

“From the Director's Desk”



It gives me immense pleasure to present the August 2026 edition of GoATech e-Times, showcasing the Institute's continued progress in scientific innovation, technology development, capacity building and farmer-oriented outreach. The month marked important research achievements with the successful development of gene-edited cell lines and embryos using CRISPR-Cas9 technology for exploring enhanced meat-production potential in goats, along with the Design Registration of the innovative “Intra-Vaginal Sponge Applicator in Goats,” further strengthening the Institute's intellectual property portfolio. Capacity-building efforts remained equally vibrant through the 131st National Training Programme on Scientific Goat Farming, specialized training of Veterinary Officers in artificial insemination, and exposure programmes for Pashu Sakhis and field professionals. The Institute also strengthened its field-level engagement through goat health camps and disease investigations in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, alongside farmer awareness programmes on animal health, climate resilience and sustainable livestock management. The celebration of Independence Day and the Hariyali Amavasya tree plantation programme further reflected our commitment to national service and environmental stewardship. I appreciate the dedicated efforts of our scientists, staff, collaborators and stakeholders and look forward to advancing our collective mission of making goat production scientifically driven, productive, profitable and sustainable.

With best wishes

Dr. Manish Kr. Chatli

HIGHLIGHTS

8
AUG
26

Goat Health Camp and Disease Investigation
Conducted at Kherli, Rajasthan
Abwar, Rajasthan

A team of scientists from ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, conducted a goat health camp and disease investigation at A-1 Agro Farm, Kherli, Alwar, Rajasthan, following reports of increased morbidity and mortality among goats during the preceding six months. A total of 47 samples: 15 Nasal, 12 Vaginal, 4 Preputial and 16 Faecal were examined. Clinical examination of animals identified several potential risk factors, including inappropriate feeder and waterer design, co-rearing of poultry and ducks with goats, inadequate hygiene and

sanitation, overcrowding, anaemia, poor nutritional and body condition, irregular vaccination, deworming and dipping, and ectoparasitic infestations. Appropriate treatment was provided to affected animals, and farm personnel were advised on preventive and control measures to improve flock health and productivity. As part of the health camp, local farmers were sensitized about disease recognition, timely vaccination and other preventive health-care protocols, while sick goats brought to the camp were clinically examined and provided appropriate treatment. CIRG's Goat Health Calendar and Parasitic Control Cards were also distributed among the farmers to facilitate timely adoption of recommended health-care and parasite-control practices.



EDITORIAL BOARD



Dr. Varsha Vihan

Chief Editor



Arvind Singh Parihar

Editor



Satendra Kumar Singh

Designing & Digital
Media

12
AUG
26

Tree Plantation Programme Organized at ICAR-CIRG on
Hariyali Amavasya
ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

A tree plantation programme was organized at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, on the auspicious occasion of Hariyali Amavasya by the *Vriksh Mitra Parivar*. The programme was held in the virtual presence of Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who emphasized the importance of collective efforts towards environmental conservation and a greener future.

Heads of Divisions, scientists, officers and staff members of the Institute actively participated in the plantation drive and planted saplings at different locations across the Institute campus. The initiative highlighted the importance of enhancing green cover, conserving the environment and promoting sustainable practices. The programme also encouraged individuals to actively contribute to environmental protection by planting and nurturing trees in their surroundings, thereby reaffirming the Institute's commitment towards creating a cleaner, greener and more sustainable environment for future generations.



15
AUG
26

ICAR-CIRG Celebrates 80th Independence Day with Patriotic Fervour

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

The 80th Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, with the participation of the Director, scientists, officers and staff members of the Institute. Addressing the gathering, the Director, ICAR-CIRG, paid tribute to the freedom fighters and recalled their invaluable contributions and sacrifices in India's struggle for independence. He also highlighted the Institute's recent advancements in goat research and the significant progress achieved

during the past year, and urged the staff to continue working with dedication and commitment towards scientific excellence and the sustainable development of the goat sector. To add enthusiasm and encourage camaraderie, various recreational games and activities, including races, musical chairs and tug-of-war, were organized for staff members and their families, who participated with great enthusiasm. Marking the occasion, outstanding workers and employees of the Institute were also felicitated with awards in recognition of their exemplary performance, dedication and valuable contributions to the Institute.



