

Goat breeds and breeding programmes in Hungary

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Average Hungarian Goat Herd



The past of goats

- **At the beginning of 20's century 250 000 heads of goats bred. now the does population less than 40 000 heads**
- **The original goat population was rather mixed – several breeds were introduced into the national herd**
- **Last two decades before World War II a program was developed Hungarian White and Hungarian brown besides the traditional populations**

The past of goats 2.

- In the second half of 1940's and first half of 1950's the reconstruction of the abovementioned H. White and Brown breeds was carried out (using mainly Saanen and Alpine breeds)
- Since the organisation of cooperative farms the goat breeding practically disappeared from early 1960's
- The first wave to import new breeding stock happened in early – mid 1970's (Saanen. Alpine. Toggenburg. etc.)

The past of goats 3.

- The second wave started in early 1980's imported these breeds again. but they were diluted within the population
- From mid 1990's third wave of importation started (Saanen. Alpine. Nubian. Boer)
- From the end of 1999 new breeding program for dominant part of domestic goat population developed and started

The past of goats 4.

- **Based on colours, body measurements, phenotypic characteristics – confirming with genetic traits – development of three breeds were started from 1999**
 - Hungarian Milking White
 - Hungarian Milking Brown
 - Hungarian Milking Multicolour
- **The uniformity of different parts of the population was successful program until 2008.**

The past of goats 5.

- The first societies in goat breeding founded mid 1990's
- The Hungarian Goat Keepers and Goat Breeders' Association established in 1998
- The societies covering the breeding programs of exotic breeds, while the Association (covering the societies as well) carried out the breeding programs for the Hungarian breeds
- For several reasons these programs finished in 2008

Breeding at present

- **Breeding programs for exotic breeds (Saanen, Alpine, Nubian, Boer, and Murcia-Granadina) dominating, but the smaller parts of these breeds are in nucleus breeding.**
- **Only the long haired indigenous population (called native breed) has separate breeding program with limited population**
- **Dominant part of the domestic goat population does not belong to any breeding program. yet several crossing are carried out using local and exotic breeds**

The breeds at present

- There will be a separate paper about Hungarian White-, - Brown-, and Multicolour, so, details are given about other breeds present below:
 - Saanen
 - Alpine
 - Nubian
 - Boer
 - Domestic indigenous
 - Murcia-Granadina

Hungarian milking goats

- Three varieties by colours developed between 1999-2008; sorted into Saanen. Alpine and native goat breeds
- Average milk yield 250-700 liter/180-230 days
- Prolificacy 150-190%
- Adult bucks 75-95; does 45-55 kg
- Tolerating various conditions

Photos by Sándor Kukovics

Hungarian multicolour milking goat



Hungarian Milking White goat



Hungarian Milking Brown



The present breeds



- **Saanen**
 - 4 nucleus herd
 - 60 does (2012)
 - 586 l lactation yield
 - 231 milking days
 - 150% reproduction rate
 - 30-35% difference among herds
 - Used for crossing

The present breeds



- **Alpine**
 - 7 nucleus herds
 - 158 breeding does
 - 685 l lactation yield
 - 257 milking days
 - 171% reproduction
 - 20-25% herd difference
 - Used also for crossing

The present breeds



- **Nubian**
 - 3 nucleus herds
 - 20 breeding does
 - 240 l lactation yield
 - 166 milking days
 - 159% reproduction
 - 20-25% deviation
 - Used also in crossing

The present breeds



- **Boer**
 - 7 nucleus herd
 - 66 breeding does
 - 185% reproduction
 - Used also in crossing

