



## **ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 10/30/2022**

**Mission Statement:** ECO-Vrindaban promotes cow protection, local agriculture, and above all, loving Krishna, as envisioned by Srila Prabhupada, ISKCON New Vrindaban's Founder-Acharya.

Participating Board Members: Jamuna Jivani (board secretary), Makara (chair), Ranaka, and Vraja. Anuttama did not participate in this meeting.

Participating Advisors: Chaitanya Mangala and Jaya Krsna

### **1. Ranaka's Monthly Report - September 2022**

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi
  - Temple Barn
    - There are seven cows giving milk: Surabhi, Usha, Jaya Radhe, Lalita, Vaisnavi, Gopi Katyayani, and Satyabhauma
    - There are three calves: Nrsimha, Vidya, and Padmagandha
    - The cows produce 28-30 gal of milk per day
    - Anandavidya makes 20-30 lb of butter weekly
    - Cleaned out the calf pen and removed the deep mud around the feeder.
    - Cleared the stones in the pastures around the barn and mowed.
    - Cleared the back walkway
    - Badarayani covered the milking on three occasions
    - Moved Puspavati to the Valley Barn to be with Dharma.
  - Nandagram
    - Josh is looking over the herd and doing maintenance.
- Josh
  - Cut grass and weed whacked at Vidya's and Nandagram.
  - Helped with the hay making operation.
  - Fed cows (bull and heifer).
  - Cleaned the feeding tray in the main barn.
- Ray

- Delivered hay to Temple Barn as needed.
- Fed and cleaned Valley Barns as needed.
- Maintained grass mowing and weed whacking around Valley Barns.
- Mowed, baled and stacked in the Valley and Nandagram Barns: 50 second-cutting round bales and 221 first-cutting round bales with the help of Josh Starkey and Pippalada. This brings the final yearly total to 1,175 round bales (966 first-cutting, 203 second-cutting, and six mulch). 24 of the first-cutting were dropped at the Bahulaban subdivision site to be used for mulch after the excavation is finished.
- Yudhisthira (New Yamuna Valley Farms Ox Report)
  - Gave one of the oxen a new nose ring
  - Japanese stick grass is invading the pastures which is requiring the oxen to eat more hay. They ate two round bales this month.
  - Yoked them up daily and they pulled a weighted sled around the pasture.
  - Brushed them daily and fed them grain twice daily.
- Suchandra (Teaching Garden & Valley Barn Flower Beds)
  - Teaching Garden
    - Weeded and watered weekly.
    - Picked when needed.
    - Pulled some marigolds that had gotten moldy.
    - Deadheaded regularly.
    - Mowed and weed-whacked when needed.
  - Barn Beds
    - Weeded and watered weekly.
    - Harvested flowers regularly.
    - Deadheaded cannas and marigolds regularly.
  - Production from Teaching Garden & Barn Beds for September 2022
    - Basil - 2 Bunches
    - Dahlias – 43
    - Gladiolas – 2
    - Globes – 100
    - Green Beans – 3 lb
    - Marigolds, large – 1,575
    - Marigolds, small – 4,250
    - Mint – 10 bunches
    - Peppers, Hot – 7 lb
    - Rosemary – 2 bunches
    - Sunflower - 40
    - Zinnias, small - 100
- Hari Nama (Vidya's Garden & High Tunnel)

