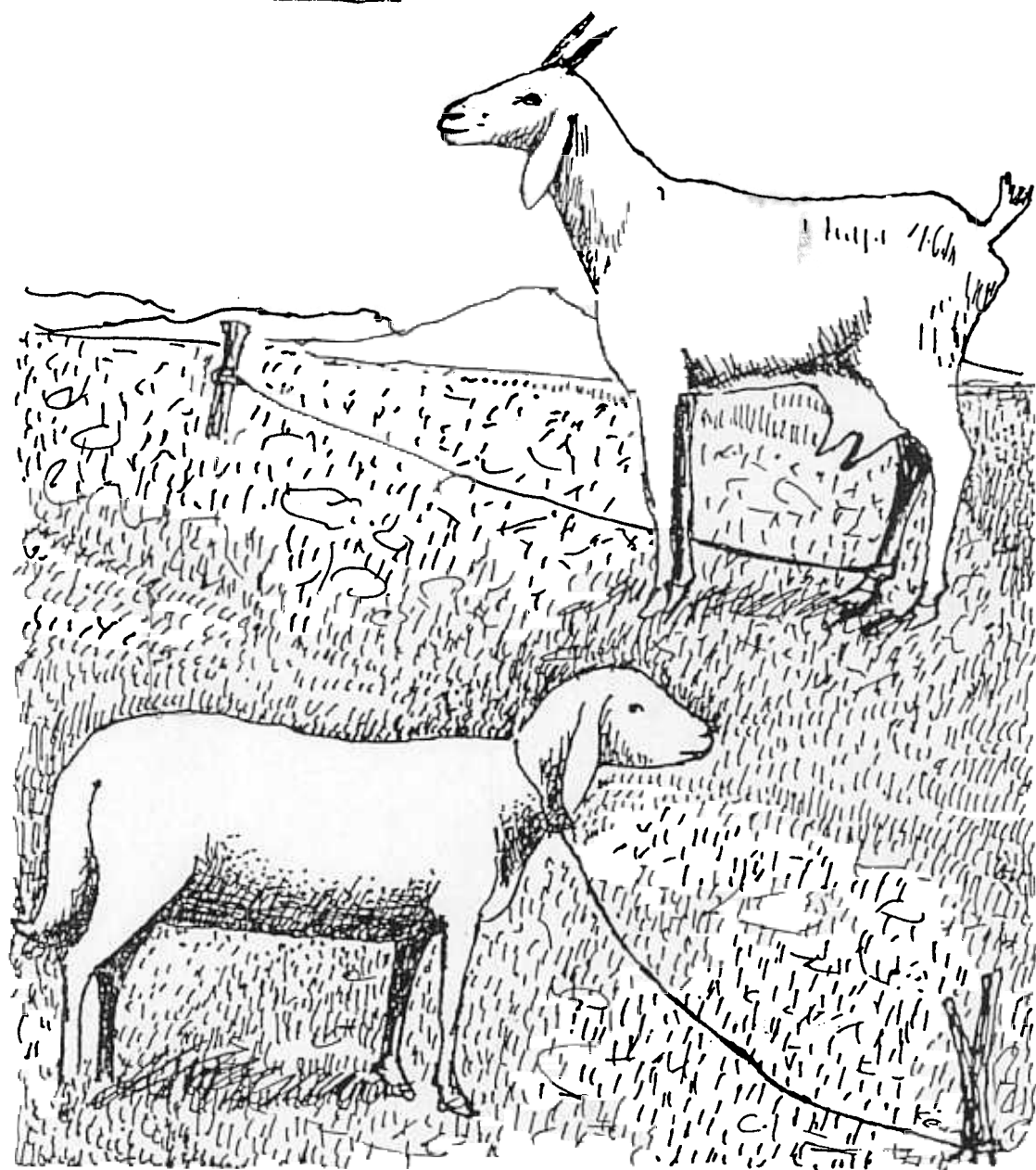
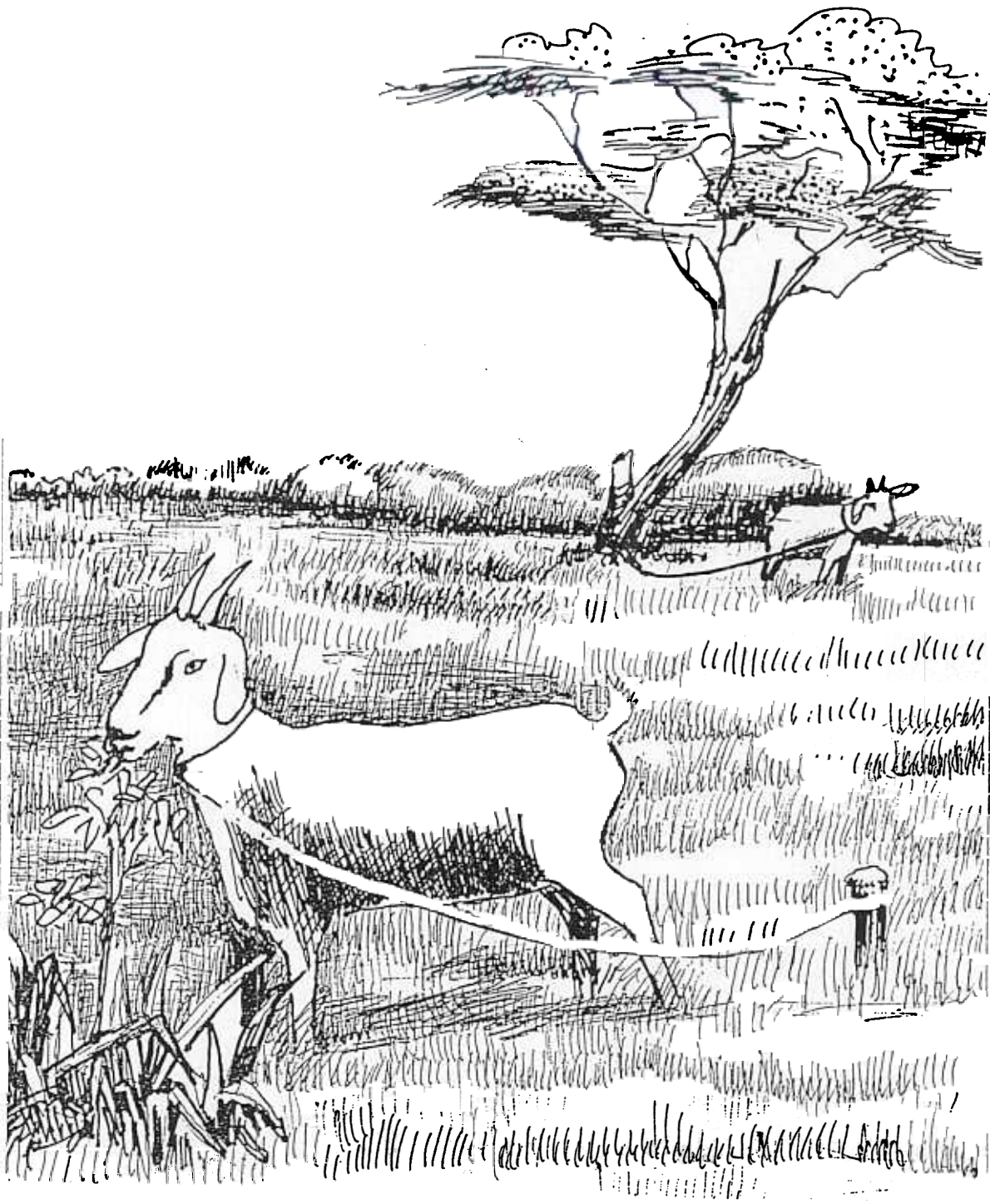


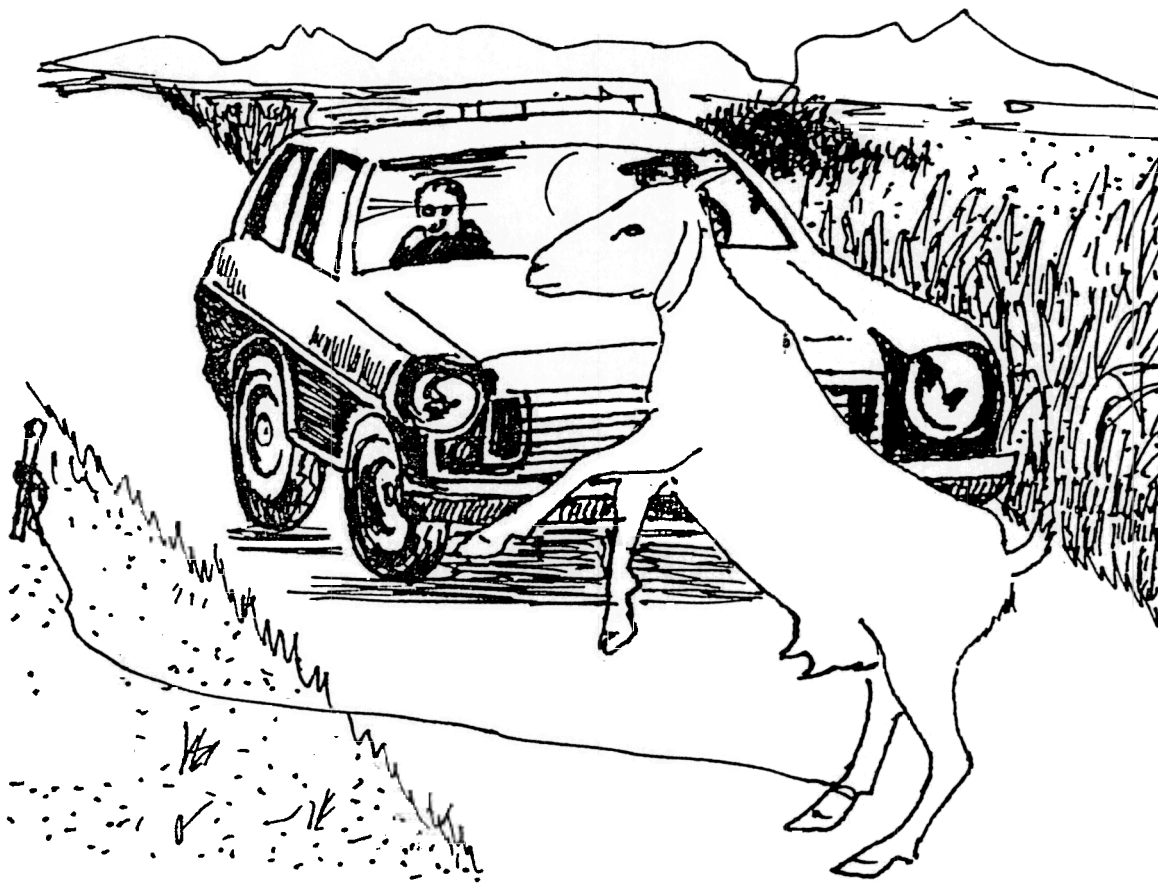
TETHERING MANAGEMENT OF SMALL RUMINANTS



