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IGA Newsletter

December 2013



China successful cultivation of “Jianzhou big ear goat”

The “Jianzhou big-eared goat” is China’s newest meat goat breed. This marks the second successful development of a new breed of meat goats in Sichuan Province, and the first Chinese meat goat since 1998 following the country’s successful “Nanjiang yellow goat” breed in Sichuan Province.

Jianzhou big-eared goats evolved after 60 years of crosses between the British Nubian goat and the Jianyang local goat breed, including three develop-

ment stages: the introduction stage (hybrid form and hybrid



population), progressive hybrid breeding stage, and transverse formation of fixed and breeding new varieties subculture stage.

Jianzhou big-eared goats are 75% Nubian and 25% Jianyang.

They are characterised by the following:

- brown hair on the whole body,
- a small amount of black hair on their abdomen and limbs,
- short and thin winter nap,
- large drooping ears between 18-23cm,
- a moderately large, sickle-shaped head with an arched nose,

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Poster awards from the 11th ICG held in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

The following is a list of the posters that were chosen because of their outstanding content and presentation.

N session

Effects of calcium restriction on the gastrointestinal calcium absorption in goats in comparison to sheep

Richter, J., M. Wilkens, N. Mrochen, G. Breves, B. Schröder

University of Veterinary Medicine, Foundation, Department of Physiology, Bischofsholer Damm 15, 30173 Hannover, Germany.

E session

Fifteen years monitoring goat grazing impact in Natural Protected Areas. Essential points and main conclusions

Mata, J., L. de Nascimento, M.A. Camacho, L.A. Bermejo

Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros Agrónomos. Universidad de La Laguna. Carretera de Genetos/n. La Laguna. S/C de Tenerife. 38201, Spain.

A Session

Evolution of milk and blood immune parameters in goats and sheep during late pregnancy, partum and preweaning lactation period

Hernández-Castellano, L.E., I. Moreno-Indias, A. Morales-de la Nuez, A. Torres, D. Sánchez-Macías, D. Martell-Jaizme, N. Castro, A. Argüello

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Campus Universitario Cardones. 35413 - Arucas - Gran Canaria (Canary Islands, SPAIN).

G Session

QTL detection for milk production traits, fatty acids, udder morphol-

ogy and milking speed in Alpine and Saanen goats

Palhiere, I., C. Maroteau, H. Larroque, V. Clément, G. Tosser-Klopp, R. Rupp

INRA, UR631 SAGA, F-31326 Castanet-Tolosan, France.

M Session

Goat yogurt decreases blood pressure in hypertensive men and women

Alvarado-Carrasco, C., L. Silva, M. Guerra

Department of Animal Production and Industry, Faculty of Veterinarian Science, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Campus Maracay, Venezuela.

P Session

Reduction of gastrointestinal nematode egg output in goats fed tannin rich fodder (Acacia pennata) or coffee waste (Coffea Arabica)

Palomo-Couoh, J.G., A.J. Aguilar-Caballero, J.F.J. Torres-Acosta, C.A. Sandoval-Castro, C.M. Capetillo-Leal

Facultad de Medicina Veterinaria y Zootecnia, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, México. Apdo 4-116 Itzimna, km 15.5 carret. Mérida-Xmatkuil. Mérida, Yucatan, México.

R Session

Pregnancy-associated glycoprotein (PAG) in pregnant Boer goats assessed by ELISA with different antisera

Shahin, M., M. Friedrich, M. Gaulty, W. Holtz

Department of Animal Science, George-August-University, Albrecht-Thaer-Weg 3, 37075 Goettingen, Germany.

FREE download: A Guide to Starting a Commercial Goat Dairy

In our September 2012 IGA Newsletter we told you about a great book, A Guide to Starting a Commercial Goat Dairy, written by Carol Delaney. Now you can [download this great resource for free](#).



