mrs. Tova Deutch surveyed the 1618 published papers from the last 6 years to identify strengths and weaknesses. The results are presented below.

### 1. Small Ruminant Research in numbers

#### 1.1. Who are the authors?

Our journal is truly international (Table 1): out of approximately 900 to 1000 manuscripts submitted, we annually publish 250 to 300 papers from 45 different countries. The relative

2010

199

43

Papers

Countries

contribution of countries has been changing in recent years: the number of papers from the US, the UK, and France are declining, whereas Brazil has become the most paperproductive country, followed by Iran and India. Italy and Spain are still the

main contributors from Europe (Figure 1).

1.2. What is published in SRR? Publishing in SRR is based on peer review. The statistics presented here (Table 2) en-

published until

2014 and were subjected to an analysis of citations in 2016. Fields of expertise are detailed in Figure 2: health contributes to the higher proportion of papers, followed by reproduction, nutrition, and genetics.

### 1.3. Scientific quality

2014

211

40

Competition is tough in the scientific

2015

282

44

2016

151

41

Table 1. The number of papers published and the number of originating countries from August 2010 to August 2016.

2012

248

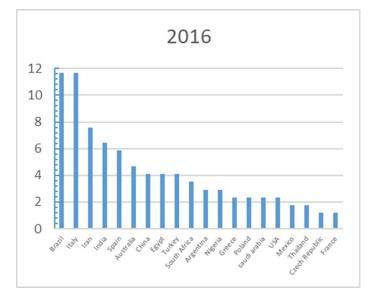
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Figure 1. The relative percentage of published papers in SRR (20 top co
2010
12
10
8
6
4
2
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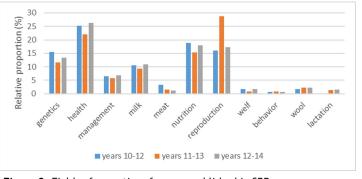
2011

206

45



publication market. We aim to publish good science from all over the world, which is not always compatible with the highest possible impact factor. Still, SRR stays in the 61% best journals in Animal Science and Zoology (ranking 141 from 368 journals), and



compass all papers Figure 2. Fields of expertise of papers published in SRR

our Citescore in 2017 was 1.1. Nevertheless, we have identified a trend to a decrease (see the metrics of SRR, an estimate of citation rates of Citescore by Elsevier, Figure 3) and we are eager to improve our performance. We know that reviews are cited more frequently than regular papers (Table 2); therefore, we aim at improving our citation rate by inviting timely reviews by renowned scientists, as suggested by our associate editors. Our last score (updated December 2018) was 1.30, suggesting that our efforts are successful.

Continued on Page 12

ountries for each year, separately).

2013

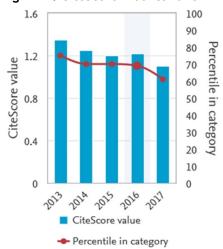
265

46

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### Small Ruminant Research in Numbers (Continued from Page 11)

Figure 3. CiteScore metrics for SRR



### 2. Editors, what are they doing? 2.1. The flow chart of submissions and the role of Associate Editors When a manuscript is submitted, it first reaches the Editor-in-Chief (EIC). At that stage, papers are passed to the associate editors (AE) for evaluation or rejected after a preliminary assessment (Fig. 3). About half of the submissions are rejected (with no possible re-submission) on the ground of plagiarism (including self-plagiarism, as detected by a customized software), lack of novelty, a scope that is inappropriate for SRR, lack of hypothesis, too local focus, and biased statistics. Other common causes of rejection are lack of line-numbering, without which a manuscript cannot be handled for evaluation and bad English. In these two latter cases, authors

may-resubmit. The rejection after preliminary assessment would be much less frequent if authors had carefully read the "Guide for Authors" that we update on a quarterly basis.

After the EIC passes the paper for evaluation to the relevant AE, all the responsibility falls on the AE' shoulders. In contrast with other journals, all decisions are issued by AE and not by the EIC. Therefore, the recruitment of highly professional AE is germane to the scientific value of the journal. Finding good reviewers, who are aware that reviewing papers written by others is a major part of the scientific activity and are willing to invest some of their time in this endeavor, is the pre-requisite for scientific publication. The basic assignment of AE is obtaining at least two meaningful, well-assessed reviews, on which they can elaborate a decision. In addition, a statistical evaluation is often required from our AE for statistics either by the EIC or the assigned AE. We aim at returning the first decision 45 days from the date of submission. However, the rate of reviewers declining is very high, and one has to contact at least 5 to 6 potential reviewers to get two reviews. The revision process is shorter if authors have complied with most suggestions. In this case, the AE will generally take a decision. If not, however, it is common to apply for additional reviewers if the AE anticipates that there is no scope for publication. Even though



authors generally understand that the revision requested will improve their manuscript, as scientific careers depend on publications, the EIC and AE must respond to frustrated authors, whose manuscript has been rejected or a task inherent to the function. Many authors send e-mails asking "why a decision" has not been sent to us "on time," as though reviewers were under our control, or SRR was our only endeavor. We are lucky to be helped by Mrs. Palani (Maha) from Elsevier who is instrumental in tackling this issue.

#### 2.2. Editorial Board

The editorial board encompasses AE

Continued on Page 13

**Table 2.** Evaluation parametric for SRR from August 2010 to August 2016: only relevant publications (reviews or non-review papers) were taken into account: NPub and Ncit represent the numbers of papers published and the number of citations, respectively; the impact factor parameters of CiteScore (in parentheses).

Citescore	Year cit.	% reviews	Reviews		Non-reviews		Total		% citing		
			NPub	Ncit	NPub	Ncit	NPub	Ncit	Rev	Non-rev	All
11/12/2010	2013	13.6	88	201 (2.3)	557	733 (1.3)	645 (1.4)	934	77.3	62.3	65.2
12/13/2011	2014	9.3	67	141 (2.1)	654	845 (1.3)	721 (1.3)	986	70.1	61.6	62.2
2012-13-14	2015	8.7	63	94 (1.5)	663	807 (1.2)	726 (1.2)	904	68.8	58.6	59.2

### **SRR in Numbers** (Continued from Page 12)

and the editorial advisory board, including our most outstanding reviewers, listed on the first page of each issue of SRR.

There are 11 professional AE and one editor for special issues, in addition to the EIC. All of them work very hard to ensure that SRR keeps being a prestigious journal. My major challenge as EIC has been to rejuvenate our team: in recent years, we have missed the long experience of previous AE, such as Prof. E. Webb (South Africa, Meat Science), the late Dr. N. Silanikove (Israel, Lactation and milk products), and Dr. A. Goetsch (USA, Nutrition). However, the AE recruited in the last three years, Prof. E. Piasentier (Italy, Meat Products), Drs. S. Giger-Reverdin (France, Nutrition), R. Bodas (Spain, Nutrition), N. Argov-Argaman (Israel, Lactation and Dairy Products), and J.P. Dubeuf (Production Systems) are

gaining experience and filling the gap. Prof. A. Cannas (editor of NRC 2007 for small ruminants) also spent two years as AE but had to step down. We have an excellent AE for Statistics (Dr. Hillary Voet, Israel), which greatly improves the scientific value of published papers. All CVs are presented at the end of this text.

#### Conclusion

I am convinced that publishing good science is germane to the development of sustainable small ruminant farming in the 21st century. We are enduring global climate change, associated with water penury and a shortage of food. Our stock is already incriminated for methane emission, eutrophication of water sources, and inefficient food production. There is no doubt that science is needed to analyze and improve our production systems and their image.

# Message to IGA members from the Editor-in-Chief:

Are you available to review papers for Small Ruminant Research? Do not take its quality for granted. Remember that the peer-review system is the best alternative to keep scientific standards high. We need your experience and willingness to contribute to maintain and improve the quality and good reputation of Small Ruminant Research.

Click here and complete the form on the IGA website if you are interested in joining the peer-review system. Be sure to include your Name, Title (Mr. Mrs. Dr. etc.), Country, Where do you work?, Area of expertise, Email, Phone

**CLICK HERE** 

## Profile - Dr. S. Yan Landau, SRR Editor-in-Chief

S. Y. Landau earned his B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. titles at the Faculty of Agriculture of the Hebrew University (Rehovot, Israel). He served as a nutritionist with the Sheep and Goats division of the Extension Service, Ministry of Agriculture (1978-1996) and in 1996, after a post-doc at West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV), he joined the Department of Natural Resources of the Agricultural Research Organization (ARO, the Volcani Center). Yan has spent sabbatical leaves at Utah State University (Logan, UT) and at CIRAD (St Pierre, La Reunion). His research interests are the nutrition of free-ranging domestic and wild herbivores, near-infrared spectrometry (NIRS) in agricultural and food sciences, plant secondary metabolites, self-medication in grazing animals, and integrated rain-fed semi-arid production systems. He was the founder (2012) and leader of the joint-venture of ARO and the Edmond de Rothschild Natural Park, termed "GoatWise" on all aspects of goat grazing in Mediterranean woodland. He was the recipi-



ent of grants from national (Ministries of Agriculture, Health, Environmental Quality, Commerce and Industry) and international (US: BARD, IALC, and MERC; France-Israel) sources of funding. He tutored 18 M.Sc. and Ph.D. students, authored or co-authored 88 papers in refereed literature, 15 book chapters, more than 60 popular arti-

cles and 120 papers and abstracts in symposia proceedings. He has served as Associate Editor for Nutrition for two terms and been nominated Editor-in-Chief of Small Ruminant Research (Elsevier) in 2016.