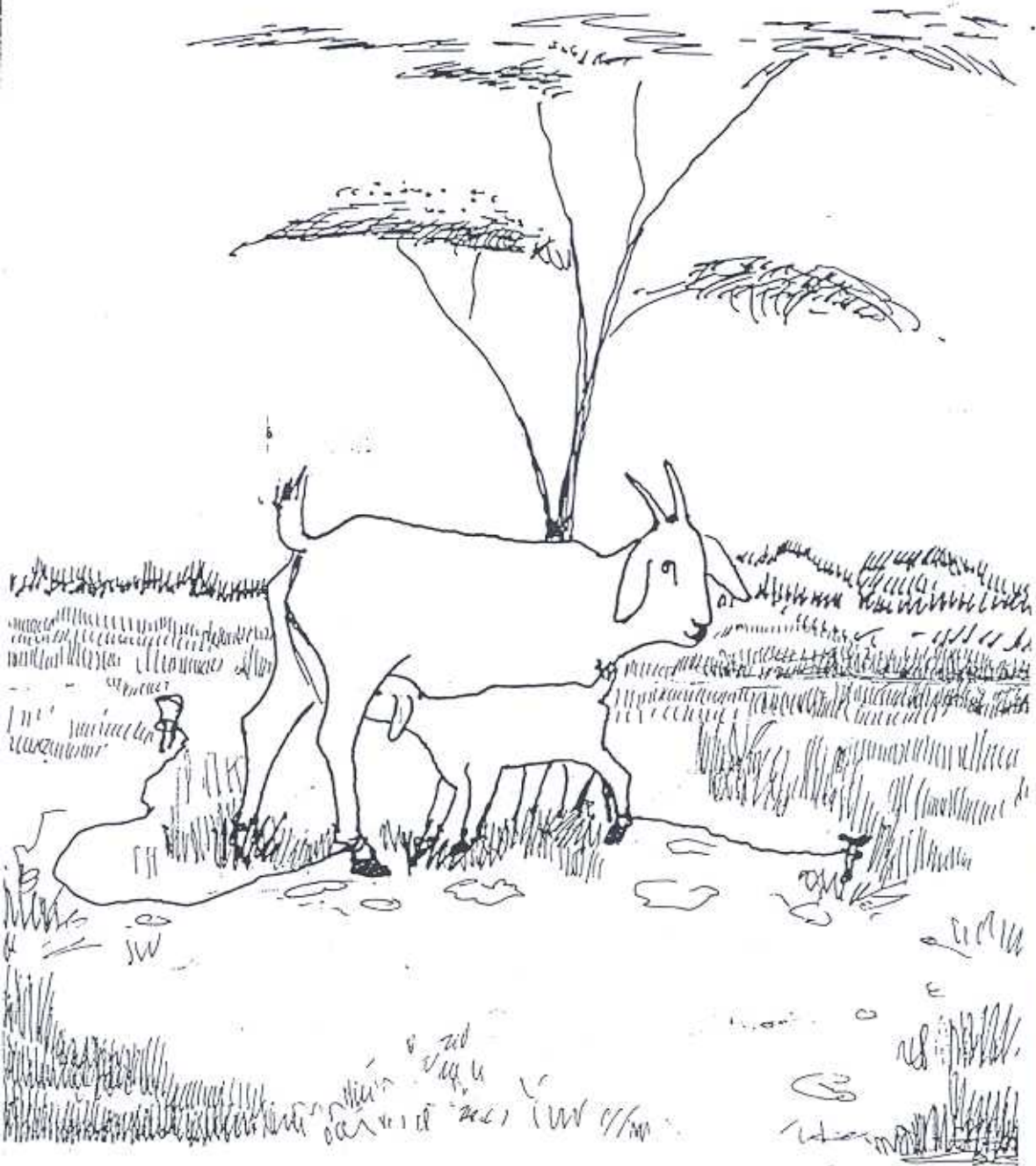
Prepared by E Owen and D S C Sendalo for the Natural Resources
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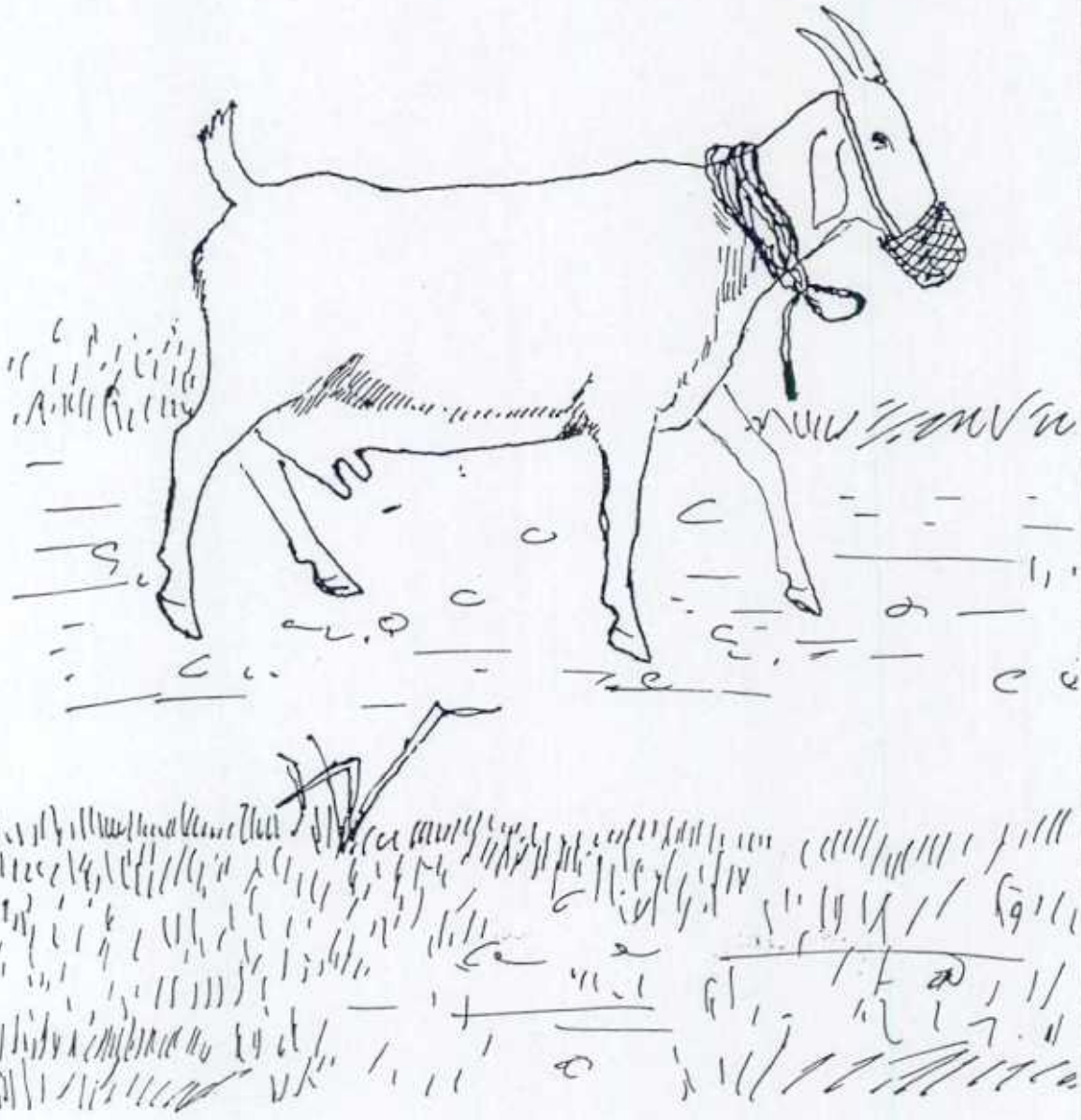
