



ECO-VRINDABAN

ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 5/28/2023

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

Participating Advisors: Jaya Krsna.

Recording Secretary: Vrajakisori

1. Ranaka's Report for April 2023

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi
 - Temple Barn
 - There are six cows giving milk; Subhadra, Lalita, Jayasri, Radhika Keshavi, Parijata, and Yashoda. Usha is dried off but still with us. Sumitra was moved from Nandagram to Temple Barn and is pregnant and present, making a total of 8 cows.
 - There are three calves; Rupa, Makara, and Kadamba Kanana. Raghunath has been moved to Nandagram. Padmagandha is at the Valley Barn.
 - The cows produce 28 gallons per day.
 - Anandavidya makes 20-30 pounds of butter per week.
 - Sri Badarayani Prabhu is milking every Wednesday morning but will switch to Wednesday evenings.
 - The temple sends regular tour guides to assist in guest supervision and education. It's going really well, and the guests seem to be getting a better experience.
 - Spring cleaning is completed as the winter bedding inside and outside has been removed and the barn has been washed up.
 - Lalita cut the grass.

- Rasalila milks in the evenings when possible. She milks one cow by hand.
 - Bahula was moved from the Valley Barn to Nandagram with Danavir.
 - Lalita makes cow dung patties in the upstairs of the barn.
- Madhuban Orchard
 - Ishan used the bulldozer to clear around the chestnut trees. He did a good job. There were a lot of dead trees and unwanted invasive shrubs. There is also a lot of personal garbage from some time in the past history. Quite the excavation. He cleared an area between the orchard and the palace, just below the road where the walking trail is directly across the road from Radha Gopinath Mandir.
 - Reused materials were available for tree cages. Chicken wire was purchased, and we may require more.
 - 13 native persimmon trees were very nicely planted in a row behind the chestnut trees. We have more persimmon trees that may be planted in the future.
 - We have pawpaw trees that we would like to plant in the wet area below the road.
 - Vrindavanpriya has been helping.
 - The electric company gave us a big load of wood chips for mulching.
- Teaching Garden
 - Emptied and cleaned the tool shed with the power washer and blower. Sorted the garbage. Organized the tools. Removed the lock. I think having an open door will help everyone to have access to the tools.
 - Removed the door due to it being unusable with the new gravel depth. It was moved to the inside and it's a great improvement. There is more access to the patio and even a small tractor can access the garden.
 - Emptied the rock patio of stuff, repaired and power washed.
 - Added solar powered lights to the patio.
 - Repaired the fencing around the garden on three sides.
 - Find the time for Lalita to remove the stinging nettle and add more fencing.
 - Lalita cut the grass in the garden with the small tractor.
 - Needed a new picnic table for the garden.
 - Held a Music and Market on Saturday night. Both guests and a few devotees sat and chanted for a few hours. Lalita sold some veggies. We had a fire pit and boiled some saffron milk.
 - Landscaping the yard of the Village Center. There was a large quantity of landscaping plastic and wood chips available. Lalita weed-whacks and maintains the area.
- Josh Starkey (Nandagram)

- Located the underground water leak.
 - Cut all the grass around the barns and field house.
 - Fixed broken boards on the feed aisle.
 - Picked up & installed a refrigerator and range for the field house basement apartment.
 - Repaired the tires on the zero turn mower and did maintenance.
 - Fixed the fence on top of Bahulaban.
 - Replaced plastic insulators with wire ties, and high tensile fence across the street from Bahulaban.
 - Helped Ray move cows from the Valley Barn to Bahulaban.
 - Helped Anandavidya move a pregnant cow to the milk barn from Nandagram.
 - Moved the trash from the cabin and tore down the woodshed.
 - Helped Ray plant potatoes.
- Ray
 - Delivered hay to Temple Barn, fed and cleaned the Valley Barns as needed.
 - Moved 19 cows from the Valley Barn to the Bahulaban pastures.
 - Chisel plowed and disked potato bottom.
 - Chisel plowed, disked, and rotovated VHT Outside Garden.
 - Planted 1,000 lb of potato seed.
 - Did repair work on Gopal's Garden playground.
 - Worked on building a two oxen cart for Badarayani.
- Yudhisthira das (The New Yamuna Valley Farms) - Ox Training Report
 - Weed whacked the pastures and removed many multiflora rose bushes.
 - Spread mulch hay for seeding.
 - Tightened up the fence.
 - Installed a new gate for the garden to allow the oxen access for plowing.
 - Hitched the oxen to a cultivator, which did a good job preparing the ground for seeding.
 - Purchased 10 lb of buckwheat for an attempt to grow and harvest grain.
 - Rsabdev, my wife Vandevi, and I worked to honor ECO-V's request to submit a 1065 form.
- Badarayani (Ox Program)
 - Training all 5 oxen.
 - Govardhan trained to pull the cart and walked all the way to the main road. He is regularly pulling a cart.
 - Kaustubha and Nandalal are being trained to pull small logs.
 - Nrsimha is being trained in basic commands.
 - Raghunath is also going through basic commands training.

