Africa 70's newsletter

Integrated & sustainable farming

Here we are with the usual update from the project, which has seen several new developments over the past 3 months, mainly related to the births of baby goats and lambs.

Highlights of the newsletter

- The new births
- Veterinarys' mission
- Feed shortage
- VSF's project
- Poultry slaughterhouse







THE NEW BIRTHS

We left at the end of July with 15 lambs born that have all grown and are doing well.

In October in the sheep pen we registered five new births with a very rare triplet birth.

The youngest of the triplets is being cared for by our workers and bottle-fed.

But the goat recital also bore its fruit with 11 births and 12 baby goats born.

Our workers take scrupulous care of the animals and, as they were instructed to do in May, periodically perform nail trimming to allow the animals to walk well, be painfree and be able to feed themselves without problems.



VETERINARYS' MISSION

After the summer break, we started our missions again in September: our coordinator Dr Sara Di Lello went to Algeria at the end of the month to set up the logistics for the October mission of gynaecology and animal reproduction expert Dr Piero Casale who, together with Sahrawi vets, repeated the diagnosis of pregnancy with the ultrasound scanner on camels and some sheep and goats.

The camels are all doing well and entering the final stage of pregnancy.

We hope in the next update in January to be able to show you a photo of some newborns and, with the newborns, given time for the mother to nurse the baby for the first 3 weeks, we will start milking and distributing milk again to our beneficiaries: 240 elderly women.









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FEET SHORTAGE

We know that the biggest challenge in camel farming is ensuring sufficient food for them. In the traditional nomadic system shepherds move around in search of pasture, in our case it is we who have to feed the cattle by buying food, the price of which has risen exponentially due to the conflict in Ukraine.

The project envisaged that some of the fodder would be produced locally, and the Spanish NGO CERAI is taking care of this. However, for various reasons beyond their control, the first harvest was lower than expected, so we asked for help from Veterinari Senza Frontiere (VSF) Italy, with whom we have been collaborating for years.



VSF'S project

VSF came to our aid and managed to obtain funding from Tavola Valdese to plant a new plot in the CEFA (Centro de Experimentación y de Formación Agricola).

During the October mission we carried out an initial inspection of the garden and, in record time, the local counterpart (Ministerio de Desarrollo Economico) installed the irrigation system, sowed the barley and sent us the first photos showing germination.





Veterinari Senza Frontiere

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POULTRY SLAUGHTERHOUSE

During the mission, the project team also supervised the slaughtering of chickens in the slaughterhouse, which was modernised thanks to financial support from our project.

The improvement of the facility has enabled faster slaughtering times and considerable savings for the farm, which is able to slaughter all the animals quickly and guarantee the delivery of the meat to the Sahrawi citizens.



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