The 19th Japan National Goat Summit was held in Minokamo City, Gifu on November 3 - 4, 2017. The theme of the Summit was “Feel, Learn, Work, Connect, and Create through Goats.”

More than 280 goat lovers, including producers, consumers, educators, and scientists from all over Japan got together to share the information of goat utilization, enterprises, products, and management practices. Following the opening remark by Dr. Yayota, Chair of the Summit and welcome addresses by Mr. Imai, President of the Japan Goat Network (JPN) and Mr. Fujii, Mayor of Minokamo City, two keynote speeches were given on “Minokamo Goat Mowing Group Connecting together on the Goat Track” by Mr. Watanabe, Representative of the FRUSIC, and “Goats Came to the Hachiya Elementary School” by Ms. Ido, Former Principal of the Hachiya Elementary School. These speeches confirmed that goat utilization for weed control and educational values of goat for school programs are getting increasing attentions in Japan.

The Minokamo Goat Mowing Group project has been developed by FRUSIC, an agricultural production company. In the past 5 years the project has built a strong regional network, involving the Minokamo City, elementary, junior-high, and high schools, and local Universities, that successfully hosted the Summit.
Mr. Shoji Watanabe, the representative of the FRUSIC, said “we would like to use some of the profit of the project for the students who want to cooperate with us and continue their research.” It was felt that the project would grow more and more in the future.

After the luncheon of the general assembly of the JGN, 15 presentations were given on the various topics; the Agricultural Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Livestock Breeding Center introduced the recent target of genetic improvement on Japanese Saanen goats, representatives of Kamonourin (Agricultural) High School students reported their trial of doughnut product development using sweet potatoes grown using goat fertilizers, Dr. Yamazaki, DVM., reported 2nd generation of male goats that “produce milk,” Mr. Matsuda, representative of the Japan Water Agency, reported the case of utilizing goats for maintaining a dam site in Gifu Prefecture, Dr. Tsukahara, board member of the International Goat Association, introduced the history and activities of the IGA, etc. Every presentation was well prepared and implied further potentials of goats in Japan.

Exhibition Booths

Various goat crafts, goat cheese, books for goat production, and electric fences were introduced and sold at the National Goat Summit.

Goat cheese named Chausu-Dake made by Mr. Takahashi, Ima Farm, was very popular as always and sold out within an hour.

A women group that consist of goat lovers dedicate to share their hand-made crafts such as greeting cards, calendars, ear rings, t-shirts, phone cases, and mugs with others.

IGA Booth

The IGA membership and activities were promoted at the National Goat Summit. Many attendees were interested in activities of the IGA. We have now new Japanese members!
During the reception in the evening, attendance enjoyed the local cuisine and conversation with “goat friends” just like friends from way back.

At the second day, technical sessions were held at the Nihon Showa-mura Park. The participants were able to closely learn 1) feeding and management from Mr. Imai, Past President of the JGN who is a very experienced goat producer, 2) hoof trimming, 3) dehorning, 4) simple artificial insemination using fresh semen by goat professionals from the Nagano Station, the National Livestock Breeding Center, 5) electric fencing from the Surge-Miyawaki Corporation, and 6) hygiene control from the Prefectural Livestock Hygiene Service Center. Goat milk candy making by Dr. Hayashi, Professor of Meijo University, was also a popular activity which attracted many participants.

It was fully-packed 2 days of learning and feeling about goats. Many of the participants seemed to be very satisfied with what they learned about goats. The 20th National Goat Summit will be held in the Ibaragi prefecture in fall 2018. The detail will be available at http://japangoat.web.fc2.com/.
Board members of the International Goat Association (IGA) attended the 2017 National Symposium on Sheep and Goat and the 7th Member Meeting of Sheep and Goat Branch of the Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine from August 18 to 21, 2017 at Shijiazhuang, China. A total of 14 Board members, the Executive Director, and members of the advisory board from different areas of the world met together to discuss further development of the Association. Great appreciation was expressed to Dr. Yingjie Zhang, Professor of the Agricultural University of Hebei, President of the Sheep and Goat Branch of the Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine, and his student Ms. Xuejiao Yin for their dedication to organize the trip.

