**All-India Co-Ordinated Research Project on Goat Improvement**

**Osmanabadi Goat Field Unit**

**Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute**

**Technology developed**

NARI has carried out village goat improvement programs successfully since 1990. We have standardized the techniques of freezing buck semen in straws and artificial insemination (AI) of does in natural or induced oestrus, using frozen semen. NARI offers training in goat AI and has conducted 43 courses with 394 participants so far (119 veterinarians, 101 para-vets and 174 farmers). Since 2007, we have started conducting training courses in goat and sheep management and first-aid in goats and sheep. So far we have trained 344 trainees in goat and sheep management in 30 courses and 243 trainees in first-aid in goats and sheep in 8 courses.

Goat keepers from nearby villages bring their goats in oestrus to three NARI farms for cervical AI. AI technicians who used to carry out AI of only cows and buffaloes belonging to farmers, have now started to take buck frozen semen from NARI and carry out AI of does at the farmers’ door. A conception rate of about 50% is achieved at NARI and in the field using frozen semen straws produced at NARI.

About 30,000 straws (0.25 ml French mini straws) of frozen semen of 30 Osmanabadi bucks were produced in the frozen semen laboratory at NARI.

1. 4,000 semen straws of these were given to the Government of Maharashtra and were supplied by the government to five district AI centres – Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Buldhana, Osmanabad and Solapur.
2. 208 straws were used for inseminating village goats around Phaltan that were brought to NARI’s farm for artificial insemination. (including 1 goat from Solapur and 3 goats from Pune district.)
3. 3,900 semen straws were given to field technicians in Ahmednagar, Buldhana, Hingoli, Jalna, Kolhapur, Nashik, Pune, Sangli, Satara and Solapur districts of Maharashtra.
4. 100 semen straws were procured by veterinarians in Bangalore district in Karnataka.
5. 500 semen straws are at the semen bank at NBAGR for the purpose of breed conservation.
6. 20,000 semen were supplied to Animal Husbandry Department of Government of Karnataka.
7. 750 semen straws are in storage at NARI.