

MAY - NOVEMBER 2024

**Africa 70'S eighth
newsletter**

Integrated & sustainable farming

The long months that separate us from the last project newsletter have been full of events.

The project, which was supposed to close in August 2024, has been extended until December 2024; these four unhoped-for months give us the opportunity to work out, with greater peace of mind, the management strategy for the sheep and camel herd, which will be handed over to the Ministry of Economic Development in December for it to take charge of.

Highlights of the newsletter

- The pregnancy of camels
- Summer activities
- The livestock management fund
- Distibuction of sheep and goats



R.A.S.D.
Ministerio de Desarrollo
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The pregnancy of camels

Aln May, during a field mission, the technical coordinator Dr Di Iello and Dr Casale, an expert in clinical and gynaecology, assessed the pregnant status of the camels and for each of them evaluated the genetic potential on the basis of production and reproductive yields.

Meanwhile, throughout the month, we delivered the milk produced to 200 people, mainly elderly women, in the Wilaya of Aaiun.

From 27 April to 31 May, 885 litres of milk were produced and distributed using the usual returnable empty method.

The livestock management fund

from 5 October to today, we signed an agreement with a shop and the milk produced is sold, the proceeds from the sale of the milk, together with the proceeds from the sale of the male animals, will be handed over to the Ministry of Economic Development as a management fund for the herd, which from 1 January 2025 will no longer be financially supported.

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Summer activities

Since 1 June, because of the high temperatures endangering the refrigeration of the milk, distribution has continued, not to Aaiun, which is 50 km from the production site, but to the nearest National Hospital, which is equipped with electricity and refrigerators.

Throughout the summer period until the 4th of October, we therefore brought milk to the hospital on a daily basis: 2370 litres of milk were consumed by patients, their families and the hospital's many workers.

During the summer month we were able to save a lot on the purchase of fodder thanks to the delivery of about 27,000 kg of fodder produced locally by both the Spanish NGO CERAI and CEFA's vegetable garden, which received funding from the Waldensian Table (OPM 40316).

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Sheep and goats distribution

In October, a second mission of the technical coordinator planned the final distribution of sheep and goats to families in need. It was agreed to keep only 60 animals (30 sheep and 30 goats) on the farm, to distribute all the other pregnant or lactating females and to sell all the males.

We therefore identified seven males that were sold and 16 pregnant or lactating females with their young, some of which were distributed yesterday 13 November in the Wilayas of Dajla and the others in the coming days in Aaiun.

The distribution of the animals is also a formative moment for the new breeders, who are given a food sheet in Arabic explaining how to gradually manage the change from a balanced diet based on feed and fodder, to the classic diet used by Sahrawi families, made up of scraps from the household diet.

In addition, in both May and October, the training of local staff continued, covering topics such as the proper feeding of livestock, milking hygiene and the correct use of veterinary medicines.

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