Goat Milk Quality Abstracts Available to Download

The abstracts from our recent regional conference in Norway are now available. There are 54 pages of great material to read through so download your copy soon. You can learn more about the conference and [download a copy of the abstracts](#).

Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Romanian Goat Association, 1993-2013

The Romanian Goat Association, ANCC "CAPRIROM" was founded in 1993 on the initiative of Mrs. Prof. univ. dr. Stela Zamfirescu with the support of experts and a group of farmers in Constanta county. In the early years, the association has conducted pioneering actions in goat growth in Romania, creating a strong organization supported by real people educated and professionally.

Since 1996, Caprirom was and is increasingly requested to give technical assistance and advice to farmers and private breeders. The main objective of the association is goat breeder support and representation of their interests in accordance with goat farming sector development approaches.

The association promotes and supports all goat breeders in Romania, supporting all operating systems applied to new growth. There are currently around 800 farmers/breeders as members of the association across the country with more than 250,000 goats. CAPRIROM has 21 branch offices, the strongest association being



the Constanta County, which has 600 member and 108,000 head of goats.

Since 2006, ANCC "Caprirom" was authorized to conduct genealogical records from all breeds of goats in the country: Carpathian, White Banat, Saanen, Alpine, Bover, Murciano-Granadina and their half-breeds, the program manager of genetic conservation background for local goats being at risk. ANCC Caprirom was also authorized to lead official control of production in goats nationwide since 2008.

The association participated in

development of improved actions to promote goat growth and efficient approach of this sector.

Due to the involvement of Caprirom prerequisites for achieving infusion of valuable genetic material were created and thus the progressive increase production performance in goats during the period 1995-2013.

Underlying all of CAPRIROM's activities are the farmers and goat breeders who have given their full support and confidence.

Angelescu Claudiu
President of CAPRIROM

Are you an IGA member?

Did you know that you can pay your membership online through the [IGA Store](#)?
Now is a great time to join:

- Memberships are 1 year from when you join.
- Memberships include online access to *SRR*.
- Latest information on regional conferences.
- Receive the IGA Newsletter.

The 15th Japan Goat Summit in Shobara, Hiroshima, Japan

The Japan Goat Network held the 15th Japan Goat Summit in Shobara City, Hiroshima on October 11-13, 2013. The Summit was entitled “Expansion of Goat Production for 6th Industrialization.” A total of 340 participants were present even though the location was 2.5 hrs away from the Hiroshima station.

Scope

Recently, people engaged in primary industries such as fishing and farming have started processing and marketing their products to improve income by adding value to the commodities, which they call “the 6th industrialization.”

The annual Summit this year introduced people from the 6th industry who cooperate with related enterprises in adjacent areas. Their activities include “education and rural development” and

“activation of rural area” through goats and goat products. They are also trying to co-exist with beautiful natural environments and wild animals.

Summit

Lectures on management practices were given by staff members of the Nagano Station, National Livestock Breeding Center (NLBC), the Japan Livestock Technology Association, and the Goat Network Hiroshima on Friday Oct. 11. A keynote lecture, “A diversity and challenges of indigenous goats in Asia,” was made by Dr. Yoshio Yamamoto, Professor Emeritus of Hiroshima University. Nine case studies were introduced on Saturday, Oct. 12, followed by a round table discussion with 156 participants. A technical tour on Sunday, Oct. 13, entitled a visit of the Hiroshima Prefectural Livestock Research Center, which has quality

“Kuroge Wagyu” (Japanese Black) bulls. Participants enjoyed observing an advanced robot milking machine and automated feeding systems. Technical seminars and practical training on hoof trimming, artificial insemination and electric fencing were also given by NLBC staff and Serge Miyawaki corp., the Gallagher agent.

Special thanks to Yoko Tsukahara for this report.



November 2013 IGA Japan Newsletter is available!

Our Japanese colleagues have done it again, another wonderful Newsletter. [Download your copy now.](#) *Special thanks to Yoko Tsukahara.*



Oral Report from Dr. Juan Capote, the newly-elected IGA president, during the closing session of the XI ICG held in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain, September 24-27, 2012

Dear IGA members,

Welcome to the closing session of the XI International Goat Conference.

