



Seminars on “Physiology and Nutritional Requirements of Swine”



From February 02-04, 2016 within the framework of “ADA Animal Health Management” project CARD Foundation invited a swine nutrition expert Mr. Revaz Lapachi from Nutrimax, Georgia to Armenia. The AHM project aims at filling in the gaps in regions of Armenia and Georgia, where the animal disease control and development of good animal husbandry practices are of high importance. The project goal is the improvement of animal health and productivity in the region. Within the frames of the project CARD Foundation has been provided with an opportunity to focus on swine breeding industry as a new operation direction. It is planned to establish a Pig Genetic Center in Armenia, which will serve as a regional supplier of up-to-date technologies and high quality genetics in the swine production sector. The need for proper swine feed led to the establishment of links with Nutrimax, an animal feed producing and consulting company in Georgia. Cooperation with Georgian companies is also in line with ADA’s ideology of promoting regional development. For already 7 years Nutrimax cooperates with Trouw Nutrition, the Netherlands. The trainings were devoted to “Physiology and

nutritional requirements of swine”. They also provided on-farm technical assistance to pig farmers in Ararat and Gegharkunik marzes. Accompanied with CARD experts, Mr. Revaz Lapachi visited 3 small to medium sized pig farms in Pokr Vedy village, Ararat marz, that are closely cooperating with Pokr Vedy Farm Service Center (FSC). Based on this, the 3 farmers received consultation on methods how to improve farm management and feeding. Similar trainings were conducted also in Akunk FVSC, Gegharkunik marz for 24 local pig farmers, as well as in CARD office for 17 managers and veterinarians. During the visits on farm evaluation of farm management and particularly feeding practices were conducted. Nutrimax feeds are still in trial stage in Armenia, but the results are optimistic. So far 3 different products have been imported, and 3 more is planned to import. It is worth mentioning that both in Georgia and in Armenia the possibilities and the requirements are the same. Both countries need professional support for the further development of farm management and feeding practices.

Impressed by Dutch Know-how

Effective Nutrition a Key to Animal Welfare

From March 15-18 “Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development” (CARD) Foundation hosted Mr. Roelof van de Fliert and Mr. Rob Cocu, the regional coordinators of “Nutreco” (Trouw Nutrition Hifeed B.V.) company, the Netherlands. Nutreco is a global leader in animal nutrition, with a strong emphasis on ruminant, pig and chicken feed. The advanced nutritional solutions of Nutreco are at the origin of food for millions of consumers worldwide. The collaboration between CARD and Nutreco has been established through the representatives of PUM Netherlands Senior Experts since 2011.



