

ISCOWP® News



International Society for Cow Protection, Inc.

Volume 18 Issue 2 2008

The Brahmans are Home!

WWW.ISCOWP.ORG

AISO: Bande Gomataram, European Farm Conference,
ISCOWP Farm Outreach, The Aging Farmer



Dear ISCOWP Members,

I am most sorry for the delay in presenting this newsletter to you. Balabhadra has had a few emergencies with his back this summer and Lakshmi and I have had to replace him in many of his services with the cows and garden. Therefore the office work has slowed as Lakshmi and I are the office staff. Pages 12 -13 explain in more detail Balabhadra's condition and how you can help us adjust to it while maintaining and expanding our activities on the farm.

Thank you for the success of the Bring the Brahmans to ISCOWP campaign. Pages 6-7 explain how they are adjusting to their new home. I can tell you right now they are a delight!

Besides these articles, please enjoy the read about the Tirupati Cow Conference and our trip to Europe where the first ISKCON European Farm Conference was held.

Yours, Chayadevi

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ISCOWP Profile

The International Society for Cow Protection, Inc. (ISCOWP) was incorporated in the USA, March 1990, as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization. William and Irene Dove (Balabhadra das and Chayadevi dasi) are its managing directors. They are disciples of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the Founder Acharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON). Through their spiritual master's teachings, they have imbibed the practices and benefits, both spiritual and material, of lifetime cow protection.

Cow protection means enabling cows to live out their natural lives with love and affection. The tenets of cow protection are universal and nonsectarian, available to all regardless of race, creed, or nationality.

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Bande Gomataram

RESEARCH ON COW URINE

• Comparison of urine of different animals for immunomodulation

Animal	Percent increase
Hill cattle	104.16 %
Zebu cattle	102.08 %
Crossbred cow	015.50 %
Exotic cow	015.00 %
Goat	059.30 %
Buffalo	018.60 %



Power point presentation by Centre for Animal Disease, Research and Diagnosis, by Prof. RS Chauhan Phd. at Indian Veterinary Research Institute, email jdcadrad@rediffmail.com. It is chromophotographic fingerprinting analysis of cow urine and this shows the immunity giving qualities of urine of different animals. Indigenous cow and hill cows are way ahead there. Hill cows are indigenous in *Himalaya's foothills grazing the forests. They are of a small size. Exotic animals here are Jersey and Holstein.*

The Bande Gomataram Conference was held in Tirupati, India, the home of the Sri Venkateswara Temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu, also known as Balaji. The temple is located on top of the Tirumala hills, while the town is located on the foothills. The Tirupati temple is the wealthiest shrine in the world. ISCOWP was invited but could not attend the dates of December 1 – 3 2007. However, Labangalatika dasi (ACBSP) attended and wrote the following report. This is the abbreviated version with the full report, including contact information for presenters, found at: <http://www.iscownp.org/Articles/Educational%20Materials.htm>

Many say the Bande Gomataram conference was brought about by the will of Sri Balaji on behalf of his beloved cows. It was a unique gathering of highly qualified technical experts and

scientists as well as cow keepers and was inaugurated with very stirring speeches by saintly persons. Sri Prasanna Venkatchariar Chaturvedi, Swami of Chennai, said the cow and the sages are twins created by the Almighty, the sages giving mantra and the cow giving essential materials for the prosperity of the world. The cow is the divine companion of the human being and by the slaughter of the cow our human values are assassinated. Protection of cows means protection of all living beings.

Revati Raman prabhu, the temple president of Tirupati ISKCON, who is greatly respected in the local community, quoted Srila Prabhupada on the benefits of cow protection. He said the cow as mother of all living beings gives pleasure to everyone. She is born at the home of the cowherd

but it is very sad nowadays that he treats her as economic necessity.

The history of the sacred cow described how cows were the material and spiritual assets of the people of the country. One who possessed a thousand cows was called Shastragu with honor. The Rishis (great sages) maintained hundreds of milking cows in the ashrams and people would donate grazing land to goshallas (sanctuaries for cows). The entire culture of ancient India was based on cows and cow progeny. According to Vedic standards, cows and bullocks are "AGHNYA," ones who must never be killed.

Dr. Govindaiah, of Karnataka Veterinary University explained how cattle husbandry is the subsistence base of small and landless farmers, especially the use of draught bullocks. If deprived of this it would mean a mass migration of 500 million people from villages to overcrowded cities.

The petty gains of a small number of people have resulted in the cruel exploitation and massacre of the most useful animal. To prevent the movement of the cow to the slaughterhouse it is necessary to blend science with tradition and put the facts before the people to save this precious species.