The present breeds



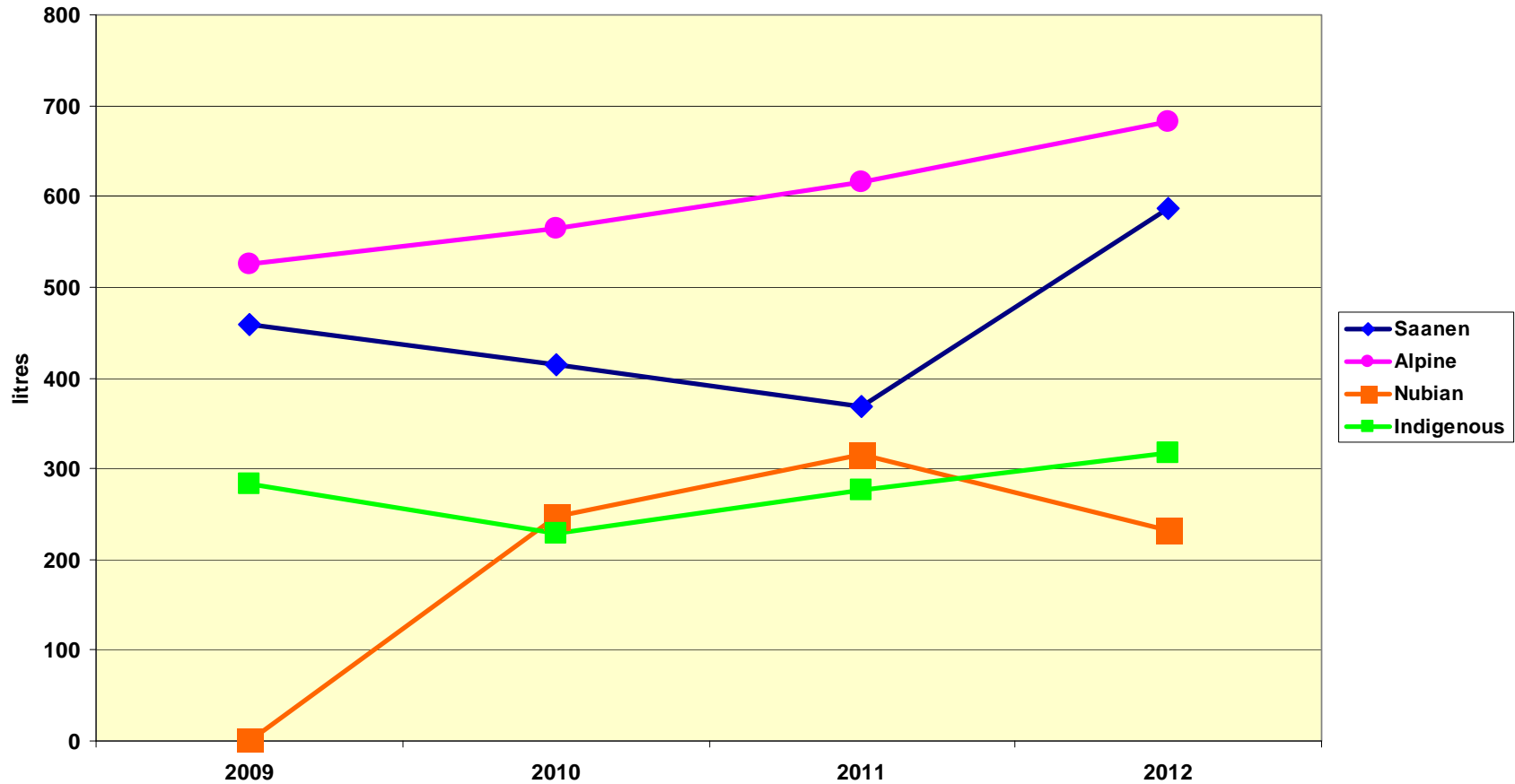
- **Domestic goat**
 - 7 nucleus herd
 - 257 does
 - 318 l lactation yield
 - 183 milking days
 - 20-35% herd differences

