

INTRODUCTION

FUJI

- ❖ Small ruminants since the 1840s
- ❖ Largest small ruminant population of all Pacific Island Countries: 143000 goats, 37000 sheep

SAMOA

- ❖ Relatively young sector
- ❖ Sheep since 2004: currently 1650, very few goats

LOCAL CONTEXT

- ❖ Research activities since the 1950s
- ❖ High local demand for meat
- ❖ Large amount of imports of lower quality cuts
- ❖ Government invests in small ruminant production



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Which focus of local small ruminant research?
2. Which technologies developed and adopted?
3. Which technologies have persisted?
4. What fostered/constrained adoption?

METHODS

- ❖ **Database search:** Scopus, Web of Science, SPC online library, PAIS document search, AGRIS database, grey literature: 81 scientific resources
- ❖ **4 Key informant interviews:** extension experts and research staff Ministry of Agriculture, Fiji.

RESULTS

FOCUS OF LOCAL RESEARCH

- ❖ **4 major drivers:** the Ministries of Agriculture, research and development projects, local Universities, the Pacific Community (SPC)
- ❖ **4 major research areas:** breeding, gastro-intestinal parasites, feeding/nutrition, husbandry

SUCCESSFUL TECHNOLOGIES

Breeding

- ❖ Fiji Fantastic sheep breed
- ❖ Anglo-Nubian crossbred goats
- ❖ Ministry breeding programs

Gastro-Intestinal Parasites

- ❖ Drenching research
- ❖ Alternative management

Feeding/Nutrition

- ❖ Local and imported improved forages
- ❖ Local supplements

Husbandry

- ❖ Established management systems
- ❖ Housing: at night, weather extremes, dog attack protection

FOSTERING ADOPTION

- ❖ Good relationships extension/farmers
- ❖ Observability of beneficial impact
- ❖ Farmer-centred extension delivery
- ❖ Subsidised inputs & monitoring

CONSTRAINING ADOPTION

- ❖ Financial constraints
- ❖ Labour & time intensive technologies
- ❖ Old farming population
- ❖ Traditional mindsets
- ❖ Production constraints: resource availability, dog attacks

CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ Challenges for small ruminant farmers unchanged since 1050s
- ❖ Growth and expansion of the small ruminant sector carried by political and farmer interest
- ❖ Investments in targeted research activities and farmer-needs-centred extension are recommended

PROJECT PARTERS



FUNDING

