Is there a future for small-scale animal production in the tropics?

Livestock production has a big environmental impact on the planet, but it also provides income for more than 1.3 billion people. Critical voices argue that the tropics should not take the West as a standard for animal production, because it will not be sustainable. Yet, the trend is that animal production increasingly takes place in the tropics. The demand for meat, eggs and dairy products is soaring here as a result of urbanisation and rising incomes. This can be considered good and bad news. Animal production provides new livelihood opportunities for small farmers and it can also supplement poor people’s diets, preventing malnourishment. But it simultaneously raises urgent questions on the sustainable use of the environment and public health risks.

**Speaker: Gijs den Hertog** *(MSc. Tropical Agricultural Development, University of Reading, UK, 1975)*

In this Agromisa Lecture Series, Gijs den Hertog, senior expert animal husbandry and rural development will share his knowledge and views on the topic.

From 1976 onwards, until his retirement, he was lecturer and Director of Studies of International Master Course in Tropical Animal Production, at Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences, Deventer, the Netherlands. He has worked in the Highlands of Latin America, Africa and Asia. He has developed specialist courses in large-scale dairy farm management and rural development; and he has trained heads of state on policy development with Draught Animal Technology and Smallholder Dairy Development. He has undertaken more than 40 missions abroad to advise governments and other organisations; and he has also been involved with PUM Netherlands Senior Experts.

Gijs den Hertog became active with Agromisa for the first time in 1964, attending a study day on Tropical Animal Production. Since then, he has written several publications, including three Agrodoks for Agromisa, on goat keeping, beef production and dairy cattle husbandry.

After his presentation, there will be time for questions and debate.

**Programme, date and location:**

- **Date:** Thursday, 23 November 2017
- **Place:** Impulse building (Speakers Corner), Stippeneng 2, building number 115, Wageningen, University Campus (participation is free)
  
  20:00: Walk-in with coffee
  20:15: Introduction by the Agromisa Foundation
  20:15: Introduction by “De Veetelers”
  20:30: One hour talk by Gijs den Hertog
  21:30: Questions and debate
  22:00: Drinks and Bites

Interested? Questions? Please contact Agromisa (agromisa@wur.nl) or “De Veetelers” (veetelers.socialeveningcie@wur.nl)