RESEARCH INTRODUCTION

A general overview of recent research activities can be derived by viewing of the following sections on USDA/CSREES RESEARCH PROJECTS, INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS, ABSTRACTS, ARTICLE SUMMARIES, and EXPERIMENTS.

Most international projects outlined are composed of intertwined, interrelated, and complementary research, extension, and education activities. In addition to the ongoing projects with two Ethiopian institutions, a large multinational project in the Middle East has commenced. In this 5-year project, the Institute will provide technical expertise and overall project management and coordination. A number of proposals for research or research and extension projects have been developed and submitted to agencies such as the USDA for funding consideration. Titles of some of recent proposals are:

- Meat Goat Sire Central Performance Testing - Current Efficacy and Future Enhancement
- Effects of Growth, Genotype, and Diet on Metabolism in Meat Goats
- Effects of Stress on the Health and Production Efficiency of Dairy Goats
- Improving Goat Profitability by Changing Fat Deposition
- Effect of Supplemental Trace Minerals and Vitamins on Sperm Production and Morphology in Dairy Goats
- Splanchnic Tissue Metabolism in Meat Goats
- Enhanced Goat Production Systems for the Southern United States

Hopefully, some of these proposals will be successful so that new projects can be implemented in the next year. Obtaining outside funds for research and extension projects is necessary to maintain a strong program and hopefully to make it even better.

The article summaries presented are for papers that have been published in 2000 and also for a few that have been accepted for publication (In Press) and will be in print in 2001. Abstracts pertain to research presentations that have been or will be given at scientific meetings in 2001 (Southern section and national American Society of Animal Science).

As is noted on the title page for the section on experiments, the studies listed have been recently conducted, are in progress, or are being planned for the near future. Although, there may also be other trials conducted that have not yet been thought of or outlined. Besides these experiments, there are some from last year with samples currently undergoing laboratory analyses and others for which articles are undergoing review for publication in various scientific journals.
Standard Abbreviations Used

BW = body weight  
cm = centimeters  
CP = crude protein  
d = day  
dL = decaliter  
DM = dry matter  
DMI = dry matter intake  
g = gram  
kg = kilogram  
L = liter  
M = mole  
mL = milliliter  
mm = millimeters  
mo = month  
ng = nanogram  
NDF = neutral detergent fiber  
OM = organic matter  
P = probability  
SE = standard error  
TDN = total digestible nutrients  
wt = weight  
vol = volume  
vs = versus  
µ = micro
The proper citation for this article is: