IGA Newsletter
June 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Asian Regional Conference on Goats (ARCG – 2018)

October 22-26, 2018 at Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur

Importance of Asian Regional Conference on Goats (ARCG – 2018) at Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur

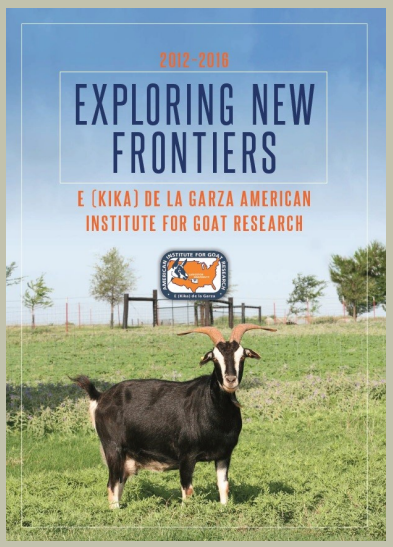
It is quite a while since the first ever ICG way back in 1991 in New Delhi, India. Since goat husbandry is the fastest growing animal species and upcoming animal industry after poultry and dairy, therefore hosting of such an event in India will contribute immensely to the Government's mission for promoting rural economy through goat husbandry in the country. Goat population is growing at the rate of 3.2% per year for last 30 years. This event will not only witness participants from Asian countries but will also attract participants from other countries.

Continued on Page 2

Exploring New Frontiers

The five-year report of activities of the E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research is presented here. Through this report, you will find that this institute has proved itself again to be the United States' premier institution for goat research, extension, and international activities. Over the past five years, we have reached a new milestone in our core foundational programs and expanding new programs. Within this report, you will find a synopsis of our major accomplishments. Our Institute scientists and extension specialists have led the way in publishing pertinent research findings, developing user-friendly technology for information dissemination to producers, and implementing development-centered assistance programs internationally. If you are not familiar with our exciting and forward-looking research programs, dynamic extension and outreach activities, and life-changing international activities, you soon will be. Our passion is enhancing goat productivity and improving the lives of goat producers worldwide. We hope that this report will ignite some of those same passions in you.

Read the entire report, Exploring New Frontiers.



Asian Regional Conference on Goats *(Continued from Page 1)*

Importance of Goat Species to the Indian and Global Context

India is home to the second largest population of goats. Goat is a multi-functional animal and plays a significant role in the economy especially to landless, small and marginal farmers in the country. Goat rearing is an enterprise which has been practiced by a large section of resource poor population in rural areas. Goats can efficiently survive on available shrubs and trees in adverse harsh environment in low fertility lands where no other crop can be grown. In pastoral and agricultural subsistence societies in India, goats are a source of additional income and act as insurance against disaster. There are many advantages of goat rearing including low initial investment, cheap housing requirements, high fertility rate with twining, can thrive well on wide variety of crop residues & agricultural by-products.

Technical Sessions of ARCG - 2018:

- Production System Research
- Nutrition and Feeding Systems
- Breeding & Genetics
- Physiology & Physiological Responses to Environment & Management Approaches
- Reproductive Technologies & Parthenogenetic Embryo Production
- Pathology, Diseases & Goat Health for Sustainable Production
- Milk and Dairy Products in Conventional & Organic Systems
- Wool, Mohair, Hair, Skin & By-products in Conventional & Organic Systems
- Mechanization and Innovation in Goat Operations and Production Processing
- Economy, Sociology, Goat Value Chains, Co-operatives, Micro-financing and Marketing Chains

Special Invitation for Technical Session on Goat Husbandry on October 15, 2017 during Rajasthan Science Congress – 2017 at Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur

This technical session is the preamble of the Asian Regional Conference on Goats (ARCG 2018), wherein internationally renowned experts will give updates with respect to health, production, production technology, breeding & genetics etc. for improving the goat husbandry. Experts will also discuss the future prospects of goat industry. Leading goat farmers will also share their experiences on goat husbandry.