Tethering is a common practice of controlling grazing of goats and sheep when labour is scarce and animals are few



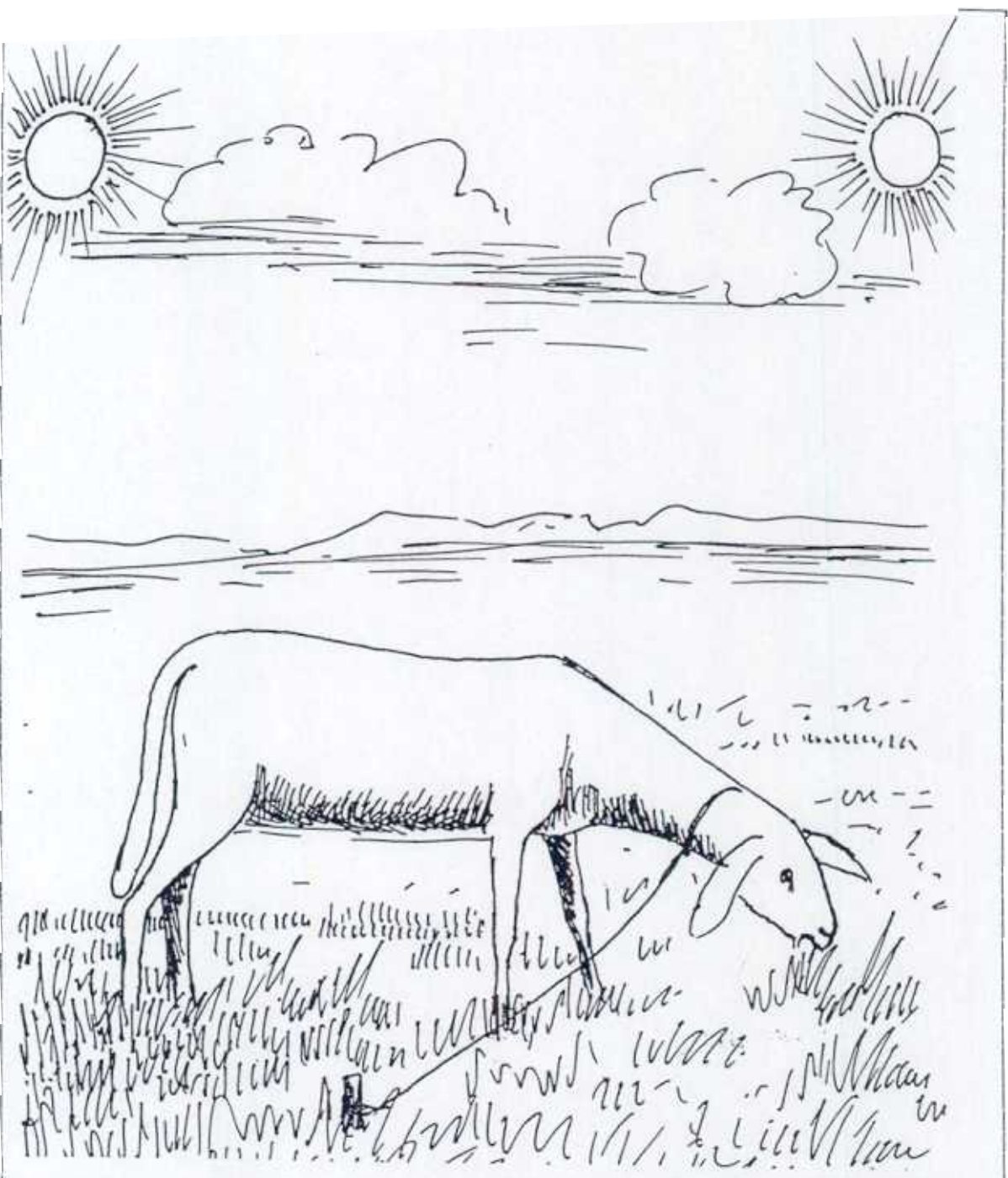
Tethering sites should be chosen carefully - the aim being to provide plentiful, good grazing and minimum risk to the animal. Avoid road sides, steep banks and bushes which can tangle the tethers.



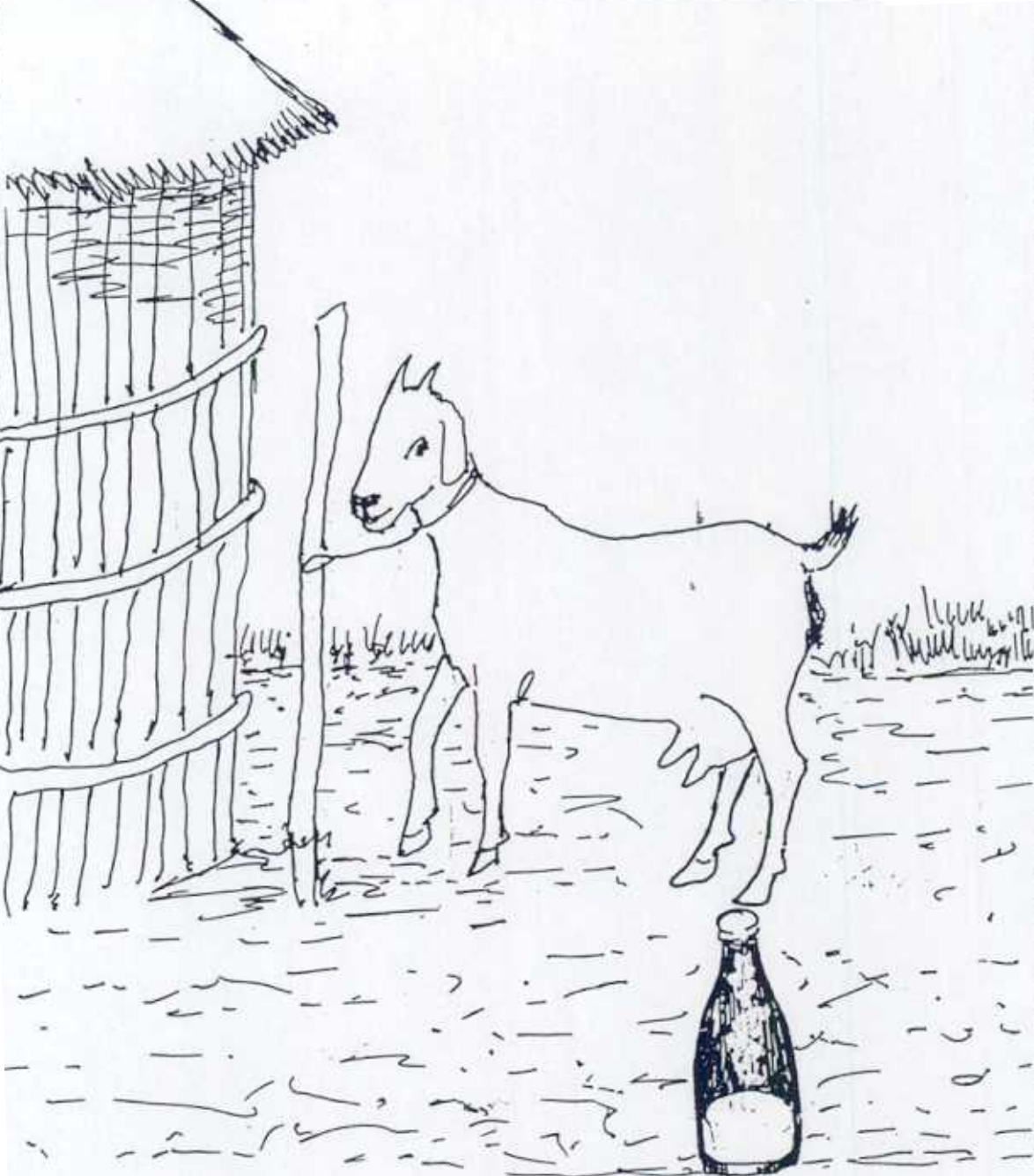
