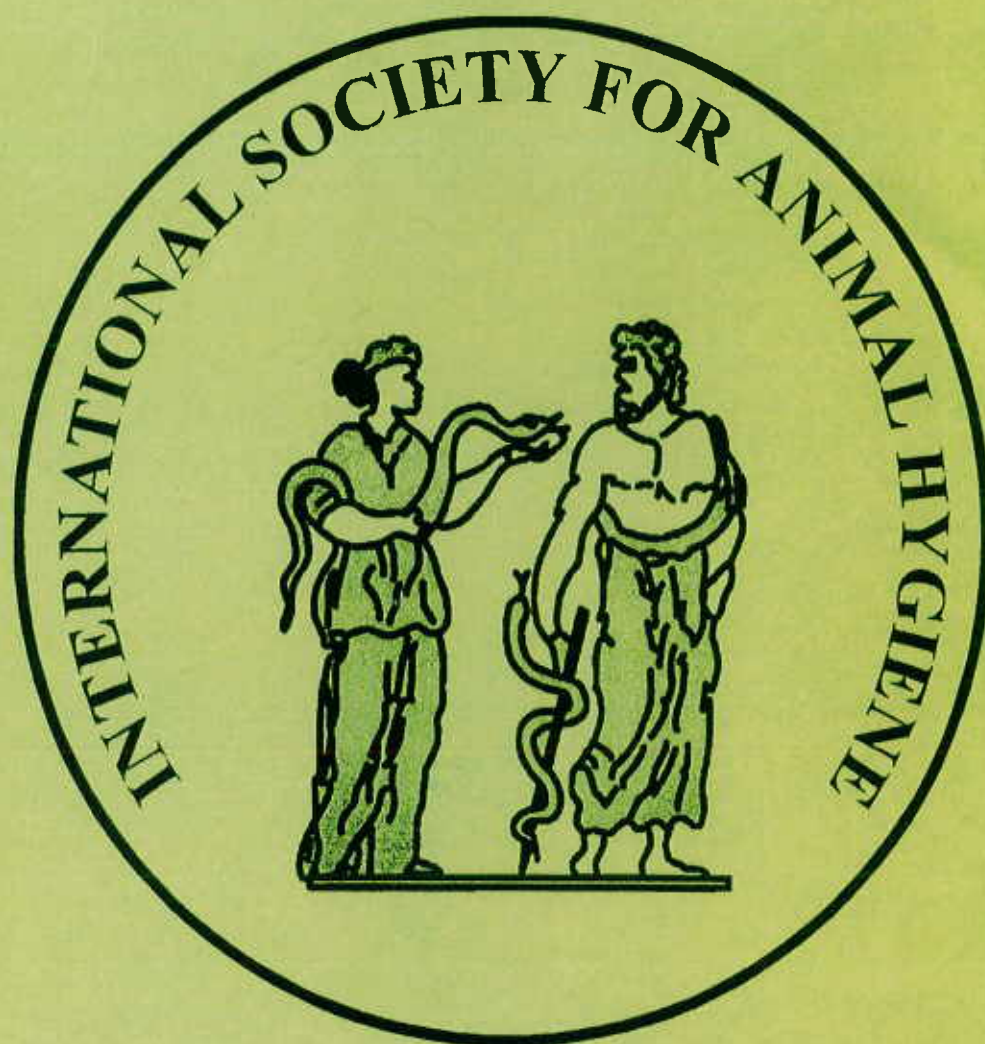


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# International Society for Animal Hygiene

*Newsletter n° 2*

ISSUE 2

December 1997

# Dear Members of the International Society for Animal Hygiene

## EDITORIAL

It was a great honor for me to be elected as the new President of our Society in the General Assembly at the IX Congress on Animal Hygiene in Helsinki in August of this year. The Congress was quite a success. The Congress had over 250 participants. Most of the 180 presented papers and posters had a good scientific quality and gave a good insight in the actual on-going research in Animal Hygiene in the different countries. Especially the key-note lectures presented a good review of the latest research results and developments in the different fields of Animal Hygiene. Compliments for Prof. Hannu Saloniemi and his organizing committee for the excellent organization of this Congress.