"An alarming trend in reduction of native breeds of cattle, agricultural changes and lure of subsidies attract farmers to crossbreds that replace local stock, which are then permanently lost. The local breed cannot return and the result is drastic changes in eco systems. Many breeds have become extinct," said Dr. Obireddy.

The National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources found that indigenous cow's milk has higher therapeutic values. It is a rich source of Omega 3 fatty acids, higher conjugated Linoleic acids, MDGI (a protein that suppresses cancer) and an agent that provides protection from atomic

radiation. It has higher levels of cerebrotides that increase human brain power, sharpen intellect, give swiftness to the body and stabilizes the emotions.

Cow urine was called water of life in the Vedas, and by its immunodulatory properties it cures many ailments and enhances the body's immunity. It is effective against TB and cancer and enhances impact of vaccinations. It is a blood purifier. It cleans the intestines, cures skin diseases, asthma, urinary problems, and postpones ageing. It is also a valuable bio pesticide. The use of cow urine in agriculture and for human health will be of utmost importance since by 2020 microorganisms will be resistant to antibiotics.

Dr. Sathya Shankar Varmudy, a head, neck and ENT surgeon, described many cures of cancer patients by showing slides of before and after treatment with arka, distilled cow urine. Most had tried surgery and radio therapy with no success.

There were many presentations on Pancagavya (cow's urine, milk, curd, dung and ghee), which is well known in the Vishayurveda for enhancing the biological efficiency of plants and the quality of fruits and vegetables. It is widely used in Ayurveda and there is tremendous potential for cost effective treatment of chronic diseases. There can be no Ayurveda without the Indian cow breeds.

The Central Institute for Agricultural Engineering discussed its many new improved yokes, harnesses, ploughs, and bullock powered agricultural implements making bullock power more productive and versatile at much lower cost.

Sri PMV Subarao of the Indian Institute of Technology gave detailed information of production of compressed natural gas from biogas in

(Continued on page 15)



Padmamukhi, Varnasrama, Balabhadra and Rasalila at the Czech Republic farm.

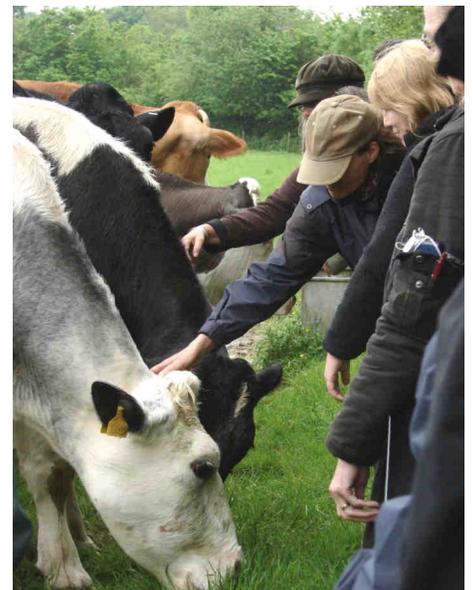
European Cow Protection Farms

Since we were in Europe to attend the first annual ISKCON European Farm Conference (page 10), we took a few days to visit three of the farms in the area. Here are a few comments about those farms from our travel diary.

Czech Republic "Jiva, dijo! Jiva, chehi!"

Jiva the ox hears the commands of Balabhadra, moves forward, and then turns to the left. After several repetitions of these commands, Balabhadra takes Jiva to his stall, where he gently brushes and softly talks to him. Jiva's partner, Dharma, is standing in the adjoining stall, waiting for his turn to show what he remembers from his previous lesson.

Jiva and Dharma are a pair of three-year-old Jersey oxen at Krsnuv Dvur, the Hare Krsna farm in the Czech



Friendly cows and oxen at Huglett's Wood Ahimsa Farm, England, operated by Wenda and Mathew

Republic. Balabhadra is ISKCON's global minister for cow protection and agriculture. Premadhatta, Jiva and Dharma's teamster, was learning by

watching Balabhadra train Jiva and Dharma to basic voice commands. Sweet, handsome, and gentle, Jiva and Dharma are to be the farm's next working ox team. They are part of a herd of fourteen protected cows living at Krsnuv Dvur.

Varnasrama, president of Krsnuv Dvur, and his wife Padmamukhi, introduced us to Rasalila and Tungi, cows that give milk but have never given birth to a calf, seemingly defying the laws of nature. Because of her hip problems, the devotees never bred Rasalila, but she has been giving milk for ten years. Tungi just started giving milk before our visit. Premadhatta heard her mooing loudly in the pasture and rushed to her. Her milk bag was full, and she obviously wanted someone to milk her to relieve the pressure. Lifetime cow protection creates such peace and contentment in a cow that she can give milk without birthing.