Mature animals can be tethered by the neck or feet. Kids should be tethered by the feet and near enough their dams to enable them suckle during the grazing day.



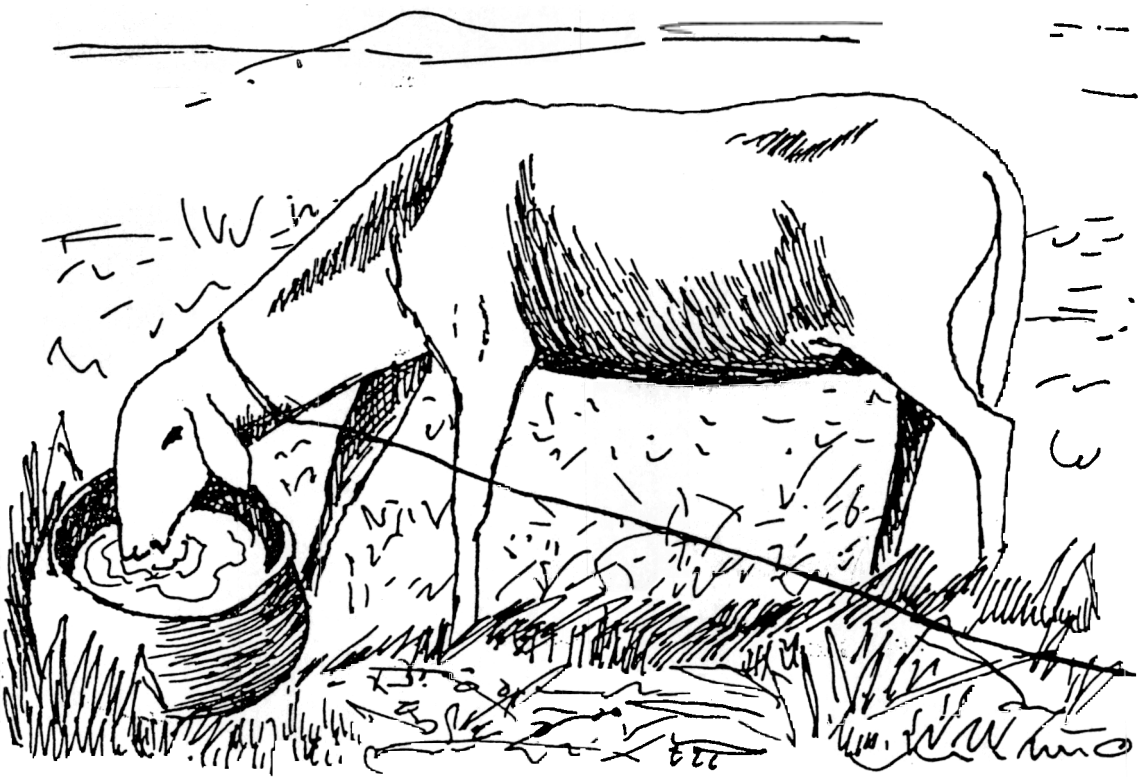
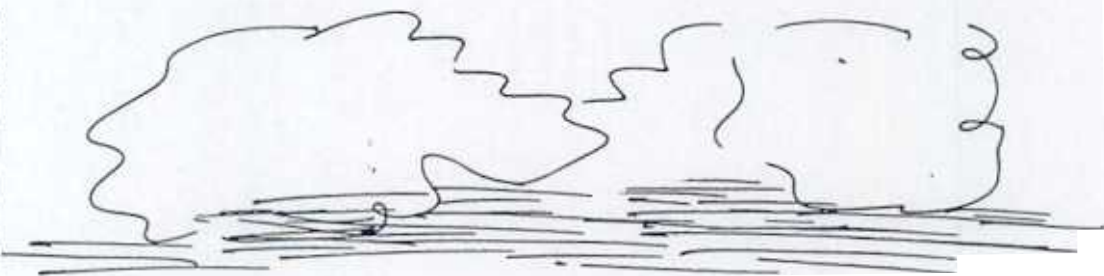
Protect animals from eating other peoples property by covering the mouths using muzzles.



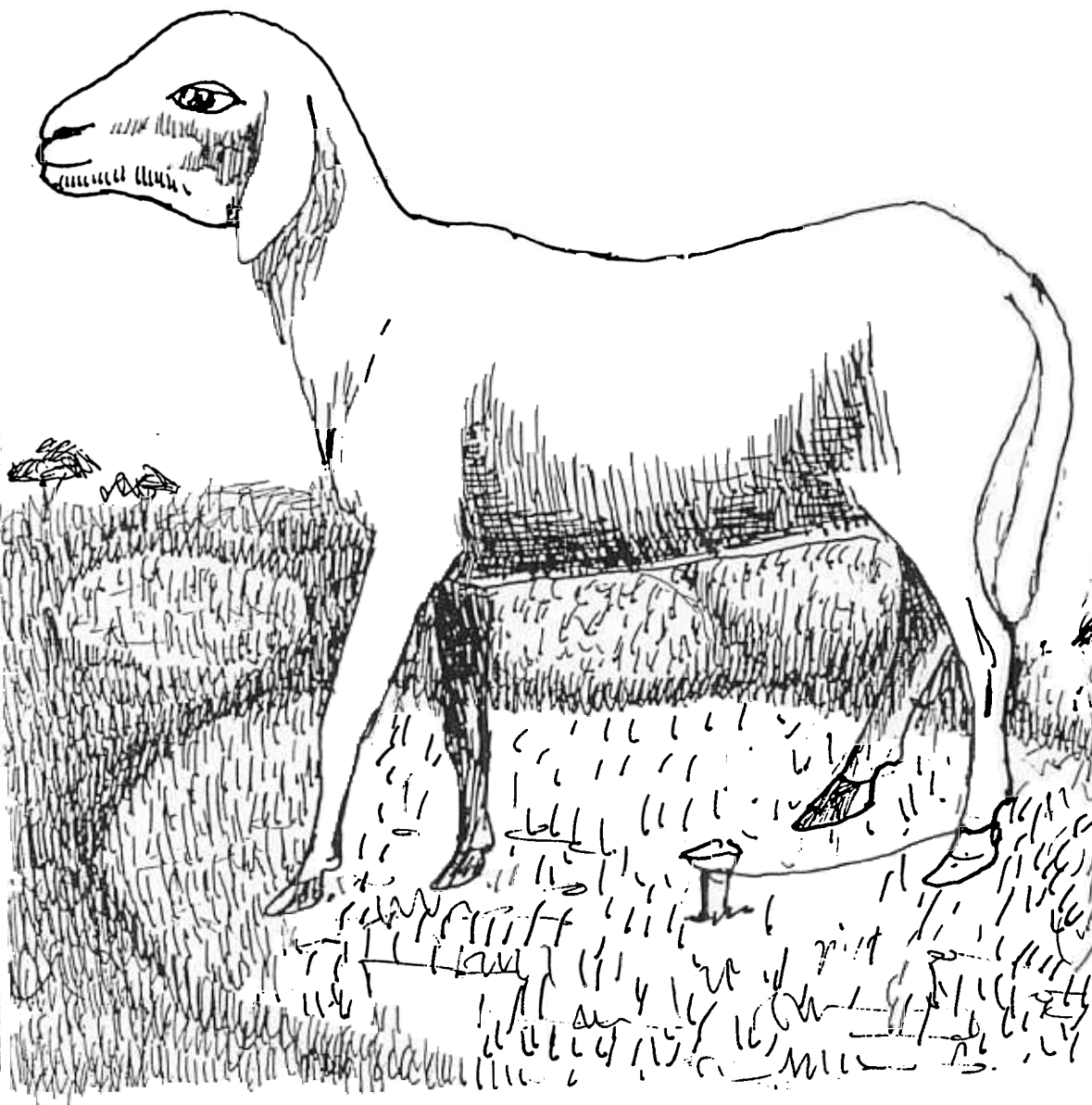
Tethered animals should be given enough time to graze by letting them out early and kraaled late. Animals tethered for shorter period have low intakes although eat fast.