In 2005, a new IGA strategic plan was developed. In retrospect, this strategic plan was very ambitious and consequently not all goals have been achieved as of today. Nevertheless, we have made great strides and we are optimistic about the future of IGA and of goats in this world.

Firstly, the quality and the impact of Small Ruminant Research, the official scientific journal of IGA, have increased dramatically. In that respect, I would like to extend my congratulations and my recognition to Jean Boyazoglu's dedication as Editor-in-Chief.

Secondly, this conference is an affirmation of the current interest in goats and a showcase of scientific expertise. As you know, goat production is an important livestock sector in most developing countries. In addition, goats are also recognized

internationally especially for the contribution they make to the livelihoods of resource-poor communities.

Goat production systems currently face various challenges, including the increase of poverty in developing countries, the effects of climate change and the global energy crisis. To address these challenges, interaction between scientists from different disciplines becomes crucial. Over 400 delegates from 50 countries submitted in excess of 500 contributions to the ICG, ranging from scientific presentations on goat nutrition, reproduction, health, management and genetics (18 sessions), to 5 roundtable discussions on social and environmental issues, 3 special seminars on the role of goats in the fight against poverty and a workshop on goat cheese sensorial evaluation. In addition, excellent information was displayed on attractive posters from many countries at



the several poster sessions. During the technical tours delegates visited dairy goat farms in Gran Canaria and had the opportunity to interact with farmers and their animals.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding work of the members of the independent scientific committee led by Pierre Morand-Fehr, and further congratulate Pierre for his efforts and dedication to IGA.

Thirdly, social and economic issues were considered an integral part of the XI ICG and were added to the scientific program, an important step in this ever global and changing world.

Continued on Page 6

Oral Report XI ICG held in Las Palmas, Spain *(continued from Page 5)*

Sessions and roundtables were well attended and were closely related to the current challenges facing goats and goat producers worldwide.

In my opinion, the most important achievement over the last years has been the involvement of our organization, for the first time, in a project closely linked with the alleviation of poverty, which is one of the objectives of IGA. I am not going to speak here about the project itself because an interesting workshop was held on that subject during this conference. I only want to say that I consider this project as the first step of the new IGA vision and mission. Behind this project is the hard work accomplished by Jean-Paul Dubeuf to whom I would like to offer my sincere thanks.

Now we are starting a new four-year term. The last one was atypical because we had a world meeting in Recife in 2010. As a consequence, we didn't have regional conferences during that period. Of course, one of the objectives of IGA is to promote regional conferences, and I am happy to in-

form you that one of our new board member, Odd-Arild Finnes, is organizing a regional conference on goat milk quality that will take place in Norway in 2013. In addition, we also have received a proposal to sponsor a regional conference in Hungary and Romania in 2014, spearheaded by the board member from Romania, Stela Zamfirescu, and the country representative from Hungary, Sandor Kukovics. I think these will all be successful events and I encourage you all to attend them.

Another of our main objectives for the next term is to increase our involvement on goat development as a tool against poverty. Fortunately, Jean-Paul Dubeuf as IGA past president, is an active member of the board and he has accepted to continue to lead IGA activities in that direction.

Finally, we cannot forget an objective that has beset us: the promotion of our organization at the local, national and international level. This is not a challenge only for the president, the executive committee or the members of the

board. It should be a challenge for all IGA members, and especially for our country representatives and regional directors. These representatives and directors need to be active in each area and this is not presently the case. Now that we have a new and dynamic board, our target should be to increase the activities of our organization around the world, regardless of the number of country representatives we have. The important element for IGA is to have a group of active leaders who are highly conscientious about pursuing our objectives. I know that achieving this objective will be difficult but not an impossible challenge as long as we all work together.

