

## STEP 9: MARKET YOUR PRODUCTS WISELY.

Do not delay marketing your agriculture, forestry, and livestock products. Milk your goats daily, pasteurize the milk and dispose it immediately. Goats are to be marketed at the age of 10 -12 months or when weighing from 35 -55 kgs.

## Step 10: MAINTAIN THE FARM REGULARLY.

Cut your hedgerows  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 1m from the ground when they begin to shade the field crops. Replant missing hills of the hedgerows, weed and clean the crops and spray with chemicals only if necessary. Deworming of goats, hoof trimming, disbudding, castration and spreading manure to the farm for fertilizer are some of the necessary routine practices to be done in the SALT – 2 farm.

Source: Lifted from:

Sloping Agro-Livestock Technology (SALT 2). Asian rural Life Development Program retrieved from [http://www.sommerhaven.org/prac\\_app/sus\\_ag/t\\_pac\\_salt2.pdf](http://www.sommerhaven.org/prac_app/sus_ag/t_pac_salt2.pdf)

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# Sloping Agro-Livestock Technology (SALT – 2)

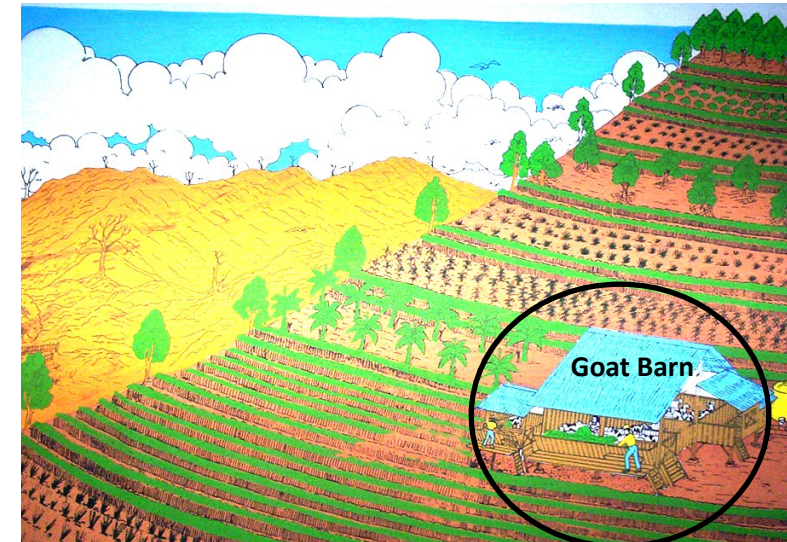


Illustration from Mindanao Rural Life Center Foundation, Inc. SALT Manual

## Introduction

**SALT – 2** is an agro-silvi-pastoral scheme that attempts to meet these needs with focus on goat-raising. Although a goat is small, it can produce as much as two liters of milk everyday if it is purebred and its nutritional requirements are met. No wonder the goat is called “a poor man’s cow.”

Here is how to put up SALT – 2 in your small farm.

### **STEP 1: LOCATE AND DEVELOP THE CONTOUR LINES. (Refer to SALT 1)**

### **STEP 2: ESTABLISH YOUR HEDGEROWS.**

Cultivate the contour lines thoroughly, forming raised beds, about 1 m wide. Make two furrows spaced 1/2 m apart on each contour line. Plant thickly your nitrogenfixing multipurpose tree and shrub pieces (NF-MPTSS) on the furrows. Plant MFMPSTSS also on the uppermost part and along the borders of your land. Apart from conserving the soil, they will provide additional foliage

### **STEP 3: PLANT FOOD AND CASH CROPS.**

Grow your food and cash crops on the upper half of the farm so that loosened soil due to cultivation is caught at the lower half by the forage crops. To avoid further disturbance of the soil, plant ¾ of the agriculture area to long-term crops and the remaining ¼ to short-term ones.

### **STEP 4: DEVELOP YOUR FORAGE GARDEN.**

A project with 12 does and a buck needs a total land area of about ¾ hectare. Half of the area is devoted to forage crops and this need to be established 6-8 months before bringing in the goats. Plant only palatable, proteinous, fast-cropping and high-yielding forage crops. A suggested composition of forage crops is 50% Desmodium rensonii, 25% Flamingia congesta, 20 % Gliricidia sepium and 5 % napier and other grasses. Establish them at the beginning of the rainy season in rows of ½ m at ½ ft distance between hills with 1-2 plants/hill.

### **STEP 5: LOCATE THE GOAT BARN.**

Build the barn at the middle of the farm between the boundary of the forage and foodcrops. This will save time and labor in hauling manure out to the farm and carrying forage to your goats. Provide floor space 20-25 sq. ft./goat using local materials. For convenient manure removal, the floor is raised about 4 ft. above the ground with floor slots nailed ½ inch apart. Essential divisions and fixtures in your goat house are kids' separation pen, milking stanchion, milkroom, storeroom, feed trough, grass rack, waterer and salt trough.

### **STEP 6: BRING IN THE STOCK AT THE RIGHT TIME.**

Do this only when your forage garden has been fully established and you are certain it is already capable of supplying sufficient feeds. This should be about 6 -8 months after planting your forage crops. The

recommended breeds are either the purebreds, crossbreeds or upgrades of Nubian, Alpine and La Mancha. Without these breeds, start with the biggest and healthiest goat you can buy. A good stocking rate is 1 buck: 12 does per ½ - ¾ hectare of a well – developed agroforest farm.

### **STEP 7: FEED THE GOATS SUFFICIENTLY.**

Your goats essentially need concentrates (high energy feeds) daily. A milking doe weighing about 50 kg. And giving 1 liter of milk a day needs 1 kg. Of concentrate and 5 kg. of forage per day. Give the feeds in the morning and in the afternoon. A good concentrate consists of 18% first class rice bran, 23% corn grain or rice middlings, 21% copra meal, 36% ipil -ipil leaf meal, 1% salt, and 1% limestone. A good forage is mixture of 50% D. rensonii, 25% Flemingia, 20% Gliricidia, and 5% napier and other grasses. Provide your goats with salt and plenty of fresh water daily.

### **STEP 8: BREED THE GOATS.**

Earlier breeding will stunt the animal. A doe should not be bred until she weighs 45 -50 kg. or is about 10 -12 months of age. It is best to breed the doe in the second day of the heat period because conception is usually more successful at this time. If it does not become pregnant after being bred over three heat periods, cull it or place it under close observation if it is a valuable breeding animal.