- Developing a relationship with Kadamba.
 - Milked the cows once a week.
- Hari Nama (Vidya's Garden and High Tunnel)
 - Weeded high tunnel and garden beds.
 - Lawn maintenance and weeding.
 - Picked viburnum bushes.
 - Picked daffodils, dogwood, and lilacs.
 - Pruned back dead branches on flowering bushes.
 - Transplanted marigolds in the greenhouse.
 - Started the bitter melon and Loki seeds.
- Vidya Production from High Tunnel for the month of April 2023:
 - Daffodil – 160
 - Dogwood Branches – 28
 - Hyacinth – 119
 - Lilacs – 95
 - Viburnum Balls – 131
 - Viburnum Branches - 14
- Suchandra (Valley High Tunnels One and Two plus Greenhouse & Outside Garden)
 - Crew: Lila & Bhumika
 - High Tunnel 1
 - Pulled plants that went to seed.
 - Cleared rows for summer plants.
 - Planted tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers.
 - Put cages up for dahlias.
 - Sprayed high tunnel with neem oil.
 - Planted carrots, beets, and radishes.
 - Released more ladybugs.
 - Rafael put screens up on the vents.
 - Harvested rainbow chard, lettuce, kale, arugula, collards, and cilantro.
 - Weeded/watered when needed.
 - Covered/uncovered tomatoes when the temperatures got below 30 degrees.
 - High Tunnel 2
 - Pulled old plants to clear rows for tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers.
 - Planted tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers.
 - Fixed drip line leaks.
 - Screen was put up on the vents.
 - More ladybugs were released.
 - Sprayed plants with neem oil/soap.
 - Planted carrots, beets, and radishes.

- Rafael put a screen up on the vents.
 - Harvested, peas, cilantro, spinach, kale, beets, carrots, and radishes.
 - Weeded/watered when needed.
 - Covered tomatoes when the temperatures got below 30 degrees.
 - Bhumika harvested from both tunnels for customer deliveries.
- Outside Garden
 - Picked rocks from bed.
 - Put the fence up.
 - Laid plastic.
 - Set up a temporary hose.
 - Planted lettuce, kale, arugula, cabbage, broccoli, brussel sprouts, peas, and more.
 - Had a volunteer planting party.
 - Rafael tilled the back area to smooth it out.
 - Planted strawberries, zinnias, and dahlias behind the Tunnel.
 - Planted gladiolas and some sunflowers.
 - Planted gladiolas in pots outside.
 - Planted raspberry bushes.
 - Planted herbs next to the compost pile.
- Greenhouse
 - Bhumika and I started lots of seeds for future planting.
 - Transplanted marigolds from Vidya and Makunda.
 - Mixed more soil for soil blocks.
 - Planted gladiola bulbs in small pots for farmers markets.
 - Watered daily.
- Teaching Garden
 - Planted vines in teepee.
 - Raked grass from when Lalita Gopi mowed.
 - Mowed grass to give a cleaner appearance.
 - Weed whacked around the garden a few times.
 - Weeded areas around the garden.
 - Worked on trenching water runoff from the road.
 - Planted Dahlias, irises, ranunculus, and other bulbs.
 - Planted two more butterfly bushes.
- Production from Valley High Tunnels #1 & #2 for April 2023
 - Arugula – 15.5 lb
 - Cilantro – 33 lb
 - Baby Beet Greens – 2.5 lb
 - Beets – 35 lb
 - Bok Choy – 32.5 lb

- Carrots – 23.5 lb
 - Celery – 3 lb
 - Claytonia (Salad) – 3.5 lb
 - Collard Greens – 65 lb
 - Kale – 24.5 lb
 - Lettuce – 40.5 lb
 - Mint – 5 lb
 - Nettles – 2.5 lb
 - Oregano – 2 lb
 - Parsnips – 1 lb
 - Radish – 10 lb
 - Snow peas - .5 lb
 - Spinach – 17.5 lb
 - Swiss Chard – 32 lb
- Ranaka
 - Dharma the bull who has been residing at the Valley Barn for many years died. He would have been 11 years old this May.
- Radha Vrindaban Chandra's Herd Count
 - Temple Barn Herd
 - Milking Cows - 6
 - Dried Cow -1
 - Cow due to Freshen -1
 - Heifer Calves -2
 - Bull Calf -1
 - Bahulaban Herd Count
 - Steers - 3
 - Retired Cows - 18
 - Open Cow - 1
 - Valley Barn Herd Count
 - Bred Cows - 5
 - Heifers (not yet breeding age) - 2
 - Retired Cows - 4
 - Steers - 4
 - Nandagram Herd Count
 - Steers - 13
 - Bull - 1
 - Heifers being Bred - 3
 - New Vrindaban Community Garden
 - Oxen in Training - 5
 - Yudhisthira Herd Count

■ Oxen in Training - 2
The total herd count is 72.

2. Potential dates for Fall Onsite Meeting

- September 22-24th, 2023

3. Moving Board Meetings to Zoom Platform

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to improve the communication and efficiency of its meetings.

RESOLVED: The Board approves Zoom as the new platform for all board meetings.