Bhaktivedanta Manor, England "Bhima, get up! Bala, get up!"

Syamasundara, manager of the goshalla (cow sanctuary), was taking us on a tour of the Manor grounds when down the lane came an ox-cart full of happy guests enjoying their open-air sightseeing tour of the Manor.

"The rural charm of the bullock carts attracts guests to the Manor," said Gauri, then president of the Manor.

The oxen not only pull guest carts, but they also pull farm machinery in the Manor's fields. They and the cows will soon have a new home, large enough for a herd of 60, which will provide 250 square feet per ox and 175 square feet per cow.

In December 2007, the Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), without permission from the devotees and against their expressed wishes, euthanized

Gangotri, an ailing cow living at the Manor. The heart-wrenching event motivated the devotees of the Manor to approach the English government to recognize the practice of cow protection. The devotees are arguing the importance of the cow in India's culture and faith.

Huglett's Wood Ahimsa Farm, England

Although it was raining and cold, there were enthusiastic attendees at the Huglett Farm Open House. About fifty guests congregated in the barn to partake of a delicious lunch. As soon



Balabhadra demonstrating voice commands to Premadhatta at the Czech farm.

as the rain lessened, Wenda and Mathew took everyone on a tour to meet the 35 protected cows, grazing contentedly in the fields. "Come meet the guests," called Wenda to the herd. The entire herd immediately came to visit with the guests and delighted all with their extreme friendliness.

Huglett's Wood Farm nestles deep within the rolling hills of the Sussex High Weald. It is the only Homa farm in the UK and the only farm animal sanctuary, which operates a dedicated cow protection program.

What is Homa therapy? It is the ancient science of healing coming from the Vedas. It is based on the practice of bio-energetic fires, tuned to the circadian rhythm of sunrise and sunset. Agnihotra fires (the basic and most potent bio-energetic fire of Homa therapy) are burned in the farm temple every sunrise and sunset. Homa farming techniques are also used to produce a wide range of organically grown vegetables, salad leaves, herbs and fruit, marketed fresh through a box scheme to customers.



Ox power rides at the Bhaktivedanta Manor, England



Balabhadra, Chayadevi, grandchildren Dharani, Krsangi, Nila Madhava and son Baladev enjoy giving Sri attention.

The Brahmans are Home!

In April, we wrote to you about how we wanted to acquire some Brahman cows for ISCOWP. The reasons were to rejuvenate the herd that is mostly middle aged now, utilize the potent Brahman dung and urine, and have an ox team that can work in the hot weather. Due to your donations to this project, we were able to arrange the acquisition of two Brahman bull calves and one female calf from William Fenn, a breeder of registered Brahmans located in Sweeny, Texas. Originally, we were looking at a breeder in a colder climate, but he did not handle his animals like William Fenn. The Fenn family is unique amongst Brahman

breeders as they develop a personal relationship with their animals and treat them as members of the family.

Lakshmi said: "Dad and I left for Texas on Wednesday the 6th of August to pick up the calves. We had 1456 miles and six states to pass through from West Virginia. As we were getting closer, we were getting more and more excited to see and meet these new members of our family. It was totally worth the whole craziness of driving that distance when we met them for the first time. They just stole our hearts as soon as we laid eyes on them."

"The weather was extremely hot, 98 degrees and a high humidity factor. We were sweating the whole time we were there even at seven o'clock in the morning." said Balabhadra.

One of the qualities of Brahmans is that they can tolerate extreme temperatures. "A factor which contributes to the Brahman's unique ability to withstand temperature extremes is a short, thick, glossy hair coat which reflects much of the sun's rays, allowing them to graze in midday sun without suffering. In severe winters, Brahmans grow a protective covering of long, coarse hair beneath which a dense, downy,

fur-like undercoat can be found. An abundance of loose skin, characteristic of the breed, also aids in its ability to withstand warm weather by increasing the body surface area exposed to cooling. In cold weather the skin is contracted, increasing the thickness of the hide and density of the hair, which aids in retaining body heat. A special feature of the Brahman breed is their ability over other breeds to sweat freely, which contributes greatly to their heat tolerance."

www.brahman.org

"The Fenns were such great hosts and friendly people. They have been breeding Brahman cows for three generations. After spending a day with them and the calves, we said goodbye and started the trip back home. With our new truck and trusty trailer, which we acquired back in the early nineties, the calves had plenty of room and a secure ride. Two days later, we arrived home late in the evening and the following morning introduced them to their quarters in the barn," said Lakshmi.

