INCOME SOURCES OF TWO TYPES OF PRODUCTION SYSTEMS OF SMALL RUMINANTS ON SEMIARID

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The production systems of sheep and goat meat in the semiarid region of Brazil have different types of integration with other livestock and crop activities. The understanding of the diversity of agricultural income sources of these different systems is important for the improvement of the strategies of management and generation of tools for decision making of the farms, with the purpose of improving its economic efficiency. The objective of this work was to characterize the agricultural income sources of the representative farms of the types of sheep and goat producers of the main production region of Ceará state. The Panel Methodology was used to characterize the income types and their annual values of 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 agricultural income sources of the representative farms of the two typologies (FT1 and FT2) evaluated were similar in type, being derived from sheep, goat, dairy cattle, swine, poultry, corn and bean. The products of sheep and goat were slaughter animals, animals for family consumption and skin; of the dairy cattle were coalho cheese and weaned calves; of swine were animals for slaughter and family consumption; of poultry were eggs and chickens for slaughter; corn for the consumption of the herds and commercialization and the beans for family consumption and commercialization. The value of the annual income between the typologies were different. The total annual agricultural income of FT1 was R$ 11,155.00, being 31.3% from dairy cattle, 24.7% from sheep, 9.7% from goat, 13.7% from poultry, 7.2% from swine, 8.1% from corn and 5.3% from beans. In FT2, the annual total of agricultural income was R$ 29,173.50, being 38.4% of dairy cattle, 20.3% from sheep, 8.2% from poultry, 0.7% from swine, 4.8% from swine, 17.3% from corn and 10.3% from beans. The importance of the complementarity of activities in the income of sheep and goat farms, especially dairy
cattle, stands out in the two groups. The technical strategies and managements to improve the economic efficiency of these farms should consider the integration of activities.

**Keywords:** dairy cattle, goat, panel methodology, sheep

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