



Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, September 2011 *Special Issue*



ARMENIA'S PRIME MINISTER VISITS CARD'S FARM AND VETERINARY SERVICE CENTER IN SARNAKUNQ



During his three-day tour in Syunik marz, on September 9, 2011, Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan visited Farm and Veterinary Service Center (FVSC) in Sarnakunq community established by CARD Foundation as part of the USDA-supported Community Animal Health Network (CAHN) project.

CARD Director Gagik Sardaryan and FVSC Manager Suren Vardanyan briefed the Prime Minister about the mission and services that the Center offers to the farmers in the region. He familiarized with the veterinary, artificial insemination (AI), farm and other equipment of the Center, socialized with local farmers and vets.

During the event the Farm and Veterinary Service Center hosted the governor of Syunik village mayors, farmers, vets, media representatives and other guests.

The Prime minister witnessed artificial insemination training for local AI specialists and farmers conducted by CARD Specialists and US Accelerated Genetics Reproduction Specialist Humberto Riviera. Due to the training and displayed products, the working atmosphere of the Center contributed to the better insight of the activities.

The Prime Minister was interested of genetic improvement program in Sarnakunq and nearby villages, and asked if the farmers were satisfied with AI and animal health services.

Farmers demonstrated F1, F2 generation of Jersey, Swiss Brown, Holstein and Simmental breeds.

He also discussed with vet specialists the problems of getting good quality medicine and other animal health supplies.

The Farm and Veterinary Service Center offers a large range of services, among them veterinary services – disease prevention and treatment, animal health medicines, veterinary input supplies, AI supplies, farm supplies, technical assistance, links to supply market, etc. The FVSC target group will involve local veterinarians, livestock farmers in the nearby villages of Sisian region.



FVSC will position itself as a provider of veterinary and livestock products, artificial insemination service. Farmers and vets will use FVSC as a venue for meetings, trainings and seminars to share information and experience. For farmers from nearby villages the FVSC will serve as a place for socialization and discussion of the latest news and events. Programs designed to provide newcomers with all the necessary information will help build customer confidence and spread the word about the products and services that the FVSC offers.

AI TRAINING IN FARM AND VETERINARY SERVICE CENTER BY WORLD WIDE SIRE

September 7-8, within the framework of World Wide Sires "Essential Maintenance Practices" (EMP) project, funded by USDA FAS, Artificial Insemination training was held in Farm and Veterinary Service Center conducted by the US Accelerated Genetics Reproduction specialist Humberto Riviera.

15 participants from various regions of Armenia took part in the training. Among them were: veterinarians, breeding specialists, experienced and beginner AI specialists. The logistic and translation assistance was provided by CARD veterinarians Arman Ohanyan, Levon Movsisyan and FVSC manager Suren Vardanyan.

The training was comprised of two parts: for the theoretical part, Mr. Riviera made Power Point presentations which covered topics as: Reproductive Anatomy, Reproductive Physiology, Artificial Insemination Technique, Artificial Insemination Equipment and its Care, Semen and Semen Handling, Preparing Artificial Insemination Equipment for Breeding, Inseminating the Cow, Record Keeping.

A special attention was drawn to estrus synchronization schemes. Participants raised questions related to estrus detection and the effective period of AI. The sperm use, thermal stress, the correct use of tools and proper techniques of AI were of utmost importance for beginner AI specialists.



The practical part covered the study of reproductive organs anatomy of the cows and the special approach of AI specialist during the artificial insemination. As a part of the practical training, three beginner AI specialists carried out artificial insemination of the cow. Cervix fixation and proper use of insemination gun was successfully carried out.

From time to time CARD AI specialists will pay visits to the regions to ensure the trainees strengthen their practical skills.

VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY TRAINING AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, USA



USDA FAS supported “Community Animal Health Network” (CAHN) project coordinator Tigran Gabrielyan participated in a two-week Veterinary Epidemiology training which was held in Fort Collins, Colorado from August 22 - September 2.

The training was sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture’s Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH), Colorado

State University’s Animal Population Health Institute (APHI) and the Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine.

23 participants from 20 countries took part in the training who were mainly veterinarians from Government and Public Service Institutions in their home countries.

The course served as an introduction to the principles of veterinary epidemiology, applications of epidemiological tools, methods of epidemiological risk assessment, effective disease-control, its economic aspects and statistics in the field of Epidemiology.

The training was conducted by a number of professors from this field. They include: Ian Garner, Professor of Epidemiology from the University



of Davis, California; epidemiologists from USDA- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): Dr. Cristobal Zepeda, Dr. Kristyne Stone, Dr. E. Freier, Dr. Stephen Ott, Kamina Johnston, Diana Mitchell, and Dr. Mo Salmon- Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology and Director of APHI at Colorado State University.

Interactive discussions on course topics and team works were an integral part of the training which aimed at strengthening the trainees’ knowledge. The practice exchange related to the actions undertaken against the same disease in their home countries, disease eradication and its economic aspects played a significant role for the participants.

Tigran Gabrielyan plans to develop a training program for local veterinarians and conduct trainings based on the materials he got at the two-week Veterinary Epidemiology training.

ADVANCED LARGE HERD REPRODUCTIVE MANAGEMENT TRAINING BY WORLD WIDE SIRES, USA



Within the scope of “Essential Maintenance Practices” (EMP) project funded by the Foreign Agricultural Service of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA FAS), World Wide Sires organized “Herd Reproductive Management” training for CARD Cattle Breeding Project Consultant Arman Ohanyan and a Georgian specialist Dimitri Kvirikashvili. The training took place at WWS Global Training Center in Prosser city, Washington State from September 24-October 09, 2011.

The main objective of the training was to train the trainers of Armenia and Georgia, and the topics taught included the new effective methods of heat detection using a marking system, early pregnancy and reproductive organs problems diagnosis. On-farm trainings were as well provided for the practical part.

After the completion of the training, Certificates were handed to both participants by the Director of Field training Kevin Bousquet.

“This training was quite a productive one, the practical part in particular. The marking system for heat detection was something totally new for us. Using this method, we can achieve some good results in Artificial Insemination as it enables to fix the effective period for AI.

In near future, I plan to conduct a similar training to share my new knowledge and experience with local AI specialists”, said CARD employee Arman Ohanyan.



Supported by



1/21 Azatutyan Ave., Yerevan 0037, Armenia
Tel. (374 60) 440-550
E-mail: card@card.am; Website: www.card.am