17-22
AUG
26

ICAR-CIRG Empowers 132 Trainees from 13 States through National Training on Scientific Goat Farming

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

The 131st National Training Programme on Scientific Goat Farming was successfully organized from 17 to 22 August 2026, with the participation of 132 trainees, including eight women, representing 13 states across the country. During the six-day programme, participants received comprehensive theoretical and hands-on training on breed improvement, scientific housing, feeding and nutrition, health management, artificial insemination, value addition of goat products, marketing, and preparation of project reports for commercial goat farming. The valedictory ceremony was graced by Shri Padamji Bhai Sahab, renowned social worker and former Director, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Shodh Sansthan, Deen Dayal Dham, Farah, Mathura, as he Chief Guest, in the presence of Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG; Dr.

Khusyal Singh, Nodal Officer, Training Cell; Shri Atanu Tikait, Senior Journalist and Senior Producer, DD Kisan, New Delhi, and scientists and staff of the Institute.

Addressing the trainees, Shri Padamji Bhai Sahab emphasized the potential of scientific goat farming for promoting self-reliance, self-respect, self-employment and sustainable livelihoods, and encouraged participants to utilize available government schemes for establishing livestock-based enterprises while giving due importance to environmental conservation. Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli highlighted the Institute's research, technology development, training and extension initiatives for the benefit of goat farmers and urged the trainees to adopt scientific goat farming as a viable business enterprise and disseminate the knowledge gained among fellow farmers and livestock keepers. On successful completion of the programme, certificates were awarded to the trainees, marking the culmination of an intensive capacity-building initiative aimed at promoting scientific, profitable and sustainable goat farming and entrepreneurship across the country.



22
AUG
26

Farmer Awareness Programmes Promote Goat Health, Climate Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

A series of farmer-oriented awareness and outreach programmes encompassing Parthenium Awareness Week, Climate Change and Impact of El Niño, Goat Health Camp, and input distribution under the Scheduled Caste Development Project were organized at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, with the participation of around 40-60 farmers and staff members. During the programme, Dr. Arvind Kumar, Principal Scientist, sensitized the participants about the harmful effects of carrot grass (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) on agriculture and livestock and explained effective measures for its control and eradication, while Dr. Mukesh Bhakt, Principal Scientist, highlighted the implications of El Niño and climate change on livestock

production and discussed practical strategies for maintaining animal health and productivity under changing climatic conditions. As part of the Goat Health Camp, Dr. Nitika Sharma, Senior Scientist, sensitized farmers about common diseases of goats, their prevention and treatment, and the importance of timely vaccination for effective herd health management.

Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG, highlighted the health hazards associated with *Parthenium exposure* in goats and its potential adverse effects on goat products. He also emphasized the importance of value addition and effective marketing of goat products for enhancing farmers' income and encouraged the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to strengthen collective marketing, improve market access and ensure better returns to goat farmers. The programme concluded with the distribution of essential inputs to beneficiary farmers under the Scheduled Caste Development Project, in the presence of Dr. Gopal Das, Principal Scientist.



25
AUG
26

ICAR-CIRG Scientists Attend Goat Disease Outbreak in Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh

Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh

A team of scientists from ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, visited Magroni, Tehsil Narwar, District Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh, to investigate an outbreak of sudden mortality among goats. During the field investigation, affected animals were clinically examined, disease history and morbidity-mortality data were recorded, and biological samples were collected for laboratory investigation. A total of 17 samples: 4 Blood, 4

Nasal, 4 Vaginal and 5 faecal samples were examined. Of the total flock of 200 goats, 40 animals had reportedly died during the preceding 16 days. Based on clinical history, examination and laboratory investigation, the outbreak was confirmed as Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR). Supportive and symptomatic treatment was advised for affected animals, while the farm owner was sensitized about appropriate preventive and control measures to contain further spread of the disease and minimize mortality. The intervention highlighted the importance of timely disease diagnosis, appropriate treatment and preventive health management for protecting goat flocks from infectious diseases.