As your new President I will devote myself for the further development of the ISAH in the next three years. But it has to be clear, that this only can be realised in an intensive cooperation with the other members of the Executive Board and with the support of all the country representatives of our Society. Especially the country representatives are very important to build a bridge between the Society and the individual animal hygienists in their country. The activities of the Society are especially focused on the exchange of knowledge and thoughts about the science and developments in the field of Animal Hygiene between these individuals.

In the statute of our Society it is mentioned, that our purpose is to promote:

- ⇒ Research and development in the whole field of animal hygiene,
- ⇒ Publication and exchange of research results,
- ⇒ Connection between scientists, practitioners and students,
- ⇒ Exchange of scientists and other interested people in certain areas of animal hygiene.

We shall try to realize this purpose by the following activities in the next three years:

- ⇒ Extending the number of countries, who participate in our Society
- ⇒ Exchange of knowledge about the activities in the Society in our Newsletter
- ⇒ Stimulate international conferences and symposia under the patronage of the ISAH in the different participating countries.
- ⇒ Organizing of "In-between Symposia" in the years between the Congresses.
- ⇒ Organizing the International Congress on Animal Hygiene each three years.

The next International Congress on Animal Hygiene will be held on July, 2 -6 in Maastricht in the Netherlands in the year 2000. In that year a new millennium will start. A millennium that will be focused on a sustainable human society with high requirements to realize a liveable environment. This will have clear consequences for the requirements in animal production too. Therefore the Xth Congress on Animal Hygiene will be held under the title: "Animal Hygiene: The Key to Healthy Animal Production in an Optimal Environment" I hope, that as much as possible scientists and practitioners in the field of Animal Hygiene will take the opportunity to attend this Congress.

Martin Tielen  
President of the ISAH

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# 9th International Congress in Animal Hygiene in Helsinki 17-21 August 1997

*By Prof. Hannu Saloniemi  
President 1994 - 1997*

**T**he main topic of the ninth Congress of ISAH was "Healthy Animals, Sound Production Environment, Satisfied Consumer". The First Announcement and Call for Abstracts for the ninth Congress of ISAH was sent to all Country Representatives, to many Veterinary Schools and institutes and to many participants of earlier congresses at the end of the year 1995. By the end of year 1996, the organizers received about 240 abstracts. Papers were selected to oral or poster presentation, and the Final Programme included ten key note lectures, 88 other oral presentations and 128 posters.

The ten sessions were entitled as follows.

- A. Animal housing and management - prevention of bovine diseases
- B. Animal housing and management - prevention of swine diseases
- C. Animal housing and management - prevention of poultry problems
- D. Animal behaviour as an indicator of animal welfare in different housing and management systems
- E. Cold housing and open housing - effects on dairy cattle health, management and production

F. Cold housing and open housing - effects on swine health, management and production

G. Economic evaluation of animal health and welfare

H. Animal wastes as a risk for animal and human health

I. Food hygiene and salmonella prevention

K. Free reports

The Proceedings, about one thousand pages in two volumes, contain full text of papers and posters from all fields of animal hygiene. Some extra copies of the Proceedings are still available and can be ordered by fax (+3589 708 49799) or by e-mail (hannu.saloniemi@helsinki.fi). The price, including postage, is FIM 300 (about 55 US\$).

Promotion of the 9th Congress has been successful, since we have representatives from 32 countries and from all continents except Australia. This Congress increased the personal contacts between scientists, veterinary practitioners and other animal production experts over the country borders, which was one of the main results of the congress. As in the St. Paul Congress, also this time many authors of the papers from former eastern countries were unable to obtain funding or any external support to attend, even though many efforts were made. I hope

that this problem will be less pronounced during the next congress of our Society.

At the General Assembly the report of the activities of our Society was presented by the President. The Executive Board has had two meetings before the Helsinki Conference, one in Gödöllő, Hungary, 28th October, 1995 in connection with the 8th in-between symposium in Budapest and another in Helsinki, Finland, 14-15 February, 1997. During the Helsinki Conference, the Executive Board has had two meetings.

Until the ninth Congress, the Extended Executive Board has representatives of 43 countries. The country representatives have distributed information about ISAH and about its activities to their home countries so successfully that the Congresses and symposia of ISAH have been well attended.

