

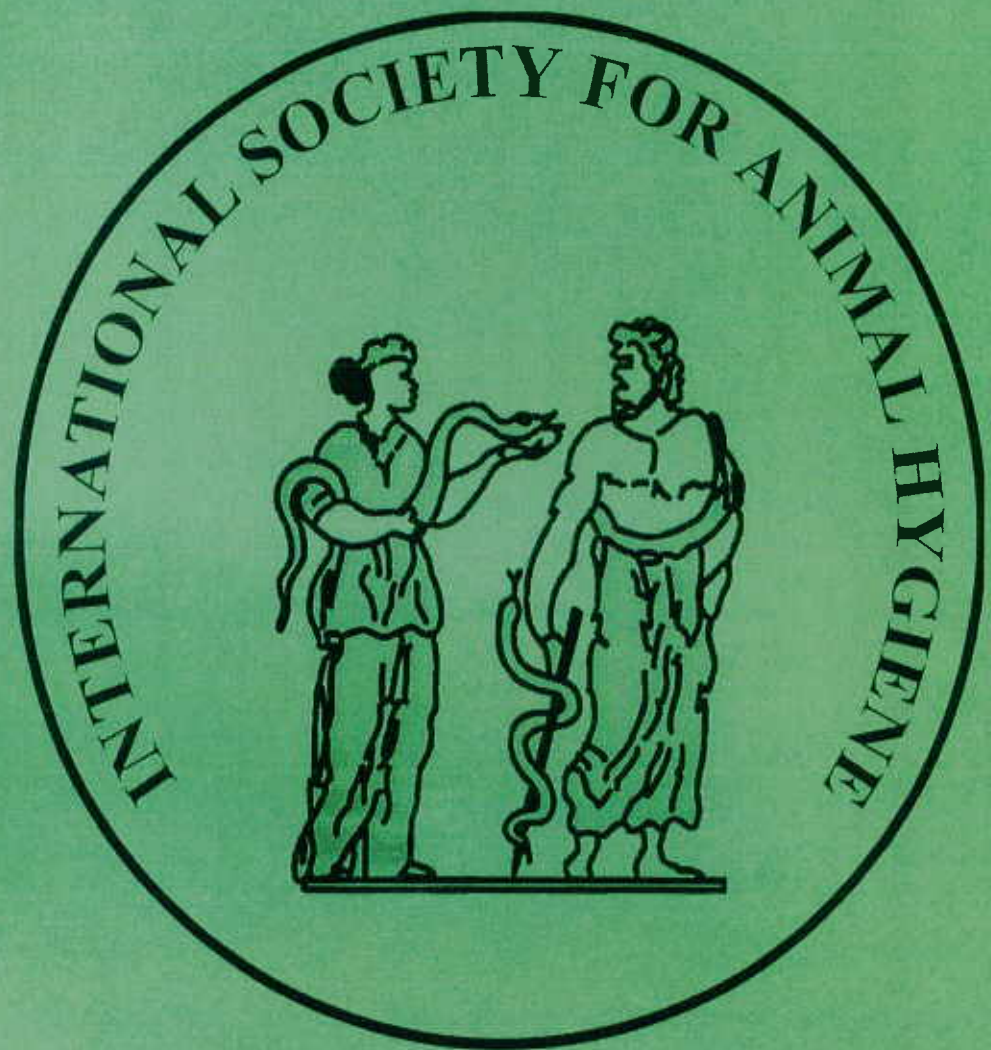
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International Society for Animal Hygiene

Newsletter n°10

ISSUE 10

September 2003



Dear Colleagues,

Thanks to the initiative of the Executive Board and with the support of the Extended Executive Board, during the congress of ISAH in Mexico-City, I have been nominated as president of this society. It is a great honor, but at the same time great responsibility and a lot of obligations. I believe that along with a well-working Executive we will be able to give right direction to the ISAH and reach the goals till the next congress in Warsaw – September 2005. In the ISAH history, in the seventies and eighties, European trend was clearly visible – a common scientific language existed, similar issues were considered, scientific works were aimed mainly at improving hygienic conditions in the animal mass production. In this period the leading role was performed by professors who are deceased now, specialists on animal hygiene and at the same time veterinarians from the Eastern and Central Europe.

In the following years, active centers appeared in many other countries and continents – Australia, both Americas and the Philippines. It is "*signum tempore*": the animal hygiene as other fields of science followed the way of globalization. For a few years successive presidents of ISAH together with the Executive are trying to support the contacts among the scientific centers from different countries. It is important for a better fulfilment of the scientific tasks. Nowadays the contact with various countries on different continents is quite easy. Thanks to all these new technologies.

Concerning the current situation of Poland and other countries which are joining the EU, I would like to mention the need to adapt our regulations regarding animal keeping. The ISAH can be provider of scientific resources in this field.

The accession to the European Union cannot cause any negative effects in the magnificent values of the natural habitat of Eastern Europe. At the same time the animal production should be balanced and give good and healthy food products.

I notice a need to give a special attention to the problem of mutual relation between the animal and its habitat. These issues will be addressed at the congress in Warsaw.

Looking at the future of the ISAH. I think that we should continue our discussion about the future and the structure of our society.

The question was already on the agenda of our meetings (Executive Board + Extended Executive Board) in Mexico-City. The idea of a forum discussion came out. You will find further informations in this newsletter (minutes of the EB + EEB meeting).

The decision about some changes could be made during the Warsaw Congress. This needs a good preparation.

I wish all the members of the ISAH well-being and a sincere engagement in the future work of the society.