Size of nucleus herds by breeds

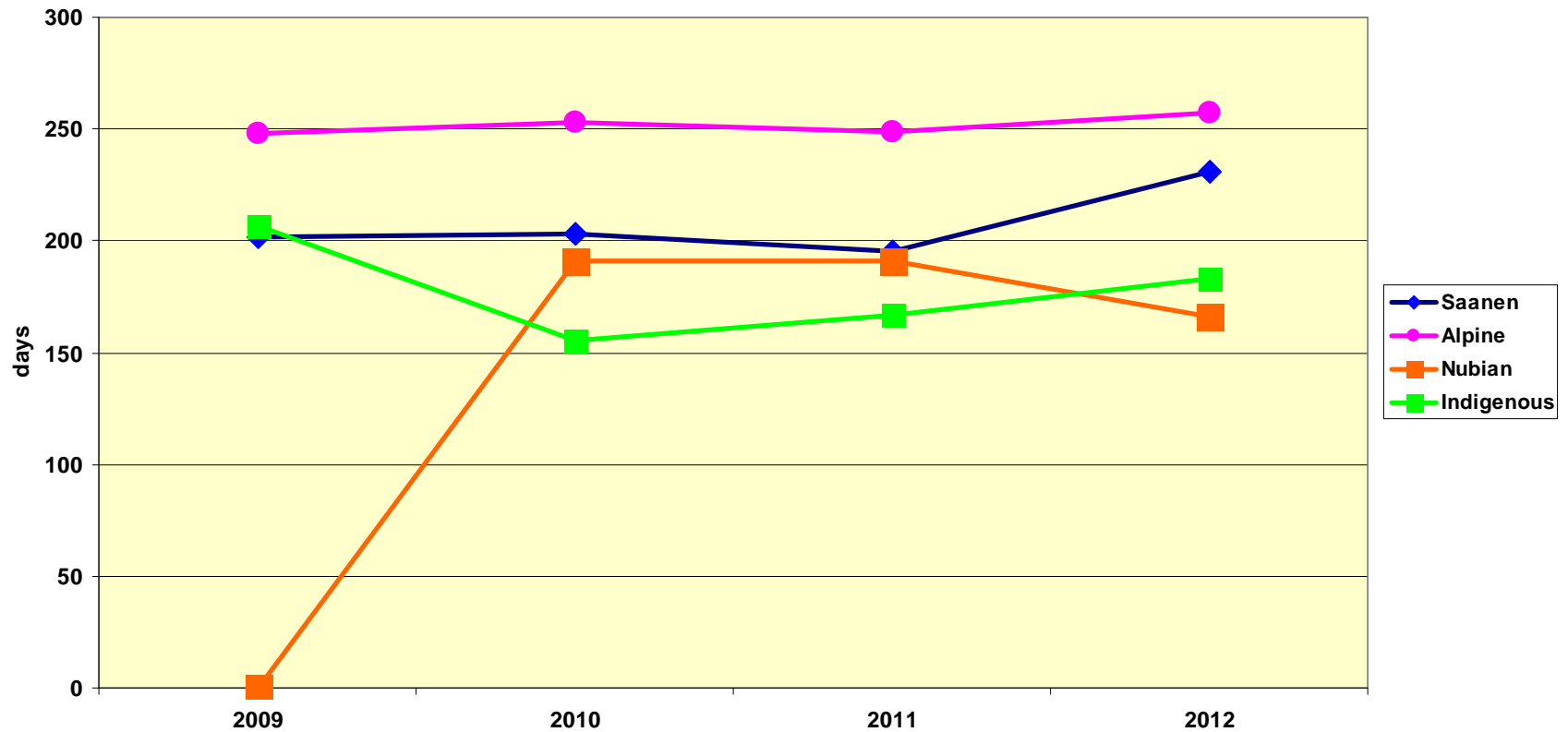
(2014 - by heads)

Breeds	No farms	Doe	She-goat	Buck	Sum
Alpine	15	251	88	16	339
Boer	8	72	42	4	114
H. Native	13	350	65	17	415
Murcia G.	2	0	14	4	14
Nubian	9	258	127	16	385
Saanen	5	174	38	14	212