Bringing Brahmans to a cold climate will be a first for a cow protection program in North America. The New Vraja Dhama cow protection farm in Hungary just also acquired a bull calf of a similar breed. They have a climate like ours. Bringing the calves to our farm was time sensitive, as we wanted them to come in the warmest weather season so they could have a

Brahmans as a breed are known for their intelligence and sensitivity. If they are given lots of love and attention they respond in kind, if they are treated poorly or given little attention they will be very difficult to handle.



Top: Sri, Amrita and Priya enjoy apple scraps. Other Pictures Clockwise: Sri, Priya and Amrita who are all available for adoption at: <http://www.iscownp.org/AAC/Cow%20Ox%20listing%20Contd%204.htm>

good chance to acclimate gradually as the weather got colder. Now the temperatures have dropped to the 30s at night and their coats have grown wooly. They seem to be quite comfortable.

Sri Uddaran Datta Thakur, formally WF40, was named by Jimmy & Terry Devine of MN. There is a description about Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur in a book called Sri Chaitanya: His Life & Associates. We are going to be calling him Sri. He has on the top of his head, where his horns will be coming out, some red hair. Sometimes we call him Mr. Red; he is very outgoing and loving.

Priyavrata, formally WF41, was named by Anonymous C. He is so sweet and loves kisses. He loves licking and trying to eat your hair and maybe licking your face, but arms will do if he can't have anything else.

Amrita, formally WF42, was named by Vrajavadhu dasi. Amrita means "nectar of the Gods." She is the queen of the group; the boys follow her around even though she is the youngest. She was the first one into the trailer and the first one out

We are very happy to say that all three are adjusting well to the colder climate and to their new home. They are such a joy to see and touch each day as they seem to become more responsive and affectionate. Thank you for bringing them to the ISCOWP Farm!

ISCOWP Update



Top: Kale and chard flourished this year in our rock garden near the house. Due to the deer fence donated by ISCOWP members, the rest of our one acre garden flourished also.

Left Middle: Elizabeth and Hari Kirtan adopted Dwadasi. This summer they came to visit her.

Right Middle: Vrajabhadhu, the oldest living Srila Prabhupada disciple and savior of Vraja, (Vraja and Gita were our first ox team), visited in June.

Bottom: Nirajana Swami, in charge of ISKCON farms in Russia, and Sivarama Swami, head of the successful ISKCON farm in Hungary, stayed for three days enjoying peace and quiet and the cows

It has been a busy summer with more guests and a more bountiful garden than last year.

Garden Bounty

The weather has not been conducive for the garden. First we had too much rain and it flooded some of the plants to the point that they drowned and never revived. Then we had no rain. After that it was a little rain here and there. Other farmers around here have had low production with beans and pumpkins amongst other things. We had a better year than last due to our new deer fence. Thank you! But we are short on variety; lots of greens, potatoes, and tomatoes, some Bitter Melon and zucchini but just a little of a few other vegetables. No berries. They developed nicely due to the rain but when it got dry the berries dried up. We got some apples this year for the first time. Due to the deer fence the deer can no longer eat the fruit trees. We have only bought grains this summer, eating out of the garden mostly. We have canned over 400 quarts of vegetables for the winter and beyond and have 10, 5 gallon buckets of dried vegetables. We send the dried vegetables to you, our donors during the year. Now the garden is toasted from the freezing





The ISKCON Youth Tour gives Madhava lots of attention.

had cleared hours before our tour. It was a pleasure for us to see how happy the participants were to get out in the country and pet a cow. The tour was so much fun in comparison to sitting in a classroom and will now be our venue for this festival. Let's just pray the weather is always favorable for the tour each year.

NY City College Students Visit ISCOWP
A group of Columbia and Rutgers University students, headed by Gadadhara Pandit and Doyal Gauranga from 26th

Second Avenue temple, visited ISCOWP. Again it was raining and plans to visit the cows on pasture were curtailed. However, discussions on what is cow protection and a farm fresh meal were enjoyed. Some comments from the guests:

Premananda das & Gauri Priya dd: "Most amazing, enlightening, and uplifting experience coming to spend time with your family. Thank you!"

Gretchen Turner: "Could not be any more beautiful! Thank you 1,000,000 times."

Talitha Wachtelborn: "Thanks for having us! It was wonderful!"