Best regards

**President of ISAH
Prof.dr hab. Andrzej Krynski**



Dr. Jorge A. Saltijeral Oaxaca

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ISAH BETWEEN 2000 AND 2003

Mexico-City, February 26, 2003

*By Prof. Dr. Jorge Saltijeral, President of the International Society for Animal Hygiene
Read at the General Assembly, February 26, 2003 in Mexico City*

In July 5, 2000 in Maastricht, The Netherlands, I was elected President of the International Society for Animal Hygiene. Today my term arrives at its end.

The main goal of my presidency was to guarantee an excellent quality of the scientific programme for the main congress, the XIth ISAH Congress and promote our society.

At the XIth Congress we had 147 participants and 18 accompanying persons from 43 countries. There were invited keynote speakers giving lectures in 3 different topics: "Animal Hygiene for the Sustainable Production of Wholesome Food for All", "Animal Hygiene as a Key Element of Animal Welfare" and "Animal Hygiene as a Contribution to Environmental Protection and Public Health".

We received 225 papers from 45 countries and all continents (from Europe: 19 countries, America: 8 countries, Africa: 4 countries, Asia: 3 countries and Australia: 1). The organizing Committee accepted more than 100 poster presentations and 30 oral presentations. We had a poster exhibition on 3 different days, each day with different topics: Monday 24: Bovines, Animal Health and Nutrition, Tuesday 25: Poultry and Pigs, Welfare and Epidemiology and Wednesday 26: Environmental Protection, Disinfection and Waste Management, Veterinary Education, Epidemiology and Public Health.

The proceedings of Mexico-City congress (2 volumes, 901 pages) include 63 papers and 72 posters. They are available on request (Prof. Saltijeral, e mail: oaxaca@cuevatl.uam.mx). A CD Rom was also prepared. These two (Proceedings + CD Rom) can be obtained for \$35 (35 US dollars) + shipping.

It was the first time to have ISAH main congress in a Spanish-speaking country and in Latin America.

The Congress received support from Prof. Martin Tielen Foundation, Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), UAM, Intervet, Bayer, Nestle, Alpura, and Productos del Convento SA de CV

Special mention to Prof. Martin Tielen Foundation for having given support to young scientists. Also thanks to "Organizing Committee Mexico" for its support to young scientists and to the college students for taking part to the Congress

The congress could also find the balance from the economic point of view.

The vocable "animal hygiene" is not familiar to the international scientific community.

In Mexico and Latin America it is not used in the broad sense as it is in the ISAH. It was thus a real challenge to

organize the main congress in Mexico-City. There is no doubt that the congress have had a positive impact in that the concept of animal hygiene has been displayed in its different components.

On the same issue a series of papers has been launched in our newsletter about "teaching animal hygiene". In an attempt to analyze the situation, Prof. Tielen wrote a draft report entitled "The way forward for ISAH". The point will continue being discussed in the next two years until arriving to our next general assembly in Warsaw in 2005.

During the 2000-2003 period the members of our society have organized diverse activities on four continents:

- The 66th meeting of the Philippines Veterinary Medical Association. National Convention. February, 2001 in Cagayan de Oro, Philippines. Prof. Thomas Lazaro, ISAH country representative was involved.
- A symposium about Sustainable Livestock Production was organized in Mexico by Guerrero University. All the members of the EB of the ISAH presented a paper at the symposium. February, 2002.
- A meeting with participation of ISAH was held in Kosice, Slovak Republic (May, 2002). Recycling of Agricultural, Municipal and Industrial Residues in Agriculture Network (RAMIRAN)
- An in-between symposium in Adelaide, Australia "Finding the balance", July, 2002. Dr. Thomas Banhazi, ISAH Country representative for Australia was involved.

Dr. F. Madec has applied to organize such a symposium in Brittany (France) in 2004.

Executive Board of ISAH had meetings in Acapulco, (Mexico), and Stuttgart, (Germany) both in 2002

For the first time our society had a Web page. The site got more than 3 500 visitors from 40 countries. In December 2000, we tried to organize a group of correspondents by e mail. The answer was poor.

We published ISAH Newsletter numbers 5, 6, 7 and 8. Thanks to François Madec for his collaboration

I want to make special recognition to the Executive Board of the ISAH for the advices. The discussions, the rich proposals allowed to consolidate the work of our society and also special gratefulness to my organizing committee here in Mexico. Its work resulted in the success of this congress

Once again, I thank you all for your help in driving our society and good luck and best wishes to my successor, Prof. A. Krynski.

Prof. J. Saltijeral

Joint Meeting of the Extended Executive Board (EEB) and Executive Board (EB)

Mexico-City : 25 Feb 2003

The ISAH country representatives present at the congress met on Tuesday 25th Feb., 2003 with the EB. President Saltijeral addressed his welcome to the participants and proposed the agenda. 19 countries were represented. Some countries were represented by a delegate not being the established country representative.

1- Up-dated list of country representatives

F. Madec, ISAH's secretary went through the list he had previously prepared with the EB. Numerous contacts had been necessary to be made to update the list. The list of the members of the EEB ranked in alphabetic order is given below. For the large majority of the concerned persons there was no objection. On the other hand for some there was need for clarification. Several members were asked to try to get the right information. Compared to the situation in Maastricht 2000, new country representatives can be found on the list and among these several are young scientists who could attend thanks to the Prof. Tielen Foundation. J. Saltijeral and F. Madec reminded the assembly of what is the duty of the country representatives : promote animal hygiene and the society (new members) in their corresponding country.

2- Mexico City congress situation

President Saltijeral mentioned the number of registered persons and their geographical origin. Delegates from 35 countries were present at the congress. He also told the assembly about the congress format and the programme for the following days.

3- Memberships fees

It was explained how to proceed to become a member of ISAH. The easiest way is to pay the fees (30 US \$ for 3 years) during the main congress. Another possibility is to come in touch with the country representatives who are due to collect the money and to organize the transfer to ISAH account in Sweden (through the ISAH Treasurer: Bo Algers).

