Les Ressources Génétiques Ovines au Maroc (Sheep Genetic Resources in Morocco)

This book, written in French, describes in great detail the most popular Moroccan breeds of sheep, the Timahdite, the Beni Guil, the Sardi, the D’man, the Beni Absen, the Boujaad and the Mountain sheep.

The first chapter is general and gives statistics on historic numbers of sheep in Morocco from 1914 to the present estimates of 17.5 million and the distribution of these sheep among the various regions in Morocco. A general section on the origin of the various breeds is presented.

For each breed, the information is classified under the following headings: origin, geographic distribution, phenotypic description, reproductive performance, production in terms of meat wool and milk, adaptation to surrounding environment, polymorphism of blood proteins, and genetic and phenotypic parameters. Each breed is also illustrated with colored photographs of rams and ewes.

The last chapters deal with genetic improvement of sheep in Morocco. In one chapter the author presents the different programs in force in Morocco, the first to improve the productivity of the flocks, the second is selection through control of performance and identification of superior individuals. The author also gave the constraints influencing the sheep genetic improvement in Morocco. The book ends with a chapter on future perspectives of sheep in Morocco.

The list of references covers almost all the research work on sheep breeding in Morocco.

The book is neatly produced and illustrated with many figures and tabulated information. It is an important source of information on the Moroccan breeds and research work conducted on them.

This book is available from the Department of Animal Production, Institute of Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II, Box 6206 Rabat-Instituts, 10101 Rabat, Morocco.

M.H. Fahmy*
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Lennoxville Research Center Lennoxville, Que Canada J1M 1Z3

*Tel./fax: +1-613-792-1838 E-mail address: mhfahmy@yahoo.com (M.H. Fahmy)

Milking and Milk Production of Dairy Sheep and Goats.

This book is the proceedings of the 6th International Symposium on the Milking of Small Ruminants held in Athens, Greece from 26 September to 1 October, 1998. This series of proceedings is a valuable source of information on all aspects of dairy sheep and goat and provides state of the art information on the subject. The book is intended mainly for scientist working in this field.

In his opening address, J.C. Flamant of France gave an account of the history of the series of symposia on the milking of small ruminants and details on the first three meetings held in France (1973), Italy (1978) and Spain (1983). In total, 46 papers were presented in plenary sessions and 75 papers were presented as posters.

Papers were presented and published in either English (99) or French (22). Full papers ranged between 4 and 8 pages in length whereas posters ranged between 2 and 4 pages. The papers were grouped under six major topics.

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