International Goat Association

Newsletter, March 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Invitation for Proposal: 14th International Conference on Goats 2026

Dear Members of the International Goat Association and prospective hosts,

The International Goat Association is accepting proposals for the 14th International Conference on Goats to be held in 2026. Interested parties are encouraged to submit proposals by July 18, 2022. All submissions and conference planning questions to Christian DeVries, IGA's Executive Director (**admin@iga-goatworld.com**).

The International Goat Conference (IGC) is a scientific and social meeting to present new research findings and provide expert input into important issues of goat production, health, food value chains, etc. Our conferences attract scientists, scholars, veterinarians, government personnel, extension workers, and producers from all over the world. Past meetings have been held successfully in the United Kingdom, France, USA, Brazil, India, China, South Africa, Mexico, Spain, and Turkey. The 13th International Conference on Goats will be in Eger, Hungary, September 18-23, 2022.

The IGA's Board of Directors will meet during the 13th ICG in Hungary to review conference bids and hear presentations. Interested host countries should send a representative to the 13th ICG who will present to the IGA Board during the conference.

To prepare for the proposal, please refer to the IGA Board Guidelines for Planning an International Conference of Goats (**https://www.iga-goatworld.com/conference-planning.html**)

We appreciate your interest in continuing the tradition of the International Goat Association.

Noemí Castro Navarro
President
Best regards,
Sándor Kukovics

Call for Exhibitors and Sponsors – 13th ICG

September 18-23, 2022

The ICG2022 Conference offers a wide range of exhibiting and advertising opportunities for institutions and companies interested in goat farming. Our conference offers your organization many convenient and effective ways to get your product and/or service noticed by the attendees.

The benefits you can derive from exhibiting are unique because, unlike other segments of marketing campaigns, targeting a conference audience can be both selective and direct, allowing you to meet the delegates directly.

We will offer booths of several sizes and exhibition ground space at the conference venue. Additionally, you can set up a personalized profile on the virtual event platform, and you may publish videos and brochures. We will encourage all attendees (physical and virtual) to set up user profiles on the virtual event platform. This way, attendees can easily find you, and you can effortlessly search their profiles and start conversations. Company representatives can answer participants' questions in writing. You can also request meetings with each other. Even if both parties are there in person, the platform will help better manage your calendar.

IGA's Board of Directors is offering special discounts for IGA Institutional members.
The following discounts will apply for IGA Institutional members:
Ambassador & Silver members = 25% discount on exhibition ground space
Gold members = 50 percent discount on exhibition ground space
Platinum members = one complimentary exhibition booth and a complimentary conference pass for one staff member

Please **join IGA as an Institutional member through their website** before filling out the registration form (**IGA Institutional Memberships**).

For more information regarding becoming an Exhibitor/Sponsor download our kit in **Adobe PDF** or **Word Doc** format.

For hungarian organizations / Magyar érdeklődők részére:
Szponzori felhívás **Adobe PDF** vagy **Word Doc** formátumban.

Announcement: Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) Hong Kong

We are proud to welcome the newest IGA institutional member, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, City University of Hong Kong.

The Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) was established in March 2020 is the newest department in the Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine. Our rapidly growing team of pioneering Faculty, Adjuncts and support staff embrace a vision be Asia's pre-eminent body advancing veterinary clinical science in response to evolving societal needs.

The mission of the VCS department is to advance animal health and welfare through cutting edge clinical research, to nurture research-trained, practice-ready, professional veterinary graduates, to establish Hong Kong's first academic postgraduate veterinary residency-training programs and to give back to the local communities through service and outreach.

Vision
The Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences was established in March 2020 with the vision to be Asia's preeminent body advancing veterinary clinical science in response to evolving societal needs.

Mission
The mission of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences has three distinct but interrelated components:
to train highly-professional, practicing veterinary clinicians through didactic teaching, laboratories, and practical experiences based in state-of-the-art veterinary clinical facilities
to advance animal health through cutting-edge clinical research;
to contribute to the community through excellent service and outreach.

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Small Ruminant Webinar Series 2022, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Small Ruminant Webinar Series 2022, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Farm Ready Research is Extension's agriculture winter webinar meeting series for farmers and ag professionals. Learn the most up-to-date information on topics from dairy and livestock production to forage and farm management.