ISKCON Youth Ministry Bus Tour Visits
The ISKCON Youth Bus Tour came June 30th for a visit. There were torrents of rain the whole day which changed our plans of service in the garden and and a bonfire. Instead we utilized the ISCOWP barns for classes and partaking of lunch. The youth asked many questions which led to in depth discussions not only about cow protection but growing and preserving food, how current events are affecting all of us, and alternative ox power. Some comments:

Radhanatha and Anapayini Jakupo: "Very inspiring and educating tour. Thank you so much for keeping this project alive and for

temperatures at night. We were still canning just a few days ago. The garden harvest was late this year. It usually is in August, but we were harvesting in October. Our first frost is usually scheduled for mid October. However, it came in the first week of October.

Magic Mystery Tour of Cow Protection

The Festival of Inspiration is held in mid May at New Vrindavan and each year we give a class on cow protection. This year we decided to give anyone who was interested a chance to touch a cow, to visit our farm, and experience the hands-on farm and cow experience. Therefore we entitled our class the "Magic Mystery Tour of Cow Protection."

We usually have about five to ten participants in our class. This time about 40 people showed up. It had been raining the day before and in the morning, but



NY University students enjoy a fresh garden lunch.



About 40 Participants of the Magic Mystery Tour mingle with the cows on pasture.

(Continued on page 15)

European Farm Conference



Antardhi and team mowing at Vraja Dhama Hungary. (Photo by Trilokatma das)

Devotees (followers of Lord Krishna) came from nine countries to attend the first annual ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) European Farm Conference at New Vraja-dhama in Hungary, held May 20 through May 21. USA, England, Belgium, Germany, Czech, Slovakia, Poland, Sweden, and Hungary were represented. Many of these devotee cowherds and farmers serve their farms in a rural setting distant from a bustling city temple. They perform their service with little recognition and applause, but their reward is in the service itself to the cows and land. Not only is there spiritual reward but there is also the joy that comes from a peaceful and healthy life close to the land and cows.

In the last approximately ten years, there has been a decline in the development of ISKCON farms and in the ISKCON consciousness of the importance of such farms to the spiritual development of ISKCON as a whole. This conference, organized by the ISKCON European Minister for Cow Protection and Agriculture, Syamasundara das, was the beginning step to reverse this trend within Europe. In that attempt, it was a success, with the devotees leaving inspired and hopeful for the future.

Balabhadra das, ISKCON Global Minister for Cow Protection and Agriculture, gave the opening address. He spoke how within our movement, there is a need for a social structure that will provide a haven from the outside world where



Translator Ildiko, Varnasrama, Balabhadra, Govindanandana and Antardhi discuss the improvement of an ox power mower.

devotees can live and raise their children peacefully so they too can be Krishna Conscious. Srila Prabhupada (Acharya of ISKCON) envisioned such a social structure within farm life, village life, with the cows and land providing the necessities of life. Our farm communities are therefore very important, as they are the

built to provide more facility for winter food storage. Five trained teams of oxen are active and perform most of the farm work. 2000 fruit trees produce a variety of fruits, and eight devotees care for the five acres of vegetables. 150 hives yield 65 KGS of honey per hive while the local average yield is 15 KG per hive.

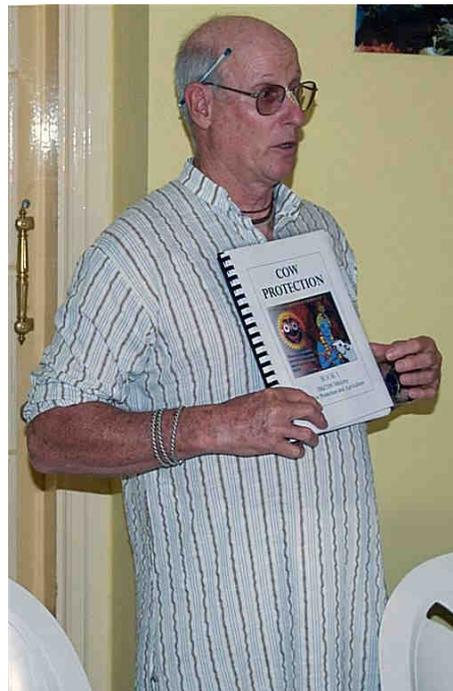
The guided tours, given by Gaura Sakti das, were an inspiration because they showed the possibilities for every ISKCON farm. Other farms also gave presentations. Varnasrama das talked about the successful flourmill business that helps support the Czech farm. At the Czech farm, they produce all their own flour from the grains they grow. They also sell the flour and produce cookie prasadam, which they sell and distribute on sankirtan. Haladhara das, from the Cornwell farm project in England, gave a presentation of the Govardhan Whole Food business that helps support their project. Salad boxes, which cost little to produce, are getting a maximum return.



The new Brahman bull, Nandi, is glad to see Govardhan Lal and friends.

