

Executive Summary

WP2: IMPROVEMENT OF CAMEL MILK PRODUCTION SYSTEMS



WP2.1. CURRENT STATUS OF CAMEL DAIRY FARM AND OF THEIR ENVIRONMENT

The first step of the WP2 was to establish a rapid diagnosis of the status of the camel farms (especially those partners of the project) at the beginning of the project.

This analysis was achieved by visiting the farms in Algeria (Tedjane), Turkey (Kaya), Spain (Oasis). In France, Chiffe farm being discarded, a late visit was achieved in JACO farm.

To establish the diagnosis other surrounded camel farms were visited to understand the environment. This first diagnosis brought out the main following aspects: moving from wrestling to dairy activities (Turkey), to increase productivity (Algeria), to start milking (Spain, France).

WP2.2. DETERMINE SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE CAMELMILK PRODUCTION IN EACH FARM

Thus, for that specific actions were implemented within CAMELMILK project to support some changes. The improving advices for all the farms included feeding management (type of diet, mode of distribution, use of by-products), milking management (implementation of milking parlour, adaptation to milking machine, understanding the physiology of lactation, quality control), technico-economic assessment (improvement of housing conditions, assessment of the profitability of dairy production) and regulation aspects (procedure with the administrative authorities).

It was concluded that CAMELMILK project was contributing to an important stimulation leading to convenient investment in new infrastructures for a more convenient production system.

W2.3. EMPOWERING INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS TO IMPLEMENT DESCRIBED IMPROVEMENTS

Based on the recommendations of the former WP, the empowering of the partners was supported firstly by a series of training achieved in Spain, Turkey, Algeria, and France. The training included items as camel productions, camel feeding and nutrition, camel farm management and other productions. The theoretical training was complete by practical training (body condition scoring, health management) during farm visit.

The empowering of the industrial partners was also based on practical training on milk processing, either in case of on-farm processing (Algeria, Spain, France) or in dairy factory (Turkey). Notably, training on cheese making was insured at Fuerteventura in OASIS park (just before they leave the project) and at Girone (IRTA) in Spain, at OVACIK dairy plant (Turkey), in Tedjane dairy plant and in JACO farm (France). Advices for the improvement of dairy plant infrastructures were also given.

W2.4. HANDBOOK ON CAMEL FARM MANAGEMENT

To finalize all these points, a handbook entitled “handbook of the dairy camel farming” was written. A first draft was written in French and in English to be translated by the Turkish, Arabic and Spanish partners. The first edition was done in Turkish (Faye B., Konuspayeva G., Koç A., 2021. Süt devesi yetiştiriciliği Bakım-Yönetim kılavuzu. Akademisyen Kitabevi Publ., Ankara (Turkey), 187 p., ISBN 978-625-7401-39-5), then in Arabic (Faye B., Konuspayeva G., Aouachria N.A., 2022. [dalil 'iidarat al'iibil wamuntajat al'alban], Univ. Hamman Lakhdar, El-Oued (Agérie), 119p., ISBN 978-9947-0-6159-6). A Spanish version will be ready soon. The French version was strengthened with new chapters and published by QUAE Editions (“Guide de l'élevage des Grands Camelidés”). An English version will be available soon (Springer Publ.). In addition, a German and Italian version is expected.

The books included all aspects regarding physiology of camel (nutrition, reproduction, lactation), then management for dairy production and health management.