



ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 1/22/2023

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 ECO-V Board Members: Anuttama, Jamuna Jivani (board secretary), Makara (chair), Ranaka, and Vraja.

Participating Advisors: Chaitanya Mangala, Jaya Krsna, and Kalakantha

1. Ranaka's Monthly Report - December 2022

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi (Temple Barn)
 - There are seven cows being milked: Usha, Parijata, Lalita, Subhadra, Gopi Katyayani, Vaisnavi, and Radhika Keshavi.
 - The cows produced 22 gal per day, perhaps due to weather stress
 - Anandavidya made 20-30 lb of butter per week.
 - There are four calves at the barn: Vidya, Padma, Raghunath, and Rupa.
 - Moved Jaysri to the Temple Barn for calving.
 - Moved Nrsimha to Nandagram.
 - Moved Satyabhauma to the Valley Barn.
 - Radhika Keshavi delivered her heifer, Rupa, on December 7.
 - A temple visitor, Bhakta Sage, helped for a few weeks.
 - Sri Badarayani prabhu continues to milk one morning a week and also helps with emergency cow escapes.
- Josh Starkey (Nandagram)
 - Put up a tarp in the little ox pen.
 - Purchased a block heater, installed fuel treatment, and added to the fuel on the New Holland Tractor.

- Moved the four little oxen to the bullpen during the bad weather and then moved them back to their area after the storm.
- Removed the new little ox out of the feed aisle two or three times and patched the hole he was getting through.
- Filled all the barns with hay.
- Cleaned up some of the rotten logs from around the green shed at the Field House.
- Cared for an injured horn on ox. The horn is healing nice.
- Repaired boards on the feed aisle.
- Ray
 - Delivered hay to the Temple Barn as needed.
 - Fed and cleaned the Valley Barns as needed.
 - Thawed frozen water fountains.
 - Built and hung two new gates for the Valley Barn feed aisle.
 - Repaired hinges and hung two new gates on the fence line behind the Valley Barn.
- Yudhisthira - Ox Report (New Yamuna Valley Farms)
 - Suspended daily drills with the oxen during the cold snap. They were comfortable in the goshala, and I kept the spring water flowing, smashing the ice that formed on the water tank. The return of warmer weather made it possible to resume our routine.
 - We put a load of gravel on our lane. Ray came up with the tractor to spread it, making it possible to transport hay with my truck to our goshala.
- Suchandra (Teaching Garden, Valley High Tunnels, Greenhouse & Outside Garden)
 - Crew: Lila & Bhumika
 - Teaching Garden
 - Cleared out sunflower plants, and cut back and dumped dead plants and stems.
 - Pulled more marigold plants.
 - Pulled dead bean plants from teepee.
 - Separated and dug up more gladiola bulbs.
 - Cleared dead stinging nettle from around the outside garden area and pavilion.
 - Removed and stacked cages.
 - Cut back tree limbs on the fence line.
 - Mulched/fertilized gladiola/lily and tulip beds with manure and mulch.
 - Cleared walkways and pots.
 - Tried to make a trench by the first driveway to better divert water.
 - Shoveled a dead plant pile overhill
 - High Tunnel #1
 - Pulled up and removed celery
 - Harvested spinach, kale, collard greens, arugula, and bok choy.

- Weeded and watered as needed.
 - Placed water jugs for natural heating for the plants.
 - Transplanted zinnias and marigolds along with some other plants.
 - Laid straw in the entryway.
 - Fixed some of the drip tape that was leaking.
 - Taped the outside corners to better insulate the tunnel; put foam noodles in the doorway for insulation.
 - Covered and uncovered the plants as needed.
 - Harvested and delivered produce to devotees in the community.
 - Cut back peppers where they had molded and pulled ones that had died.
 - Sprayed mold off what remained.
 - Found longer covering cloths for plants.
- High Tunnel #2
 - Laid straw in the entryway.
 - Cut back the okra.
 - Cut back the eggplant and hot peppers that were moldy and pulled any that had not survived
 - Sprayed mold off eggplant and pepper stems.
 - Trimmed back the fig tree
 - Transplanted the broccoli that had been started.
 - Weeded and watered as needed.
 - Brought more water jugs down for heating rows.
 - Covered and uncovered plants as needed.
 - Sealed the outside corners for extra insulation, and installed foam noodles on doors.
 - Harvested spinach, daikon radish, bok choy, and lettuce.
 - Bhumika harvested produce to deliver to devotees in the community.
- Outside Garden Area
 - Finished up outside plant clearing and rolled up and put away all extra plastic
 - Dug up perennial flowers (hyacinths) and replant them in the back of the high tunnels
 - Moved some of the potted carnations into HT #2.
- Building / Shed area
 - Processed herbs.
 - Secured phone line for internet box.
 - Organized tools and cabinet stuff.
- Greenhouse
 - Finished leveling ground by bringing in dirt
 - Laid plastic inside and tucked under the wall edges.

- Gravel was laid and leveled throughout.
 - Plans and measurements were made for tables and layout.
 - Production from Valley High Tunnels #1 & #2 for December 2022:
 - Arugula – 12 lb
 - Cilantro - 8 lb
 - Bok Choy – 12 lb
 - Cabbage – 6 lb
 - Collard Greens - 8 lb
 - Kale – 5.5 lb
 - Lettuce – 9 lb
 - Parsley – 3 lb
 - Radish – 25.5 lb
 - Spinach – 27 lb
 - Swiss Chard - .5 lb
- David Nava (Vidya’s Garden & High Tunnel)
 - Outside Garden
 - Cleaned up old foliage.
 - Greenhouse
 - Watered carnations
 - Cleared the marigolds.
- Ranaka
 - Made arrangements with American Electric Power to install a Generlink at the Valley Barn, which will allow us to hook up a generator and supply power to the office area and the barns in case of a power outage. It is necessary to have electricity to keep the cows' water fountains from freezing and to be able to plug the tractors in so they will start.
- Radha Vrindaban Chandra’s Herd Count
 - Temple Barn Herd
 - Milking Cows - 7
 - Pregnant Cow - 1
 - Heifer Calves - 2
 - Bull Calves - 2
 - Bahulaban Herd
 - Steer - 1
 - Retired Cow - 1
 - Valley Barn Herd
 - Bull - 1
 - Being Bred Cow - 1
 - Bred Cows - 5
 - Open Heifers (not yet breeding age) - 2

- Retired Cows - 21
- Steers - 6
- Nandagram Herd
 - Steers - 11
 - Oxen - 6
 - Bull - 1
 - Heifer being Bred - 1
 - Bred Heifer - 1
- Yudhisthira Herd Count
 - Oxen-in-Training - 2
- The total herd count is 72.

2. Vrajakisori as Board Secretary

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to maintain an administrative staff.

RESOLVED: The Board engages the services of Vrajakisori to assume the duties of the board secretary.

3. External Grant Request: up to \$25K for Gopal's Garden for the 2022-23 Academic Year

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to continue its support of a school in the New Vrindaban community.

RESOLVED: The Board approves a grant of \$25K for Gopal's Garden 2022-23 school year. \$5K will be available immediately and the balance will be made available once the school's CPO compliance records are submitted.

4. Ox Training Contract Renewal

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to promote sustainable farming practices, including engaging oxen, as recommended by Srila Prabhupada, in and around the New Vrindaban village.

RESOLVED: The Board renews its contract with New Yamuna Valley Farms for one year.