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PREFACE

9th International Goat Conference/XXIII Conference of the Asociación Mexicana de Producción Caprina

Tropical and Subtropical Agroecosystems

This special issue contains the free contributions presented in the different oral sessions at the 9th International Goat Conference / XXIII Conference of the Asociación Mexicana de Producción Caprina, held at Queretaro, Mexico, in September 2008. We thank all the authors for their commitment, patience and full support in the process of building this interesting document. It includes 51 papers representing

over 10 % of the papers presented at the Conference as free contributions. The special issue aims at contributing with the main goal of the 9th International Conference, which was, to disseminate the knowledge of science and cutting edge technology for the benefit of sustainable goat production.

The special issue provided an opportunity to all the authors who decided to participate with their free contributions to expand, beyond their abstract, their results presented in the different sessions in a document that is devoted to goat production scientists, farmers and technologists. The special issue includes the peer edited papers presented in the different sessions at the Conference: Social Development, Goat Products, Environment and Sustainability, Management and Production Systems, Technology Transfer, Genetics and Biotechnology, Physiology and Behaviour and Reproduction.

We would like to acknowledge all the efforts and good will of hundreds of people in different parts of the world who helped to build an interesting and resilient 9th IGA Conference and also the XXIII Conference of AMPCA, México.

We also want to thank the editor of Tropical and Subtropical Agroecosystems Journal to enable us with the opportunity to publish these papers in a special issue of the journal.

Mérida, Yucatán, México, June 29th, 2009.

Guest editors,

Juan Felipe de Jesús Torres-Acosta Ramón Cámara-Sarmiento Armando Jacinto Aguilar-Caballero