Now, I would like to recognize the contribution of the members of the outgoing board: Christie Peacock, Chris Lu, Jim De Vries and Ned Donkin. All have been deeply involved in IGA activities for many years. I wish them the best but at the same time I am also asking them to please continue to support IGA.

Next, I would like to introduce

Oral Report XI ICG held in Las Palmas, Spain *(continued from Page 6)*

to you the members of the new IGA board: Beth Miller, Carina Visser, Felipe Torres Acosta, Giselle Alexandre, Herve Hoste, Lucia Sepe, Jean-Marie Luginbuhl, Jean-Paul Dubeuf (as past president), Johan Greyling (SRR editor-in-chief), Maria Norma Ribeiro, Nazan Koluman, Odd-Arild Finnes, Okeyo Mwai, Stela Zamfirescu, Tilahun Sahlu and Xu Gangyi.

I would also like to congratulate Nazan Koluman and Irfan Daskiran who represent Turkey, the country that will organize and host the XII International Conference on Goats in 2016. Turkey is a great country with millions of goats, unique management and production systems, and a relevant research community. Leading the organization of the next ICG is an active team with a wide back-

ground and experience working with goats. I have no doubt that this conference will be very successful and I encourage you to attend the XII International Conference on Goats in Antalya in 2014. We would greatly appreciate your support.

Thank you,
Dr. Juan Capote
IGA President



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Livestock and Fish

More meat, milk and fish by and for the poor

Sheep and Goat Value Chain Development in Ethiopia

Barbara Rischkowsky (ICARDA)

ICARDA-ILRI Training on Tools for Benchmarking Sheep and Goat Value Chains in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, 6-9 November 2013



Sheep and Goat Value Chain Development in Ethiopia

A presentation from Barbara Rischkowsky (ICARDA) at the Workshop on ICARDA-ILRI Training on Tools for Benchmarking Sheep and Goat Value Chains in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, 6-9 November 2013. [To see the slideshow, click here.](#)



Dr. C. Devendra is honored with the 3rd International Animal Agriculture Award from the World Association for Animal Production

The International Goat Association would like to congratulate Dr. C. Devendra, the recent recipient of the third International Animal Agriculture Award from the World Association for Animal Production. The award was given to him at the recently concluded 11th World Conference on Animal Production in Beijing, China from 15-21 October, 2013.

Regarding this latest award, Dr. Devendra said the following, “I am deeply humbled by the

award which came unexpectedly, but am greatly encouraged by your extremely kind recognition of my work over the past decades.”

“I remember my wise professors at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand and the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom who introduced me to animal sciences and inspired me to focus on ruminants, the small farmers, the landless, and women leaders who have been wonderful and generous in sharing their knowledge, wisdom and efforts.”

“I also remember fondly the camaraderie of my peers in whose

splendid company I have been privileged to work with across regions who have been very generous with the numerous discussions, joint efforts, and sharing of their expertise. Additionally, I have had the privilege of visiting and learning from the exciting work of



our younger colleagues and by the advances being made.”

“I cannot take credit for all my work during these past years, as R&D results are never the solitary output of a researcher, but rather the combined efforts of community-based, participatory farmer-researcher-extension continuum. This stems from the belief that systems-oriented team efforts will drive progress in agricultural development and rural growth.”

Dr. Devendra believes that animal production is currently at a crossroads, confronted by major problems more than ever before. On

the one hand, the World Bank has reported that it is one of the fastest growing subsectors in agriculture. On the other hand, there are many awesome emerging problems which include *inter alia*:

- Inadequate production and supplies animal protein from concerted application of yield-inducing technologies;
- Continuing poverty, food insecurity and vulnerability of small farmers;
- Targeting rain-fed areas to due contraction of arable land;
- Waning agriculture, its revitalization and the need for increased investments in R&D; and
- Climate change.