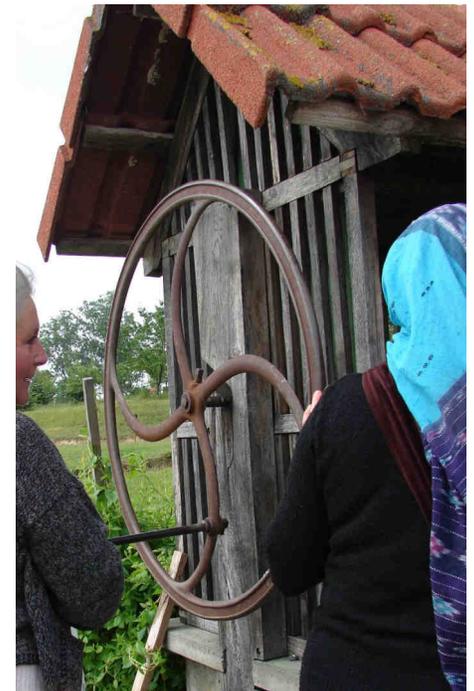
starting point of developing self sufficient life. As the world changes with higher gas prices creating higher cost of food and living in general, such farms will be seen more valuable to more people as providing the answers to a more and more difficult life.

The conference was graciously hosted by Gaura Sakti das, president of the New Vraja-dhama farm community in Hungary. At present, New Vraja-dhama is the most advanced European ISKCON farm in the development of self-sufficiency. A part of the conference was touring the New Vraja-dhama operation. From June through October, the community of 120 consumes only fresh produce from the farm, and during the winter months, they are self-sufficient in grains and potatoes. A proficient 150 square foot root cellar was recently



Balabhadra das (William E. Dove) gave the opening speech and distributed ISCOWP's cow protection book. (photo by Trilokatma)

Issues, such as providing for the cowherd and farmer so he can stay on the farm and support his family, were discussed with solutions suggested. Smita Krishna Swami from the Sweden farm described how they provide housing for such devotees. Gaura Sakti das joined in with a description of their housing development and arrangements.



Wenda Shehata and Katrina examine a well by which one house gets all its water.



Balabhadra, (William Dove) president of ISCOWP, in the bean patch.

The Aging Farmer

The summer has brought a lot of changes for Balabhadra, who is now 62 years old. Although he has always had troublesome back problems, he was always able to push on. This summer he collapsed 3 times. After each time he was not able to do anything for a couple of weeks. Due to a donation, we were able to get an MRI to acquire a realistic look at his back. The results showed he has 2 herniated disks in his lower back. He also has spinal stenosis which is the narrowing of an area in the spine that can put pressure on the spinal cord or on the nerves that branch out from the compressed areas. The MRI also found a curve in his lower spine

which puts pressure on his entire back, small osteophytes which are projections that develop along the edges of bones and disk degeneration throughout his back. Along with his back problems, he has arthritis in his knee. On one side of his knee joint there is very little cartilage and sometimes the bones touch which causes pain, at times excruciating pain. The back condition causes pain and is serious as it can cause paralysis of the bowels and legs. Both conditions can cause mild to extreme pain.

Balabhadra has worked very hard for 18 years developing ISCOWP. For eight years he worked a night job and

worked on the farm during the day, maybe getting five hours of sleep each day. For more than five years he hauled firewood out of the forest not only for our own needs but also for fourteen other families. In general, the hard labor on the farm was done by Balabhadra. In the years before ISCOWP, Balabhadra was also mostly engaged in labor intensive activities.

We have been to a specialist and she feels that Balabhadra's back condition can improve with physical therapy. At present he is not allowed to bend. It has been a few months and we see some improvement. However, he will never again be the work dynamo he has been in the past. It is a matter of time to see if the physical therapy will bring him significant improvement on a long term basis.

For the last seven years Balabhadra has worked four months during the winter in malls to earn our personal income. This allowed us to continue our service to the cows during the rest of the year. Now this has to stop as he would be on his feet often 14 hours a day. His doctor has instructed him to vary his activities every half hour to take pressure off his back and knee.

Balabhadra's garden activities have also become limited as there is a lot of bending and kneeling involved. Next growing season we will use plastic on the beds to minimize weeding. Instead of growing to sell, we will grow more variety for ourselves and you our members. This will decrease our grocery bill even more. We will plant more fruit trees and berry bushes that grow on trellises. There is less bending and kneeling for these plants and there are many nice products like dried fruit and fruit leathers that we can send you, our members. Whatever excess we have we can sell.

Due to Balabhadra's physical limitations we have a plan as to how to move forward. Please read the next page to learn how you can help.