For further information, please contact:
Dr. G.K. Aseri
gkaseri@jpr.amity.edu
+91-94-144-12560

Dr. Jagdip Singh Sohal,
jssohal@jpr.amity.edu
+91-91-191-80132

Amity University Jaipur: SP-1, Kant Kalwar, RIICO Industrial Area, NH-11C, Jaipur
www.amity.edu/jaipur

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Central Institute for Research on Goats, Mathura

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Amity University, Jaipur

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Dr. Neelam Jain & Dr. Manali Datta

Technical Secretary
Dr. Neeraj Khare

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Dr. Parul Yadav

COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS

Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Rajasthan

Central Institute for Research on Goats (CIRG-ICAR), Mathura

Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI-ICAR), Izzatnagar

College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, Dantiwada (SDAU, Dantiwada)

Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute (CSWRI-ICAR), Avikanagar

Post Graduate Institute of Veterinary Education & Research, Jaipur (RUVAS, Bikaner)

Genomix CARL Pvt. Ltd., Pulivendula (AP)

2017 Chinese National Sheep and Goat Conference

The 2017 Chinese National Sheep and Goat Conference will be held in Shijiazhuang, China on **August 18-21, 2017**. Shijiazhuang is the capital city of Hebei Province, a one-and-a-half-hour bullet train ride from Beijing.

The sponsor of the conference
Chinese Sheep and Goat Association

Supporter of conference
International Goat Association.

Main contents of the conference

- Chinese Sheep and Goat Association's 30th anniversary celebrations.
- Academic reports about the genetics and breeding, reproduction, nutrition and disease prevention in sheep and goat.
- Board meeting of International Goat Association in Fall 2017.
- Visit the sheep farms.

Meeting arrangement

- Arrival and check-in all day on August 18, 2017.
- Academic communication and scene visit on August 19-21, 2017.

Conference location
Guoyuan Langyi Hotel, Shijiazhuang
Address: The town of Shangzhuang, Luquan development zone, Shijiazhuang.
Tel. +86-311-87592215

Contact information
Chunhui Duan, Ph.D.
Tel. +86-18810522113
Email: duanchh211@126.com

Announcement: American Goat Federation joins IGA

We would like to welcome a new IGA institutional member, the American Goat Federation.

The American Goat Federation works to unify, improve and advance the American goat industry in an effort to assist producers achieve maximum success. AGF represents the interests of more than 150 organizations and thousands of producers engaged in the sustainable production and marketing of goat milk, meat, fiber, breeding stock and grazing services across the United States. The American Dairy Goat Association, American Boer Goat Association, American Angora Goat Breeders Association, Cashmere Goat Association, North American Savannah Association, Alabama Meat Goat & Sheep Producers, and the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers are all members of AGF. Members can participate in government and research surveys that can affect the goat industry, receive reduced fees for AGF Seminars, and help support various activities of other goat-related organizations. AGF promotes the development of all segments of the goat industry including dairy, meat, pack and fiber, by encouraging sound public policy, enhancing production and marketing of goat products, and promoting research beneficial to our member organizations and all producers.

Mission Statement
The American Goat Federation promotes and facilitates the development of all segments of the goat industry including dairy, meat and fiber, by encouraging sound public policy, enhancing production and marketing of goat products, and promoting research beneficial to our member organizations and all producers.

To learn more about them go to: https://americangoatfederation.org

Are you an IGA member?

You can pay your membership online through the IGA Store

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 Small Ruminant 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.

Pay Now

XXIX Réunion Nacional Mexicana sobre Caprinocultura

XXIX Mexico National Conference on Goat Production

When: October 9-13

Where: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico, Cuautitlan, Mexico - National Autonomous University of Mexico, Cuautitlan, Mexico

Description:
Objetivo General
Promover la difusión de la investigación en el área de la caprinocultura y la actualización e intercambio de conocimientos entre profesionistas, estudiantes y personas relacionadas con la producción caprina.

General Objective
To promote the dissemination of research in the area of goat production and the updating and exchange of knowledge among professionals, students and people involved in goat production.

CUOTA DE RECUPERACIÓN
$1,000 — Profesionistas y productores
$700 — Socios AMPCA
$800 — Estudiantes posgrado
$500 — Estudiantes licenciatura

***Talleres Pre-Reunión**
9 y 10 de octubre de 2017

- Elaboración de productos lácteos
- Curtido de piel de cabra

***Cursos Pre-Reunión**
9 y 10 de octubre de 2017

- Inseminación artificial
- Transferencia de embriones

**Cuotas por confirmer*

TEMÁTICA

- Sanidad
- Reproducción
- Mejoramiento genético
- Nutrición
- Sistemas de producción
- Calidad e inocuidad de productos

Fecha límite
de recepción de trabajos
31 de julio de 2017

Tennessee State University to get $500K for goat meat study

Tennessee State University is receiving almost a $500,000 federal grant to expand its goat meat research.
The university says the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the grant this week.

