



ESAP Newsletter

Issue No. 31, May 2014

Ethiopian Society of Animal Production

In this Issue

- Ensuring Food Security and Sustainability ... (page 1)
- The role of Professionals.... (page 1)
- University of Dalhousie (page 3)
- Manually operated rotary..... (Page 3)
- Can livestock serve as an emerging.... (Page 4)
- Innovate Incubate.... (page 5)
- Adey Melesse features (page 6)
- Bits and Pieces (page 7)

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ENSURING FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH LIVESTOCK IN AFRICA

(By Berhe G. Tekola, PhD)



An Ethiopian farmer on his farm: Photo Courtesy Flickr/ILRI

The livestock sector makes an important contribution to food security and poverty reduction. It, however, could contribute more given judicious policy and institutional reforms and significant public and private investments aimed at: (i) enhancing the ability of smallholders to take advantage of the opportunities offered by growth of the sector; (ii) protecting the poorest households for whom livestock serve as a crucial safety net; and (iii) enacting broader rural development policies to ease the transition of some livestock keepers out of the sector. In decades to come, the demand for livestock products is expected to grow significantly driven by rising affluence, urbanization and an increasing global population. Consumption of food from livestock is projected to increase by about 70 percent globally to feed a population estimated to reach 9.6 billion by 2050 and to double in Africa. Approximately one billion people depend entirely or

(Continued on page 2)

EDITORIAL

The Role of the Professionals in Private Sector livestock Development

(By Daniel Temesgen, PhD)

Ethiopia's livestock, fisheries and apiculture resources have vast untapped investment opportunities, and can play a pivotal role in bringing transformation in Agriculture. With a population of about 80 million, Ethiopia offers one of the largest domestic markets in Africa. Its proximity to the Middle Eastern Markets provides good opportunities for investments in the production of exportable livestock products.

Realizing these potentials the government has taken various measures to create a conducive policy environment. In this regard, the government has shown its commitment towards attraction of private investment in (both domestic and foreign). It identified special incentive sectors and sub-sectors including livestock development and processing facilities. As a result during the last few years the number of private investment has increased remarkably, and it provided various opportunities-including financial resource, new technology, knowledge, and international

(Continued on page 2)

ENSURING FOOD SECURITY....

(Continued from page 1)

partially on livestock for their income, livelihood and subsistence around the world; where 640 million are small scale producers, 190 million pastoralists and 350 million are in Africa. Livestock contributes over 43% of the Agricultural GDP worldwide. Countries such as Mauritania, Sudan and New Zealand, their contribution goes beyond 80%. FAO's mission to contribute to ending hunger in the world is as valid today as it was in 1945 when the organization was created but the challenges are different today.

Therefore, while FAO is still strongly committed to continue its fight against, food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty, we are also working to address the depletion of natural resources and to support Member States, the productive private sector and civil society to face successfully the current challenges.

It is obvious that the livestock sector is resource hungry in terms of land, water and feed consumption. But at the same time if properly managed, the Livestock sector can be a solution for Climate Change related problems (<http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3437e/i3437e.pdf>). FAO is working in close collaboration with Member States and Stakeholders under the Multi-Stakeholder Platform; the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock. Then, three focus areas were identified to face the existing challenges: (i) **Closing the efficiency gap**:- application of existing technologies and transfer through public-private and other forms of partnership; (ii) **Restoring value to grassland**:- better management of grazing land for C sequestration, protection of water and biodiversity, enhanced productivity and livelihoods (financial and institutional innovations) and (iii) **Waste to worth**: - recovering and recycling nutrients and energy from manure (planning **What does the trend look like globally?**) (i) The share of all animal products in human diets continues to increase in the developing world. (ii) Income growth and population dynamics are major drivers of increasing consumption. (iii) Global animal production is shifting from industrial to developing regions and (iv) Production is being sustained by structural changes within the sector.

Regardless the increasing trend of livestock production in developing countries, people in these countries do

(Continued on page 4)

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

market opportunity. The current investments are mainly on fattening, dairy, and meat processing subsectors, which accounted for about 40% of the total Agricultural investments.

