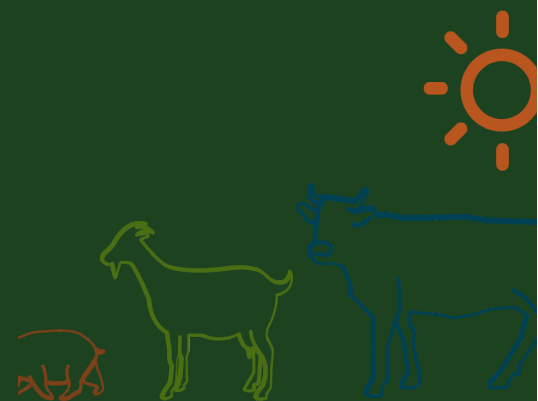


Improving the mineral nutrition of Tibetan livestock



Key details

Location

China

Duration

Start Jan 2011

End Dec 2012

Budget

AUD 519,542

Partners

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences;
Tibet Academy of Agricultural and Animal
Sciences; Tibet Livestock Research Institute

Project Leader

Nick Costa - Murdoch University

ACIAR Research Program Manager

Dr Anna Okello

Program

Livestock Systems

Project code

LPS/2010/028

phosphorus, sodium and calcium, and the trace elements copper, selenium and iodine. These mineral deficiencies can result in severe production losses (up to 30% of meat, milk, wool, fibre, reproduction) as well as poor health and increased mortalities.

This ACIAR project, with co-investment provided by AusAID and TAR, represented a concerted effort to improve animal production through ameliorating these deficiencies. There were flow-on benefits to the consumers, notably a reduction in disorders arising from mineral deficiencies in the human food chain.



ACIAR



Overview

Livestock production is the predominant industry in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of China, with in excess of 20 million animals (yaks, cattle, horses, sheep and goats) raised under various production systems. ACIAR-supported mineral survey work over the last 5 years in TAR has shown that Tibetan yaks, dairy cows and sheep are at risk from a number of mineral deficiencies - including the macro-minerals