TSU says agriculture researchers have noted a demand for goat meat because of a growing population of cultures in the country that consume it, and dietitians say it's healthier than other meats, including chicken and beef.

TSU says much of the goat meat in the U.S. now is imported from other countries, but the university's research, which started in 2002, aims to change that.

READ MORE...


Tennessee State University to get $500K for goat meat study

The Associated Press

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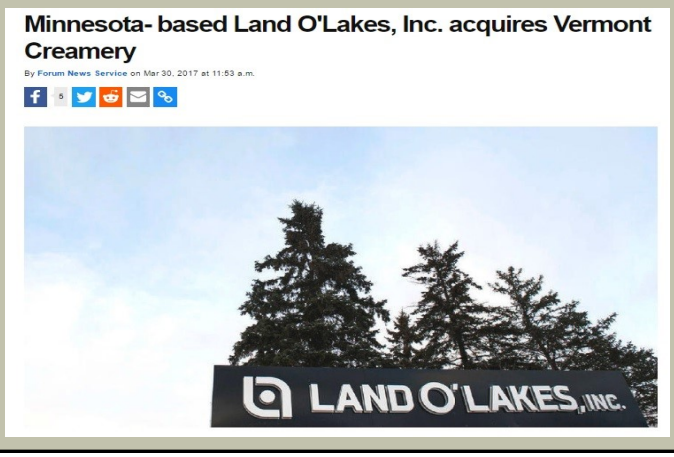
TSU's research herd includes about 250 breeding does from five different sets of goat genetics.

Minnesota based Land O'Lakes, Inc. acquires Vermont Creamery

Vermont Creamery co-founders Bob Reese and Allison Hooper and Land O'Lakes, Inc. president and CEO Chris Policinski have announced their businesses have joined forces. Vermont Creamery will become an independently operated subsidiary of Minnesota-based Land O'Lakes. It will continue to produce its award-winning fresh and aged goat cheeses, cultured butter and fresh dairy at the creamery in Websterville, Vt.
READ MORE...



Cracking the goat genome with state of the art molecular techniques

Marcel Amills, Center for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CSIC-IRTA-UAB-UB)

One of the most significant advances in the field of caprine genomics was the genome sequencing of a 3-year-old female Yunnan black goat in 2013 by a Chinese team led by Dr. Wen Wang. The aim was achieved by smartly combining conventional next generation short-read sequencing with an optical mapping technology that facilitated the laborious process of genome assembly.

On March 2017, Dereck Bickhart and colleagues published in Nature Genetics a refined and more accurate version of the goat genome, where many existing gaps were filled, thus yielding one of the most continuous de novo mammalian assemblies generated to date. This refined goat genome was produced by using, once again, short-read next generation sequencing and optical mapping plus two additional techniques: chromosome interaction mapping and single-molecule long-read sequencing performed in a Pacific Biosciences PacBio RSII platform. By merging the information produced with these four complementary tools, researchers were able to obtain a final 2.92 Gb assembly which represents a significant improvement of previous genome versions, particularly on repetitive and highly polymorphic regions that, in general, are difficult to assemble.

Having an accurate goat reference genome at hand is central to many genetic applications. For instance, genome-wide association studies and selection scans aiming to uncover the genetic basis of quantitative traits rely on the precise mapping of genetic markers to the reference genome. The role of structural variation on goat phenotypes can be only investigated if a highly-refined genome is available. For all these reasons, the study published by Bickhart and colleagues can be anticipated to boost genetic research on goats.

A positive impact, for instance, is expected on the VarGoats project (http://www.goatgenome.org/vargoats.html) led by Dr. Gwenola Tosser-Klopp from INRA and supported by France Genomique (https://www.france-genomique.org). The goal of this project is to provide an unprecedented view of goat genetic variation by sequencing the genomes of more than 500 goats with a worldwide distribution. Millions of polymorphisms will be identified in this way, making it possible to ascertain genetic relationships amongst caprine breeds as well to trace their origins and demographic histories with extraordinary accuracy.

In brief, goat genomics has made a giant leap in less than five years and the pace at which discoveries are made ensures that many unknown biological features of this domestic species will be soon uncovered.