The congress and seminar activity after the St. Paul Congress has been intense. The 8th In-between Symposium of the International Society for Animal Hygiene was held in Budapest, Hungary, in October 30 to 31, 1995. Herd health programmes for dairy cattle and swine industry was the topic of that very successful seminar organized by the Department of Animal Hygiene of the University of Veterinary Science and by the Hungarian Society for Animal Hygiene and Environmental Protection.

Professor Pal Rafai and coworkers have made excellent work for the seminar.

An International Conference on Ecology and Veterinary Medicine was held under the name of ISAH in Kosice, Slovak Republic, in May 21-24, 1994. The conference was successfully organized by Prof. Jan Venglovsky. The 54 papers presented dealt with the strategies for reduction of environmental pollution originating from animal production. Veterinarians and specialists from Slovakia and the Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Russia and Slovenia participated in the conference.

The Animal Hygiene Seminar was held at Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco, Mexico City, Mexico in 29-32 October 1996. This was the first Animal Hygiene seminar held in Mexico and endorsed by our Society. Prof. Jorgen Saltijeral was the main organizer of that very interesting seminar. The seminar covered three topics:

1. The role of animal hygiene in modern veterinary medicine and in environmental protection,
2. Animal hygiene education,
3. Animal hygiene and public health. The main language was Spanish, but English was also used. There were about 50 participants, and 27 papers were presented. Prof. Stanley Diesch, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president of ISAH, presented a paper, as did prof. Ingvar Ekesbo, the former president of ISAH.

International Scientific Conference was held in Varna, Bulgaria, under the name of the ISAH on request of the District Veterinary Station in Varna in 6-7 November, 1996. Other organizers were Agricultural Academy, Sofia, National Veterinary Office, Sofia, Foundation Zooan-troponosis and Union of Veterinarians in Bulgaria. The conference was

attended by about 200 veterinarians and officials throughout Bulgaria and 10 scientists from 7 different foreign countries. In total, about 130 papers were presented, five of them in English. Prof. Martin Tielen represented the ISAH and gave a paper, too.

The first President of ISAH, Honorary Member of the Society, Prof. Ferenc Kovács celebrated his 75th birthday in Budapest in 29th October 1996. In the festival organized by the Hungarian Agricultural Academy and by prof. Pal Rafai, the President of the ISAH gave Society's thanks and congratulations to prof. Kovács.

In May, this year, the first Newsletter of ISAH was published. Issue number one contains 12 pages of reports from the conferences and seminars in animal hygiene and the results of a questionnaire sent by our secretary. The edition work of the Newsletter was made by Dr. F. Madec. Knowing his many duties, the Society wants to thank Dr. Madec warmly for his high-quality work. The Society will produce one to two Newsletters each year.

The new Executive Board was elected by the General Assembly for the Society from 1997 to 2000. Prof. Martin Tielen from the Netherlands will serve as President, Prof. Hannu Saloniemäi from Finland as First Vice President, Prof. Jöрге Saltijeral from Mexico as Second Vice President, Prof. Reinhard Böhm from Germany as Third Vice President, Dr. Francois Madec from France as Secretary, Prof. Bo Algers from Sweden as Treasurer, Prof. Pal Rafai from Hungary and Prof. Stanley L. Diesch from USA as Member at Large.

Prof. Dr. Jiri Hojovec from Brno, Czech Republic, was introduced and elected to new honorary member of ISAH. Prof. Hojovec received an award of his 27 years outstanding contribution to ISAH and his distinguished career on teaching and research. In his short talk, prof. Hojovec answered with

warm words directed to the president and to the attendance wishing a long way and prosperity to ISAH.

The new President, prof. Martin Tielen addressed his warmest thanks to the previous president and to the organizing committee and mentioned the increasing scientific level of the papers presented at the congress. He invited all to attend the next main congress to be held in year 2000 in Maastricht, the Netherlands. The general topic will be Animal Hygiene, the key for healthy animals in an optimal environment.

The International Society for Animal Hygiene has a very important mission. We want to unite veterinarians and other scientists and specialists who are working on the field of planned animal health management. Many special areas and skills are combined in animal hygiene. Applied ethology, clinical epidemiology and economics, applied biophysics, clinical veterinary medicine, applied microbiology, environmental hygiene and health and food hygiene and human health are all important sciences when we, as animal hygienists, are working for better animal and human health.

It has been a privilege to serve as President the past three years. I look with optimism to the future, and wish all the best to the new President, Prof. Martin Tielen, and to our Society.