4- New composition of the Executive Board (EB)

The new composition of the EB to be presented later at the general Assembly was presented. Explanations were given by M. Tielen about the 3 members at large now found in the list. The society is at a crossroads and the input of a past president is very useful in the preparation of the future. No specific comment came from the floor in this respect.

5- Financial accounts

The president reported the current situation : a positive credit account of 7036,62 €.

6- Up-coming congresses or symposia in relation to ISAH

6.1- *Brittany (France) : an "in-between congress" of ISAH*

F. Madec will take care of the organisation of this event planned to be held in October 2004 in St-Malo.

6.2- *Warsaw, Poland 2005 : main congress of ISAH*

A.Krynski gave the state-of-the-art on the question. He told he was willing to maintain the EEB informed especially by

e mail. F. Madec will prepare a complete list of the members of the EEB with their postal and e-mail coordinates and it will be sent to A. Krynski.

6.3- Estonia 2008 : main congress of ISAH

A. Aland prepared an official application for the organisation of a main congress. He informed the EEB about his first investigations trying to get support. He has already received several promises of support.

7- Prof. Tielen Foundation (PTF)

M. Tielen outlined the success of the operation. 38 proposals were received and after selection and resignations 13 could be granted. There is still money on the PTF account and young scientists will receive help again for attending the 2005 congress in Poland.

8- Newsletter and website

- F. Madec spoke about the newsletter, its goal and the contents. He asked for more participation of the EEB to the document. He also asked comments about the presentation of the current newsletter. The idea of using the web instead of the paper copy was raised. Some voices from the audience mentioned the usefulness to continue with the paper version especially in the developing countries. It was thus decided to continue in the same way until Poland meeting in 2005. However from Poland (ISAH congress 2005) onwards the situation might change, the info. of the newsletter could circulate through the web depending on the new developments in this field.

- Website. It is becoming most important, for ISAH recognition, to have an appropriate website. J. Venglovsky, Slovakia country representative, proposed his help to elaborate the site. He showed us the example of RAMIRAN webpage on which he has been working. He will make a proposal to the EB.

9- The future of ISAH

Thomas Blaha explained the current discussion of the EB about this question to

the EEB. He outlined two main points : the need to get the society stronger and more in agreement with the importance of our field of expertise and a better recognition in the scientific community and even by policy makers. He mentioned that the two issues were not independent. The main reasons explaining the situation are known and some elements for a further reflexion were given :

- Re-think the structure of the board of the society. In this field, the possibility of having a standing president was put forward (since in the current situation the available time of the president is fully occupied by the main congress preparation ; this means that there is no time left for developing and promoting the society "*per se*").
- Re-think the way of functioning : besides the main congresses, the possibility to organize meetings on hot topics was mentioned. The opportunity to have connections with a scientific journal was also suggested.
- Some linguistic problems also seem to interfere with the low impact of ISAH. The word "animal hygiene" is now used in a much narrower sense than the scientific field we are covering and it is not used and hardly understood in the English speaking world.

Several remarks came from the floor and a lively debate took place. They were broadly in favor of changings in order to adapt ISAH to the changing world. It was also said that the acronym is less important than the scientific matters it is backed to. We could also hear that an acronym can hardly perfectly cover the field of a society. Some sub-titles can be added. The example of OIE was given. This intergovernmental organisation was renamed in English without changing the acronym. In addition it has broadened its field of interest to animal-derived food safety and to animal welfare.

10- Agenda of the General Assembly

The agenda was presented without any objection.

11- Closure



International Society for Animal Hygiene

(Mexico-city - Feb. 2003)

Composition of the EB and EEB from Feb. 2003 onwards

1- Executive Board (EB)

- **President:** Andrzej Krynski (Poland)
- **1st Vice-president:** Jorge Saltijeral (Mexico)
- **2nd Vice-president:** Andres Aland (Estonia)
- **3rd Vice-president:** Reinhard Böhm (Germany)
- **Secretary:** François Madec (France)
- **Treasurer:** Bo Algers (Sweden)
- **Member at large:** Thomas Blaha (Germany)
Pal Rafai (Hungary)
Martin Tielen (the Netherlands)

2- Extended Executive Board (EEB, ie Country representatives)

- **Albania :** P. Cabelli Kusi
- **Algeria :** Nadir Alloui
- **Argentina :** Sergio Duffy
- **Australia :** Thomas Banhazi
- **Austria :** Josef Köfer
- **Belgium :** Beaudoin Nicks
- **Bolivia :** Erica Alandia Robles
- **Brazil :** Renaldi Brito
- **Bulgaria :** Nicola Nezov
- **Canada :** Neil Anderson
- **China (Hong-Kong) :** Thomas Sit
- **Croatia :** Vitomir Bilic
- **Cuba :** René Ferrer-Carvajal
- **Czech Rep. :** Pavel Novak
- **Denmark :** Poul Baekbo
- **Egypt :** A.A. Mottelib
- **El Salvador :** Luis Tolentino
- **Estonia :** Andres Aland
- **Finland :** Suvi Taponen
- **France :** Henri Seegers
- **Germany :** Jörg Hartung
- **Greece :** Dr. Iliadis
- **Hungary :** Endre Brydl
- **India :** Singh Bhanu Pratap
- **Israel :** J. Klinger
- **Italy :** Franco Mutinelli
- **Latvia :** Irena Keidane
- **Lesotho :** M. Moteane (to be confirmed)
- **Lithuania :** Bronius Bakutis
- **Mexico :** Gustavo Ruiz-Lang
- **Nigeria :** Dupe Ogunoiki
- **Norway :** Egil Simensen
- **Philippines :** Thomas Lazaro II
- **Poland :** Eligius Rokicki
- **Romania :** Mihai Decun
- **Russia :** Prof. Naidensky
- **Slovakia :** Jan Venglovsky
- **Slovenia :** Marko Amon
- **Sweden :** Charlotte Berg
- **Switzerland :** Greta Regula
- **Syria :** Darem Tabbaa
- **Tanzania :** Zodiac Lyimo
- **The Netherlands :** Frank Van Eerdenburg
- **U.S.A. :** Roberta Dwyer
- **Ukraine :** M. Demchuk
- **Uruguay :** Stella Huertas
- **Zimbabwe :** Rodgers Busayi

"Prof. Tielen Foundation" supported 13 young scientist to attend Mexico 2003.