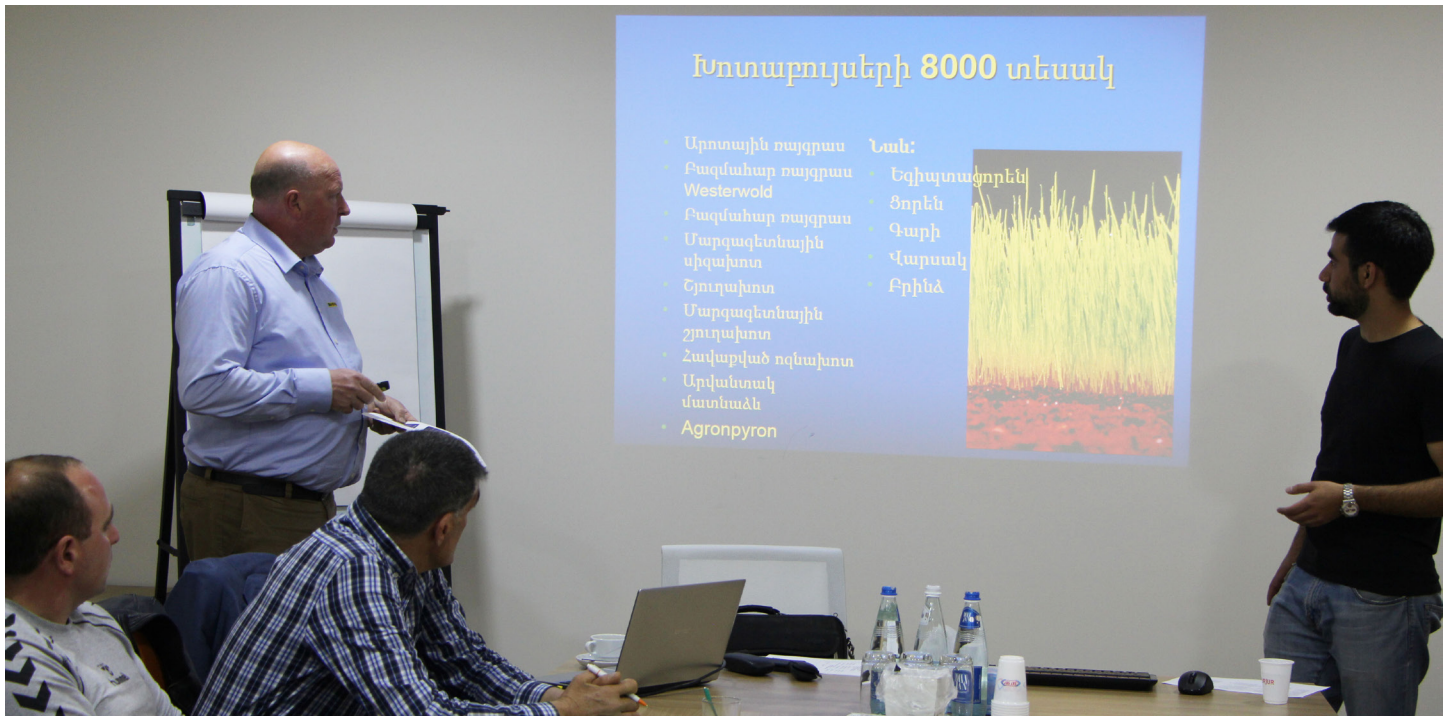
In 2012 CARD director Mr. Gagik Sardaryan and Cattle Breeding Project Consultant Mr. Arman Ohanyan paid a visit to the Netherlands, to discuss further collaboration possibilities and get introduced to the company on location. In 2012 the first portion of animal feed was imported from Nutreco. The visit aimed at holding meetings with the representatives of CARD Foundation, as well as providing the Armenian experts with professional support. The visit also enabled the Dutch coordinators to create links with local agricultural input suppliers.



Animal Productivity Starts with Quality Grass Seed



From April 04-07 within “ADA Animal Health Management” project CARD Foundation hosted Dr. Lex van der Weerd, the export manager of “Barenbrug”, which is a Dutch company specialized in breeding of grasses and forage legumes. It has its 18 operating companies and 29 branches in 6 continents and is considered the 2nd biggest grassseed company worldwide. The collaboration between CARD Foundation and “Barenbrug” company has existed since 2011. In 2012 CARD representatives visited the company to discuss further collaboration possibilities. Starting from 2012 CARD AgroService CJSC has imported forage legumes from “Barenbrug” and a number of forage trials have been carried out with positive results.



This was Dr. Lex van der Weerd's first visit to Armenia, which included meetings with CARD specialists, Animal Health and Husbandry Department, as well as with Gagik Tovmasyan, a professor from Armenian Agrarian University, also a consultant for different projects in Armenia for pasture renovation and management. During the meetings the possibilities of importing new products for establishing demo sites in Armenia were discussed, and a consultation on the organization of trials was provided.

On April 06 Dr. Lex van der Weerd conducted a training for Farm and Veterinary Service Center managers on "Fodder production, best practices of cultivation" and made a presentation of Milkway, Lucerne and other permanent grassland products. After the meeting a visit was organized to Artashavan Farm and Veterinary Service Center for better understanding the grassland situation in Armenia.

