WELCOME

We deeply appreciate your attendance at this 20th Annual Goat Field Day of the E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research of Langston University. The Field Day is one of the most important things we do each year. The primary purpose of the Field Day is for education and extension in areas of greatest interest to clientele of the Institute. Thus, please share your thoughts with us on today’s activities and suggestions for the Field Day next year. In addition to extension and education, the Field Day provides an excellent opportunity for the staff of the Institute to meet other people that work with goats. Such interaction helps make our program the most appropriate it can be for the people it serves. The proceedings of the Field Day is a very useful tool for the Institute beyond impact realized from the program today. First, there are reports on Field Day presentations. After this information, there are highlights of research, extension, and international activities of the Institute in the past year. This section is an aid to assess our recent progress, display current activities, and contemplate future directions to be followed. We hope you will take time later to look through this information. This year’s general theme “Quality Assurance: Delivering a Wholesome Product to Market.” This is the subject of a number of recent projects of the Institute, which will be highlighted today. In addition, we have other experts who will address this area. I have looked over the articles on these topics in the proceedings, as well as the others, and it looks like we will all learn a great deal of useful new information today. And remember, we attendees also can learn a lot from each other, so let’s all make a point of visiting whenever possible. Here is the exciting program planned for today that has developed from your input.

The morning program consists of:

- Why Have A Quality Assurance Program for the Goat Industry?  
  Roger Merkel
- Herd Health and Quality Assurance  
  Ann Wells
- Quality Assurance for Goat Nutrition  
  Steve Hart

The afternoon workshops are:

- How to Help Your Vet Help You  
  Ann Wells
- Sustainable Parasite Management for Goats  
  Ann Wells
- A Meat Goat Quality Assurance Program  
  Roger Merkel
- Livestock Guardian Dogs  
  Paula and Dan Lane
- Interactive Nutrient Calculator  
  Steve Hart
- Quality Assurance from Milking to Processing  
  Steve Zeng
- A Guide to Drug Usage in Goats  
  Lionel Dawson
- Administration of Injectable Drugs and Vaccines in Goats  
  Lionel Dawson
- Basic Goat Husbandry - I  
  Jerry Hayes
- Basic Goat Husbandry - II  
  Lionel Dawson
- Body Condition Scoring for Improved Management  
  Mario Villaquiran
- Soapmaking Overview  
  Cindy Sterling
- Benefits of Government Programs  
  Dwight Guy
- General Youth Activities  
  Sheila Stevenson
- Fitting and Showing  
  Kay Garrett

Please let us know your wishes for the 2006 field day, and we will do our best to again provide a quality program with requested and timely topics. On behalf of the staff of E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research, we thank you for your continuing interest and support.

Tilahun Sahlu
Director, E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research