HISTORY

The Prof. Tielen Foundation (PTF) was founded by the organising committee of the Xth International Congress on Animal Hygiene in July 2000 in Maastricht (The Netherlands).

The purpose of this Foundation was to collect money to give prospective young scientists in animal hygiene in developing countries the opportunity to participate in the congress. Due to poor financial situation in their countries, those young scientists don't have any chance to participate in congresses on their own expenses. On the other hand it is very important for these scientists to have international exchange in the field of their research and to build up an international network. This will have a clear impact in the development of Animal Hygiene in the veterinary profession in those countries.

Money in the PTF-fund is collected from private companies in veterinary medicine and animal production and from practitioners in the Netherlands.

In 2000 the PTF could support 26 young scientists from 16 different developing countries to attend the congress. The PTF took care for the congress fee and lodging costs and paid 500 USD for those who had to take an overseas flight. In total the PTF spent 24.000 USD for participation of young scientists in the congress in 2000 in Maastricht.

MEXICO 2003.

At the last congress in February 2003 in Mexico City the PTF awarded 17 young scientists with a grant. It was a selection out of 38 applications. It was a pity, that due to problems to get their visa, 4 could not attend. The 13 young scientists who participated in the congress received a grant of 370 USD for congress fee and lodging costs, 500 USD for travel costs and the PTF paid 30 USD for their membership of ISAH for the next 3 years. In total an amount of about 16.000 USD was spent for the grants. These young scientists were originating from 14 countries all over the world:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cuba, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, India, Nigeria, Poland, Philippines, Tanzania and Uruguay.

All of them had a contribution to the scientific program by a poster or an oral presentation, and took the opportunity to build up contacts with colleagues in other countries.

It was impressive to experience the great gratitude of the awarded scientists for the grant. They emphasized, that this grant was the only opportunity for them to participate in the congress, or like one of them said: "It was like a dream became true".

IMPACT.

The opportunity for the young scientists to attend this congress has a great impact on their futur curriculum. We have seen, that some of the participants from Maastricht have obtained a scholarship in other countries to attend a course or a MSc or PhD study. Meanwhile some of them obtained a responsible position in there own country and act now as the country representative for ISAH in the country. Last but not least the new Chairman of the organising committee of the congress in 2008 in Estonia was awarded with a PTF-grant to participate in the congress in Maastricht and Mexico-City. We believe, that these examples demonstrate the high value of the effort by the PTF.

POLAND 2005

There is still some money in the PTF-fund. We try to collect more in the next years and hope to support another group of young scientists from developing countries to attend the XII International Congress on Animal Hygiene in Poland in 2005. We will inform the country representatives about the application requirements at the end of this year. We hope we can continue to contribute to the scientific development in animal production in these countries.

Prof. Martin Tielen, President PTF
Dr. Paul van Gulick, Secretary PTF



71st General session of OIE⁽¹⁾

PARIS 18-23 MAY 2003

The OIE⁽¹⁾ is the intergovernmental organisation dealing with animal health. It has currently 162 member States. The main goal of OIE is to favour animal health throughout the world and also to facilitate international trade without compromising animal and public health. Therefore OIE, on the basis of a permanently updated expert knowledge establishes codes and norms due to reduce the risk of disease spreading. In addition to animal health "*per se*", since last year, the OIE is also considering animal welfare and food safety. The correspondents in disease reporting to the OIE are the national veterinary authorities in the member countries. They report in a standard way, on regular basis to OIE about what is happening in the field of animal health. In turn OIE produces different sorts of documents: warning messages, routine sanitary informations, the OIE bulletin, a scientific journal (Rev. Sci. & Tech.) and diverse documents: books and proceedings of conferences. The website of OIE has been recently restructured and very useful informations can be found there⁽²⁾. Beside the Direction staff, the beating heart of the organisation is made of commissions and working groups. There are 4 specialized commissions: the "international zoosanitary code commission", "the laboratory norms commission", the "FMD and other epidemics commission" and the "fish diseases commission". Then there are working groups: biotechnology, wild fauna, food safety, animal welfare. Finally there are "*ad hoc* groups" on particular issues (n = 10, currently). In order to address the problems in a proper way OIE has regional representations which have their own meetings.

In his annual report, Dr. Vallat, director general, reminded the main points concerning the changes taking place within OIE. He also mentioned some aspects of the activities of OIE during year 2002 with a special focus on the role of OIE in connection to WTO (World Trade Organisation).

During the 71st general session, the world animal health situation was shown for year 2001. It is out of question to give here all the details⁽³⁾. Several cases of FMD were reported in Africa especially in the south of the continent. The disease is endemic in certain African countries like Uganda. The disease is also still active in Asia especially in China and Mongolia. In the middle-East countries the disease is endemic. Blue Tongue disease in sheep that started in Europe in 2000 continued to show cases mainly in the Balkans. Cases were also reported in Italy but much less than in 2001. Finally Brasil and Africa were also concerned whereas African Swine Fever was confined to Africa and to Sardinia (Italy) in 2002, Classical Swine Fever developed in Central and South America, in Europe and in Asia. Regarding BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy) Poland and Israel reported their first

cases in 2002. The UK still reported more than one thousand cases of BSE in 2002.