Yan is an IGA member and serves on the Board of Directors.

### Profile - Jean-Paul Dubeuf

Associate Editor for Production Systems and Sustainability

Born in 1956, Jean-Paul Dubeuf obtained in 1977, an "Ingénieur Agronome" Degree in Animal Production and, in 1978, a Masters (Advanced Study Degree - DEA) in Economic Analysis.

Jean-Paul DUBEUF is a researcher ("Ingénieur de Recherches") at the French National Institute in Agricultural Research (INRA) in "Science for Action and Development," in Corte (Corsica).

For more than twenty years, he has specialized in the development processes of Small Ruminant (SR) with a special focus on the Mediterranean Area. His recent works have included Social and Environmental Issues, and Societal Changes in the Sustainable Development of SR Production Systems, and Pastoralism and Ecological Transitions. He is studying the imple-

mentation of public policies for these activities in several projects at International (with IFAD), National (Morocco) and Regional (Corsica) levels. He has published several applied research articles, review articles and position papers on these themes.

Jean-Paul Dubeuf also developed an expertise on the conception and development of an Information System online for the animal production sectors (data basis, documentation, workflow, synthetic analysis) as the Scientific Director of the International Resource Center on Sheep and Goats Dairy sectors (CIRVAL) from 1995 to 2007. He animated and coordinated several Mediterranean scientific subnetworks (FAO/CIHEAM, International Dairy Federation) and projects.

From 1984 to 1994, he was an Expert and Consultant to support decision-making activities and extension in the dairy co-operative sector in Central

France for the Technical Bureau in Dairy Promotion (BTPL).

Jean-Paul is an IGA member and was President of IGA from 2008 to 2012.



# Building a Vibrant Goat Sector (India)

APPROACH PAPER FOR VISION 2030

Increasing Focus on the Goat Sector In stark contrast to the goat rearers belonging to the poorest communities, goat meat consumption is largely by the richest segments of the population. Goat is the most preferred meat priced at INR 450/kg as compared with poultry and beef at INR 180/kg. As per NSSO 2013 6.4% of rural Indians eat mutton, 21.7% eat chicken, 26.5% consume fish, while 29.2% eat eggs.In urban India, about 10% consume goat meat, 21% and, 27% population consuming fish and chicken respectively, and a huge 37.6%, of the urban population, eating eggs. With increasing incomes, health consciousness leading to higher consumption of livestock products, future growth rate of meat consumption ranging between 3-7% based on different estimates. Consumer preference for high value processed goat and milk product is increasing in India and globally, with



potential premium for high quality products.

**READ MORE...** 

## Profile - Dr. George C. Fthenakis

### Editor for SRR Special Issues

George C. Fthenakis, DVM (Thessaloniki), MSc (London), Ph.D. (London), Dip.ECAR, Dip.ECSRHM, is Professor and the Dean at the Veterinary Faculty of the University of Thessaly, Greece. He was the Foundation President of the European College of Small Ruminant Health Management (2008-11) and serves a fourth term as President of the Farm Animal Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society (2009-21).

He has supervised eight Ph.D. theses and one European Veterinary College specialization program. Currently, he supervises four Ph.D. students and two European Veterinary College residents. He has managed 29 research grants, funded by the public or the private sector, among them the large 'Goshomics' project (budget: 1,788,500 €, 10 partners).

He has published 182 refereed papers (cumulative impact factor: 243.5), which have received >2000 citations. He has authored or edited four books. He has published >480 abstracts in conference proceedings and has made 73 invited/keynote presentations. He was the organizer of the 6th International Sheep Veterinary Congress (2005), the 1st European Conference



in Small Ruminant Health Management (2011) and the 11th (2009) and 13th (2015) Greek National Veterinary Congresses.

He has participated in many national or international committees, including the European Board for Veterinary Specialisation, the General Assembly of the Federation of Veterinarians in Europe and the committee for 'Welfare of sheep' of the European Food Safety Authority.