- Weeded garden beds and high tunnel.
- Cut down asparagus.
- Weeded and mulched asparagus bed with straw.
- Weeded and mulched lily beds with straw.
- Cleaned and covered the tomato bed.
- Weeded and mulched outdoor carnations.
- Pulled out dead marigold plants.
- Harvested bitter melon, loki, tomatoes, marigolds, carnations, dahlias, sunflowers, eucalyptus branches, and zinnias.
- Prepared some garden beds for manure and covering for winter.
- Stored tomato cages.
- Production from Vidya HT & Garden for September 2022:
  - Bitter Melon – 121 lb
  - Carnations – 792
  - Dahlias – 301
  - Eucalyptus – 25
  - Marigolds, large – 11,920
  - Marigolds, small – 15,434
  - Squash, loki – 148 lb
  - Sunflowers – 111
  - Tomatoes – 50 lb
  - Zinnia - 18
- Analaksita (Valley High Tunnels & Outside Garden)
  - High Tunnel #1
    - Cleared the middle row of plants and prepped for tilling.
    - Fully harvested 1/4 of tomatoes and removed from trellising.
    - 270' of spinach seeded
    - Regularly watered and weeded
    - Harvested and delivered to the temple: celery, tomatoes, green beans, red chili, jalapeno, cayenne, habanero, red, yellow and orange bell peppers, cilantro, zinnia, dahlia, marigolds, tuber roses, and gardenias.
  - High Tunnel #2
    - Fully harvested and trimmed back all dahlias, eggplants, and bell pepper plants for winter.
    - Removed drip tape and walkway string from beds.
    - Tilled empty beds and replaced drip tape and walkway string.
    - Seeded 270' of spinach, 150' of carrot, 120' of beets, 100' of radishes (red and daikon), 100' of parsnip, 60' of cilantro, and 12 asparagus plants.
    - Regularly weeded and watered
    - Harvested and delivered to the temple: red, yellow, orange, and green bell

- peppers, eggplant, green beans, mint, and dahlias
- Outdoor Garden
  - Harvested and delivered to the temple: cabbage, butternut squash, tomatoes, eggplant, ground cherry, corn, basil, zinnia, marigold, jalapeno, and red poblano peppers.
  - Regularly watered outdoor plants in pots
- Greenhouse
  - Moved grow stations into the greenhouse.
  - Sprouted and transplanted
  - Regularly watered
  - Ordered and gathered supplies such as potting soil, pots, screens for sides, gravel, electronic box for side panels, etc.
  - Decided upon a floor plan for the greenhouse. Researched options for the lights. We have a heater, but it needs to be looked at to see if it will work. I am hoping to be finished by the end of the month.
- Wash Station & Barn
  - Regularly tidied
- Miscellaneous
  - Regularly mowed and weed-eated
- Production from Valley High Tunnels + Outdoor Garden for September 2022:
  - Basil - 25 lb
  - Chamomile, dried – 1/8 lb
  - Cilantro – 32.5 lb
  - Cabbage – 66 lb
  - Celery – 33.5 lb
  - Cucumbers – 31 lb
  - Dahlias – 253
  - Echinacea – 20
  - Eggplant – 104 lb
  - Gardenia - 2
  - Green Beans – 116.5 lb
  - Red, Green and Yellow Peppers – 169.5 lb
  - Hot Peppers – 57.5 lb
  - Marigolds, large – 1,100
  - Marigolds, small – 550
  - Squash, winter – 348 lb
  - Tomatoes – 580 lb
  - Tuberoses – 6
  - Zinnias - 149
- Ranaka

- Checked out the condition of the Bahulaban Barn with Ray. There are three issues to deal with that can be done by Ray and Josh. The materials will cost under \$2,000.
- Radha Vrindaban Chandra's Herd Count
  - Temple Goshala
    - Milking Cows - 7
    - Heifer Calf - 2
    - Bull Calf - 1
  - Bahulaban Herd Count
    - Steers - 4
    - Retired Cows - 17
    - Bred Heifer - 1
    - Bred Cow - 1
  - Valley Barn Herd Count
    - Bull - 1
    - Being Bred Cow - 1
    - Bred Cows - 4
    - Open Heifers (not yet breeding age) - 2
    - Retired Cows - 6
    - Steers - 3
  - Nandagram Herd Count
    - Steers - 11
    - Ox - 6
    - Bull - 1
    - Heifer being Bred - 1
  - Yudhisthira Herd Count
    - Oxen in Training - 2
  - The total herd count is 71.

## **2. New Garden Manager**

ECO-V welcomes Suchandra as the new garden manager.