During the meeting, we had two "technical" lectures. One of them given by Prof. A. James from Reading (UK) was about the "economic analysis" in decision making about animal health. It seems that a long way is still to go before those methods are used on routine.

Both direct and indirect costs and benefits are to be considered in the analysis. Both monetary and non monetary (social) aspects are also to be considered. In some countries the diseases control plans are really hard to implement due for part to shortage of resources. Another talk (V. Saraiva, Brasil) dealt with regionalisation as a tool for a better control of spreading diseases in the infected areas while permitting trade with the other regions of the country. Obviously certain conditions are needed for that.

The regional commission for Europe recommended OIE to play a role in food safety through different ways: contribution to veterinary education, statement of norms regarding pathogens detection, sampling etc The same conference also recommended OIE working group on welfare to focus first on animal transportation

It is worth noting that Dr. Thomas Billy from the Codex Alimentarius was present at the general session of OIE. OIE and Codex will work together on the critical issues related to the safety of food of animal origin.

The "Code Commission" reported on important matters like the process for the evaluation of the national veterinary services, the sanitary rules for international trade, the specific rules concerning BSE and epidemiosurveillance of the disease. Issues related to other diseases like Scrapie also surfaced as well as those related to new technologies like embryo transfer.

The working group on "FMD and other epidemics" had to handle the crucial topic of Avian Influenza. The different aspects of the disease were discussed in the light of the current epidemics in Europe.

It has to be noticed that OIE is developing a specific partnership with some international professional organisations like the International Dairy Society (IDS), the FEI (Fédération Equestre Internationale), the World Veterinary Society (WVS), the International Federation for Animal Health (IFAH).

This short report must not be ended without telling a word about the perfect organisation of the meeting, attended by governmental delegates coming from so many countries. Simultaneous translation was provided for the main languages. Finally everyone could appreciate the warm climate that prevailed during the meeting.

F. Madec

⁽¹⁾ OIE : Office International des Epizooties, World Organisation for Animal Health

⁽²⁾ website : www.oie.int

⁽³⁾ details on the subject can be found in two documents of OIE : 71/SG/14/1 and 71/SG/14/2



54th Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production (EAAP)

Rome, 31.08-03.09. 2003

The 2003 EAAP annual meeting took place in the city of Rome where EAAP has its headquarter. The Italian organizing committee was prepared for a large number of participants and booked the Palazzo dei Congressi that provided plenty of space for close to 1000 participants from 45 countries that attended the meeting. A total of 851 abstracts were accepted and published in the book of abstracts (see References at the end of the report). The main theme in Rome was "Product quality from livestock systems" under which two main sessions on "Animal health and welfare aspects" and "Human health and consumer aspects" were held. I will focus in my report on the 5 sessions for which the Management and Health study commission was responsible. A plenary talk in which Prof. P. Cunningham summarised the outcome of an EAAP working group on "Animal Production after BSE" was directed to all participants before the sessions started. This report is available through Wageningen Academic Publishers (see References).

Session 1:

The first session with input from several study commissions and the FAO on product quality from livestock systems was chaired by Dr. J.T. Sorensen (DK). The first four main papers dealt with product quality attributes, animal health, welfare and food safety aspects in extensive and organic livestock farming systems. Dr. G. Regula (CH) presented indicators for the assessment of health and welfare in so-called animal friendly housing systems. A newly initiated EU network project (SAFO) on the integration of animal health and welfare issues with food safety aspects was presented by Dr. M. Vaarst (DK). The first two speakers (Prof. Sandra Edwards, UK and Prof. Mark Honeyman, as invited ASAS speaker from the USA) emphasised that overall product quality differences are

relatively minor compared with wide variations in the housing environment of extensively-housed pigs. The real and perceived differences in product quality are more related to marketing attributes than to the production system itself. The following 3 papers (by J. Noordhuizen, NL, C. Fourichon, F, and B. Nielsen, DK) presented concepts for the assessment and monitoring of health, welfare and food safety on dairy and organic beef production systems.

Session 2:

The second session on "Electronic identification in farm animals and traceability" was chaired by Prof. R. Geers from Belgium with input from the OIE and ICAR. Most of the seven speakers devoted their talk to the current European initiative to identify and trace cattle, pigs and small ruminants. Dr. Chaisemartin from OIE in Paris introduced the concept of traceability to the audience and emphasised the role of the international organisations working in the framework of the sanitary negotiations. Dr. Cuypers from the EU Commission provided details on the large scale IDEA project and its implementation into the EU legislation. The following speakers gave examples of techniques and monitoring systems for identification, traceability and disease spreading in different species from various countries. It should also be mentioned that some excellent posters were presented in this session.

Session 3:

The third session on "Air quality in animal housing" was organised by Prof. Jörg Hartung from Germany. He himself introduced the subject with emphasis on bioaerosols. He concluded that the reduction of indoor pollution to improve health of animal and man and the establishment of safe distances to neighbouring residential

areas are essential for future development of sustainable animal farming. Most of the papers in this session focused on the identification and measuring techniques for dust (A. Aarnink), gases (N. Guingand, G. Gustafsson, L. Formosa), airborne micro organisms (J. Schulz) and fungi (R. Böhm) in animal houses. It became clear that more research is needed on the impact of these pollutants to better understand potential health risks for humans and animals.

Session 4:

This session was a "Free communication session" that followed our study commission business meeting. The new secretary of our commission, Dr. Christine Fourichon from France, did a great job in structuring this session with a variety of management papers ranging from rabbit rearing environments to modelling health status of pigs in different environments. Dr. Michel Marie from France, the chair of the EAAP ethics working group introduced the audience to issues in animal bioethics teaching and informed everyone that a whole session will be devoted to animal bioethics at the next EAAP meeting in Bled in 2004.

