



## ECO-VRINDABAN

### ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 9/10/2023

**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 Advisor: Chaitanya Mangala, Jaya Krishna, and Sri Badarayani.

Recording Secretary: Vrajakisori

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

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi
  - Temple Barn
    - There are eight cows giving milk: Subhadra, Sumitra, Jayasri, Parijata, Yashoda, Radhika Keshavi, Pushpavati, Jaya Radhe.
    - There are two calves in the field next to the Teaching Garden: Rupa and Makara.
    - There are five calves at the barn: Kadamba Kanana, Laksman, Jagannath, Madhuri Radha, and Haladhar.
    - Jaya Radhe delivered her bull calf, Haladhar, on August 30.
    - The vet came to check on Jagannath. He has respiratory problems and a low appetite. He was given antibiotics and tested negative for parasites. He is still struggling with health problems and the vet will return soon.
    - Mukunda has continued to hand milk cows and cares for Rupa and Makara.
    - Lalita (cow) was dried off and sent to Nandagram for breeding.
    - Fredy worked for a few days digging holes for the new fence line but has left until December; he also helped with hand milking.
    - Sri Badarayani has been milking the cows Wednesday evenings, to give

- Anandavidya a weekly evening away from the barn.
  - Our tour guides, Badarayani and Keshava Acharya, have been very helpful with crowd control.
  - The cows produced 25 gallons of milk per day.
  - Anandavidya made 20-30 pounds of butter weekly.
  - There has been a greater appreciation for the buttermilk which is used for lunch drinks.
- Josh Starkey (Nandagram)
  - Cut and removed the cherry tree on the Nandagram pasture that fell and took out 60 ft of fence line.
  - Repaired the fence that the cherry tree took out.
  - Raked, tilled, and moved hay bales off the fields with Ray.
  - Mowed all the grass at Gopal's Garden and Vidya's.
  - Pulled the gate out of brush and hung to block off the pasture in Bahulaban while pipeline people were doing fence repairs.
  - Fixed hose on the water trough at Nandagram.
  - Cleaned the manure from barns.
- Ray
  - Delivered hay to the Temple Barn, fed and cleaned the Valley Barns as needed.
  - Repaired the broken belt on the round baler and replaced the worn out hay wagon tire.
  - Delivered a dump trailer load of topsoil from Frazier bottom to the Valley High Tunnels for potting.
  - Cut, baled and stacked in the Valley Barn – (24) 1<sup>st</sup> cutting and (80) 2nd-cut round bales. Cut, baled and stacked in the Nandagram Barns – (258) 1<sup>st</sup> cutting; all with the help of Josh Starkey. Total 1<sup>st</sup> cutting harvested in 2023 to date is 659. Total 2nd cutting harvested in 2023 to date is 116. The grand total is 775.
  - Brush-hogged Gopisa hay meadows.
  - Mowed and weed-whacked around the Valley office and barns.
  - Installed a new window in Gopal's Garden new preschool classroom.
- Yudhisthira das (The New Yamuna Valley Farms) - Ox Training Report
  - Put 10 bales as backup hay storage in our new shelter barn, in the eventuality of a systems failure.
- Sri Badarayani (Ox Program)
  - Everyday walked Kadamba and Lakshman to the kitchen.
  - Govardhan walked down with a cart to the kitchen and back to the Ox training center.
  - Walked Lakshman and Kadamba to the Island for a presentation on "Balarama's Plow" (Appreciating the role of Ox power)
  - Trained Nrsimha and Raghunath with basic commands to pull logs.

- Yoked Kautubha and Nandulal together to pull logs.
- Hari Nama (Vidya's Garden and High Tunnel)
  - Weeded and maintained the high tunnel and garden.
  - Watered the high tunnel.
  - Removed the dead and diseased plants.
  - Pruned the overgrown bushes.
  - Weeded along the fence line and weed-whacked.
  - Cleaned the garden shed and prepared tools for the next season.
  - Recovered aisles where ground cloth was damaged.
  - Harvested: large and small marigolds, dahlias, tuberose, rudbeckia, hibiscus, sunflowers, bitter melon, loki, tomatoes.
- Vidya Production from High Tunnel and Garden for the month of August 2023:
  - Bittermelon – 274 lb
  - Carnations – 1,215
  - Dahlias, Large - 289
  - Gladiolas – 134
  - Lilies, large – 14
  - Marigolds, Large – 9,217
  - Marigolds, Small – 4,716
  - Rudbeckia - 114
  - Tuberoses – 193
  - Squash Loki – 755 lb.
  - Tomatoes – 11 lb.
- Suchandra (Valley High Tunnels One and Two plus Greenhouse & Outside Garden)
  - Crew: Lila, Bhumika, Christine, and Sudar.
  - High Tunnel 1
    - Replaced the two left side fans.
    - Changed power strips for fans to outdoor type, hoping this will make it so fans last longer and don't short out.
    - Added another main drip line pipe in the high tunnel to separate the front watering from back. This should help with the wet area in front.
    - Fixed the drip line leaks throughout the tunnel.
    - Put stakes up for zinnias and tied them to stakes.
    - Hung some more support netting for new cucumber plants.
    - Put tomato clips on tomato plants to keep them from falling over and breaking.
    - Pruned tomato plants and cucumber plants.
    - Planted more cucumber plants in place of expired ones.
    - Planted beans in the areas they didn't come up.
    - Weeded throughout tunnels, deadheaded dahlias.