References

Dong et al. (2013) Sequencing and automated whole-genome optical mapping of the genome of a domestic goat (Capra hircus). Nat. Biotechnol. 31: 135-41.

Bickhart et al. (2017) Single-molecule sequencing and chromatin conformation capture enable de novo reference assembly of the domestic goat genome. Nat. Genet. 49:643-650.

Dr. Lu's visit to China in 2016 and Meat Goat Production in Southern China

Upon invitation, Professor Christopher Lu visited the Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Medicine of Guizhou Academy of Agricultural Sciences during 2016. Dr. Lu presented an invited paper entitled "Overview of Global Meat Goat Industry".

There are approximately one billion goats in the world, mostly for meat purposes. The top ten countries with the largest goat populations are China, India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, Iran, and Mali. There are about three million goats in the United States with a continued increasing trend since the 1980's.

Dr. Lu discussed the history, anatomy, behavior and diseases of meat goats. He also covered major breeds of meat goats such as Boer, Spanish, San Clemente, Pygmy, Arapawa and interesting breed such as Tennessee Fainting goats. The "fainting" is due to a genetic neuromuscular disorder called myotonia congenita that affects the muscle movement when startled. It was theorized that the goats were used when traveling to protect the herd. When a predator is chasing the herd the fainting goats will be targeted and sacrificed, allowing the herd to escape. They attract interest because of the increased muscle mass as a result of the stiffening of the legs. Role and implication of meat goats in

Continued on Page 6

Dr. Lu's visit to China in 2016 *(Continued from Page 5)*

biological control of weeds, mixed grazing, heat stress resistant, efficient water utilization, environmental adaptation, and production potential were also discussed. Dr. Lu emphasized the importance of nutrition, reproduction, genetic and breeding, disease control, integrated production systems, and packaging and marketing for a successful meat goat enterprise. Dr. Lu cautioned the audiences on the potential environmental cost of meat goat production such as greenhouse gas emission, waste management, and deforestation and overgrazing, but pointed out the potential of meat goat production in the alleviation of poverty, economic development in marginal land and meeting the demand of ethic groups. He suggested that performance testing is an important tool to improve the production efficiency in meat goats.

Accompanied by Professor Gongyi Xu of Sichuan Agricultural University and others, Dr. Lu visited several goat operations in Sichuan, Guizhou and Guangxi provinces. Most notable are one organic goat operation using bioactive plants to control disease, one extensive goat operation leveraging browsing, and one goat operation that improves and maintains the landscape diversity. To conform to organic standards and avoid using chemicals, one goat operation utilizes the abundant bioactive plants that have been used as Chinese medicine for centuries. They use water to dissolve bioactive compounds and deliver to goats as a supplemental drinking. The herd is in a remote mountain village and is one of the most well cared goat herds that Dr. Lu has ever seen around the world. Another herd, leveraging unique browsing ability of goats, is able to achieve an excellent productive performance without grain supplementation. Dr. Lu saw goats, the only ruminant to climb the trees, utilized their browsing skills with mobile upper lip, prehensile tongue and agile front legs to acquire the most nutritious part of plants.

During a trip across the mountainous terrain, Dr. Lu and the group reached a mountaintop that afforded them a view of the difference goats could make in maintaining the diversity of plant species. In contrast to the adjacent area that was dominated by weed species without goats, the area browsed and grazed by goats has a distinct even growth among plant species.

Guizhou Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Medicine is a growing research organization and aspires to the transformation of being more internationally visible. The Institute has a long research and extension history and is in the process of constructing a new campus due to urban expansion. It works with important livestock and poultry species in the Guizhou Province of China. Because of a wide range of availability of natural plant species in the largely mountainous terrain in the Guizhou Province, meat goat production holds an important economic role in rural development and poverty alleviation. A Chinese news release can be accessed at: http://www.gzxms.cn/News/ShowDetail/5833.