Session 5:

The fifth session on "Locomotor disorders in cattle, pigs and poultry was organised and chaired by Prof. Jos Metz from The Netherlands. This very relevant topic (eg. estimates for lameness in dairy cattle are reported to be in the range of 25 %) was presented as an excellent overview across species by experts of various countries with a strong emphasis on assessment techniques and epidemiological research. Causing factors, prevalence and assessment criteria of locomotor disorders were presented from

studies in pigs (B. Jorgensen, E. Grindflek), cows (J. Somers, E. Telezhenko, and van der Tol) and poultry (C. Berg). Jos Metz proposed a decision support model that allows a systematic weighing of the consequences of impaired locomotion in the various biological functions such as foraging behaviour, body care and safety. Dr. L. Green from the Ecology and Epidemiology Group in Warwick, UK discussed the relative merits of using foot lesions versus lameness as measures for locomotor disorders and the confidence that we can have in currently identified risk factors from these studies.

References:

Book of Abstracts of the 54th Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production by Y. van der Honing (Editor-in chief), Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands, 2003, 454 pages. ISBN 9076998205, ISSN 1382-6077, NUGI 835.

After BSE – A future for the European livestock sector (edited by E.P. Cunningham and the EAAP), EAAP publication No. 108, Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands, 2003, 104 pages. ISBN 907699823X.

The main papers of Session 1 under the general theme of "Product quality from livestock systems" will be published soon in a special issue of Livestock Production Science, Elsevier, The Netherlands.

Prof. Eberhard von Borell
University of Halle, Germany
President of the EAAP Commission of Animal Management and Health

6th International Congress of Veterinary Virology

Saint-Malo, France 24-27 August 2003

The congress was organized by the ESVV (European Society for Veterinary Virology). This society use to have an ordinary congress every 3 years. About 200 participants representing 30 countries were present. We had 61 oral presentations and 81 posters. All the sessions were plenary and lively technical debates took place after the presentations.

The main item retained for the congress was "virus persistence and evolution". As preliminary talks, we had two presentations about Herpes viruses. Then we had one on Influenza viruses and one on Scrapie. These two presentations dealt with strain diversity, evolution and emergence. Session 1 was focused on Ortho, Paramyxoviruses and Retroviruses. Again we had presentations on Influenza in different species (poultry, pigs). Other presentations concerned Bovine Respiratory Syncytial virus and Newcastle Disease.

Session 2 was oriented towards small DNA viruses. During the session, Circoviruses were a main subject of interest. Two presentations concerned avian species (chicken anaemia virus) whereas eight concerned the pig. Obviously this is related to the recent emergence of PMWS (Postweaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome) in pigs. PCV2 isolates found in healthy farms could be compared to isolates of affected ones and no major differences could be detected in the genome, hence demonstrating that the environment the pigs are offered along their life on the farms is playing a major role in PMWS.

Session 3 was about Picornaviruses and other RNA viruses. A wide range of diseases and animal species were here concerned: Bursal Disease in poultry, Bluetongue in sheep, Hemorrhagic Disease in rabbits, Foot and Mouth and Mouth disease The presentations gave us updated information about virus detection and in some cases about vaccination.

Session 4 was dedicated to Pestiviruses. In the introductory papers different interesting points were shown like the evolution aspects of cell recognition by viruses. Then Bovine Viral Diarrhoea and Classical Swine Fever (CSF) were considered. Again the presentations showed a broad spectrum of subjects of interest: virus detection, virus typing, immunology and perspectives for vaccination.

Session 5 was about DNA viruses. Probably this session brought in the largest variety of subjects. We had informations about the taxonomy of Adenoviruses, characterization of a Pox-virus associated with the decline of the red squirrel, isolation of a new Iridovirus from endangered species (Salamandra), infection of snakes with an Atadenovirus, infections of cetatean and sirenians A paper, closer to our ISAH domain, dealt with survival of Bovine Herpesvirus 1 recombinants after primary infection and reactivation from latency.

Most of the papers were presented by scientists working in-vitro or sometimes with animals kept within laboratory facilities. Very few had a real relationship with the field. Despite sometimes disappointing to non-virologists, this type of research is obviously useful to animal hygienists as far as located at an early step of the pathogenic processes they can contribute to set-up helpful tools for pathogen detection or for a better disease control through vaccination. However a better collaboration between virologists and epidemiologists is urgently needed.

A book of abstracts was produced. Contact: General secretariat
ISPAIA - Zoopole développement, BP 7, 22440 Ploufragan, France
ispaia@zoopole.asso.fr

F. Madec
ISAH Secretary

The ISAE Congress

(International Society for Applied Ethology)

This year, the 37th congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) took place in Abano Terme (Italy) from 24th to 28th of June. More than 300 scientists from 25 countries were present at the congress.

The first day was dedicated to horse welfare. The meeting aims were :

- To obtain more insight into research on training methods and/or equipment,
- Discuss definitions and stimulate future research and co-operation in research,
- Reach consensus on important areas for future research in horse welfare,

After three lectures, three key research issues were defined (by the metaplan method) :

- Housing and management.
- Epidemiological studies :
 - Determining causes of euthanasia /death,
 - Comparing longevity in different disciplines,...
- Developing suitable scientific methods to measure :
 - Effects of training,
 - Fear and pain,
 - Welfare.

The four following days were on the same model :

- Each day meeting was opened by plenary talks about : "clinical ethology", "man-animal interactions", "using behavioural tests to assess the effects of housing", "welfare issues associated with extensive production".
- The oral sessions took place in two different rooms and they concerned : poultry, pig, cattle, horse and dog.
- As more than 200 presentations were accepted at the congress, many of them were presented as posters.
- Generally speaking the congress standard was very high and the different presentations were clear and concise. New ideas were pointed out as well as concepts or areas for further studies.