Tuesday, April 12, 7:30-8:30pm
SRW - Bridging the gap between meat goat hobby and commercial meat goat business
Join Small Ruminant Extension Educators in learning about bridging the gap from a hobby meat goat farm to a more commercial farm operation. JJ Jones, Agriculture Economics Extension Specialist from Oklahoma State University, will dive into questions that a hobby farmer needs to consider as they investigate scaling production beyond selling meat to friends and family. Learn about management practices useful in the transition from hobby to a commercial farm, gain insight into strategies to improve your herd's genetic base, and explore if you have enough market to support expansion beyond your circle.

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Joint Seminar of the FAO CIHEAM Networks on Pasture and Forage Crops and on Sheep and Goat Nutrition, Sicily, Italy

Alternative feed resources and their management for transiting towards a sustainable ruminant production

September 27-29, 2022 - Catania, Sicily, Italy

Boosting the contribution of livestock and forage productions to sustainable agri food systems

The Mediterranean basin is highly affected by climate change, while certain countries still need to increase livestock production in order to achieve food self-sufficiency. Producing « better » is an urgent issue.

In this respect, ruminants have an asset: they can be fed on plants, plant parts and agro-industrial by products which are not directly recoverable for humans.

The Mediterranean landscapes are composed of an agro-silvo-pastoral mosaic, which offers opportunities for interactions between livestock production, agriculture and natural areas. Mediterranean grasslands are an important source of forage; cultivated forage, possibly associated to perennial or annual crops, provides high-quality feed for periods of high nutrient requirements; agro-industry produces a variety of typical by-products which may be included in ruminant diets.

This joint seminar of the «Ruminant nutrition» and «Mediterranean pastures and forage crops» sub-networks aims at exploring the various opportunities in terms of novel or underexploited local feed resources, which could be valued better in the future and used to secure small ruminant feeding systems and boost animal production. Joining these two sub-networks gives the opportunity to consider the question from two complementary points of view, thus encouraging system approaches.

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The legacy of Kentaro Kawazoe

Kentaro Kawazoe was one of Japan's most successful and inspiring goat farmers. Sadly, he passed away in July 2021, leaving his legacy and one of the largest goat farms in Japan. This tribute is to remember him.

His goat story began in 2005 when he studied music composition in Germany. He found goat milk and meat at a grocery store, which he had never seen in Japan. Once he tried them, he was impressed by the tastes. After he came to Japan in 2009, he started working at a local farm cooperative and bought a pair of young goats at home. Kentaro learned a lot about agricultural subsidies in Japan through his job. His mother, Waka, who supported his ambition, also fell in love with goats and mainly took care of kids and sick animals while he was working.

In 2011, Waka bought a 2000 m2 farm area using government support and started Kawazoe Goat Farm with two male and nine female Saanen goats that had 12 kids in the following spring.

Since then, Kentaro aimed to build the biggest goat farm in Japan. Most producers in Japan are interested in making their goat cheeses, but not Kentaro. Instead, he focused his efforts on understanding how to add value to his goat milk and how to sell it. He also insisted on producing all the feeds within his farm. He believed and proved that the taste of goat milk comes from the feed. He also wanted to increase the self-sufficient rate of Japanese agriculture, which has been only around 30%. About 70% of livestock feed in Japan is from imported grains and forages. He tried and tested different feed ingredients to identify the best for the smell and taste of goat milk.

His passion moved people. It did not take long for local dairy companies and bakeries to start using Kentaro's goat milk. As demand grew, the number of goats increased every year.

However, it wasn't always easy. In 2014, after Kentaro quit the job and became a full-time farmer, a massive typhoon hit his DIY goat barn and caused extensive damage. Crop and forage production was ruined some years, but he did not give up. In 2018, a major dairy company contacted him requesting a large amount of goat milk. Kentaro needed more milk to expand his business. By this time, he was very proud of the taste and quality of his goat milk. His Saanen goats produced less than a liter of milk a day. He had no idea why. His goats were the best ones in the market, and he was making the best quality of feed available. He consulted a goat researcher to get advice and modified the goat diet with improving protein and mineral sources. Milk production doubled immediately. The challenges he faced only made his milk better and helped grow his business.