Full realization of the investment benefits, however, needs to overcome the various internal and external investment challenges in the livestock sector. If these challenges are well studied and addressed, private investment will substantially increase in the foreseeable future, thereby speeding up economic growth and improving the well being of population at large.

Dear ESAP members despite the potentials in investing in livestock, the number of professionals involved in the private livestock business is far lower than expected. However, the few individuals and groups who are in the business are showing promising results that the direct involvement of livestock professionals in commercial livestock business is pivotal in the transformation of livestock agriculture in Ethiopia.

Announcement !

The theme of the forthcoming ESAP conference is on the role of the private sector in the Ethiopian livestock industry!!

Please share your stories, insights and experiences on livestock development and the private sector engagement for the next issue of ESAP newsletter

Send your stories to
esapeth@yahoo.com

UNIVERSITY OF DALHOUSIE RECOGNIZES ESAP'S FOUNDING AND SENIOR MEMBER, PROFESSOR SOLOMON DEMEKE !



In introducing Dal's honorary degree recipients for Spring Convocation 2014, the university featured Professor Solomon Demeke as "an outstanding man....a poultry scientist at Jimma University College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine in the southwest highlands of Ethiopia, and the developer of a low-input technology for brooding chickens called the hay-box brooder. Easy to construct, use and modify with locally available materials and skills, the brooder allows the mother hen to go back to laying and increases and increases egg productivity. Professor Solomon's invention been so successful at increasing the self-sufficiency of subsistence farmers in Ethiopia that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN/FAO) has funded its dissemination throughout East Africa. During the course of his four decades teaching at Jimma, his applied agricultural science research has resulted in 38 peer-reviewed and extension publications. Since 2008, he has been the local project director for three consecutive CIDA-funded international projects in collaboration with the former NSAC, now Dalhousie's Faculty of Agriculture. Under his wise counsel and good-natured leadership, his Nova Scotian partners have acquired knowledge about agriculture in eastern Africa and enhanced their own first-hand understanding of international agriculture."

ESAP proudly announces this academic and professional achievement registered by Professor Solomon Demeke, and extends its congratulation and best wishes. Professor Solomon is the only African researcher and academician to be officially awarded the honorary doctorate Degree on May 9 2014 at Faculty of Agriculture ceremony **Dalhousie University**, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. For further information see the university's news webpage <http://www.dal.ca/news/2014/04/16/introducing-dal-s->

MANUALLY OPERATED ROTARY MILK CHURNER FOR RURAL HOUSEHOLD

(By Tesfaye Asegodom, TARI; tesfasge@yahoo.com)

Farmers close to main roads and towns are better off in terms of getting fresh milk to market. Those located in remote locations, however, have to make butter- which is stable and with a long shelf life. Efficient butter making can be measured by the length of time it takes to churn the milk and by the amount of fat remaining in the skimmed milk or the amount of fat extracted from the milk.



Traditional milk churners are time consuming; inefficient for butter production; and more so are left to be worked upon by women. Over and above the rationale for an efficient milk churner, there is also a need to produce an equipment from locally available materials and easy to operate by any person. There is also a growing increase in the volume of milk due to modern breeding service provided to farmers by governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The use of Holestinen and Begayt is also a new trend developing at a bigger scale. It is therefore high time to look into innovative approaches and demonstrate easy to operate, low cost, and efficient milk churner to the farming households. In line with this TARI, embarked on developing a prototype of a milk churner. The churner has a capacity of 8 liters milk, and the process is complete in 28 minutes. Farmers have expressed satisfaction, but more is left to be done in reducing churning time.



Tesfaye Asegodom is a researcher at the Tigray Agricultural Research Institute.

CAN LIVESTOCK SERVE AS AN EMERGING SELF-EMPLOYMENT OPTION?