## The board of ISAH 1997

### ① - Composition of the executive board

#### President

Prof. Dr MJM TIELEN ~ The Netherlands

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

Prof. Dr H. SALONIEMI  
Finland

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

Prof. Dr J. SALTIGERAL  
Mexico

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President

Prof. Dr BÖHM  
Germany

#### Secretary

Dr F. MADEC  
France

#### Treasurer

Prof. Dr B. ALGERS  
Sweden

#### Members at large

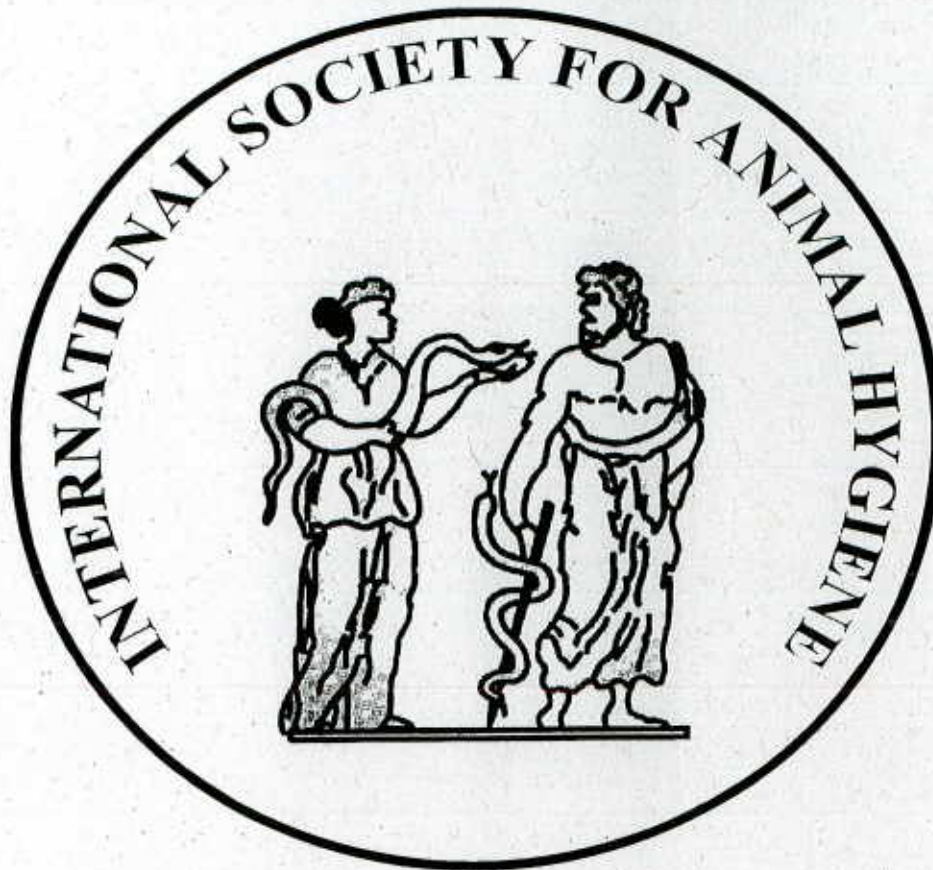
Prof. P. RAFAI  
Hungary

Prof. S. DIESCH  
USA

### ② - Country Representatives

AUSTRALIA	Dr CARGILL Colin
AUSTRIA	Prof. Dr. THIEMANN G
ARGENTINA	Dr. DUFFY Sergio
BELGIUM	Prof. NICKS B
BRAZIL	Dr. ZANELLA A.
BULGARIA	Prof. Dr. NETZOV N.
CANADA	Dr. LAUSCHER U.A.
CROATIA	Prof. Dr. V. BILIC
CZECH REPUBLIC	Dr. NOVAK Pavel
CUBA	Dr RF CARVAJAL
DENMARK	To ne named
EGYPT	Prof. Dr. MOTTELIB A.A.
ESTONIA	Prof. Dr. PRAKS J.
FINLAND	Dr. TAPONEN Suvii
FRANCE	Prof. Dr. SEEGER H.
GERMANY	Prof. Dr UNSHELM J.
GREECE	Prof. Dr. ILIADIS
HUNGARY	Dr. BRYDL E.
ROMANIA	Prof. Dr. DRAGHICI C
LESOTHO	Dr. MOTEANE M.
LITHUANIA	Dr. BAKUTIS Bronius
MEXICO	Prof. Dr. Mariu ALONSO-SPILSBURY

