



PROJECTS

- BREEDING GROUPS
- MANAGEMENT
- CONSULTATION
- FIELD RESEARCH



NATURE OF AMALTHIA PROJECTS

- BREEDING GROUPS OF OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BUT FORGOTTEN BREEDS
- BREEDING GROUPS OF “BURIED” SUB POPULATIONS OF OFFICIAL BREEDS
- BREEDING GROUPS OF UNRECOGNIZED BREEDS DESCRIBED IN OLD STUDIES
- BREEDING GROUPS OF UNRECOGNIZED POPULATIONS
- RESEARCH FOR LOST OLD KNOWN BREEDS
- FIELD SEARCH FOR UNRECORDED POPULATIONS AND LIVESTOCK CATEGORIES



SYKIA – CHALKIDIKI CATTLE



- Field search for last herds
- Two private breeding groups by SAVE/Amaltheia in Thessaly and Epiros totaling 20 specimens
- Officially recognized but not monitored
- Nearly extinct. Less than 150 specimens in traditional and private herds
- Re-activation of official acceptance. Subsidies available only in Chalkidiki
- DNA testing results pending



RODOPI CATTLE



- One private breeding group by SAVE/Amaltheia
- Field search
- 90 plus specimens under controlled conditions.
- Unknown number in rural areas but lost at rapid rate
- DNA testing results pending
- Mountain population of short horns with some steppe blood influences
- Unrecognized and little known.
- Old source recommends field search for establishing its potentially distinct status



PRESPA CATTLE



- Field search
- A private breeding group by Amaltheia/SAVE, 38 and another 15 at Prespa Park.
- DNA testing results pending
- Nearly extinct on Greek side of border
- Not officially recognized
- Local population of short horns?
- Possibly alluded at in earlier studies but never formally described



ΚΕΑ CATTLE



Two breeding groups totaling 10 animals

Field search. Re-discovery at Makronissos island. Relics found in Messinia-Peloponnese survivors of 1959 imports (Spring 2015)

Officially recognized but not monitored

Re-activation of official recognition and subsidies process

DNA testing results pending

Total population no more than 25 in Makronissos and Kea islands

1947 study crucial in identifying relics



AGATHONISSI & LIPSI ISLANDS CATTLE

- Field search
- Differentiated short horns allegedly related
- Not officially recognized & ignored as majority of island native type cattle
- Agathonissi 25 specimens in 5 herds
- Lipsi at least 8-10. Insufficient data
- Agathonissi DNA sampling
- Bull contributed to Agathonissi herd
- More research in Lipsi crucial





OTHER DOCUMENTED AND UNRECOGNIZED ISLAND POPULATIONS

Cretan Cattle of Mountain type



Kastelorizo island



Lesvos island



Nissyros island





OTHER DOCUMENTED AND UNRECOGNIZED MAINLAND POPULATIONS

Aitoloakarnania Acheloos river



Peloponnese Mani region





ARGOS SHEEP



- Field Search and monitoring
- 2 nuclei. 1 SAVE/Amaltheia , 1 private
- 70 specimens in controlled conditions
- Nearly extinct
- Few scattered specimens in mixed herds
- Officially recognized but not monitored
- Proposed re-activation of subsidies
- Consultation and management of population
- Small unregistered herd identified in Peloponnese (August 2015)



EVDILOS IKARIA ISLAND



- Field and bibliographic research
- 2 SAVE/Amaltheia nuclei
- 20 specimens in controlled conditions
- Officially recognized but not monitored
- Nearly extinct
- No animals reported in mixed or feral herds
- Local society needs to be more aware of its value.



LEFKIMI KERKYRA (CORFU) ISLAND



- Contribution of animals to private herd
- 40 specimens in controlled conditions
- Nearly extinct survived as resilient phenotypes in few unimproved herds
- Officially recognized but not monitored for some decades. Bloodlines diluted due to state agencies encouraging crossing with other native breeds
- Reconstruction progressing satisfactorily
- Consultation and management of population
- Bibliographic research
- Poorly described in old sources



OTHER DOCUMENTED SHEEP POPULATIONS

ROUMLOUKIOU



KATAFYGIO



PELOPONNESE VLACH TYPE



KOKOVITIKO-CENTRAL PELOPONNESE





OTHER DOCUMENTED SHEEP POPULATIONS

SAMOTHRAKI ISLAND



EPIROS MOUNTAIN



KASSOS





OULOKEROS GOAT

“Amaltheia’s” Logo



- Field search and monitoring
- 9 small herds. 8 private and 1 by SAVE-Amaltheia
- 115 specimens in controlled conditions (6-9-2015)
- DNA testing results pending
- Nearly extinct survived as resilient phenotypic relic.
- Unrecognized due to lack of official policy and culture for native goat breeds
- First Greek goat studied in detail (1941) by I.N.Dimitriadis but official interest lapsed.
- High potential historic significance