Small Ruminant Research, June 2017, Vol. 151, Issue Highlights

Articles we think you'll enjoy

Production Systems and Sustainability

Reduced survival of lambs from maiden ewes exposed to mature ewes pre-lambing
S.M. Robertson, M.B. Allworth, M.A. Friend
Vol. 151, p11–15

The suboptimal survival of new-born lambs is a major source of reproductive inefficiency, is often lower in maiden (first-lambing) compared with multiparous ewes, and this may be associated with poor maternal behaviour due to inexperience. This study examined whether the survival of lambs from maiden ewes could be increased by exposing maiden ewes to multiparous lambing ewes in the month before lambing. Pregnant maiden Merino ewes (n = 446) which had been mated at 18 months of age were allocated to three replicates of two treatments. During the month prior to the maidens lambing, control groups were grazed in paddocks each with 30 multiparous mature (5.5 and 6.5 years of age) Merino ewes which were due to lamb at the same time as the maiden ewes. The exposed treatment groups also grazed with 30 mature ewes, during which time the mature ewes lambed. All mature ewes and lambs were removed and the groups of maiden ewes grazed in separate 5.3 ha paddocks from 10 days before the maidens were due to lamb. The survival of lambs to marking age was lower (P = 0.035) from maidens exposed to mature lambing ewes (0.73) compared with those that grazed only with pregnant mature ewes (0.81). The number of lambs reared per ewe lambing was not lower (P = 0.274) from the exposed (0.92) compared with the control (0.98) ewes. This study showed that the survival of lambs from maiden ewes was reduced by exposing them to mature lambing ewes, and it is recommended to avoid grazing lambing mature ewes in the same paddock with maiden ewes in the month prior to the maidens lambing.
Keywords: Sheep, Behaviour, Reproduction, Mortality
To read the entire article, visit SRR

Effect of energy source and level, and sex on growth, performance, and carcass characteristics of lambs
J.R. Jaborek, H.N. Zerby, S.J. Moeller, F.L. Fluharty
Vol. 151, p117–123

The objective of the study was to compare ad libitum or restricted access of whole shelled corn (WSC) versus ad libitum alfalfa pellets, and sex of the lamb, on lamb growth and performance. Ewe (n = 48) and wether (n = 48) lambs were blocked by sex and stratified by initial weight to pen. The three diets offered were ad libitum access of a WSC diet, 85% access of ad libitum WSC diet, or an ad libitum access of an alfalfa pellet diet. There were four lambs per pen, and eight replicate pens per dietary treatment. Ewe and wether lambs were removed from the study when pens reached an average weight of 59.0 and 63.5 kg, respectively. Average daily gain (ADG) of lambs offered the ad libitum WSC diet was greater (P < 0.05) than lambs offered the restricted WSC and alfalfa pellet diets, which resulted in fewer (P < 0.01) days on feed for lambs offered ad libitum WSC. Lambs offered alfalfa pellets had a greater (P < 0.01) daily dry matter intake (DMI) than lambs offered the WSC diets. Wether lambs had greater (P < 0.01) daily DMI when compared with ewe lambs. Gain to feed ratio was greatest (P < 0.01) for lambs offered ad libitum access to WSC, followed by lambs offered restricted WSC, and lambs offered the alfalfa pellet diet. The cost of whole shelled corn was $0.15/kg, the cost of alfalfa pellets was $0.60/kg, and the cost of supplements was $0.51/kg on an as-fed basis. The resulting feed cost of gain was greatest (P < 0.01) for lambs offered alfalfa pellets, followed by lambs offered restricted WSC, and lastly lambs offered ad libitum WSC. Lambs offered the WSC diets produced a greater hot carcass weight (HCW; P < 0.01) and greater (P < 0.01) dressing percent when compared with lambs offered alfalfa pellets. Lambs consuming ad libitum WSC had a greater amount (P < 0.05) of kidney fat when compared with lambs consuming a restricted diet of WSC or ad libitum access to alfalfa pellets. Lambs consuming either of the WSC diets produced a greater (P < 0.05) amount of visceral fat when compared with lambs offered alfalfa pellets. Lambs offered alfalfa pellets had greater tissue weight of the reticulum (P < 0.05), omasum (P < 0.01), and total digestive tract (P < 0.05), consistent with the lower dressing percentage observed. Lambs offered WSC had greater (P < 0.05) backfat and body wall thicknesses, loin marbling scores, and yield grades (P < 0.01) when compared with lambs offered alfalfa pellets. Wether lambs had a greater (P < 0.05) final BW and HCW when compared with ewe lambs. Overall, lambs offered ad libitum WSC grew more efficiently at a lower cost of gain while producing carcasses with greater amounts of fat, whereas lambs offered alfalfa pellets had a lower dressing percentage and a greater total digestive tract weight.