You Can Help Develop ISCOWP Farm Outreach

Due to Balabhadra's back problems, (please read the previous page) he is limited as to what he can do on the farm and can no longer work long hours in the mall during the winter season to earn our personal income. Training oxen and giving tours of the ISCOWP farm while explaining cow protection and earth friendly agriculture are the major activities he can do with his condition. We feel it is timely to emphasize these activities by presenting to you what it will take to open the ISCOWP farm to more guests. This summer we had more guests than ever before (please read ISCOWP Update page 8). They came without any advertising on our part.

The idea is to showcase cow protection and eco-friendly agriculture. Not only would we be educating but also acquiring some income and help around the farm by requiring either for each tour. In the future we could offer a simple rustic guest house, but for now we first need to clean up the farm and make arrangements for greeting guests.

The first need is to have a greeting cabin where guests can sit inside as well as in rocking chairs on the porch, view pictures of cows to be adopted and farm activities, and purchase farm products.



We have built a greeting cabin but we are still paying for it. It is at the entrance to the farm on a hill. Rocking chairs on the porch, comfortable chairs inside, etc. are needed.



Balabhadra, center, explaining cow protection to a tour group.

What is Needed to Open ISCOWP to Guests.

Donate online at:

<http://www.iscownp.org/Project/Project%203c.htm>

Greeting Cabin	\$5000
Furnish & Decorate Cabin	\$1000
Directional & Informative Signs	\$1000
Special Painting of Barns	\$2400
Barn Gutters	\$1000
Replace Old Barn Roof	\$9000
Equipment Shed	\$7000
Total:	\$26000

Many guests, and would be guests, often say they had a hard time finding us or wanted to visit but could not find us. We are located a mile down an unmarked road. Attractive weather-proof signs are a real necessity and more than one is needed to direct guests to our location.

Eleven years ago, Balabhadra salvaged roofing tin from local old barns and repaired and built almost all the roofs on our barns. There are many little holes that leak rain into the barns from all the roofs. We can use a paint that will seal all the holes, prevent rusting and is guaranteed for 15 years. The old barn roof, which still has some of the original 45 year old tin roof, needs to be replaced.

The barn gutters we installed a few years ago have proven not to be sufficient and need to be replaced. They can be used on a roof that is not so expansive.

We have been cleaning up the entrance to the farm which is also a work area. An equipment shed would enable us to organize all the equipment under roof and present a clean entrance. Allowing additional space for picnic benches, etc.

Please read the enclosed form as to your gifts when you donate and thank you!

All About You!



Jimmy and Terry Devine brushing Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur and Priyavrata.

We first became inspired by Balabhadra's and Chayadevi's service back in the "seed to sustenance" days. It was readily apparent that they were sincerely attempting to follow Srila Prabhupada's directive of "plain living and high thinking." After some time they evolved to ISCOWP and acquired Vraja and Gita; two gorgeous Brown Swiss oxen.

By good fortune we were able to visit ISCOWP a couple of times, meet Vraja and Gita and be introduced to every cow by name and characteristics. Thus we came to understand a little the importance of this project and how many people were being positively influenced by it.

When we read in the ISCOWP News that donors were being sought for a new "Brahman Ox Team" and that said donors would get to name them, we called immediately. We were thrilled to find this opportunity was still available and that we could name one of the new bull calves; later to be oxen.

A couple of years ago we noticed on our BBT calendar, the disappearance day of Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur. Curious to know about him we looked in the book Sri Chaitanya: His Life and Associates. It is explained there how Lord Krsna incarnated as Lord Chaitanya and His brother Lord Balaram incarnated as Lord Nityananda. Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur was formerly one of twelve cowherd friends of Lord



Jimmy and Sri

Balaram and incarnated at the time of Lord Nityananda to be his associate.

We further read: "Nityananda is the incarnation of mercy... The sinful and offensive living beings

of this world have no alternative but the mercy of Nityananda Prabhu... Nityananda Prabhu is said to be the deliverer of the most fallen; his companions seek out even more fallen souls to deliver... As one of Nityananda's closest confidants, Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur is called parama-parama-patita-pavana, the deliverer of the most fallen amongst the most fallen... The conclusion is that if we worship Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur, serve him, and try to please him, we will quickly be able to get the mercy of Lord Nityananda Prabhu." Further reading revealed that Srila Prabhupada also had a connection to Sri Uddharan Datta Thakur since his childhood. This served to enhance our interest even more in glorifying this great Vaisnava saint.

When asked by Chayadevi what name we would like for "our" Brahman bull calf, it was easy. His name is "Sri" for short, and he and his brother and sister are beautiful and doing nicely at ISCOWP. We were blessed to visit this summer and hope many others will do the same to see first-hand what cow protection and "simple living and high thinking" really looks like.