According to him, these and other key issues constitute the challenges for the future, in which resource efficiency, integrated NRM, increased investments in R&D, and promoting the multifunctional and potential contributions of ruminants like buffaloes and goats in agriculture development. These issues are the collective concern of both the developing and developed countries. In the long term, we need to ensure that animal production has a sustained higher profile, capacity to reduce food insecurity and improve livelihoods, and enhances self-reliance and human welfare.

Happy Birthday Rosalee Sinn!

Best wishes to Rosalee Sinn, humanitarian, activist, grandmother, longtime supporter and Secretary-Treasurer of IGA, and lover of goats on her birthday, October 21.

Rosalee Sinn who worked for Heifer International for over 30 years, was at the International Conference on Goats in Arizona where IGA was borne and one of the key people in convincing Heifer International to sponsor IGA when it was being organized. She was the Editor of the IGA newsletter for most of the 1980s as well as the Secretary-Treasurer from 1993 to 1999. As many longtime members of IGA will know, Rosalee

was for many years the social glue which kept many people involved with IGA.

In her work with Heifer International and IGA, Rosalee learned to truly love goats. While she was Regional Director for Heifer her staff organized the shipment of goats and cattle to many countries. In 1980, she worked on a goat farm in California and also in Cameroon. This inspired her to study for her Master's degree in Animal Science and she was awarded the degree in 1984 and immediately began teaching goat husbandry. She published the first edition of *Raising Goats for Milk and Meat* in 1985.

Rosalee also helped to initiate Women in Livestock Development also sponsored by Heifer International. This organization helped to sponsor many young women for training in animal husbandry and rural development.

In 1989, Rosalee was recognized for her leadership in humanitarian development by being awarded the Pearl S. Buck Women's Award for Humanitarian service.

Rosalee's love of people, service attitude, "get it done" spirit and love of goats have made her a great friend and supporter of IGA. Best wishes.

What is SEOC?

Sociedad Española de Ovinotecnia y Caprinotecnia - The Spanish Society of Sheep and Goat (SEOC) is a non-profit, open to all professionals with an interest in sheep and/or goats, both meat and milk production.

History

In 1975, a group of teachers, researchers and technicians in the field of animal production set up the Spanish Society of Sheep. The Spanish Society of Sheep was born

from the concern of these professionals to exchange knowledge, promote research and above all, translate the latest developments on this species to the rural world through their technicians. In its IX Conference (1984), the field of action of the Society was expanded into the study of Caprine species, and the organization was renamed, the Spanish Society of Sheep and Goat (SEOC).

The SEOC Scientific Conference changes locations yearly so throughout its existence has trav-

eled much of the country and a Portuguese town. Scientific sessions have always had a very wide national echo and since the XXII, this event has acquired international character.

SEOC currently has over 500 members. More than 500 papers are presented during their annual conference with a participation of over 400 people. Seminars and courses at the highest level and has a magazine: *Pequeños Rumiantes (Small Ruminants)*.

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China – Jianzhou big ear goat *(continued from Page 1)*

- angular or without horn, thick ram's horn, horns bent backwards to both sides, and smaller in ewes,
- jaw hairy with bearded adult rams, some wattles under jaw,
- tall, strong physique, the whole body is rectangular,
- a neck of moderate length,
- straight waist and stout limbs,
- solid hoof quality,
- rams should have majestic posture and ewes should have a handsome body,
- well-proportioned and well-developed testicles,
- well-developed spherical udder.

Jianzhou big-eared goats kids have an average birth weight of 3.06 kg and 2.93 kg, at 2 months old weight should be 14.25 to 12.43 kg, 6 months 23.14 kg to 29.37 and 47.19 to 34.67 kg, and 69.68 and 47.26 kg as adults. Adult ram body height, body length and chest were 76.43, 85.54 and 98.26 cm, adult ewes were 68.22, 73.24 and 83.49 cm. In feeding conditions at 6 months and 12 months, carcass weights were 14.25 kg and 19.79 kg, with a slaughter rate of 48.51% and 51.04% , net meat weight were 10.89 kg and 15.21 kg, lean percentages were 37.08%, 38.46% ,

eye muscle area was 13.05 cm² and 23.24 cm². Rams reach breeding age at 8-10 months old, while ewes are earlier, at 6 months. They have a recorded estrous cycle of 20.66 days, 48.52 hours for the duration of estrus, first egg 335.98 days, pregnancy is 148.76 days, the first postpartum estrus after 27.71 days, produced with interval of 68.95 days, kidding intervals of 228.34 days, an average kidding size of 1.75 births, primiparity does had a rate of 153.51 percent, and 242.41 percent by multiparity does.