Among other interesting topics :

- Pigs : The study on the "regrouping strategies based on the behavioural characteristics of pigs" (Hayne and Gonyou) showed that regrouping the pigs in nursery on the base of uniform behavioural characteristics tended to result in more aggression, which may cause a reduction of weight gain. This suggest that initial, uniformity induced in a less stable hierarchy. Behavioural diversity may be more advantageous if regrouping is necessary.

Other interesting topics : "relationship between qualitative and quantitative assessment of behaviour", "regrouping strategies", "importance of the straw for health and welfare", "man-animal interaction and consequences in term on behaviour and health",...

- Cattle : A study entitled "Do alternative flooring surfaces improve dairy cow gait?" consisted in examining the walking behaviour of 35 Holstein dairy cows on two flooring surface : concrete and a three layer composite surfaces. Cows walking on the composite surface showed less abduction-adduction, better tracking up, improved joint flexion, more symmetric gait compared to concrete. Softer and more slip-resistant flooring reduced various gait abnormalities.

Other interesting topics : "relocation/flooring material and activity, pulsatile cortisol and GH secretions in calves", "responsiveness of heifer calves to behavioural tests and reactivity to machine milking",...

- Poultry :
 - Turkeys : "acceptance of elevated platforms and effects on air quality",
 - laying hens : "effect of rearing conditions on feather pecking and reaction to frustration", "influence of colour on nest choice", "feather pecking in red jungle fowl and white Leghorn layers", "feather pecking and feather eating", "role of dopamine/serotonine on feather pecking",...
 - chicken broilers "the price broilers want to pay for food", "leg quality and behaviour", "objectively measuring broiler walking style",...

Information :

- www.isae2003.org
- Proceedings (book) : Editors (Valentina Ferrante and the scientific committee), Scientific committee (chair) : Elisabetta Canali - Universita degli studi di Milano - Istituto di Zootecnica - Via Celoria, 10 - 20133 Milano- Italy- elisabetta.canali@unimi.it

Dr. Virginie Michel
AFSSA Ploufragan, FRANCE

4th International Symposium on Emerging and Re-emerging diseases in pigs

ROME, June 29th - July 2nd, 2003

After the USA (St-Paul, 1991), Denmark (Copenhagen, 1995) and France (Ploufragan, 1999), the 4th symposium on "Emerging and re-emerging pig diseases" was held in Rome, Italy. Prof. Paolo Martelli from the Univ. of Parma was the host and organizer of the symposium. The objective of these symposia is to focus on the most timely and economically important issues concerning the pig. As a consequence there have been important changings in the contents of the programme throughout the years. Whereas the first symposium (1991) was exclusively targeted on Aujeszky's disease, the 4th one was focused on three issues (one per day): PRRS (Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome), PMWS (Post-weaning Multisystemic Wasting Disease) and Swine Influenza. More than 600 delegates coming from 35 countries attended Rome for the meeting. All the sessions were plenary, at the congress palace.

- PRRS. The main aspects of the syndrome were addressed by experts from different countries and especially from the USA. In this country PRRS appears to be a major concern. Despite the new means now available (vaccines), the disease which is often endemic in the herds seems difficult to keep under control and eradication programmes are hardly effective. Molecular studies about PRRS Virus show a high degree of genetic diversity. The point is thought to have an impact on vaccines efficacy. The routes and modes of virus transmission were also presented.
- PMWS. The syndrome has been recognized in the main pig producing countries. Its impact varies to a large extent from farm to farm and rules are agreed upon for a proper diagnosis. A Circovirus (PCV2: Porcine Circovirus Type 2) in connection with the immune system is believed to play a pivotal role in the process. Several communications dealt with the immune response of the pig following a PCV2 challenge. PCV2 isolates were characterized using the current molecular tools and methods. PCV2 can easily be found in the pig herds whether they are PMWS-affected or not. The environment the pigs are offered on the farms in particular the multiple infectious challenges seem to play a role in the severity of the disease.
- Swine Influenza. The "Flu" cannot be ranked as a new disease, but it is still a major problem in numerous species. In the pig, beside H1 N1 and H3 N2 strains, reassortants H1 N2 are now widespread in the pig population throughout the world. During the meeting the presentations were focused on viral aspects, on epidemiology and on the perspectives in term of vaccination.
- It is worthnoting that at the end of the symposium a short session was on the agenda to recapitulate the main points exposed during the meeting (take home messages). A book of Proceedings and a CD-Rom were given to the participants (P. Martelli et al, editors : martelli@ipruniv.cce.unipr.it) organizing secretariat: New Team, via C. Ghiretti, 2 - 43100 Parma, Italy

Dr F. Madec
Secretary ISAH

Announcements

It is reminded that this page of "announcements" is open to you. Please don't hesitate to contact me (Dr. F. Madec: f.madec@ploufrgan.afssa.fr) if you have suggestions.

I- Next November: A conference endorsed by the ISAH

"CAP, direct income payments and the future of the Animal production industry in the new EU"
20-21st Nov. 2003 AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands

- **Venue:** The conference will be held at the "Radisson Hotel" in Amsterdam
Programme: Some topics

The changing shape of the common agricultural policy

- Outcome of the negotiations and preparation for accession in the field of agriculture
- Quality assurance in food safety in an enlarging EU: the challenges for the feed industry
- The impact of enlargement on production, employment, marketing, distribution and pricing
- Prospected implication of EU accession for Polish agriculture and rural areas
- Investing in the Agribusiness sector
- The food safety continuum from Stable to Table in the light of the EU enlargement
- BSE: control and risks to public health
- Hygiene problems in animal production in (Eastern Europe)
- Total nutrition: feeding animals for health and growth

Three members of ISAH Executive Board Prof. Krynski, Prof. Tielen and Prof. Blaha will give main papers on this occasion.

