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Press Release

<u>"Seed Trainer Workshop" for the Genetic Improvement of the</u> <u>Sheep and Goat Project</u>

Belmopan. March 2, 2018. The Ministry of Agriculture Livestock Unit, in collaboration with the Republic of China (Taiwan), hosted its first "Seed Trainer Workshop" for the Genetic Improvement of the Sheep and Goat Project. The workshop took place from 28th of February to 2nd of March 2018 at the Central Farm Research Station in the Cayo District.

A total of 15 technicians and livestock extension officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Belize Livestock Producers Association (BLPA), and Belize Agriculture and Health Authority (BAHA) attended the training.

The workshop covered different stages of feed management and provided a hands-on opportunity to learn practical operation, on-farm practices and identification system on hoof trimming, docking and castration, as well as a breeding strategy to create a more profitable outcome and fattening period management to improve growth rate.

One of the main goals of the project is to build the capacity of technicians and farmers to improve the productivity of sheep in Belize. Therefore, these series of seed trainer workshops were designed to strengthen the knowledge of trainees in sheep and goat breeding. Through this medium, accurate information will be shared with local sheep producers to improve on sheep farm management with professional support from Republic of China (Taiwan).

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