Jianzhou big-eared goats greatly facilitated the cultivation of new varieties Jianyang quality meat goat production bases and have become an advantageous industry in Jianyang City. In 2012, the city's goat population was 436,400 head, and 1,360,000 goats were slaughtered, for a total output value of 15 billion yuan. Rural per capita income to raise each goat was 1,250 yuan, with a net profit of 567 yuan. The city's mutton production was 21,800 tons, accounting for 11.2% of the total output of meat. Goats accounted for 26% was city's animal husbandry output value.



Jianzhou big-eared goats have good production performance, adapt to crude feeds, good resistance and can adapt to a wide range of landscapes. They have already been introduced in more than 20 provinces and municipalities, including: Chongqing, Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangxi, and Hunan.

In Southern China, the Jianzhou big-eared goats have a great deal of influence in industrial development of standardization, improving the level of scientific farming, market competitiveness and breeding efficiency, increasing farmers' income, and promoting sustainable and healthy development of the goat industry.

Special thanks to Zheng Suiming and Xu Gangyi for this article.

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The new largest goat farm in Romania

Written by Stela Zamfirescu, IGA board member

In Romania, on the idea of Mr. Grecu Ion, the owner of a large agricultural company, the largest goat farm in Dobrogea, Romania was built at 35 km from Constanta. Established in 2004, Elcomex Agroindustrial debuted in agriculture by establishing farms for grain production, since then they have expanded to 1500 ha of arable land.

The desire to add value to grain production led in 2011 to expand the business in the livestock and the production of compound feed. On the ruins of the former cattle complex from Comuna N. Balcescu began the construction of the most ambitious integrated livestock project in Romania.

In the second half of 2012, part of the investments, a farm to breed Saanen and Alpine goats were completed. Goats came from a

farm in France and had certificates of origin attesting a production at over 1,100 liters of goat milk/head of milking goat. There were five modernization designed to increase youth shelters, four new shelters for lactating goats and two nurseries for kids were built. Investments continued in 2013, building two modern milking stations, and other in various stages of construction and operation design space for another 5,000 goats. Also under construction is the largest goat milk processing plant in Romania.

The farm currently has 3,100 goats heads of which 2600 are female goats in lactation and 7-11 months pregnant youth. The goats are Alpine and Saanen imported from France who hold certificates of origin stating that the average milk production after the 2nd

lactation will be over 1000 liters.

Goat farm mission

S.C. Elcomex Agroindustrial S.A., through its actions contributes to:

- knowledge of developments in production goats in intensive system;
- goat genetic improvement;
- technological research, product development based on goat milk;
- the continuous evolution of the market for cheese and other processed milk products and goat meat;
- to make goat cheese known in Romania and abroad.



What is SEOC? (Continued from Page 9)

Objectives

The aims of the association are:

- Encourage the study and investigation of all matters relating to sheep and goats, covering, by extension, the wild species of ruminants.
- Organize periodic meetings in

order to exchange knowledge and experiences.

- Collaborating with all the institutions or organizations related to the sheep and goat sector requesting it.
- Inform the members about all those activities related to the world of small and wild species of ruminants.
- Transmit and disseminate

these experiences and knowledge to the livestock sector, with the aim of truly materializing research and development (R&D) in this field.

The proceedings of their 38 conferences can be found on their website: www.seoc.eu and all the abstracts are translated into English.