- **Contact:** Simon Ola Bimton: simon.bimton@communivators.com; Tel: + 31(0)20 46 89 873

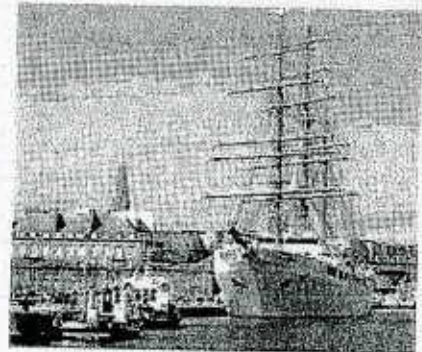
- **Conference fees:** 2 day conference: 1 100€ + VAT

- **Important remark.**

- **The regular members of the ISAH** (those who have paid their fees to ISAH treasurer), have a substantial discount (half price!)

II- The ISAH in-between congress

11-13 October 2004, Saint-Malo, Brittany, France



As you know the ISAH organizes its main congress every three years.

Between two subsequent main congresses there is space for another international scientific congress: the so-called "in between congress".

An "in between" congress of the ISAH has the same standard as the main congress (English language, Proceedings...).

Our next "in between" congress is entitled:

Animal Production in Europe: the way forward in a changing world"

On this occasion three main points will be considered and the related issues will be addressed:

- Animal Production and Society
- Animal Health
- Veterinary Public Health

Contributions: Obviously they are expected from ISAH members.

Dead lines: - Feb. 15, 2004 for submitting abstracts

- June 15, 2004 for submitting full papers

Abstract forms available on the website

Contact:

Mrs Geneviève CLEMENT

Tel: +33 (0)2 96 78 61 30 - Fax: +33 (0)2 96 78 61 31

E mail: isah2004@zoopole.asso.fr

Web site: www.zoopole.com/ispaia/isah2004.htm

Other announcements

III- 10th International Symposium for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE) Viña del Mar, CHILE - 12-21 Nov. 2003

The ISVEE has its congress every three years in a different region of the World to exchange the latest information on such topics: Animal Health in populations, disease risk management, food safety and Public Health.
Contact: info@isvee10.com - Web: <http://www.isvee10.com/>

IV- IX world conference on Animal Production

Porto Alegre, Brazil - 26-31 Oct. 2003

Contact: wcap.2003@ufrgs.br - Web: www.wcap2003.ufrgs.br or www.waap.org

V- 55th EAAP meeting (European Asso. for Animal Production)

Bled, Slovenia - 05-08 Sept. 2004

Contact: Prof. F. Habe: franc.habe@bfro.uni-lj.si

VI- Our next main Congress: Warsaw 2005

XIIth International Congress on Animal Hygiene - Leading topic – Animals and Environment

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

President: Andrzej Krynski

Vice-president: Robert Wrzesien

Secretary: Teresa Majdecka

Members: Bogdan Debski, Marta Chudzicka, Ewa Skibniewska, Elzbieta Budzinska-Wrzesien, Katarzyna Znoj, Angelika Bien, Piotr Michalik, Luiza Cieslik.

Our mailing address is:

Organizing Committee of XIIth ISAH Congress

Division of Animal and Environment Hygiene

e-mail address: zoo_kbsz@alpha.sggw.waw.pl; isah2005@alpha.sggw.waw.pl

phone/fax: + 48 22 853-09-42

web site: www.sggw.waw.pl/~isah2005

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. dr.hab. Bogdan Dębski - Warsaw Agricultural University

Prof. dr.hab. Zbigniew Dobrzański - Agricultural University in Wrocław

Prof. dr.hab. Eugeniusz Herbut - National Research Institute of Animal Production in Balice

Prof. dr.hab. Andrzej Kryński - Warsaw Agricultural University

Prof. dr.hab. Zygmunt Pejsak - National Veterinary Research Institute, Puławy

Prof. dr.hab. Eligiusz Rokicki - Warsaw Agricultural University

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language is English.

Plenary sessions' topics:

Tuesday: Environmental protection and public health in respect to animal hygiene

Wednesday: The influence of microclimate in buildings, production technology and transport on animals' health and performance.

Thursday: Animals' welfare as an integral part of sustainable animal production.

Propositions of subjects for sessions in sections:

Hygiene in animal production of various species of domestic, companion and wild animals.

Feed as a base of animals' health

Waste and pest management and its influence on animal protection and environment.

Hygienic issues of animal origin products.

History and teaching of Animal Hygiene.

IMPORTANT DATES

Second announcement including application form will be sent and placed on our web site before 1 April 2004.

Deadline for registration of participants and abstracts is - 31 December 2004.

Deadline for papers and reduced registration fee - 30 April 2005.

TIELLEN FOUNDATION

Information for young scientists: Prof. Tielen Foundation (PTF) support will be available also for this Congress.

ACCOMMODATION

All accommodation is available in Agricultural University Campus in Warsaw: at the University hotel and dormitories.

IN MEMORIAM

We learnt that prof. DVM Jiri Hojovec, PhD, born on 27.7.1926 in České Budějovice, died on 22.10.2002. He was a head of Department of Animal Hygiene at the University of Veterinary Sciences in Brno.

Prof. Hojovec was very active in the broad field of animal hygiene. He participated in the team of scientists that started the activity of the International Society for Animal Hygiene and took part at most of the ISAH congresses.

He was honoured as one of the founders of the ISAH with a silver pin price.

Sincere sympathy.