Kentaro's goat milk was sold all over the country by the beginning of 2020. Not only was the milk in high demand, but his goat meat was served in famous restaurants in Tokyo and other cities. Although the COVID pandemic affected his goat business, nothing could stop his dreams. Kentaro started his research with a local food innovation program at Kochi University. His research detected that goat milk (not colostrum) contains antibodies to upper respiratory tract infections that might mitigate COVID-19. This news came out two days after his passing.

Are you having trouble accessing the IGA website?

There are a few common problems you might experience:

You forgot your password.
You can reset your password. **Click here.**

You do not remember which email address you used when you joined IGA.
Send us an email at **admin@iga-goatworld.com** and we can help you get reconnected.

You cannot find a certain page, Blog post, or other information.
Use the **Search** bar below to find what you need. The Search bar is on every page in the footer and at the top of the **Homepage**.

You do not have access to the webpages that you want to view.
Your IGA membership might have expired. If this is the case, then you will need to renew in order to regain access. Please contact us at **admin@iga-goatworld.com** and we will help you determine the problem.

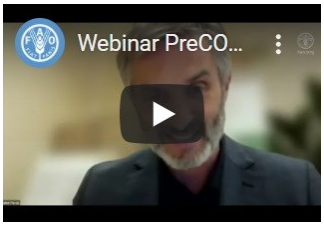
Dr. Paula Menzies presentation – Small Ruminant Production and Health as a Social and Economic Buffer Against Climate Shock

Pre-COP26 webinar showcases the Peste des petits ruminants Global Eradication Programme as an enabler of climate resilience

On 1st October 2021, nearly 200 participants joined a webinar organised by FAO's Animal Production and Health Division (NSA), in partnership with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the African Union Commission (AUC-DARBE), entitled 'Coping with climate change: the key role of livestock ownership'.

Selected by **All4Climate – Italy 2021** to form part of the **PreCOP26** event series ahead of this year's UN Climate Summit, the webinar highlighted how small ruminants can protect rural households against climate shocks. Initiatives that improve animal health, for example, the **Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Eradication Programme (PPR GEP)**, can enhance the livestock sectors' contribution to climate resilience.

An opening speech set the scene by discussing an **empirical research study** that demonstrated how livestock buffers household consumption and income against climate shocks such as drought. Goats were found to be a particularly important mobile asset that enables resilience due to their tolerance to climate extremes and of poorer quality forage. Dr Paula Menzies, of the **International Goat Association** and International Sheep Veterinary Association, highlighted that the 2.5 billion global heads of sheep and goats are mostly owned by the world's poorest people, and play a major role in food security. Because small ruminants are primarily the business and livelihood of women, they also contribute to female and youth empowerment. **Dr Menzies** reminded us of the need to view livestock diseases not only as an animal health threat but as a barrier to ending poverty and hunger and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals.



Download Dr Paula Menzies presentation here.

DOWNLOAD

Interpretive Summary: A highly polymorphic caprine keratin-associated protein gene identified and its effect on cashmere traits

Written by Anne Zinn

Cashmere fiber is a main product of cashmere goats that is produced by secondary hair follicles, and, like wool, the cashmere fiber is composed of hair-keratins and keratin-associated proteins. These keratin-associated proteins serve as a matrix that cross-links hair-keratins and are therefore believed to play an important role in defining the physical and mechanical properties of the fiber. Five keratin-associated protein 6 genes (KRTAP6-5) have been identified in sheep and some variations have been associated with wool fiber diameter-related traits, but none of these homologues have been identified in goats. Given the potential effect of KRTAP6 on wool traits, investigation is needed to identify KRTAP6-n in goats and to determine whether variation in KRTAP6s affects cashmere traits. Therefore, a paper recently published in the Journal of Animal Science attempted to identify the caprine KRTAP6-5 to search for potential variation in the gene and to investigate its effect on cashmere fleece traits.

Efforts of this research reported the identification of the sheep KRTAP6-5 homologue on goat chromosome 1 and PCR-single strand conformation polymorphism analysis in 300 Longdong cashmere goats revealed the existence of 12 variant sequences. Variation in goat KRTAP6-5 was found to be associated with variation in mean-fiber diameter, suggesting that KRTAP6-5 is worthy of further study in the context of variation in cashmere traits.