- Watered and harvested daily.
- High Tunnel 2
  - Replaced power strips for fans to outdoor type.
  - Added another main drip line, water line to split front and back of tunnel watering.
  - Fixed drip line leaks that were bad throughout the tunnel.
  - Pruned tomatoes and cucumbers.
  - Deadheaded dahlias and zinnias.
  - Weeded, watered, and harvested daily.
- Outside Garden
  - Cleared in between high tunnels, took the plastic up and laid gravel.
  - Cleared a lot of plants that were done outside and cleaned up the outdoor space daily.
  - Cleared out the cucumbers outside and planted beans.
  - Planted new rows of beans every few weeks.
  - Watered outdoor garden in mornings if needed and watered in evenings.
  - Pruned outdoor tomato plants and weeded throughout the garden.
  - Lettuce and some other things were planted.
  - Harvested daily from outdoor space.
  - Moved fence that separated the new garden from the old area.
  - Laid plastic in the new garden area and planted beans in open areas, kept grass mowed in that area.
  - Set the hose up for new space.
  - Mowed around high tunnels, greenhouse and the outdoor garden.
  - Weed-whacked in front of the high tunnels and greenhouse.
  - Moved plants from the greenhouse for fall planting into new garden space.
  - Bhumika harvested and delivered to people in the community.
  - Lila and her sons harvested potatoes from the potato patch.
- Greenhouse
  - Bhumika started seeds for fall planting and Christine transplanted them.
  - Moved tables off to the side to make room for pots.
- Teaching Garden
  - Sudar mowed when needed and removed fences around marigolds that were no longer needed.
  - Planted two lilac bushes in front of the garden on either side of the fence and one inside the garden.
  - Trained morning glory vines.
  - Cut spaces in the dahlia cages so they can be picked easier.
  - Weed-whacked around the garden and helped Jai Sri with weeding

- the garden beds and deadheading flowers.
  - Watered when needed.
  - Jai Sri harvested daily.
- Barn Beds
  - Watered beds when needed.
  - Weeded and deadheaded both beds.
  - Harvested marigolds and gladiolas.
- Production from Teaching Garden August 2023
  - Calendula – 20
  - Dahlias, Med. - 60
  - Gladiolas – 100
  - Liatris – 30
  - Marigolds, Large - 100
  - Marigolds, Small – 15,300
  - Mint Bunches - 20
  - Zinnias, Small - 200
- Vidya's High Tunnel and Production from Valley High Tunnels #1 and #2 plus Outside Garden for August 2023:
  - Basil – 21 lb
  - Beets – 45 lb
  - Bittermelon – 3 lb
  - Cabbage – 243.5 lb
  - Calendula - 80
  - Carrots – 20.5 lb
  - Cauliflower – 1b
  - Celery – 41 lb
  - Cilantro – .25 lb
  - Cucumbers – 286.5 lb
  - Dahlias, Small – 456
  - Dahlias, Large – 363
  - Eggplant – 60 lb
  - Gladiolas – 29
  - Green Beans – 113.5 lb
  - Kale – 22.5 lb
  - Lettuce Mixed – 42.5 lb
  - Liatris – 30 lb
  - Marigolds, Large – 3,012
  - Marigolds, Small – 8,501
  - Mint - 1 lb
  - Nasturtium – 2 lb
  - Okra – 5.5 lb
  - Parsley – 6 lb

- Peppers Hot – 15.5 lb
  - Peppers Sweet – 36 lb
  - Radish – 13 lb
  - Spinach – 109 lb
  - Squash Leaves – 11 lb
  - Squash Winter – 238 lb
  - Squash Yellow – 268 lb
  - Sunflowers – 152
  - Swiss Chard – 105 lb
  - Tomatoes – 989 lb
  - Watermelon – 18 lb
  - Zinnias, Small – 1,030
  - Zinnias, Large – 833
  - Zucchini – 294.5 lb
- Ranaka
  - Finished and distributed ECO-V's 2022 financial audit from Rama Associates.
- Radha Vrindaban Chandra's Herd Count
  - Temple Barn Herd Count
    - Milking Cows-8
    - Heifer Calves-3
    - Bull Calves-3
    - Future Breeding Bull-1
  - Bahulaban Herd Count
    - Steers-3
    - Retired Cows-19
    - Open Cow-1
  - Valley Barn Herd Count
    - Bred Cows-3
    - Heifers (not yet breeding age)-2
    - Retired Cows-3
    - Steers-4
  - Nandagram Herd Count
    - Steers-11
    - Bull-1
    - Heifers being Bred-4
  - Community Garden Herd Count
    - Oxen in Training-5
  - Yudhisthira Herd Count
    - Oxen in Training-2

**Total herd count is 73**