RESEARCH INSIGHTS

20
AUG
26

Innovative Intra-Vaginal Sponge Applicator for Goats Secures Design Registration

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

In another significant achievement for ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, the innovative design titled “Intra-Vaginal Sponge Applicator in Goats” has been granted a Certificate of Registration of Design by The Patent Office, Government of India. The design, registered in the name of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Design No. 496003-001, Class 24-02, represents an important addition to the Institute’s intellectual property portfolio and reflects its continued emphasis on developing practical innovations for goat production and reproductive management. The achievement was accomplished by the team comprising Y. K. Soni, S. P. Singh, Ravi Ranjan, S. D. Kharche, M. K. Singh and Manish K. Chatli, with the support of the Institute’s ITMU. The registration further



“The registration of the Intra-Vaginal Sponge Applicator in Goats is another important achievement for ICAR-CIRG and reflects the innovative efforts of our scientific team. Such practical innovations have the potential to strengthen reproductive management in goats and enhance the field applicability of our technologies. I congratulate the entire team and ITMU for this achievement and encourage our scientists to continue developing need-based technologies for the benefit of goat farmers and the livestock sector.”

— Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG

underscores ICAR-CIRG’s commitment to translating scientific expertise into innovative technologies and tools for strengthening the goat sector.

26
AUG
26

Gene Editing Breakthrough at ICAR-CIRG: Gene-Edited Embryos Developed for Improved Meat Production in Goats

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

In a significant advancement towards genetic improvement of goats, ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, has successfully developed gene-edited cell lines and gene-edited embryos using advanced CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing technology. The research is being carried out under the All-India Network Programme on Application of Gene Editing Technology for Livestock Health and Production Improvement (AINP-GETILHP) with the objective of introducing targeted modifications in the myostatin (MSTN) gene, which regulates muscle growth. By targeting the MSTN gene, the research aims to enhance muscle development and explore the possibility of developing goats

with improved meat-production potential.

The research is being led by Dr. S. P. Singh, Principal Scientist, Animal Physiology and Reproduction Division, along with his team. Following the successful development of gene-edited embryos, the next phase will involve their transfer into recipient goats to advance research towards the production of gene-edited animals. Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG, highlighted the potential of this emerging technology for developing more productive and resource-efficient goats with enhanced meat-production capacity. The achievement represents an important step towards the application of advanced biotechnology for livestock genetic improvement and could, in the long term, contribute to enhanced livestock productivity and farmers’ income.

“The successful development of gene-edited cell lines and embryos using CRISPR-Cas9 technology marks an important milestone in our efforts to harness advanced biotechnology for genetic improvement of goats. Our focus is on developing scientifically robust approaches that can contribute to enhanced productivity and resource efficiency. The next phase of the research will take us closer to evaluating the potential of gene editing for developing goats with improved meat-production traits.”

— Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

3
AUG
26

Tribal Goat Farmers in Rajasthan Empowered through Scientific Goat Farming Training

Karauli, Rajasthan

A one-day training-cum-awareness programme on scientific goat farming was organized by ICAR-CIRG, Mathura, under the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST) in Lakhrukhi, Daulatiya, Khateki, Daulatpura and Gaurdharghura villages of Karauli block, Karauli district, Rajasthan. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation of 85 Scheduled Tribe goat farmers, including 70 women and 15 men, and focused on strengthening their knowledge and practical skills in scientific goat husbandry. Farmers were also sensitized about the impact of El Niño on



livestock productivity and appropriate mitigation strategies to minimize climate-related risks. As part of the field-based intervention, goat sheds were inspected and farmers were provided technical guidance on scientific housing and improved management practices, while essential goat-farming inputs were distributed among the beneficiaries to facilitate adoption of recommended practices. Dr. Anupam Krishna Dixit, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, DAPST; Shri Vinod Kumar Sharma, Senior Technical Officer; Shri Ranveer; and officials of Srijan Foundation were present during the programme. The initiative aimed at promoting scientific goat farming, climate-resilient livestock management and sustainable livelihood opportunities among tribal farming communities in the region.



6
AUG
26

Two-Day Exposure Visit Strengthens Practical Knowledge on Scientific Goat Farming

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

A two-day exposure visit was organized at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, for 13 participants from the Nudge Foundation, comprising 10 field executives, two district leads and one programme lead, with the objective of strengthening their practical knowledge and understanding of scientific goat farming and improved livestock management practices. During the visit, the participants were acquainted with various aspects of scientific housing, feeding and nutrition, health care, breeding and overall herd management, along with recommended practices for sustainable goat production. The programme provided an opportunity for interactive learning and practical exposure to scientific goat husbandry practices that could be effectively incorporated into their field-level interventions and farmer outreach activities.



The visit concluded with active interaction between the participants and Institute experts, contributing to enhanced understanding of scientific, sustainable and productivity-oriented goat management practices.

