

## ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 6/11/2023

**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, Makara (chair), Ranaka, and Vraja.

Participating Advisors: Jaya Krsna and Chaitanya Mangala.

Recording Secretary: Vrajakisori

### 1. Ranaka's Report for May 2023

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi
  - o Temple Barn
    - There are seven cows being milked: Subhadra, Lalita, Jayasri, Parijata, Yasoda, Radhika Keshavi, Sumitra.
    - The cows produced 30 gallons of milk a day.
    - There are four calves: Rupa, Makara, Kadamba, and Laksman.
    - Anandavidya made 20-30 lb of butter per week.
  - Oxen Field
    - All five oxen have been moved to the oxen field at the former community garden area. They are very happy. The gate has been repaired. The water is turned on. When Sri Badarayani is away, Anandavidya checks on them daily.
    - Cleaned up the field and removed all junk from inside the field.
  - Madhuban Orchard
    - Watered baby trees; kept the walking path mowed.
- Josh Starkey (Nandagram)

- Moved cows to Nandagram summer pasture.
- Assisted Ray with digging up an underground leaking water line.
- Assisted Ray with installing siding & repairing soffit on the Bahulaban barn.
- Moved the new tenant into the Field House.
- Turned on the water and fixed the water heater in the Field House.
- Scooped out the bigger Nandagram barn with the tractor.
- Repaired some rough places in the Nandagram summer pasture fence.
- Expanded the bull pen pasture at Nandagram.
- Found where Rico got out by Sniders and the fence was repaired.
- Added staples and wire ties to the Bahulaban fence.
- Helped Ray move the cows to the Bahulaban from the Valley Barn.
- Raked, tedded, and moved hay into the Valley Barn.
- Helped Anandavidya move a cow down to the milk barn.
- Changed oil on the ATV and repaired wheels on the zero-turn mower.
- Helped Ray move a cow down to the Valley Barn.
- Assisted Ray with fence repairs at the Valley Barn.
- Herd checks on Bahulaban cows.
- Mowed at Gopal's School and Vidya's.
- Checked the roof on the Field House.

#### Ray

- Delivered hay to the Temple Barn, fed and cleaned the Valley Barns as needed.
- Finished a two-oxen cart for Badarayani.
- Cut, baled, and stacked in the Valley Barn -(128) 1<sup>st</sup> cutting round bales, with the help of Josh Starkey.
- Used the backhoe to dig up and repair the leaking water line at Nandagram.
- Delivered 33 round bales from Valley Barn to the Bahulaban subdivision to be used for mulching banks.
- Continued soffit repair and adding siding to the Bahulaban barn.
- Cultivated potatoes twice.
- Yudhisthira das (The New Yamuna Valley Farms) Ox Training Report
  - Hitched the oxen to a horse-drawn cultivator, then worked up a 1,000 sq. ft. area and planted it to the buckwheat. Installed pontoons on it so that it wouldn't tip over and conducted the operation successfully by myself.
  - Put the blade on the weed whacker, then removed the brush and multiflora roses from the pastures.
  - Hooked up a large water tank as an emergency water supply during the drought.

- Badarayani (Ox Program)
  - Assisted Ananda Vidya Prabhu in shifting all the steers to the Ox training center (community garden area).
  - Training Nandalal and Kaustubh as a pair within the facility.
  - Training Nrsimha and Raghunath in basic commands.
  - Painted double ox cart.
  - Milked cows on wednesday evenings.
- Hari Nama (Vidya's Garden and High Tunnel)
  - Transplanted marigolds big and small varieties, statice, sunflowers, tomatoes, bitter melon, basil, rudbeckia, hibiscus, etc.
  - Watered and fertilized trays in the greenhouse.
  - Planted marigolds in the high tunnel.
  - Planted marigolds, lauki, & bitter melon in the garden.
  - Planted gladiolus bulbs.
  - Harvested hydrangea branches, mock orange, and peonies.
  - Weeded high tunnel and garden beds.
  - Weedeating, mowing, and grounds maintenance.
- Vidya Production from High Tunnel for the month of May 2023:
  - $\blacksquare$  Carnations 30
  - Hydrangea Balls 175
  - Small Marigolds 110
  - Peonies 116
  - Rhododendron Bunches 35
- Suchandra (Valley High Tunnels One and Two plus Greenhouse & Outside Garden)
  - o Crew: Lila, Bhumika, Mukunda
  - o High Tunnel 1
    - Hung fencing for cucumbers.
    - Tied tomatoes up, twisting stem around string every so often, also pruned them regularly.
    - Basil, cucumbers, peppers, carrots, radishes, beets, marigolds, and zinnias were planted.
    - Harvested collards, rainbow chard, lettuce, broccoli, radishes, and beet greens.
    - Pulled old plants to make room for others.
    - Tied up plants that are going to seed.
    - Weeded and watered as needed.
    - Put a shade cover on top of the High Tunnel.
  - High Tunnel 2
    - Tied tomatoes up and pruned them.
    - Pulled old plants to make room for others.