The full paper can be found on the **Journal of Animal Science** webpage.

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Popular Articles from *Small Ruminant Research*

Contribution of small ruminants to food security for Ethiopian smallholder farmers
Volume 184, March 2020, 106064
Hiwot Desta Wodajo, Biruk Alemu Gemeda, Wole Kinati, Annet Abenakyo Mulem, Anouka van Eerdewijk, Barbara Wieland

Abstract
This study investigates how and to what extent arguments related to food security influence preference of livestock species for women and men. Data was collected in four regions of Ethiopia through 92 focus group discussions (FGD) in communities where small ruminant production is common, Using a gender sensitive study designs, 23 FGDs were held separately with men, women and youth (male and female), and through a household survey involving 217 male and 212 women. Qualitative analysis was conducted to extract reasons given to explain the importance of livestock. Reasons related to food security were mapped to the four dimensions underpinning food security—accessibility, availability, nutritional value and stability. All FGDs considered sheep the most important livestock species, followed by cattle, with women allocating higher scores to sheep than men. All four dimensions of food security came up in statements explaining the importance of species but with variations across species. Interestingly, food security related arguments were most prevalent for goats followed by poultry. Of reasons given by women concerning the importance of goats, 78 % were related to food security with all four dimensions represented, and 52 % for poultry with two dimensions (availability and nutritional value). Answers from men especially had a stronger focus on economic reasons directly linked to income generation. Nevertheless, 64 % of men's arguments for goats were related to food security. For sheep however, women only scored higher for arguments related to availability. When investigating purpose of small ruminant production at household level through a household survey, the importance of small ruminants for food security were confirmed; however, gender differences were less apparent. Being able to sell animals at short notice was the main reason for keeping small ruminants for both women and men followed by meat and milk for home consumption. Women's argument for prioritizing selling were accessibility. For men, key arguments for selling were related to availability. For meat and milk their nutritional value was an important argument. Comparing agroecologies, accessibility (selling) was ranked top in highland areas and nutritional value (milk) was most important in lowland areas. In conclusion, this study provides much needed evidence on how small ruminants contribute to different dimensions of food security and are promising entry points targeting women to improve food and nutritional security by providing adequate animal source foods in a household.

To read the entire article, visit SRR

Sheep milk: A pertinent functional food
Volume 181, December 2019, Pages 6-11
Arpita Mohapatra, Ajay Kumar Shinde, Raghvendar Singh

Abstract
Modern human diet and changes in lifestyle are emerging as a challenge in developing countries resulting to endless ailments. Thus, in modern spectra of human health, bioactive foods play a pivotal role. Under the umbrella of food and nutrition security, functional dairy foods have become the need of the hour. Sheep milk is one of the functionally active dairy foods and it is also considered as nutritional powerhouse. The beneficial role of sheep milk results from its fatty acid, immunoglobulin and non-immune protein contents. In human gut, milk proteins turn into excellent source of bioactive peptides with antioxidative, antimicrobial, antihypertensive, immunomodulatory and antithrombotic role. It is also used in anti-ageing formulations and cosmetic soap preparations to soothe psoriasis and skin eczema like chronic conditions. The unique physicochemical and biochemical properties of sheep milk also include prebiotics and probiotics which make it perfect functional food for human health promotion and disease risk reduction. The milk from Indian sheep is relished by the shepherds and their households. They claim that it has many health benefits, but it is an untapped area by the Indian researchers. The major challenge in Indian prospect is non availability of dairy sheep breed, but their milk functional potential cannot be ignored. This review is focused on worldwide work done on sheep milk for its unique functional characteristics.

