



ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 12/20/2020

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: Anuttama, Jamuna Jivani (board secretary), Makara (chair), Ranaka, and Vraja.

Participating Advisors: Allegra, Chaitanya Mangala, Ishana, and Jaya Krsna.

1. Ranaka's Monthly Report

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi
 - Temple Barn
 - There are six cows being milked daily: Sita, Sriya, Lalita, Usha, Vamsika, and Gopi Katyayani.
 - There are three calves: Vaisnavi, Bhisma, and Radhika Keshavi
 - The cows are producing 22 gallons of milk daily
 - Anandavidya is making 20-30 lb butter weekly
 - Bhakta Harley and Nikita left for the month. Noah has been milking and cleaning up with Lalita Gopi and Anandavidya.
 - Jaya Radhe was brought to Nandagram for breeding with Madhu and Subhadra was brought to the Temple Barn as she is approximately eight months pregnant.
 - We had a Gopastami festival for the temple guests
 - Bahulaban
 - Herd Count:
 - Steer - 1
 - Valley Barn
 - Herd Count:

- Bull - 1
 - Bred Heifers - 4
 - Being Bred Heifer - 1
 - Open young Heifer (not yet breeding age) - 1
 - Retired Cows - 20
 - Steers - 6
- Ray
 - Moved three retired cows and four steers from Bahulaban pasture to Valley barn for winter housing
 - Moved one steer from Bahulaban to Nandagram
 - Spread gravel around Valley High Tunnels
 - Moved and spread a load of gravel on Temple Barn driveway
 - Built gates and division fence to divide one section in Valley Barn to separate large cows from smaller ones
- Caitanya Bhagavat (Nandagram)
 - Daily general cow care and ensuring the safety of the Nandagram herd.
 - Monitored the herd numbers:
 - Bull - 1
 - Yearling Steers - 3
 - Cow being Bred - 1
 - Ox - 3
 - Retired Cows - 3
 - Steers - 9
 - Planned and arranged for favorable social dynamics among the cows
 - Cow checks, arranged and facilitated veterinarian visits
 - Oversaw and supplemented Nandagram's hay stock
 - Facilitated, monitored, and cared for aging cows, cow pregnancies and herd accommodations
 - General barn maintenance
- Bhakta Joseph
 - Helper: Noah
 - Renovated bull pen and created a holding chamber
 - Prepped to renovate the main barn in Nandagram.
 - Finished moving the Bahulaban cows
 - Training under Caitanya to maintain Nandagram/herd dynamics
 - Took care of and monitored Gopinath (an escape artist Holstein steer), residing in Bahulaban for the winter.
- Hari Bhakti (Outreach Department)
 - Strengthened our outreach efforts by creating attractive ECO-V related content on social media and in this way also appreciated ECO-V staff and volunteers

- Continued our ECO-V quiz on Facebook as an educational outreach strategy to promote ECO-V's mission by actively interacting with the local (devotee) community as well as the broader public through social media. In this way we also increased our organic social media reach and grew our page.
- Suchandra (Teaching Garden & Valley Barn Flower Beds)
 - Cut back butterfly and rose bushes, lilies, and gladiolas
 - Cut and dug out all cannas and dahlias, and stored them appropriately.
 - Cleared all the remaining beds
 - Laid hay over lily/gladiola beds.
 - Took all the cages out of the garden
 - Weeded all around garden beds to prepare the winter beds
 - Cut back all the mint and laid plastic over to keep it from taking over next year.
 - Mowed and weed-whacked as needed
- Analaksita dd (Vidya & Valley High Tunnels + Vidya Outdoor Gardens)
 - Crew: Moksha, Hari Nama, Gopal, Melody, David, and Elizabeth.
 - Vidya's Garden & High Tunnel
 - Put down fresh layers of cow manure compost on all beds in preparation for the spring
 - Cleaned up dead matter from this year's crop, raking/sweeping the groundcover in aisles to prevent weed growth
 - Laid down loose ground cover with sandbags over all precut holes to prevent spring weeding before planting.
 - Regular high tunnel clean up (tomatoes mostly) and rearrangement to keep lively plants near the center where it is warmer.
 - Planted a couple of new Chinese cabbage and Mache in the high tunnel.
 - Harvested kale, lettuce, tomatoes, marigolds, and carrots
 - Dug up bulbs and perennials to be replaced with other flowering varieties
 - Valley High Tunnels #1 and #2
 - High Tunnel #1
 - Disinfected, cleaned and replanted
 - Sprayed the interior with vinegar and pressure washed
 - Added manure and lime, then broad-forked and tilled
 - Leveled the dirt and flame-weeded the entire surface
 - Flushed the irrigation system with an organic fungicide and laid new drip tape
 - Re-marked beds and transplanted with purple cabbage, celery, Chinese/Napa cabbage, Brussel sprouts, purple and green kale, tuberoses, and dahlias.
 - Seeded in carrots, beets, parsnips, spinach, swiss chard and daikon radish. High Tunnel #1 is completely planted.

- High Tunnel #2
 - Cleared, added manure, and broad-forked it
 - Started a sprouting station in the office and have set up lights and heat mats. We are sprouting carnations, romaine lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussel sprouts, celery, and smooth-leaf kale.
 - Began gathering the data to make a cost analysis of the High Tunnels.
 - Production from Outdoor gardens and High Tunnels (Vidya, HT #1 & #2) for the month of November 2020:
 - Valley High Tunnels 1 + 2
 - Marigolds Small – 1,950
 - Tomatoes - 430 lb
 - Celery - 6 bags
 - Green Peppers – 65 lb
 - Cucumbers – 10 lb
 - Bok Choy – 2 bags
 - Carrots – 7 lb
 - Cilantro – 7 bags
 - Lettuce - 7 bags
 - Radishes – 5 lb
 - Vidya’s Garden & High Tunnel
 - Small marigolds - 1,230
 - Carnations - 37
 - Tuberoses – 39
- Ranaka
 - Art Studio demolition update from Ishana:
 - All floor structure is removed
 - The remaining item left to demolish and salvage from is the roof
 - Working with Gintras to install a recently purchased timer for Valley well pump.
 - Remuna, a six-year-old cow from the Canadian herd died suddenly Thursday 12/17/20. The cause of death is unknown. Herd count is now 64.

2. Vrindaville Proposal

A subcommittee consisting of Makara and Ranaka was formed to further explore the Vrindaville proposal, ask the Vrindaville cooperative organizers clarifying questions, and to report back to the Board.