SAMOTHRAKI ISLAND WILD GOAT



- Officially “Extinct”, but re-discovered by “Amaltheia”
- Small captive group under formation aims at reconstruction overseen by “Amaltheia”
- Resilient phenotype in mixed herds & unconfirmed isolated herds of greater purity. More field search imperative
- Ancient population of primitive goat
- Numerous mentions in old sources
- 1960s captive breeding project discontinued
- Well embedded into local culture and readily acknowledged by islanders



A SMALL SAMPLE OF ISLAND GOAT POPULATIONS MERITING FIELD SEARCH

SAMOS



CHIOS



LESVOS



LEMNOS





OTHER DOCUMENTED MAINLAND GOAT POPULATIONS

DESFINA



KRANIA ELASSONAS



AGIOS NIKANORAS MONASTERY



KARYSTOS-SOUTH EVIA





AXIOS RIVER FERAL HORSES STUDY

A

population formed in early post war years



- Census-documentation-monitoring
- Population and herds distribution
- Environmental impact on breeding, sex ratio and behavioural aspects
- Agriculture-irrigation effect on population size & relations with farmers
- Ramsar & Natura Axios status not clearly extending to feral horses protection
- Feral horses deemed ownerless in Greek law and exposed to random capturing
- Population currently 65 but fluctuates greatly
- Pindos-Thessalian blood with minor alien infusion adapting and becoming uniform



SKYROS SMALL HORSE



- Monitoring
- Consultation
- Population management
- Stud book creation
- 300 specimens. Half in Skyros
- Relic of a formerly widespread “Aegean Small Horse” population
- A high profile flagship species. The first at risk native breed to receive extensive publicity, acquire full pedigree and breed association (Nov 2014)



RODOS SMALL HORSE



- Monitoring
- Consultation
- Management of population
- Nearly extinct. Not officially recognized
- Ten specimens only. All under controlled conditions supported by Rodos group "Faethon"
- Relic of "Aegean Small Horse" population.
- Bibliographic research. Detailed description in Italian sources.



SAMOTHRAKI ISLAND HORSE



- Field search
- Documentation
- First description
- Monitoring
- Population 25
- Possibly belongs to Pindos type
- Further study essential
- Native horses in island regions not sufficiently known



LESVOS ORIGINAL SMALLHORSE (MIDILI)



- Field search but more is imperative
- Monitoring
- Nearly extinct
- Three specimens with private breeder
- An unclear number rumoured in few feral herds
- Member of “Aegean Small Horse” group.
- Bibliographic research in old sources



PERDIKAKI SMALL DONKEYS

Etoloakarnania prefecture



- Nucleus formation
- Field search-monitoring
-transportation
- Small type donkey adapted to local rugged terrain
- Nearly extinct. Maximum 14
- Unclear affinities to small donkey types in other Mainland and Island regions
- No official policy for cultivating donkey breeds.
- “Arcadia donkey” only type academically described but left to its own devices and no official recognition, registration or monitoring followed



ELIA PLAINS TYPE-WEST PELOPONNESE



- Field and bibliographic search
- Documentation and monitoring
- Formation of breeding group. (Two sows, one boar)
- Elia Plains type almost extinct but population was robust 20 years ago
- Superficially similar to Mainland “Black Pigs”. Distinct conformation may belie genetic differences due to long isolation
- Exclusively domestic & subject to close handling compared to free range pigs
- Possibly a regional bloodline or variety



OTHER PIG POPULATIONS DOCUMENTED

NISSYROS



MOUNTAIN ELIA-PELOPONNESE





POULTRY & SMALL RUSTIC DOGS

PIONEERING FIELD SEARCH IN THESSALY 2012-2015

A.CHRISTOPOULOS

N.PAPADIMAS

T.GEORGOULAS

A FOUR YEAR FIELD SEARCH ENCOMPASSING 191 COMMUNITIES



EXAMPLES OF NATIVE POULTRY IDENTIFIED THESSALY AND OTHER REGIONS

IN

THESSALIAN GOOSE



GUINEA FOWL FTHIOTIS



TURKEYS EAST CENTRAL GREECE





EXAMPLES OF NATIVE POULTRY IDENTIFIED IN

IN

THESSALY PLAINS CHICKEN (KARAGOUNIKI)



DESKATI CHICKEN



POTAMIA CHICKEN





SMALL RUSTIC DOGS IN THESSALY

A WIDE RANGE OF TYPES DOCUMENTED REFLECTIVE OF A STRONG CULTURE OF KEEPING SMALL FARM & DOMESTIC DOGS



THANK YOU

END OF PRESENTATION