



CARD ANIMAL HEALTH TEAM ASSISTS VETERINARIANS IN SISIAN



As a part of USDA funded project CARD Animal Health team held practical, on-farm trainings in Syunik region of Armenia, in particular, in Sisian city, as well as Sarnakunq, Brnakot and Hatsavan villages in March 2011. The training aimed at building/increasing awareness on AH related issues among the veterinarians of Sisian.

As reported in January issue of CARD newsletter, this was the second part of the serial trainings implemented in the frames of the USDA Animal Health project. The first circle of trainings took part in Kapan region at the end of January, 2011.

The objectives of the training were to assist veterinarians, to improve their skills and knowledge, to increase level of awareness and to introduce them new vet services (which can be implemented in their daily work to have better profit).

The main beneficiaries of the training were vets and farmers of the same community.

There were 11 participants, among them five veterinarians (four of which were target vets who stood out for active participation) and six farmers, among them one woman.

Based on the knowledge obtained during the theoretical part of the training, local vets had the chance to practically demonstrate their skills of dehorning, hoof trimming, pregnancy checking, blood sampling, etc. Due to AH team, these procedures became simpler and more effective to perform.

The training was fruitful at the community level as the participants interacted and participated enthusiastically in knowledge and experience sharing. At the end of the workshop the confidence and the feeling of empowerment emerging from a sense of preparedness to use new skills were evident. Similar trainings are also valuable in the sense of establishing communication among vets and farmers for further cooperation and skills exchange.



SEMINAR ON ADVANCED VITICULTURE PRACTICES

Within the Framework of UMCOR Cooperative Development Initiative, CARD jointly with viticulture organization



Semina Consulting organized trainings for viticulture cooperatives on March 23-24, 2011.

The seminar was dedicated to advanced viticulture practices and covered such topics as Pruning, Canopy management, Spraying and Maturity check.

The seminars were conducted in Areni village, Vayots Dzor marz, and in Yerevan.

More than 35 members from viticulture cooperatives located in Vayots Dzor, Ararat and Armavir marzes participated in the seminar.

The seminar was conducted by French expert Thomas Dornegnies from Mercier Novatech, one of the leading vine production companies in the world.

CARD AND PUM HOLD TRAININGS IN SYUNIK AND SHIRAK

CARD Foundation together with Dutch PUM Senior experts Robert Back and Wim de Jong organized and conducted trainings on Farm Management in Syunik and Shirak marzes on March 14-26, 2011. During the trainings the experts



shared experience with local farmers, village mayors and students involving every participant in the training process by means of interactive presentations, slideshows, Q&As, etc. The main topics covered during the trainings were animal welfare, barn conditions such as light, fresh air, ventilation, also feeding management, and proper milking.

The experts displayed photos of farms before and after their trainings putting the emphasis on the lack of light, ventilation, feed and water quality. Another interesting thing about the presentation was that the experts talked about the lack of minerals in pastures, which influences animal health conditions, decreases breeding level as well as food quality. If the farmer comes across this situation, s/he has to fertilize the pasture to avoid future problems.

Besides, they described the main issues in growing high-quality grass, preparation of corn silage, advantages of harvesting grass in proper conditions, etc.

In the frames of the trainings, PUM experts visited several small farms in Sisian region of Syunik, in Sarnakung and Shaki communities.

In Brnakot and Sarnakunk communities they visited farms with imported animals. The Dutch experts expressed concern regarding bad feeding, housing conditions the imported high breed animals have. According to them after two weeks of transportation and bad conditions, the acclimatization of the imported animals will take longer, up to 2-3 years, resulting drop of productivity and health problems.

Trainings of the same format were held in Azatan, Jajur, Meghrashat and Tsaghkut communities of Shirak marz.



CARD HOLDS COMMUNITY TRAININGS WITH HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL ARMENIA



Armenian branch of "Heifer Project International" together with CARD Foundation held a series of trainings in four marzes of Armenia in the period of January-March 2011. Among the communities benefited from the trainings were Shikahogh, Srashen, Nerkin Hand and Tsav of Syunik marz; Chinari

and Choratan communities of Tavush marz; Debed and Shirakamut communities of Lori marz, as well as Shenik, Lukashin and Nalbandyan communities of Armavir marz.

The main topics of the training were cattle breeding, lactation, animal care, genetic improvement of dairy cattle and artificial insemination. Heads of the communities, farmers, veterinarians, animal breeders and specialists of artificial insemination took part in the trainings.

The total number of participants within the series of trainings was 237 people. With the support of CARD Foundation, seven artificial insemination specialists were trained and qualified.

In the frames of the project it is envisaged to implement artificial insemination of 440 animals in 11 communities, which in future will contribute to improving genetics of the cattle in these communities and increasing farm efficiency and income.

Supported by



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