

Last week Josep Marí, Councillor of Rural Environment, met with Juan Antonio Yern, President of the Association of Livestock Farmers of Formentera (Associació de Ramaders, ARF) and Carlos Marí, manager of the local agricultural co-operative (Cooperativa del Camp). Also on hand at the meeting were Loana Fraga, the veterinarian in charge of the ARF's animal health and hygiene group and Pamela Ferrer, the Consell de Formentera's veterinary specialist.

Farmers took the opportunity to express their concern about dog attacks on local livestock. Between December and January there were three fatal attacks involving two lambs and one ewe as well as other attacks that left six ewes injured. Councillor Marí explained that "since last July there is a new protocol for joint action between the pound and the local police so that complaints of dogs found without owner are processed more quickly". 43 such complaints were made in 2021. Associated fines range from €30 to €300.

Councillor Marí also called to mind the push piloted by the Consell last November to safeguard the welfare of pets and livestock by educating dog owners about the importance of not letting animals off property unaccompanied. To that end, Marí once again asked islanders to notify the pound at 630 083 128 if any off-lead dogs are seen without their owner.

The councillor highlighted local government's support for livestock farmers, which he described as "vital for the island's countryside and landscape". In that regard, Marí announced a €30,000 line of subsidies in 2022 for professional livestock and agriculture. A portion of the total will be used to help farmers who meet conditions based on, among other things, how many breeding animals they possess.

Livestock census

It was also announced that the period for mandatory declarations for the livestock census is open until 28 February. Farmers should contact the Formentera Office of Rural Affairs (Conselleria de Medi Rural, CMRF), Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.00pm, located at Centre Antoni Tur "Gabrielet". Meeting participants additionally discussed operations at the slaughterhouse and proposed possible changes in opening hours to enhance use. Consell employees also asked representatives of the sector about the training courses they would be interested in programming in 2022.

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Els cans no poden sortir de casa sols i als espais públics han d'anar kermats: -Per al benestar del ramat -Per evitar kugues, pèrdues i atropellaments de mascotes Si veis un animal amollat, sense propietari, avisau la canera. Contacte: 630 08 31 28