INDIA	Prof. Dr. NAIDU M.M.
ISRAEL	Dr. KLINGER J.
ITALY	Prof. Dr. MUTINELLI F.
LATVIA	Prof. Dr. KEIDANE Irena
NETHERLAND	Dr. Van EERDENBURG F.J.C.M.
NIGERIA	Dr. OWOIGBE G.A.
NORWAY	SIMENSEN E.
PAKISTAN	Prof. KHAN M.A.
PHILIPPINES	Dr LAZARO II T.
POLAND	Prof. ROKICKI E
RUSSIA	Prof. Dr. NAIDENSKY
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Prof. Dr VENGLOVSKY J.
SLOVENIA	Prof. Dr. AMON M
SPAIN	Dr GUTIERREZ- SOLANA O.G.
SWEDEN	Dr. SVEDBERG J.
SWITZERLAND	Prof. Dr. BERTSCHINGER
SYRIA	Dr. TABBAA D.
TANZANIA	Dr. MINGA U.
UKRAINE	Prof. DEMCHUK M.
UNITED KINGDOM	Dr CARR John
URUGUAY	Dr. SIENRA Richardo
USA	Prof. Dr. BLAHA T.



The ISAH emblem

The emblem of ISAH is based on an idea suggested by the late DR Johannes KALICH, Munich, one of the founders of ISAH and an honorary member. It shows Hygieia, the goddess of Health, handing over the chalice of Health to her father Asklepios.

As we know from Greek mythology Asklepios, in Latin Aesculapius, was the god of Medicine and a son of Apollo; the god of Light, Clarity and Song. Asklepios educated his children in the art of medicine. The most famous of them was Hygieia, who became the goddess of Health. The attribute of Hygieia is a chalice, which is understood to be filled with the drink of health. Asklepios' well-known attribute is the rod around which a snake has coiled itself.

Professor Hermann Willinger, our late, very respected former president and honorary member, once described the emblem as symbolizing that maintaining health, i.e. the prevention of disease, should have precedence over medicine, i.e. the treatment of disease. Nowadays, when man-made diseases are dominating the farm animal panorama, a better understanding of the factors causing disease is the only way for improvement of both prevention and treatment. Thus the ISAH-symbol and the idea behind it have as much relevance for veterinary medicine today as when the Society was founded.

Ingvar EKESBO

*The address by S. L. Diesch, DVM, MPH, Director of International Programs, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota, St Paul, Minnesota, USA and 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president ISAH. Presented at the opening ceremony of the 9th International Congress in Helsinki.*

# **Animal Hygiene Needs in Western Hemisphere Free Trade Agreements**

## **Summary**

With the recent emerging of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Andean Pact and the Mercosur in Latin America, veterinarians and other animal scientists in the Western Hemisphere have a major role in defining and evaluating technical health standards. This encompasses all aspects of animal hygiene to certify that animals and animal products meet quality assurance of trade criteria for free movement between countries in this hemisphere, and ultimately, globally in the World Trade Organization (WTO). A goal of uniform educational standards of professions among the countries will include veterinary medical colleges and post-doctoral training of professional school students and graduates in risk assessment and measurement of animal hygiene for certification. A great opportunity exists for the International Society for Animal Hygiene (ISAH) to expand its expertise globally in development and implementation of uniform and scientific acceptable standards among nations.

# VIII<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (Isvee) Paris 8-11 July 1997

*By Dr F. MADEC  
ISAH Secretary*

*Such a symposium is organized every three years. The two last ones were held in Nairobi (Kenya 1994) and in Ottawa (Canada 1991) respectively. This VIII<sup>th</sup> symposium brought together about 500 scientists coming from 54 countries around the world. The local organizing committee was based on the board of the French Association for Animal Epidemiology (AEEMA). Professor B. Toma from the Veterinary school of Maisons-Alfort near Paris chaired the symposium. A large number of abstracts was received (537) and finally, after selection, only 281 papers were retained for an oral presentation. During the congress, each day in the morning two hours were devoted to a plenary session. After that, different sessions were scheduled concurrently in three different rooms. In the latter, oral presentations were limited in time (9 minutes) and speakers had got clear instructions only to develop the main points of their work. The posters were displayed in a hall adjacent to the main lecture room.*

