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DTREO, A FLEXIBLE CLOUD-BASED DATA-RECORDING PLATFORM FOR DATA-DRIVEN DECISIONS IN SHEEP AND GOAT INDUSTRIES

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Sheep and goat production systems are extremely valuable sources of food and by-products, especially when considering their ability in the use of land with few alternative agricultural uses. These livestock systems positively impact local socioeconomic activities, both in developed and developing countries.

Regardless of the geographical context, on-farm data recording is one of the main challenges sheep and goat farming faces in the context of a sustainable and profitable agribusiness. The availability of good quality data, collected by standardised systems, is crucial for the development and implementation of technical interventions and genetics services. Data flow through the supply chain can support market structure and impact farmers, traders, and processors businesses and revenues. However, there is no "best" record-keeping system for all situations. A good record-keeping system should be suitable to the conditions in which it is used and to the expected use of the collected data. If properly defined, a good system can enable farmers to make informed data-driven business and management decisions.

The cloud-based platform, Dtreo, has been developed for data capture, storage, and reporting in many different farming scenarios. The platform transforms livestock performance data collected at the farm level, into actionable information, supporting farmers in making data-driven decisions and connecting producers to markets. Thanks to its flexibility, Dtreo is customizable in terms of data collected, validation criteria, and user interface language. This applies not only to small ruminants, but also to pigs, cattle, and aquaculture operations. The platform has also been considered for supply chains either in vertical enterprises or horizontally across an industry.

To date, The Dtreo platform has shown to be a valuable support in sheep and goat community-based breeding programs in Ethiopia, and India, as well as in advanced small ruminants operations in developed countries.

Our paper highlights how the Dtreo platform has supported sheep and goat farmers in both developing and developed countries with data-driven information.