11-13
AUG
26

Pashu Sakhis from Tripura Gain Hands-on Exposure to Scientific Goat Farming

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

A three-day Training-cum-Interstate Exposure Visit was organized at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, under the Tribal Rural Empowerment and Sustainable Programme (TRESP-DMPU), with the participation of 23 Pashu Sakhis representing 18 Producer Groups (PGs), along with five officials from three blocks of West Tripura. The programme was designed to

strengthen the technical knowledge and field-level capacities of the participants in scientific goat production and management through interactive sessions, practical demonstrations and exposure to improved goat farming technologies and management practices. The visit provided a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and experiential learning, equipping the Pashu Sakhis with enhanced technical understanding to effectively disseminate scientific goat husbandry practices among tribal farmers in West Tripura and thereby contribute towards improved productivity, profitability and sustainability of goat-based livelihoods.



11-13
AUG
26

Veterinary Officers from Tripura Trained in Artificial Insemination for Genetic Improvement of Goats
ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura

Three-day specialized training programme on Artificial Insemination (AI) in Goats, sponsored by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Tripura, was successfully organized at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura, with the participation of 22 Veterinary Officers from Tripura, including 12 men and 10 women. The programme provided comprehensive theoretical and hands-on training on key aspects of artificial insemination, including

heat detection, optimum timing of insemination, semen collection, evaluation, processing and preservation, and AI techniques in goats. Addressing the participants, Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG, highlighted the pivotal role of artificial insemination in accelerating genetic improvement, enhancing goat productivity and ultimately improving farmers' income. The capacity-building programme is expected to strengthen the technical expertise of veterinary professionals and facilitate the wider adoption of scientific breeding and genetic improvement practices for enhanced goat production in Tripura.



28
AUG
26

Scientific Goat Farming during Monsoon Featured on DD Kisan's 'Chaupal Charcha'
DD Kisan

ICAR -CIRG featured in a special episode of DD Kisan's popular programme "Chaupal Charcha" focusing on scientific goat farming during the monsoon season. The programme, titled "Barsaat Mein Rakhein Khas Dhyani, Vaigyanik Tarike Se Badhayein Bakri Palan Ki Shaan," highlighted practical scientific approaches for improving the productivity, profitability and sustainability of goat farming. Experts from ICAR-CIRG shared

valuable information on the importance of high-quality animals, scientific breeding and management, disease prevention and health care, and measures to address climate-related challenges, including the effects of El Niño. The experts emphasized that improved productivity and effective disease prevention are crucial for obtaining better economic returns from goat farming. The experts replied all the queries of the farmers present in the chaupal. Broadcasted on DD Kisan on 28 August 2026, the programme provided an important platform for disseminating ICAR-CIRG's scientific knowledge and recommended goat-production practices to farmers and livestock keepers across the country.

Upcoming Trainings

✓ 133rd National Training Programme: 26th – 31st October 2026 (Registration starts from 14th September).

✓ Training Course on "Estrus synchronization and Artificial Insemination in Goats" from 05th – 09th October, 2026.

For more details visit: www.cirg.res.in

August Advisory for Goat Farmers

- ✓ Avoid grazing goats on wet pastures immediately after rain or heavy dew.
- ✓ Protect goats from waterlogging and dampness; keep sheds clean, dry and well ventilated.
- ✓ During rainy conditions, allow goats to graze only after the grass has dried.
- ✓ Regularly check hooves and trim overgrown hooves to prevent foot problems.
- ✓ Deworm goats as advised and maintain proper vaccination and health-care schedules.
- ✓ Ensure continuous availability of clean drinking water and mineral mixture.
- ✓ Provide 100–200 g concentrate to adult goats and 250–400 g to lactating goats daily.

GoaTalk @CIRG

Podcast Alert

Knowledge at Your Fingertips: Explore the latest Episodes

#10: Integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Veterinary Homeopathy in Goat Farming

#11: Awareness about El Niño



 Stay Connected with ICAR-CIRG

ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, Farah – 281122, Mathura, UP

Phone: +91-565-2970555/2970556 | Email: director.cirg@icar.org.in

Website: cirg.res.in | YouTube: [@icar-cirgmakhdoom7473](https://www.youtube.com/@icar-cirgmakhdoom7473) | Instagram: [@cirg_farah_mathura](https://www.instagram.com/@cirg_farah_mathura) |

Facebook: CIRG Mathura | X: [@GoatResIndia](https://twitter.com/@GoatResIndia)