The topics developed during the plenary sessions were :

- The evolution of the epidemiological surveillance of animal diseases  
by Dr J. Blancou, OIE (France)
- The new tendencies in epidemiology :
  - ◆ Epidemiology and animal welfare, by Dr P. Willeberg (Denmark)
  - ◆ Risk analysis, by Dr W. Hueston (USA)
- Epidemiology and quality assurance
  - ◆ Quality assurance and food safety, by Dr T. Blaha (Germany)
  - ◆ Quality assurance applied at the farm level, by Dr J. Noordhuisen (the Netherlands)
- From ecopathology to agroecosystem health
  - ◆ Ecopathology, by Dr B. Faye (France)
  - ◆ Agroecosystem health, by Dr D. Walter-Toews (Canada)

The lectures will be published in a special issue of Preventive Veterinary Medicine.

Oral presentations and posters were grouped into items. The Volume I of the proceedings includes the papers related to the first 7 items. Volume II comprises the papers included in items 8 to 14. The length of the papers is 3 pages and only 1 page for oral communications and posters respectively (A4 format).

The first item concerned **epidemiology and wildlife**. In this first topic, among other diseases, presentations were dealing with rabies in relation with the fox, cowpox in relation with rodents, cattle tuberculosis in relation with badgers and with possums, pseudorabies and swine fever in relation with the wild boar. In the item named "**epidemiology and tropical countries**" (topic 2) the contributions were mainly from Africa. Specific animal infections and infestations like trypanosomiasis or gastrointestinal helminthoses were studied. But more general considerations were also reported about animal health and animal



production systems in developing countries. A third topic was devoted to **epidemiology of pets and horses**. The greatest part of the publications related to health problems of those animal species fall into analytic epidemiology. Hence, in the dog, risk factors were searched to osteosarcoma and to pup mortality. In the cat, the effect of body condition on survival was discussed. In the horse it was looked after the risk factors of *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* and of foal diarrhoea. Several posters were linked to the item and they concerned a wide range of subjects : feline bordetellosis, equine babesiosis, equine protozoal myeloencephalitis and pet helminthoses. The fourth item dealt with **Veterinary public health**. Influenza in pigs and in horses, bartonella infections in cats, leptospirosis, listeria and salmonella contaminations, rabies transmission, brucellosis and other occupational diseases were considered. A report gave details on a new emerging disease in Australia due to an equine morbillivirus and the design of a " stable to table " information system was proposed. The fifth item was entitled **ecopathology and production diseases epidemiology**. Papers dealing with different animal health disturbances of complex multifactorial origin like postweaning digestive disorders and pleuritis in the pig, morbidity, mortality in the dairy calf and respiratory diseases in feed lot calves were presented. In addition, several presentations talked about udder disorders and mastitis in the dairy cattle. Contributions were also related to monitoring, health surveillance schemes and information needed. Besides oral presentations, a lot of posters were linked to the item. Topic N°6 named "**Risk analysis**". Both concepts and applications were presented. Despite the different sides of risk analysis had been considered including risk communication, the focus was made on risk assessment. Methodologies were compared. Models have been developed for the quantitative assessment of quarantine risks from international trade. Computer simulations as well as expert systems were proposed to help policy making. The impact on economy was also talked about. Practical aspects were given about risk assessment of BSE occurrence through the import of cattle and meat-and-bone meal, about classical swine fever spread, and diverse other problems like listeria monocytogenes contamination from soft cheese. The seventh item was devoted to **epidemiological surveillance**. A system using Delphi method was shown to evaluate the quality of animal health surveillance networks. Examples of local and national disease reporting systems were given in different countries. A large variety of

disposals was shown and they can be found in a large number of countries. Systems designed for the surveillance of a specific disease like foot and mouth disease, scrapie, equine influenza or salmonella infections were also presented. **Disease control programmes** was the title of the 8<sup>th</sup> item. Different programmes were evaluated. They concerned identification and registration for cattle but also efficiency of vaccination campaigns in different animal species : pseudorabies in pigs, foot and mouth disease in sheep for example. Different systems aiming at a better control of disease were shown for bovine leukaemia in New-Zealand and for an overall health evaluation of pig herds in the Netherlands. A disposal for surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in food animals in Denmark was also shown.

