



Trip Report

Project: Developing Institutions and Capacity for Sheep and Fiber Marketing in Central Asia

Traveler (s): Bob Stobart

Location (s): Kyrgyzstan _____ **Dates of Travel:** June 9-21, 2004

Purpose of Trip: Conduct 2 workshops for producers to introduce them to proper clip preparation techniques at shearing, the consequences of management decisions that affect wool quality and the steps that occur during processing of greasy wool to fabric.

Helped prepare training materials (video and pamphlets) for use by KSBA field staff and RADS personnel.

Prepared budget and workplan for the coming year.

Discussed workshop for KSBA staff and RADS personnel to introduce formal training materials and tour through "Kyrgyz Worsted – Woolen Factory" to give them hands on experience for wool processing.

Brief Summary: Two workshops were conducted for producers in the Chui and Talas regions. These workshops were designed to introduce the concept of steps that producers could do at shearing time to add value to their wool. Items discussed included clip preparation, why it is necessary, steps involved and how the marketing chain works. Several videos were shown that illustrated the steps in proper clip preparation and the problems that the processor faced due to wool that are not properly prepared.

The work-plan and budget for the upcoming fiscal year was discussed and prepared as well as planning for another work-shop for KSBA and RADs' personnel relating to clip preparation and processing that will be help in late September.

Itinerary:

- June 9** Left Laramie en-route to Bishkek via Frankfurt, and Istanbul.
- June 10** en-route to Bishkek
- June 11** I arrived in Bishkek at 1:30 am, was met at the airport by Akylbek Rakaev. Luggage did not arrive and we spent several hours at Turkish Airlines office. I was taken to my apartment, arriving at 4 am.
- June 12** Mr. Rakaev picked me up at 2 pm and we visited the workshop location in Chui Valley, discussed schedule with farm owner



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- June 13** Met with Akylbek Rakaeve to finalize plans for workshop and go over schedule of events. We also discussed the video taping of the workshop to produce a tape that could be shown in other districts. We started planning next year's work-plan and budget for KSBA.
- June 14** Picked up at apartment and drove to site of work-shop. We finished the workshop at the farm and proceeded to the restaurant where lunch was served. We showed several video tapes produced by ASI regarding wool handling and preparation. A question and answer period followed. The meeting was concluded at approximately 4:20 pm.
- June 15** Picked up at apartment and went to Turkish Airlines office to enquire about my luggage, we then went to office of KSBA. Akylbek and I discussed the workshop conducted the previous day, what was good, what didn't work and how to modify the workshop to be conducted in Talas. We finalized plans for the work-shop in Talas We also worked with video people on dialogue and scenes from the taping done the previous day. .
- June 16** I was picked up at my apartment, went to KSBA office, collected materials for the workshop in Talas and departed via car to Talas.
- June 17** Drove to the work-shop site, approximately 25 km outside Talas. The workshop was held and lunch was provided and we again showed videos and had a question and answer period. At both work shops, the problem of shears was brought up, especially the lack of new shears and training of shears. We drove back to Talas and spent the night.
- June 18** Returned via car to Bishkek
- June 19** We went again to Turkish Airlines office, my luggage still had not been found. Akylbek and I went to KSBA office and discussed both workshops, what was right and what didn't work. We discussed a possibility of having another workshop in September for KSBA warehouse people and RADS people about what problems the processing sector faced when utilizing domestic wools. This would involve a tour and discussion with personnel at the Kyrgyz Worsted – Woolens Factory, a joint stock company. We also finalized the work plan and budget for KSBA
- June 20** Departed Bishkek for Munich. I was required to stay in Munich overnight because of flight scheduling.
- June 21** Departed Munich for Laramie, arrived at 10:30pm



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