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Small Ruminant Research, Issue Highlights *(Continued from Page 7)*

Keywords:
Lambs, Feedlot, Corn, Alfalfa, Growth, Carcass
To read the entire article, visit SRR

Genetics and Breeding
Utilization of year-round data in the estimation of genetic parameters for internal parasite resistance traits in Dorper sheep
L. Ngere, J.M. Burke, A.D. Herring, J.O. Sanders, T.M. Craig, J.A. van Wyk, D.G. Riley
Vol. 151, p5-10
The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect on the estimates of heritability and permanent environmental effects as a proportion of phenotypic variance for FAMACHA score, fecal worm egg count and hematocrit value when year-round records are used. Records from 1008 Dorper sheep in a private South African flock comprised 17,711 FAMACHA scores, 6837 fecal worm egg counts (FEC; practically only *Haemonchus contortus*), and 4209 hematocrit (packed cell volume-PCV) values that were collected from 1997 to 2000. Animal models were used to conduct single-trait analyses. Data were analyzed in two sets: 1) warm season records only and 2) year-round records. Treatment (with anthelmintic) status was investigated as a 2-level fixed effect in both sets; additionally records of treated sheep were removed for another analysis of both data sets. In analyses of warm season records, estimates of heritability and permanent environmental variance as a proportion of phenotypic variance for FAMACHA score were 0.33 ± 0.03 and 0.04 ± 0.02, respectively, when treatment status was modeled, and 0.41 ± 0.02 and 0, respectively, when treated records were excluded from the analysis. Heritability estimates for PCV were 0.22 ± 0.06 (treatment status modeled) and 0.28 ± 0.07 (treated records excluded), while permanent environmental variance as a proportion of phenotypic variance was, respectively, 0.13 ± 0.05 and 0.09 ± 0.06. Fecal worm egg count heritability estimates were 0.10 ± 0.03 (treatment status modeled) and 0.13 ± 0.04 (untreated records only). Permanent environmental variance for FEC was 0.04 ± 0.03 when treated records were excluded and 0.05 ± 0.03 when treatment status was included in the analyses. In analyses of year-round records, estimates of heritability and permanent environmental variance as a proportion of phenotypic variance for FAMACHA score were 0.32 ± 0.03 and 0.03 ± 0.02, respectively (treatment status modeled) and 0.36 ± 0.03 and 0.02 ± 0.02 (treated records excluded). Packed cell volume heritability and permanent environmental variance were, respectively, 0.19 ± 0.05 and 0.18 ± 0.05 in the analyses of untreated records, and 0.18 ± 0.04 and 0.15 ± 0.04, when treatment status was modeled. Heritability estimates for FEC were the same (0.11) for untreated records only, and when treated records were included. Permanent environmental variance was 0.04 ± 0.02 (treated records included) and 0.03 ± 0.02 (treated records excluded) for FEC. Collection and inclusion of cool season (that is, outside of the regular worm proliferation season) records in analyses may not substantially change estimates of genetic parameters for these traits.
Keywords:
Genetic parameters, Haemonchus *contortus*, Season, Dorper sheep, Parasite resistance

To read the entire article, visit SRR

FIND MORE SRR ARTICLES

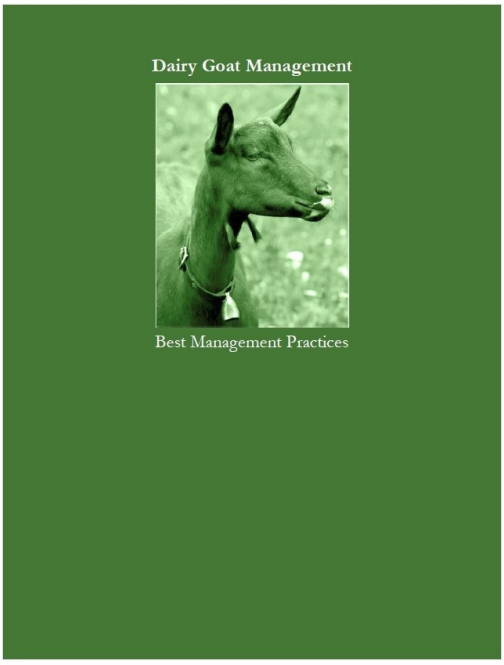
Best management practices for dairy goat farmers, Wisconsin, USA

Compiled and written by Clara Hedrich, with assistance from Dr. Chris Duemler, DVM, and Dan Considine

The main purpose of this "Best Practices Guide" is to provide some insight into the dairy goat industry.