Item 9 was devoted to **teaching in epidemiology**. A new course entitled " epidemiology in action " organized in the US was presented.

The aim and the contents of a course on risk analysis in the UK were also displayed. A presentation showed the usefulness of multimedia technologies for self-learning in veterinary epidemiology teaching. Different statements on national situations with respect to veterinary epidemiology were given. A large number of contributions were related to item N°10, dedicated to **animal health and economics**. The economic impact of national programmes for animal health improvement was presented. Papers came from Australia, the Czech republic and from several other countries including those of Africa. Besides that, the economic consequences of different health disorders on the farmer's income were presented, in particular : mastitis, BVD in dairy herds, enteritis and pneumonia in the calf.

A broader impact on the industry was considered regarding salmonella infections. Furthermore it was shown that losses due to certain diseases and costs of control strategies can be evaluated through modelling whereas the interest of insurance contracts about diseases was discussed.

The relationships between herd health, productivity and profitability were also obviously considered. Finally it can be mentioned a paper on the profitability of organic dairy herds compared to conventional farms. Item N°11 concerned **infections diseases investigations**. Again a variety

of diseases were treated by authors coming from the different continents. Bovine tuberculosis was a main topic with papers from Canada, New-Zealand and Belgium. Among the others the followings can be noticed : IBR, BVD, bovine brucellosis and listeriosis, toxoplasmosis in sheep and CAEV in goats. A model simulating the evaluation of national and regional surveys was presented. **The tools in epidemiology** was title of item N°12 and again a large number of papers were proposed. Sensitivity, specificity of diagnostic tests and prevalence were the matter for calculation. Methods based on somatic cell counts were tested for characterization and surveillance of udder health in dairy herds. The important point of the reliability of data collected through questionnaires was assessed. Another important item was use of a Geographical Information System (GIS) in epidemiology. Several papers reported on it. They came from Switzerland, Canada, Italy, USA.... Item N°13 was about **statistical methods and modelling**. The techniques of sampling and the number of variables to be included in the surveys were debated as well as an

approach to meta-analysis. The use of descriptive multivariate methods was presented. Simulation models of different types were built about the spread and control of diseases : IBR, foot and mouth, warble fly infestation, retrovirus in cats, salmonella infections in broiler flocks. A specific model was calculated about mastitis taking into account the problem of the independence among quarters of the bovine udder. The usefulness of transmission experiments at laboratory scale in controlled facilities was outlined about contagious diseases in the perspective of a further field intervention. At last item 14 was devoted to **aquatic epidemiology**. Diseases affecting the farmed atlantic salmon and health information systems related to this production were in particular presented.

At the general assembly it was decided that the next ISVEE (IX<sup>th</sup>) will be held in Colorado state in the USA in August (6-11), year 2 000. Professor M.D. Salman from Fort Collins, College of Veterinary Medicine will chair the congress.

**Practical informations :**

- **The 2 volumes of the VIII<sup>th</sup> ISVEE proceedings are available.**  
They can be ordered (Price : 500FF) at AEEMA secretariat, Prof. B. Toma,  
Ecole Nationale Veterinaire, 7, Avenue du Général de Gaulle  
94704 Maisons-Alfort. FRANCE.
- **Informations about the IX<sup>th</sup> ISVEE in the USA :**  
Fax : + 19704912940  
E-mail : [isvee9@vagus.vth.colostate.edu](mailto:isvee9@vagus.vth.colostate.edu).

# 31 st International Congress of the ISAE 13–16 August, Prague, Czech Republik

*Maria Gustafsson, Sweden*

**T**he 31 st International Congress of the ISAE (International Society for Applied Ethology) was this year held at the Czech University of Agriculture in Prague. This was my first international Congress of the ISAE and it was one of the very best moments during my Phd student period so far. As many as 230 excited participants arrived in Prague one of the most sunny weeks in August. The program started off with a plenary paper of Edward O. Price from the USA about "Behavioural aspects of domestication and feralisation". After the plenaries each morning, the program was divided into two parallel sessions. The program continued on the same subject the second day and the plenary paper "Towards a functional view on domestication" was presented by Per Jensen from Sweden. Both these plenary papers discussed domestication from an evolutionary point of view and Per Jensen also suggested a new hypothesis about behavioural effects of domestication. The Wood-Gush Memorial Lecture was this year held by Ilan Golani from Israel titled "The organization of stereotyped behaviour". 6 plenary papers and altogether 60 spoken papers were presented at the conference and included research on 18 different species from 27 different countries. "Group size and predation risks in hens", "maternal vocalisations in sheep" and "social relations in elephants" are some examples of different papers. If you are more interested in the program don't hesitate to contact the ISAE council about proceedings.