(By Habtamu Lemma, Wolaita Sodo University,
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We are evidencing an increasing trend in livestock science graduates engaging in private ventures as a career. This is a welcome development. However there is still more to be done. A recent study by a member of ESAP, published on the European Journal of Business Management, shades light on the concerns and potential growth of livestock entrepreneurship, but also notes the key considerations to help realize that. Habtamu Lemma of Woliata Sodo University, writes:

...Recently, university graduates have been engaging in self employment on livestock enterprises as a complementary solution. The increasing interest/perceptions and attitudinal change on livestock enterprises as a job opportunity by graduates (even by non livestock science graduates) is welcoming. However, issues underlying barrier to realize the potential of livestock industry based self-employment need to be addressed. Therefore, apart from embedding entrepreneurship education in every subject, universities need to open a career centers and equip students with the skill of creating job opportunities for themselves and their community to promote the development of the private sector. It is high time that Universities respond the new/emerging realities. Livestock graduates are also expected to grasp in-depth applications in their field and remain leaders in advancing livestock sciences as a promising career option. Finally, it is concluded that support services including livestock-related technical skills and science-based information; and policy/strategies that engage the potential roles of all stakeholders (academic institutions, Micro and small enterprises agency, urban agriculture and Ministry of Agriculture offices and other relevant governmental and Non-governmental organizations and private sectors) need to be put in place to make use of Livestock as one of the viable career option for graduates in Livestock.

See Full versions of the article on [European journal of Business management vol 6. No. 4 \(2014\)](#).

ENSURING FOOD SECURITY....

(Continued from page 2)

not have access to a sufficient quantity of animal products to meet their needs as defined by WHO experts. As an example, if the average per capita consumption of meat and milk were respectively 95.8 kg and 221.8 kg in 2005 for the OECD countries, the average for developing countries were 30.9 kg and 50.5 kg respectively; while of 13.3 kg for Sub-Saharan Africa without South Africa; 8.0 kg for South Asia without India; and 24.1 kg for Southeast and East Asia, without China. For this very reason, Africa in general and Ethiopia in particular, needs to have a Livestock Revolution.

What is Livestock Revolution? It is all about including and engaging the poor and the smallholders with a special attention to gender issues; multi-disciplinary integration; developing human and institutional capacities; adopting right based approaches; investing in innovative technology; reducing wastes and losses; increasing resilience and early warning systems. In addition to this, and as part of ESAP'S Vision statement, the value of partnership to work within and outside the association is a global trend which is bringing a tremendous positive impact. There comes the multi-disciplinary integration of approach, to act all professions around the Livestock/ Agriculture sectors in view of responding together to the need of the livestock keepers. I can therefore see the critical need of ESAP to collaborate and work together with the Veterinary, the Agricultural Economics, Bee Keeping, Animal Welfare Associations/ Societies, Pastoral communities and cooperatives etc. Partnership enhances the shared understanding of development issues and builds consensus on the path towards sustainable food security.

Dr Berhe G. Tekola is the Director of Animal Production and Health Division at the Food and Agriculture Organization (UN-FAO). Dr Berhe was formerly the Director, Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and served as President of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Regional Commission for Africa.



INNOVATE | INCUBATE (I²): ETHIOPIA SUSTAINABLE AGRIBUSINESS INCUBATOR (ESAI)

(By Ammanuel Assefa, Precise Consult International (PCI))

What is ESAI?

ESAI is a sustainable agribusiness incubator in Ethiopia – a USAID cooperative agreement project – whose objective is to transform Ethiopian agriculture sector-by-sector through the establishment of a multi-faceted innovating and incubating businesses whose primary mission consists of transforming agribusiness value chains and enhancing their competitiveness. Precise Consult International (PCI), a premier consulting organization on finance, investment, management and business advisory, is implementing the project. PCI is the first private sector organization to singe a cooperative agreement with USAID to work on Agribusiness and the “incubator” project is the first of its kind in the country. The ESAI incubator is designed according to the time-tested best practices of successful agribusiness incubators worldwide. Experience reveals that working with and through change-oriented companies is the most efficient way to bring real innovation and value-added initiatives into the market. Therefore, ESAI works along the entirety of three selected value chains (Honey, Dairy and sesame) with a dual focus to identify and support existing pioneer firms as well as to stimulate and promote emerging entrepreneurs.

How does ESAI work?

ESAI accomplishes competitive transformation first at the enterprise level and subsequently at the sector level. It achieves its objectives by analysing the underlying economics of the selected chains; undertaking strategic interventions in each value chains which afford the greatest breakthrough gains; engaging pioneering business leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs to test strategic interventions along multiple trajectories.

