

CONSTRUINDO SABERES, FORMANDO PESSOAS E TRANSFORMANDO A PRODUÇÃO ANIMAL

CHARACTERIZATION OF TYPOLOGIES OF PRODUCTION SYSTEMS OF SEMIARID SHEEP AND GOATS

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The production systems of sheep and goat meat in the semiarid region of Brazil vary according to the production region and the producer profile, as well as to the different types of integration with other livestock and crop activities. The understanding of these typologies is important to generate appropriate technologies and improve the productive efficiency of farms. The objective of this work was to characterize the typical sheep and goat farms of the main production region of Ceará state. The *Panel Methodology* was used to characterize the representative farms of the two main typologies of the municipality of Tauá. This procedure consists of having meetings with a group of regional technicians, producers and researchers. Two panels were held in August 2016, with the participation in each meeting of five producers, representing the different typologies, as well as four regional technicians and two researchers. An Excel spreadsheet developed by CNA and Embrapa was used to record and analyze the data. The typical farm of typology 1 (FT1) and typology 2 (FT2) were compared by Farm size (FS); Number of sheep (SHE), goat (GOA) and bovine (BOV); Sheep breed (SB) and goat breed (GB); Other agricultural activities (AGRI); Main source of roughage for feeding the animals (ROU); Presence of cultivated pastures (CP) and labor type (LAB). The FT1 and FT2 were similar in relation to SB, GB, AGRI, ROU and CP. Both types of farms were characterized by having crossbred sheep between santa inês, somalis and dorper breed; crossbred Anglo-nubian goats; dairy cows; swine and poultry. They also cultivate corn and beans; sorghum, opuntia and canarana-grass, and have an area of native pasture. The main differences among FT1 and FT2 were related to FS, SHE, GOA, BOV and LAB. FT1 was characterized by having 90 ha, 70 sheep, 30 goats, 15 dairy cows and using family labor. The FT2 was characterized by having 180 ha, 140 sheep, 60 goats, 30 dairy cows and using a permanent employee. In this way, the typologies differ according to the type of labor and scale (area and herd size), but they show similarities in the forage sources for the herds, and in the diversification of agricultural activities.

Keywords: cattle, labor, native pasture, representative farms

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