To read the entire article, visit SRR

Genes for resilience to heat stress in small ruminants: A review
Volume 173, April 2019, Pages 42-53
V.Sejian, M. Bagath, G.Krishnan, V.P. Rashamol, P. Pragna, C. Devaraj, R. Bhatta

Abstract
Small ruminants have several advantages for being an integral part of the pastoral production system because of their short gestation period, high prolificacy, rapid growth rate, high feed conversion efficiency, high diseases resistance capacity as well as easy marketability. Among the various weather variables, heat stress was reported to be the most detrimental factor for the economy of small ruminant production. There are a number of candidate genes that are highly associated with adaptation of small ruminants to heat stress. The genes encoding growth hormone (GH), growth hormone receptor (GHR), insulin like growth factor-1 (IGF-1), leptin (LEP), leptin receptor (LEPR) and thyroid hormone receptor (THR) are associated with the impact of heat stress on the physiological growth pathways in

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Popular Articles from *Small Ruminant Research*

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small ruminants. Further, GnRH, follicle stimulating hormone receptor (FSHR), luteinizing hormone receptor (LHR), inhibin, progesterone receptor and estradiol receptor (ESTR) are important reproductive genes which reflect the impact of heat stress on the reproductive performance of small ruminants. In addition, toll-like receptor 2 (TLR2), TLR3, TLR8, TLR10, interleukin 2 (IL2) and IL10 are considered as immunological markers during heat stress exposure in small ruminants. Heat shock factor 1 (HSF1), heat shock protein 60 (HSP60), HSP70, HSP90 and ubiquitin are found to be associated with resilience capacity of small ruminants to heat stress challenges. Among these thermo-tolerant genes, HSP70 was established to be the ideal genetic marker for thermo-tolerance in small ruminants. Further, the advanced molecular biological techniques are used to validate the data obtained using chip based microarray or the next generation sequencing (NGS) data to identify the various genes associated with heat stress pathways. Thus, the identification of cellular and molecular markers may pave way for development of climate resilient breeds using marker assisted breeding programs.

To read the entire article, visit SRR

Tangible and intangible benefits of local goats rearing in smallholder farms in Malawi
Volume 187, June 2020, 106095

Wilson Kaumbata, Liveness Banda, Gábor Mészáros, Timothy Gondwe, M. J. Woodward-Greene, Benjamin D. Rosen, Curtis P. Van Tassell, Johann Sölkner, Maria Wurzinger

Abstract
A study was conducted to determine tangible and intangible benefits of local goats to smallholders in low input crop-livestock production system where community-based goat breeding program (goat CBBP) is being implemented. Data was collected through a 12-month flock and household (137 households) monitoring study between August 2017 to July 2018. Data collected was analyzed using enterprise budgeting and cost-return analysis. The results showed that local goat enterprises in smallholder farms are profitable and economically viable. The mean annual net profit per flock and per goat was MK54,406 and MK11, 140 (€1 = MK830.00), respectively. The average return on capital invested was 24.6%, exceeding the prevailing average commercial deposit rate (8%) by several folds. Goats accounted for 61.2% of the total livestock household income representing the biggest contributor, while cattle, pigs and chickens contributed 17.6%, 15.5% and 4.1%, respectively. Sale of live goats constituted the major (79.2%) proportion of the total offtake rate, suggesting that goats are primarily kept for generation of cash revenues. Inclusion of intangible benefits of goats significantly increased the mean annual net profit and the return on capital by 60.3%, reflecting the importance of socio-economic roles goats play in providing current and future economic stability to rural households' economy. Hence, programs like goat CBBPs are meant to harness the potentials of local goats to optimize their contributions towards reduction of rural poverty and hunger. Therefore, financing and supporting scaling up of such programs is a meaningful direct investment into the development of rural economy.

To read the entire article, visit SRR

Branched chain fatty acids in the flavour of sheep and goat milk and meat: A review
Volume 200, July 2021, 106398

Peter J. Watkins, Jerad R. Jaborek, Fei Teng, Li Day, Hardy Z. Castada, Sheryl Baringer, Macdonald Wick

Abstract
Globally, around 1.5 billion sheep and goats provide meat and milk on an annual basis and are important sources of nutrition as well as economic subsistence. The popularity of sheep and goat meat, along with milk, and related products occurs due to their unique nutritional properties, physicochemical composition, and sensory attributes while having species-specific flavours compared to other red meats and dairy products. The overall volatile flavour profile and sensory characteristics of the products derived from sheep and goats are key differentiators in the market. However, the flavour variation can lead to inconsistent consumer experiences. A complex relationship exists between factors such as breed, sex, and age along with nutrition which contribute to the overall flavour. Additionally, regional expectations of flavour can also influence consumers. The characteristic flavour associated with dairy products derived from sheep and goat, has a tremendous impact on the overall product quality and acceptability, distinct from that found with cow milk. This review focuses on the short branched chain fatty acids identified as relevant to the flavour associated with milk and meat from sheep and goats, the synthesis of these compounds as well as the pre- and post-gate factors which affect their accumulation in meat and milk. It will also present the pros and cons of classical and emerging analytical techniques used for their determination.