Services provided to upcoming entrepreneurs

As one of the projects undertakings, 20 incubatees-upcoming entrepreneurs will receive incubation services in 2014. The 20 incubatees were chosen through a rigorous process that demanded the

candidates to prepare concept notes; attend trainings on business plan preparation; prepare a complete business plan with the support of ESAI staffs; and present business ideas and plans in front of a panel of experts. In addition to the 20 incubatees, ESAI is also working with 7 companies who are running innovative business initiatives. The major focus of the project is nevertheless on the incubatees, who receive professional services on access to finance; company formation, business registration and kick off; linkage to input and/ or output Market; improving competence in business (training of entrepreneurs); support in communications and business promotion; provide business intelligence service and management advisory support.



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22nd Annual Conference of ESAP

**The Private Sector in the Ethiopian Livestock
Industry:
Investment Opportunities and Chal-
lenges**

August 28 – 30, 2014

At EIAR headquarters, Addis Ababa

ADEY MELESSE FEATURES AT A ROLE MODELLING EVENT IN ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY !!!



Pictures left to right: Professor Yalentsehay Mekonnen (PhD), Alexandra Jorge (PhD), Ms. Yemserach Legesse, Ms. Adey Melesse, group pictures with students

Adey Melesse is a recent AWARD fellow and member of ESAP executive committee.

Adey and her AWARD mentor, Alexandra Jorge (PhD), conducted a role modeling event on February 21, 2014 at College of Natural Sciences, to undergraduate and postgraduate female biological science students. Professor Alemtsehay Mekonnen, Professor of Cell & Human Physiology and Head of Gender Office, and Ms. Yemserach Legesse, Project Coordinator Gender Office, Addis Ababa University, helped in coordinating the event. The aim of the event was to share what Adey has learned from her recent fellowship, with a broader community. This was aimed at sharing information and motivating the students not to give up on their goals and visions in the face of challenges; and also to encourage and boost their confidence, assertiveness and visibility. At the end of the function, groups of eager girls exchanged addresses with Adey and Alexandra, seeking for clarification and guidance. The girls wanted to know more about AWARD and the Borlaug Fellowship, and asked how they can compete to get the fellowship.

Adey Melesse is an Associate Researcher with the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research. She is one of the four Ethiopian women who won the 2011 African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)

Fellowship. (For more information, visit www.awardfellowships.org).

During her two years fellowship, Adey got the benefit of mentoring in partnership with her mentor Alexandra Jorge (PhD), former ILRI Gene Bank Manager; and her mentee Ms. Tsion Fekre (Junior Researcher in EIAR/DZARC). Adey, also won the advanced science competition for science research at NOVUS International Inc, USA, where she conducted post MSc. research in feed quality and safety and mycotoxins, in collaboration with Missouri State University. Adey was trained on food safety at Iowa State University *via* the Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program 2013.

(visit the webinar, <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p46an99q3jd/>). During the fellowship, Adey participated in international meetings, including Gender Global Learning and Evidence Exchange (Feed the Future, Washington DC, May 22-24, 2013, <http://awardfellowships.org/news-and-events/award-news/767-integrating-gender-into-food-security-programs.html>). She was a key note speaker on the 23rd Annual IFAMA World Forum and symposium (Atlanta, June, 16-20, 2013, <http://www.ifama.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3290>) and a guest in US-African business Summit (Chicago, Oct. 8-11, 2013, <http://www.arwtc.org/118.php>).

Well done Adey, ESAP is proud of you!!!!