He has received an Honorary scroll from the Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society (2005), the 'Allan Baldry' award from the British Sheep Veterinary Society (2006), a Meritorious award from the Karditsa Society for Animal Welfare (2008) and the 'Konstantinos Tarlatzis' prize of the Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society (2009). He was elected a Fellow of the Greek Agricultural Academy in 2010. He has received three Awards of Academic Scientific Excellence in 'Veterinary Medicine and Science' by the Greek Ministry of Education (2012, 2013, 2014), a Prize for excellent academic and scientific achievements by the Hellenic Veterinary Association (2013). George also received an Award of Clinical Excellence by the European College of Small Ruminant Health Management (2014), a Prize for the excellent and sustained support of the veterinary profession in Greece by the Hellenic Veterinary Association (2015) and a meritorious award by the organizing committee of the 9th International Sheep Veterinary Congress for the significant contributions at the conference (2017).

George is a former IGA member and former Country Representative for Greece.

# Profile - Dr. Bruce McGregor

#### Associate Editor for Hair and Wool

Bruce McGregor has devoted his life to animals, environmental management and community organizations. Bruce has training in agriculture, land management, wool science, textiles and organization leadership. He has investigated animal production systems in advanced technology societies and subsistence transhumance societies including products from superfine Merino sheep, Angora goats, cashmere goats, alpacas, and other animals.

His initial focus was on the effects of nutrition management on wool and meat production. His extensive collaborations include animal health, genetic improvement, animal welfare, and new industry development. forts in farmer extension training in new industries to translate research findings into practical outcomes. His industry research evolved to include the fundamental drivers of enterprise profitability and animal fiber physical properties. Postgraduate training and subsequent research investigated the role of wool and cashmere fiber quality on textile processing, textile product quality and human sensorial assessment of wool knitwear.

Since 1992, Bruce has been a reviewer, a member of the Editorial Advisory Committee and an Associate Editor with Small Ruminant Research. He is the author of over 600 research, technical and advisory publications. He is a long-term member of the International Goat Association and has at-



ferences.

Bruce is an IGA member and former

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## Commercializing the smallholder goat sector in India

Recommendations from innovation platform discussions in Bihar, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh

Summary

In 2015, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) launched a scoping project for "Public Private Producer Partnerships (PPPPs) in small ruminant value chain development in India" with a view to build a solid understanding among goat industry stakeholders (public and private) on the profitability, competitiveness, and importance of investing in the goat sector as a mean to enhance the livelihoods of and business opportunities for poor farmers in the rural areas of Bihar, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.

Contributing to this scoping project,

the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) established a participatory process of constructive engagement of all relevant stakeholders in the sector through the Innovation Platform (IP) approach1. ILRI organized and facilitated two rounds of IP meetings in the three states. In these meetings more than 250 participants with different backgrounds and interests (farmers, producer organizations, private and public service providers, market agents, processors, regulatory agencies, development organizations, finance institutions, research institutes and policy makers) came together to jointly diagnose problems, identify opportunities and find ways to achieve their goals.

The first round of discussions were very broad and general in which participants identified constraints and

Commercializing the smallholder goat sector in India

Recommendations from innovation platform discussions in Bihar, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh



suggested broad areas for improvement (Table 1). In the second round, discussions were more specific to help develop business cases for goat production, buck production, last mile service delivery, fodder production and small scale processing.

https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/ handle/10568/76172/ PR\_india\_goats.pdf

### Profile - Dr. Nancy Ing

### **Associate Editor for Reproduction**

Nancy H. Ing, D.V.M., Ph.D. is a professor in the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University in the U.S.A. Texas A&M University is located in central Texas and has 68,000 students and is the 4th ranked veterinary college in the country (out of 30). Prairie View A&M University, 40 miles to the south, is home to the International Goat Research Center. Current research interests are: RNAs in spermatozoa that are delivered to ova at conception, and the negative effects of stress hormones on testosterone synthesis by the testis.

The importance of the first area is that the RNAs may provide a novel assay relating to fertility and the noncoding RNAs are likely to regulate gene expression in the early embryo. The importance of the second area is that stress is increasing for animals and glucocorticoids, whether endogenous or given for medical reasons, rapidly but transiently impair steroidogenesis, resulting in periods of subfertility. For these studies, she has used goats, stallions and, most recently, honey bees and cattle. Previously, her research focused on estradiol's stabilization of estrogen receptor alpha mRNA in the sheep uterus. She's published 52 peer-reviewed research papers, nine book chapters, and 51 abstracts.



# Want to join or renew your IGA membership?

Step 1: Fill out the online IGA membership application, or download the PDF membership application (and email or mail it back to us). Step 2: Choose the membership that is right for you. We offer a variety of membership levels:

Basic IGA Membership\* = \$50 IGA Membership Plus\* = \$150 Student membership\*\* = \$10 Student Membership Extra\*= \$32.50 Lifetime membership for retirees (60 or older)\*\* = \$200

\* These memberships include online ac-

cess to SRR.

\*\* These memberships do not include online access to SRR.

We also offer discounted memberships for people living in developing countries (see below).