- Planted cucumbers, beans (inoculated seeds), peppers, zinnias, marigolds, carrots, radishes, and beets.
- Started tilling walkways to even them out.
- Harvested peas, cauliflower, kale, arugula, cilantro, radishes, beets, spinach, and carrots.
- Shelled peas for the temple.
- Put a shade cover on top of the High Tunnel.
- Bhumika harvested and delivered to devotees weekly.

#### Outside Garden Area

- Lila finished laying plastic, put fencing up, made signs for the garden, and planted wheat grass in different batches, raspberry plants, sunflowers, gladiolas, and peppers as well as other vegetables.
- Lila also spread straw on strawberry beds, gladiola beds and spread gravel in the middle front area of high tunnels.
- Mukunda planted tomatoes, basil, and other vegetables. She also helped with a lot of weeding, watering, and sprinkling diatomaceous earth on plants to prevent bugs.
- Bhumika and others planted peas, carrots, lettuce, beets, tatsoi, celery, Bok choy, spinach, rainbow chard, collards, squash, corn, and other vegetables.
- Bhumika set fencing entryways up and fencing for peas to climb.
- Suchandra planted cucumbers, strawberries, beans, zucchini, summer squash, cantaloupe, marigolds, zinnias, ranunculus flowers as well as other flowers. Shyama helped with some of the planting.
- Sprayed plants with organic bug deterrent.
- Bought and set up sprinkler system
- Weeded and watered regularly.
- Weed whacked around the outdoor garden entryway and high tunnels, barn entryways.
- Harvested, arugula, collards, rainbow chard, Bok choy, tatsoi, kale and lettuce.
- Did three village markets on Saturdays, Shyama helped work them and we all helped with harvesting and setting up.

### Greenhouse

- Lila put chicken wire and plastic around the greenhouse.
- Bhumika and others started more seeds for later plantings.
- Everything watered regularly.

#### o Barn Beds

- Planted marigolds and cannas.
- Planted ranunculus, clianthus, hostas, and more gladiolas in the back bed area.

- Weeded and watered regularly.
- Teaching Garden
  - Filled pots with soil and planted store bought flowers in them.
  - Zinnias, straw flowers, cannas, and gladiolas were planted.
  - Morning glory planted next to the center pavilion and in the teepee.
  - All the marigolds were planted.
  - Spreaded the mulch.
  - Put cages up for dahlias.
  - Mowed and weed whacked.
  - Weeded and watered regularly.
  - Shyama and Vrinda helped with planting, weeding, and watering.
- Production from Valley High Tunnels #1 & #2 for the month of May 2023:
  - Arugula 6 lb
  - Asparagus 1 lb
  - Chinese Cabbage 1 lb
  - Cilantro -40.5 lb
  - Chocolate Mint 1 lb
  - Baby Beet Greens 18 lb
  - Beets 67.5 lb
  - Bok Choy 16.5 lb
  - Broccoli 7 lb
  - Carrots 17.5 lb
  - Cauliflower 54.5 lb
  - Cauliflower Greens 31 lb
  - Celery 13.5 lb
  - Collard Greens 131 lb
  - Kale -3.5 lb
  - Lettuce Leaf 29.5 lb
  - Lettuce Romaine 31 lb
  - Oregano 1 lb
  - Peas 58 lb
  - Radish 54 lb
  - Rainbow Chard 25.5 lb
  - Spinach -2.5 lb
  - Starter Plants 37 lb
  - Tatsoi 12 lb

## Ranaka

■ Two cows passed this month: Hari Chand, a 9-year-old ox residing at Nandagram. Cintamani a 6-year-old retired milk cow who had been in the sick pen at the Valley Barn all winter with bad hips.

- Met with Ram Associates to work on 2022 Financial Review.
- Badarayani Prabhu has accepted the position of board advisor that was offered to him.
- Radha Vrindaban Chandra's Herd Count
  - Temple Barn Herd
    - Milking Cows- 7
    - Heifer Calves- 2
    - Bull Calves- 2
  - o Bahulaban Herd Count
    - Steers -3
    - Retired Cows- 19
    - Open Cow 1
  - Valley Barn Herd Count
    - Bred Cows- 5
    - Heifers (not yet breeding age)- 2
    - Retired Cows 3
    - Steers 4
  - Nandagram Herd Count
    - Steers 12
    - Bull 1
    - Heifers being bred 3
  - New Vrindaban Community Garden Herd Count
    - Oxen in Training 5
  - Yudhisthira Herd Count
    - Oxen in Training 2

Total herd count is 71.

# 2. Sri Badarayani as an Advisor

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to maintain a team of advisors.

RESOLVED: The Board offers Sri Badarayani the position of advisor ending with the January 2024 annual meeting.