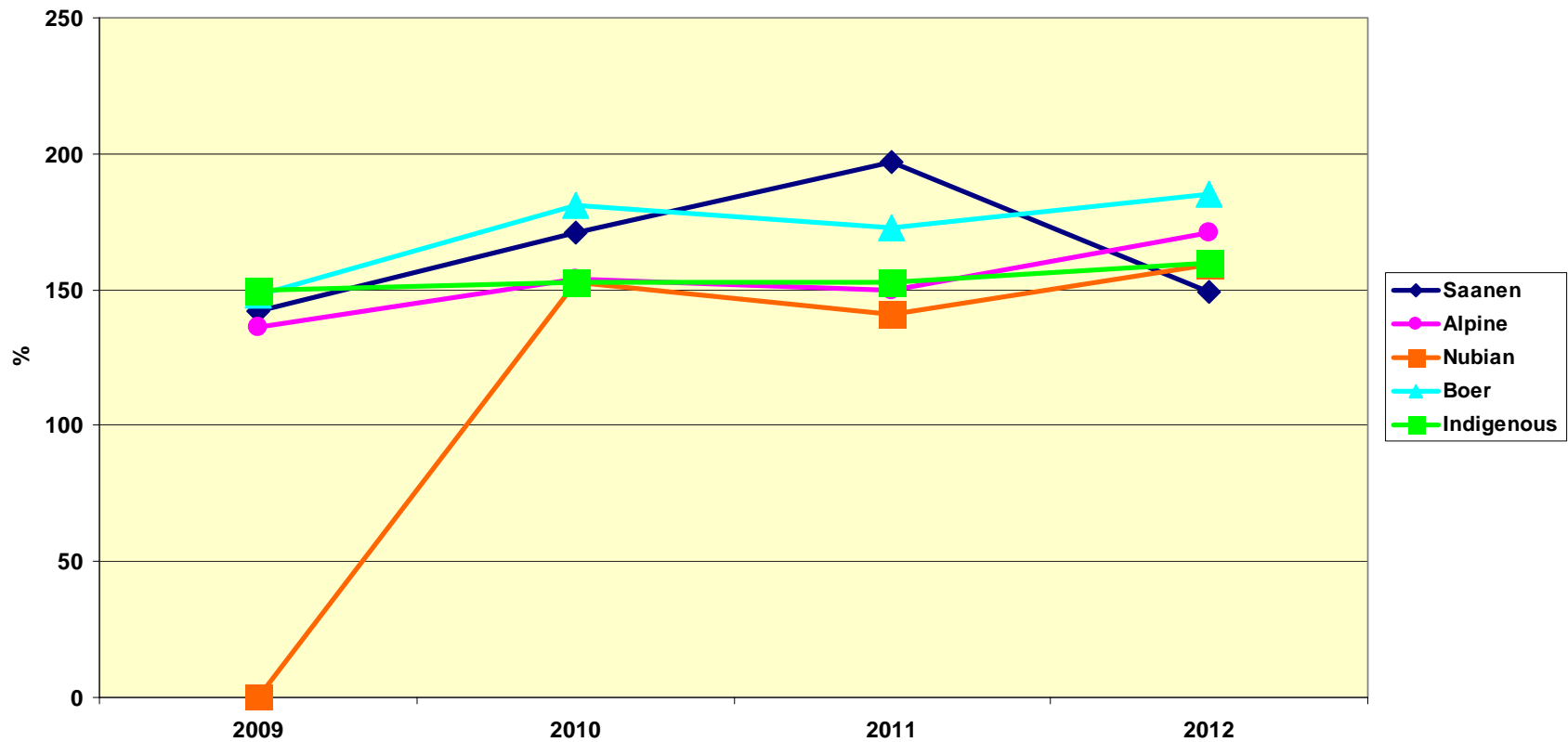
Average lactation yield of various breeds



Number of milking days by breeds



Change in reproduction rates - various breeds



Summarised data

	Indigenous breed	Exotic breeds
Number of does	143	167
No. lactation days	182.7	248.2
Lactation yield (litres)	318.3	645.2
Daily milk yield (litres)	1.78	2.60
Standardised	Yield for	140 days
Number of does	135	143
Lactation yield (litres)	266.9	418.8

The farm size distribution

Herd sizes	HSGBA*	COS**
No. of goat farms	643	19 413
Less than 10 heads (%)	29.7	91.9
Between 10-30 heads (%)	37.8	7.6
Between 30-50 heads (%)	15.2	0.9
Between 50-100 heads (%)	11.7	0.3
Between 100-200 heads (%)	5.0	0.1
Between 200-500 heads (%)	0.6	0.0
Above 500 heads (%)	0.0	0.0

Summary of goat sector

- **Total No. of goats (80 000) and does (35 000)**
/Central Office of Statistics/
- **19 000 heads in ENAR system /Hungarian Sheep and Goat Breeders' Association/**
 - 700 heads indigenous
 - 2 900 head of exotic breeds – mainly crosses
 - 500 head meat breed (Boer) - mainly crosses
- **7.9% in registered nucleus**
- **Near 80 000 breeding stock exported to Romania between 2008-2013**

Thank you for your attention!

