Data collection for the ACIAR cattle research project

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Surveys

Surveys = collect measurements or data

- Taking specimens (blood, faeces) for lab testing
- Ask question from farmers or traders (interview) and record answers
- Make and record observations from animals (weight, condition etc)

Surveys in the ACIAR AH 2005/086 Project

1. Production and health surveys
2. Farmer knowledge survey
3. Trader survey

1. Production and Health Surveys

- Every three months for three years in each of six project villages
- 250 cattle/buffalo enrolled and tagged in each village

Method:
- Observations,
- Ask farmers,
- Take samples
- Record on data collection sheet
2. Farmer Knowledge survey
- In each village at the beginning, middle and end of project (3 times)
  Method:
  Interview (questionnaire) with farmers

3. Trader survey
- Aims:
  To describe the supply chain of cattle within the project villages.
- Outcome:
  Value add animals in line with current and future market requirements

Preliminary work
- Meetings with local traders
  - Initial discussions
  - Gather background information
  - Establish different needs between the villages

Trader Survey
- Survey traders:
  - Types/ages of cattle they are purchasing;
  - Destination of these cattle and the prices they pay
  - Role as middlemen and how they source the cattle for each of the markets
- Follow-up survey will be done towards the end of the project:
  - measure any economic gains from improvements in the health and nutrition of the animals from our project villages
Important points for surveys

- Correctness of data very important
  - Clear writing
  - Careful reading of measurements
  - Careful listening and recording of farmer/traders answers
  - Careful transcription of data onto computer

**Good surveys - Good Project Results**

All data collected by DAFO and PAFO staff will be analysed regularly and then provide INFORMATION on:

- What diseases occur
- How much productivity of cattle and buffalo increases through interventions
- How much farmer knowledge increases
- What interventions farmers adopt
- What the market demands are and how farmers can produce for the market

Questions?