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Ethiopian Academy of Sciences

THE ETHIOPIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (EAS) PAVES THE ROAD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ETHIOPIAN PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (EPCC)

A National workshop was staged February 27-28, 2014 at the Intercontinental Hotel, Addis Ababa on the establishment of the EPCC. The workshop was attended by Getachew Gebru, President of ESAP. An introduction and rationale for establishing of the Ethiopian Panel on Climate Change (EPCC) was made followed by a brief presentation on history of IPCC and its outputs. Discussion was held on Institutional Arrangements and on the establishment of task forces and working groups. The workshop was opened by Professor Masresha Fetena, Executive director of EAS. ESAP participated and served as a rapporteur in the working group on Agriculture and food security, chaired by Dr. Birhane Gebrekidan, prominent scientist and senior agriculturalist. The group prepared deliverables on proposed institutional arrangement and priority areas of research and development on climate change and agriculture and food security. To learn more on EAS see: <http://www.eas-et.org/>

PASTURE AND RANGELAND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW WORKSHOP

(By: Biruk Hailu, ESAP, burew2@gmail.com)

Pasture and Rangeland Forum Ethiopia (PaRFE) of ESAP, in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organized a one day review workshop on February 03, 2014 at EIAR, in Addis Ababa. The aim of the workshop was to compile and document past pasture and rangeland research and development works.

Following a welcome address by Dr. Lemma Gizachew, Chairperson of PaRFE., His Excellency, Dr. GebreEgziabher GebreYohannes, State Minister of

(Continued on page 8)

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: ENGAGING THE PUBLIC WING

The ministry of Science and technology held a half day consultative meeting with professional societies on February 26, 2014 at Kaleb hotel. The consultative meeting focused on six months report of activities executed by the ministry regarding collaborations with the public wing – professional societies. The meeting was opened and led by H.E. Mr. Mahamud Ahmed Gaas, the State Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology. Two presentations followed on the six month report and a scientific paper on the role of the public wing on the dissemination of science and technology to the public. The ministry is currently working with 25 professional associations, including ESAP, where areas of collaboration were identified and Memorandum of understanding is signed.

DAIRY GENETICS EAST AFRICA (DGEA) - TOWARDS A DAIRY GENETICS PLATFORM IN ETHIOPIA

Dairy Genetics East Africa (DGEA) Stakeholders Meeting was held on 19th and 20th February, 2014 at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting was opened by Dr. Tadelles Dessie of ILRI to officially welcome the participants to ILRI. Dr. Bewket Siraw, Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Livestock, made the opening speech on behalf of the State Minister for Livestock, His Excellency Dr. Gebereegziabher Gebreyohannes. The objective of the meeting was to bring together actors and experts in the dairy sector and those involved in support services, including private and public sector players, policymakers, researchers, and development agencies, among other stakeholders. The meeting was aimed at identifying common key challenges to dairy development, with specific reference to dairy genetics and to discuss feasible and high impact solutions in a participatory manner.

PASTURE AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

(Continued from page 7)

Livestock Sector, MoA, in his opening speech addressed that Native pastures and rangelands occupy an important place in the economy and environmental health of Ethiopia. He stressed, “The need for commitment by agricultural research, higher learning institutions and development organizations in allocating time and resources to help explore the conditions and threats compromising the productivity of the grasslands; as well as developing and demonstrating technological options that help overcome the challenges, and thus transform the animal agriculture. He also assured that “the MoA appreciates such complimentary and positive engagements, and is ready to provide all the necessary support”.

A total of 25 invited participants from the Ministry of Agriculture; Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research and Regional Research Institutes; Universities, NGOs and development partners have attended the review workshop. The participants were able to put their contributions on each of the reviewed documents.



Workshop participants : Photo Courtesy ESAP

PAPER WINS THE EXCEL GOLD MEDAL

Paper co-authored by Members of ESAP wins the EXCEL gold medal from Association Media & Publishing in the USA as the “best feature article in a journal published by a non-profit organization in 2013”. The paper in the journal of the Society for Range Management, Rangelands, Dec 2013, is Titled “Cross-Border Interaction Spurs Innovation and Hope among Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Women of Ethiopia”. The article is an expanded and popularized version of the PARIMA article published in Science in December 2011.

Association Media & Publishing’s EXCEL Awards is the largest and most prestigious awards program that exclusively recognizes excellence and leadership in non-profit association media, publishing, and communications. For more info on the award see: <http://associationmediaandpublishing.org/EXCEL>. The award listing for this paper is found at the EXCEL Award Winners Link on page 8.

FAO PUBLISHES A MANUAL ON FEED ANALYSIS LABORATORY