Attended Members: Dr. Beth Miller, Dr. Lucia Sepe, Dr. Carina Visser, Dr. Jean-Marie Luginbuhl, Dr. Noemí Castro Navarro, Dr. Juan Capote, Dr. Dilip Bhandari, Dr. Nazan Koluman, Dr. Sándor Kukovics, Dr. Paula Menzies, Dr. Tilahun and Shitaye Sahlu, Dr. Davinia Sánchez Macías, Dr. Yoko Tsukahara, Dr. Yingjie Zhang, Dr. Christopher and Hsin Lu, Dr. Steve Zeng, and Ms. Xuejiao Yin.

The Symposium took place at the Guoyuan Langyi Hotel, Shijiazhuang.

Dining
The dining tables in China were always full of dishes with vegetables, meat, and seafood as well as white wine.
IGA Board Agenda

**Further progress of the IGA**

The first board meeting was held on the afternoon of August 19th. Many topics were discussed including, the progress and updated information for the International Conference on Goats in 2020, the financial report for 2017, statistics for *Small Ruminant Research*, committee reports future projects, and the possibility for a Lifetime membership tier.

**Learn from the history**

The second meeting was in the morning on August 20th. In addition to the agenda from the first meeting, Mr. Erol Arik, Manager of the Agriculture and Livestock at the Department of Rural Affairs and Geothermal Resources, made a presentation to introduce the 2nd Rural Development Meeting in Ankara-Turkey, June 2018.

Next, the Board participated in an exercise to learn the 35-year history of the IGA. This was facilitated by Dr. Christopher Lu, Active Advisory Board, and Christian De Vries, Executive Director of the IGA. Pieces of paper with keywords were distributed to each Board member to be sorted in chronological order. It was a fun and educational exercise that allowed us to visualize the progress of IGA from establishment to its most recent activities. The main history is available on the IGA website at [https://www.iga-goatworld.com/blog/iga-history-20th-anniversary-keynote-address](https://www.iga-goatworld.com/blog/iga-history-20th-anniversary-keynote-address).

Later, the Board began discussion for a new Strategic Plan. The mission, vision, and strength and challenges of the IGA were confirmed. The previous Strategic Plan (2005 to 2010) was reviewed. Many of action plans of the 2005-2010 term were achieved while some of them are still challenges. Each committee member was assigned further progress for IGA activities. A good example of activities from the past includes “Atlas of Goat Products,” edited by Drs. Pierre Morand-Fehr and Lucia Sepe in 2004, that provides products information of goats in different regions and countries in the world. There were also many new ideas to improve our activities in the 2016-2020 term to contribute especially benefit to the IGA members, and a Strategic Planning Committee.

While these meetings and our schedule were intense and busy, there is no doubt that all of the IGA Board members had a great time in China.

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**The IGA Active Committees**

- IGA Consulting Group Management Committee
- International Conference on Goats Committee
- Scientific & Regional Conference Committee
- Country Representatives & Regional Directors Committee
- Communication Committee
- Membership Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee

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**SNS IN CHINA**

In China, the Facebook, Messenger, and Google are inaccessible or very limited access. The social media mobile app ‘WeChat’ was our main communication tool and very convenient to text and share the pictures. This so-called “App for everything” has many other features including free call and money transfer. It’s also used outside of China. WeChat assisted our trip from the arrival of the airport when some of us got confused and lost.
The 2017 National Symposium on Sheep and Goat in China

The 30 years memorial of the Sheep and Goat Branch of the Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine was celebrated at the 2017 National Symposium on Sheep and Goat. More than 600 experts and scientists from 29 provinces, municipalities, autonomous regions in China as well as Canada, Ecuador, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United States attended the Symposium.

The joint meeting with the 7th Member Meeting of the Association was hosted by Hebei Agricultural University, Hebei Province Livestock Breeding Station, International Goat Association, National Sheep Meat and Wool Technology System, Hebei Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Bureau, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Association of Hebei Province, Shijiazhuang Academy of Agriculture, and Forestry Science and Technology. The opening ceremony included a welcome speech by Professor Yingjie Zhang was followed by scientific programs. IGA board members also made presentations; “Global Goat Production and Research Trends” by Dr. Beth Miller, President of IGA; “Molecular Improvement of SA Angora Goats” by Dr. Carina Visser, Vice President of IGA; “Comparison of Milk Fatty Acid Profile Obtained from Goats Fed with Different Dry Forages” by Dr. Lucia Sepe, Vice President of IGA, and “Current Status of Production and Marketing of Goat Cheeses in the United States” by Dr. Steve Zeng.

The IGA Award

Dr. Yingjie Zhang was acknowledged and awarded by Dr. Miller, President of the IGA, for his excellent contribution to the Association as well as the goat and sheep enterprise in China.

The Coffee Room

Although China is famous with variety of teas, some of the IGA members felt lack of caffeine during the trip. Dr. Jean-Marie expected this and situated a coffee room available for caffein lovers every morning. We enjoyed wakeup coffee and talks in early mornings at the room.
SITE VISIT IN CHINA

The IGA board members had a chance to visit the famous Great Wall at Badling and the Summer Palace in Beijing thanks to Dr. Yingjie and Xuejiao who organized the excursion to introduce us all to the 4,000-year history of China.

Participants in the Symposium also visited the Xibaipo Memorial Museum in Shijiazhuang which was the site of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China during 1947-1949. The following day, the IGA board members were invited to visit a large-scale sheep meat distributor, Hengshui Zhihao Animal Science and Technology Co., Ltd.
The 4th International Conference on Asian-Australasia Dairy Goat (AADGC 2018) in Vietnam October 2018

The 4th conference hosted by the Asian-Australasian Dairy Goat Network on dairy goat, mainly in the Asia-Oceania region, will be held from Wednesday, October 17 to Friday, 19, 2018 at Tra Vinh University (University of Chavin). Tra Vinh University is located in the Mekong Delta, about 200 km southwest of Ho Chi Minh City. The deadline for early registration is August 31, 2018, registration fee is US $ 200 (US $100 for students), which includes meeting fee, transfer from/to the airport, welcome and farewell parties, lunch, Excursions such as excursions are also included. Regarding the presentation, the deadline for abstract is the end of March 2018. For more details, visit http://aadgc2018.tvu.edu.vn/index.php/en/.

Asian Regional Conference on Goats

The Asian Regional Conference on Goats (ARCG-2018) is to be held at Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur, India from October 22-26, 2018. Goat population is growing at the rate of 3.2% per year for last 30 years in India. Rajasthan state is having second highest population of goats after Andhra Pradesh. More information is available at http://www.arcg2018.com/index.html.
About the IGA Japan

IGA 日本支部ニュースレターについて
国際ヤギ協会（IGA）日本支部は、IGAの活動を振興するとともに、海外のヤギ情報を日本へ、日本のヤギ情報を海外へ発信することを趣旨として、全国山羊ネットワークおよびその研究部会である日本山羊研究会と連携してニューズレターを発行し、IGAのウェブサイトへ掲載しています。また、日本の全国山羊ネットワーク会報「ヤギの友」を通じて、世界のIGA情報をお届けしたいと願っています。そのためこのニュースレターでは日本語と英語が混在しています。なお、IGA 日本支部では、皆さんからのご質問やご意見、海外へ発信したい情報などを随時受け付けていますので、以下のアドレスへご連絡ください。
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IGA日本支部

IGA Japan and its Newsletter
The IGA Japan promotes activities of International Goat Association and the Japan Goat Network (JGN) with exchanging information between the World and Japan as you can see both English and Japanese articles. The information provided here includes articles on the newsletters of IGA and announcements of the JGN and Japanese Society of Goat Science. You can find this newsletter in the IGA Japanese site at <http://www.iga-goatworld.com/iga-in-japanese.html> and at the JGN newsletter “Yagi no Tomo” for the members. IGA Japan also welcomes your comments, suggestions, and questions at igajapancr@gmail.com.

The only global organization on goats and small livestock

IGA 入会のご案内
国際ヤギ協会（IGA）では、皆様の入会を随時受け付けています。IGAのホームページ http://www.iga-goatworld.com/より入会申込書（Membership Application）をダウンロードし、郵送、Faxまたはメールでお申し込みください。年会費は、$50.00（オンラインジャーナルのみ）で、申込み受付日（支払い完了日）から1年間有効です。学術誌Small Ruminant Researchの印刷版をご希望の場合は、年会費$150.00です。会費は、クレジットカード（ビザ、マスターカード、ディスカバー）、小切手、電子送金、Paypalでの支払いを受け付けています。会員特典：オンラインジャーナル“Small Ruminant Research”とニュースレターへのオンラインアクセス（すべて英語）詳細は、http://www.iga-goatworld.com/をご覧ください。

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編集後記：今号では、日本大学小林先生と早稲田大学大学院河村さんのご協力を得て、充実した内容をお届けできることになりました。IGA日本支部メンバーも増え、これからがますます楽しみです。著作権上の理由から、全国ヤギネットワーク会報「ヤギの友」に掲載できませんが、今後また会報にも活発掲載できるよう働きかけを行います。