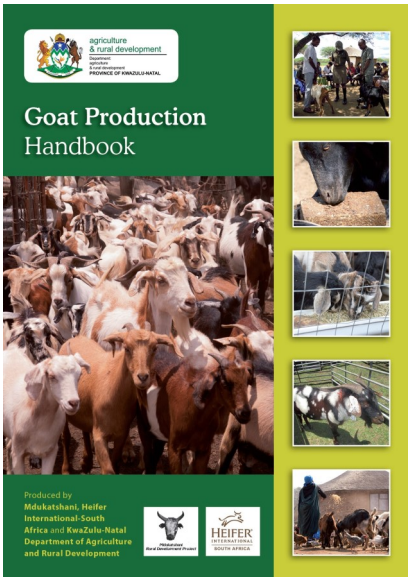
- This guide contains basic knowledge to help those who are considering a dairy goat operation make a sound decision as to whether or not this would be a viable business for them. Success in the industry is not guaranteed.
- A goat dairy farmer in this "Best Practices Guide" is defined as a farm milking at least 50 does and selling their milk to a milk plant. There are a few exceptions but most plants require a farm to be milking at least 50 does before they will consider picking up their milk due to the cost of transportation. A farmstead dairy is one in which the farm processes their own milk and sells their own product.

To read or download the guide click here.



Goat Production Handbook (Heifer International – South Africa)

Purpose of this book
The aim of this book is to assist owners of indigenous goats with extensive farming systems. It looks at ways to improve the productivity of their flocks. It is designed to be shared with farmers in a way that allows them to understand how to find their way through the book and how to find the information that they need. It is best if the book is part of a capacity building programme being implemented by extension officers and field workers.



There are further training materials to support training farmers on this book. They are available at www.mdukatshani.com or www.heifer.org.za. These are training modules linked to sections in the book and are in downloadable .pdf for printing or a downloadable PowerPoint presentation.

The book is divided into four parts:
Part 1 – Basics of Keeping Goats: This section covers the basics of keeping goats, including handling them properly, keeping them healthy, identifying common diseases and other health-related problems, treating sick goats properly (including basic equipment and medicines you should have on hand), and dealing with internal and external parasites.

Part 2 – Goat Commercialisation: The next section is more focused on commercialising goat production. It is for goat owners who want to invest more time and resources in managing their goats. This section covers some general management practices (including record keeping), housing and handling facilities, flock identification, nutrition and feeding, reproduction and kid rearing.

Part 3 – Marketing and Value Adding: The final section is aimed at goat owners whose main aim is to market their goats. It looks at the economics of goat production, opportunities for marketing and value-adding, proper transportation of goats and veld management.

Part 4 – Resources is a section that contains additional materials that you may find useful. This includes record sheet templates, the information to make your own goat weight belts, and sources of information (books and websites), as well as detailed economic analyses of various size herds.

This book is not for sale but is distributed as part of a training program. It is available as a free download in Zulu or English, from the two websites listed above.

DOWNLOAD YOUR COPY HERE.

REMINDER: Late Fee Announcement

Dear IGA members,

We wanted to remind you of a change in our membership policy that we announce in December 2016. As you know, over the past few years we have made some valuable changes and added a lot of new benefits for IGA members.

We will soon be adding new benefits to this list, including the chance to become part of the IGA Consulting Group and participating in upcoming IGA projects.

These improvements are only possible when members pay their dues on time. When members delay their renewal, even if it is just one month, then IGA has to pay to fill in that gap. Rather than raising membership fees to defray these costs, we have decided to institute a late payment fee structure. Please be aware that this policy is in effect.

Overdue	Late fee*
1 month	
2 months	$10
3 months	$15
4 months	$20
5 months	$25
6 months	$30
7 months	$35
8 months	$40
9 months	$45
10 months	$50

** this is in addition to your normal membership fee*

You will accrue a $10 late fee when your membership renewal is more than 1 month late. You will accrue an additional $5 for each additional month. Please note that the maximum late fee will never be more than the cost of a basic IGA membership. If you qualify for the reduced membership level, then your maximum late fee will correspond with the "Developing Countries Basic IGA Membership".

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Christian De Vries, IGA's Executive Director: admin@iga-goatworld.com