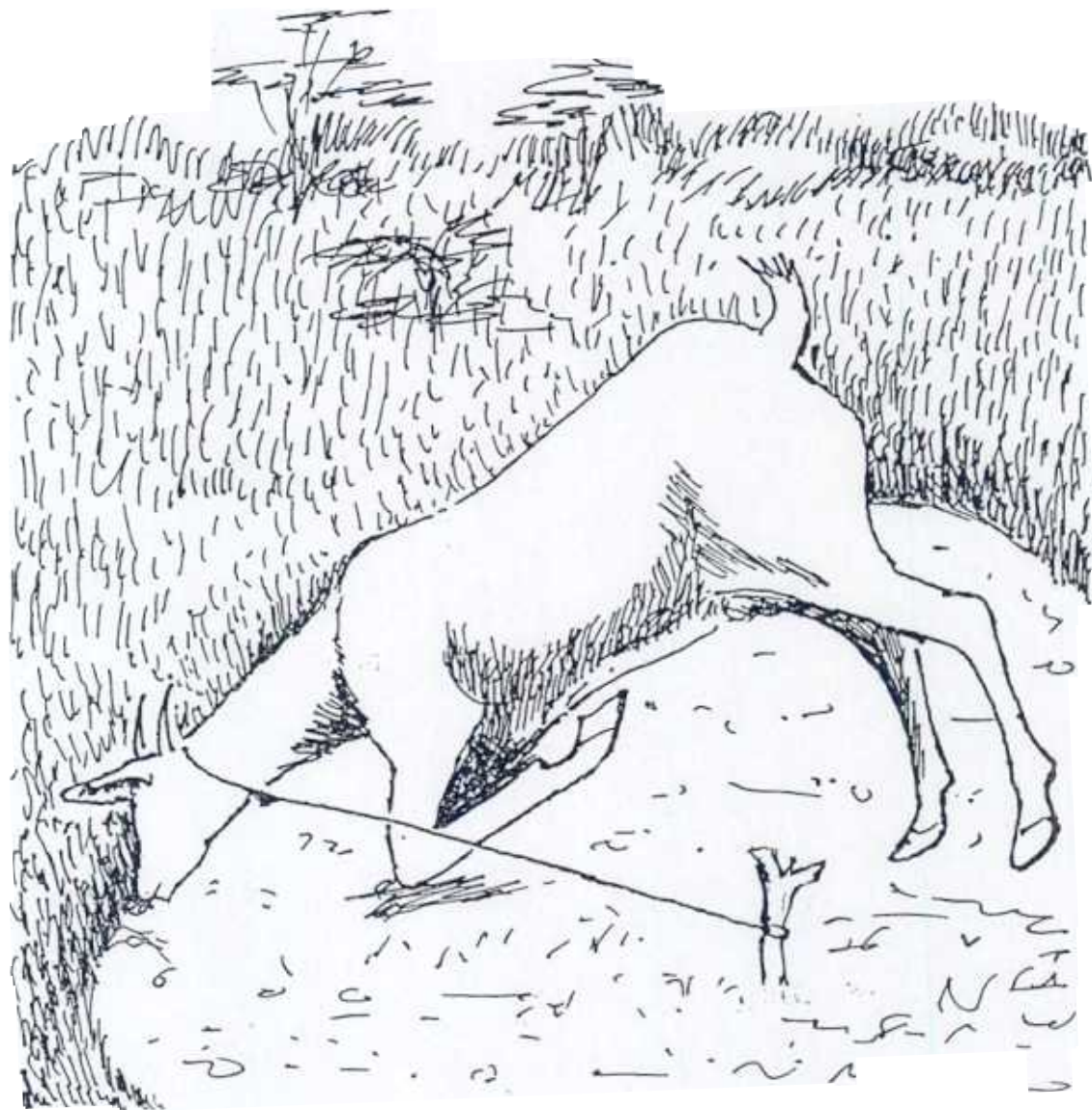
Tethering lactating dairy goats for 4 or 8 h daily without any other supplementation causes a decline in milk yield.



Tethered animals should be watered while at grazing



Tethering animals using shorter ropes and moving them to new sites several times a day demands more labour and can be wasteful to pasture especially during the wet season.



Animals should not be tethered on same site continuously for 3 or more days to avoid overgrazing.