To read the entire article, visit SRR

ICG 2022: "Goats for the Future: Goat production in a changing environment"

13th International Conference on Goats, Eger, Hungary, September 18-23, 2022
Congress Opening Keynote: The role of goats in the world: farming, society, and rural sustainability

Deadline for abstract submission is May 1, 2022.

Sessions

- Genetic traits to enhance goat efficiency
- Improving goat health
- Goat cognition and welfare
- Feeding & nutrition
- Production systems
- Environment, climate change and goats
- Recent research and advances in goat
- food products
- Goat reproduction management
- Symposium on PPR

Roundtables

- Transferring genomic technologies to breeding and commercial farms
- The future of goat skin and fibre production
- Revalorization of local goat populations and breeds and their possible role in agrotourism
- Role of women in the goat production
- Goat health management
- Market and societal avenues
- Sustainable parasite control programs: progress and gaps in the control of gastrointestinal nematodes

Workshops

- Best practices for national goat associations
- Models and tools for development and transfer of technology to small and resource-limited farmers
- Elucidating diets consumed at pasture
- Good goat science - The publishing dilemmas of a goat scientist

Events

- International goat milk products and cheese exhibition
- Goat milk products and cheese award
- Welcome Cocktail
- Get together BBQ Party
- Wine tasting with dinner
- Gala Dinner

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IGA wishes to thank our wonderful Institutional members

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HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

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ADGA
Serving the Dairy Goat Industry Since 1904

Gold members

American Institute for Goat Research, Langston University, E (Kika) de la Garza

Fort Valley State University, 1895, Empower the Possible.

行政院農業委員會 畜產試驗所 Livestock Research Institute

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Japan Goat Network

Latvijas Kazkopības Biedrība

SVA National Veterinary Institute

CityU Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, 香港城市大學 City University of Hong Kong

Want to become an IGA institutional member?

Institutional members play a key role in supporting the mission of the International Goat Association. Through these important partnerships, the IGA is uniting leaders around the world, building a strong network of institutions, scientists, academics, producers and other devoted individuals and organizations.

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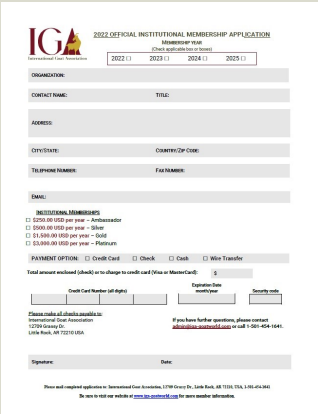
IGA International Goat Association

2022 OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP YEAR
(Check applicable box or boxes)
2022 ☐ 2023 ☐ 2024 ☐ 2025 ☐

ORGANIZATION:

CONTACT NAME: TITLE:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE: COUNTRY/ZIP CODE:

TELEPHONE NUMBER: FAX NUMBER:

EMAIL:

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS
☐ $250.00 USD per year – Ambassador
☐ $500.00 USD per year – Silver
☐ $1,500.00 USD per year – Gold
☐ $3,000.00 USD per year – Platinum

PAYMENT OPTION: ☐ Credit Card ☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Wire Transfer

Total amount enclosed (check) or to charge to credit card (Visa or MasterCard): $

Credit Card Number (all digits) Expiration Date month/year Security code

Please make all checks payable to:
International Goat Association
12709 Greery Dr.
Little Rock, AR 72210 USA

If you have further questions, please contact
admin@iga-goatworld.com or call 1-501-454-1641.

Signature: Date:

Please mail completed application to: International Goat Association, 12709 Greery Dr., Little Rock, AR 72210, USA, 1-501-454-1641

Be sure to visit our website at www.iga-goatworld.com for more member information.