Thank you so much! In loving memory of Vraja and Gita. Hare Krsna from Jimmy and Terry Devine.

Bande Gomataram

(Continued from page 4)

cylinders for use in automobiles. This is being done successfully in a village in Rajasthan. There is a large potential of biogas generation in India to make it a cheap alternate fuel for vehicles. The slurry left over from the biogas is excellent fertilizer making two high value products out of one process.

Guidelines were given for health care in cow protection with some useful homeopathic remedies, as well as allopathic treatment, and ethnoveterinary medicine practices from rural India. A talk on the role of the cow in; integrated organic farming systems, biodynamics, Agnihotra, Pancagavya, Rishi Krishi and natural farming systems followed and then a paper on the standardization of cow urine by the very important and useful invention of a test kit. There was also a presentation on the cloning of zebu cattle.

How to encourage farmers to rear indigenous cows, the need for massive education campaigns promoting the significance of the cow and organic farming and upgrading the milk yield of indigenous cows which will be a long process of selective breeding and good nutrition were topics discussed. The increase of milk production by introducing foreign cattle has greatly reduced the benefits of milk. In the past, milk came from native cows and was richer in calcium and medicinal properties.

Sri Sunil Mansinghka of Gauvigan Anusandhan Kendra, a self reliant goshalla of 425 non milking cattle, who got the US Patents on cow urine distillate, says, "The farmer has been misguided to think that a cow with less milk is a burden to him. Actually, wealth, Laxmi (Goddess of wealth), resides in cow dung."

He stated, "There has been a surge in the demand for export of Indian beef in last few years after the affliction of

western cows by mad cow disease. We cannot continue to remain mute witnesses when such animals of great national significance are treated as objects of trade. Killing of the cow and its progeny for beef and leather purposes must be declared as misuse of precious national wealth and must be banned. Corporate and Hindu religious endowments should donate lands and funds."

Sri RK Joshi of Viniyog Parivar Trust, with reference to issues in the enforcement of current anti cow slaughter laws, says strict implementation of the laws is another area of concern. No one can say that in the 13 states which have laws to prohibit slaughter of cow progeny that not a single cow is slaughtered. The meat lobby in connivance with the state machinery, politicians, and police is having a field day and there is rampant violation of laws. Uttar Pradesh is the largest centre of cow slaughter where scores of refrigerated go downs are full with thousands of tons of beef for export through Delhi and Mumbai airports. The railway Ministry has permitted transport of cattle on the railways which has made it easy to transport thousands of cattle at once from any place to the state of Bihar from where they are smuggled across the border into Bangladesh.

To counteract these activities and upcoming Indian legislature promoting the slaughter of cows, saintly persons should travel and create public awareness in the villages for protection of cows. Teams of volunteers, if possible armed for self defense, should check the illegal activities of cattle slaughter and establish goshallas in every district for rehabilitation of rescued animals.

Dr. Mannem Murthy, a retired nuclear scientist has developed an electronic gadget which measures the bio energy fields of animate and inanimate objects. The cow and Pancagavya have high positive

energies which can neutralize negative energies in the environment. We have forgotten our culture and heritage inviting negative energies into our way of life. Machines have replaced cattle power and there is no place for cattle grazing. Hence the livestock ratio of human cattle population is running down drastically and we are losing ecological balance. Such awareness should be brought to the state governments to protect the valuable gomata (cow) to save our ancient culture and heritage.

If you would like to get in touch with the author: labangalatika@vsnl.net
This is the abbreviated version of the article. The full article can be found at <http://www.iscownp.org/Articles/>

ISCOWP Update

(Continued from page 9)

your time to share with all of us. We feel very honored to have been able to visit your home and barn! Thanks!"

Jahnvi Harrison: "I was really so inspired by my visit to your farm. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to see that projects like this are sustainable and can really work! I hope to visit again and learn much more about taking care of cows and organic gardening – maybe I can put into practice at my home temple, Bhaktivedanta Manor, Haribol!"

Sarah Silberman: " I really enjoyed visiting your farm and learning about living off the land the way Prabhupada wanted. Thank you much for everything!"

Kamala Kumar Mayshark: "I was so inspired to see your barn, home and to see the amount of self efficiency in your family. Your cows are beautiful!"

Thanks to all other guests like Jazz and friends for visiting us.

ISCOWP News

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Thank you so much ISCOWP members for donating to bring the Brahman calves to ISCOWP! Balabhadra will soon start training the intelligent, attentive and loving Brahmans.



Sri, Amrita (the girl and leader of the group) and Priya nuzzle Lakshmi.