**T**he conference program did not only contain a lot of different presentations but also a very well organised social program. The second day some participants visited the Safari Zoo in Dvur Kralove, whereas others were more interested in visiting different Czech farms. At Vikarka restaurant - the Prague Castle Historical Cellar the conference banquet took place. It was an evening full of historical and cultural input. The Czech and Slovak conference participants gave us a lesson in singing and dancing which was experienced and enjoyed by everyone. The very last day some of us had the opportunity to see Prague Zoo and some of us got a guided tour in the town center, both ended later on the evening boat cruise on Vltava river. We are all very grateful to Marek Spinka and Gudrun Illman and their staff for making the conference in Prague such an unforgettable moment.



## European Association for Animal Production (EAAP)

More than one thousand participants attended the 48th EAAP annual meeting held in VIENNA, at the Austria Center. They came from 50 different countries. As usual, 4 to 6 different scientific sessions of half a day duration ran in parallel during the 3 days of the meeting. They are prepared by 8 study commissions which can organize single or joint sessions. Besides the annual meeting "per se", two satellite symposia were organized: the first on "beef production and special aspects of beef quality" and the second was entitled "innovative reproduction techniques in animal production".

During the annual meeting, the geneticists reported on the main aspects of breeding in farm animals. A session was devoted to the strategies for small populations. Another session dealt with fitness and longevity. The physiological aspects of genetic changes were also considered. The main target criteria taken into account in this field are related to endocrinology and biochemistry. On the other hand the mapping of the genome and the detection of QTL (Quantitative Traits Loci) are still a main concern in the area of genetics.

In the field of Nutrition, the delicate question of feed additives was on the agenda. Unfortunately most of the presentations remained general. The interactions between health, feed intake and nutrition were also considered. The nutrients repartition was particularly studied in the pig. Numerous papers reported on feed composition and feed technologies. A main session was devoted to sustainable livestock production systems.

The management and Health study Commission, like other commissions, was also involved in this topic. A further item was entitled "human health aspects of pig production". The different sides of the problem were considered including obviously the risks of zoonosis and the speakers reported on different pathogenic agents able to infect human. A focus was made on Swine influenza, on Salmonella and on Listeria. The risks associated to slurry handling were also outlined. Another session was devoted to Mastitis control programmes in the dairy cows. The biological basis of the process were given as well as practical ways for prevention. At last peripartum phase in the sow was the title of another session in which veterinarians told about MMA (Mastitis, Metritis, Agalactia) and other health disorders which might occur at that critical period.

The physiologists were involved in several sessions jointly with other commissions. They focused on the mechanisms in action in case of strong physical efforts taking the horse as example. The scientists involved with cattle production were on the first line in the session dealing with sustainable livestock production systems. The debate was broad enough to reach social and philosophic considerations. In another session, new techniques for measuring milk production and milk composition were presented. In a session organized by the sheep and goat study commission, welfare aspects of sheep husbandry were displayed. The speakers came from UK, the Netherlands and Germany. Castration, tail docking, and other practices such as transportation have been discussed. In the pig commission economy of pig production was a main item. The consequences of feed composition on slurry and on environmental pollution were also debated.

At last the horse commission focused on education and on breeding plans. The horse breeding system in Austria was also shown.

#### Further informations :

- the book of abstracts of the meeting was given to the participants. The book (418 pages) is published by Wageningen Pers. PO Box 42, 6700 AA, Wageningen (The Netherlands). The editor -in-chief is J.A.M. Van ARENDONK.
- The next EAAP meeting will be in WARSAW Poland (24-27 August).

More informations about the meeting are available :

EAAP 1998 secretariat  
Polish Society of Animal Production  
Ul. Kaliska 9  
02-316 WARSAWA  
POLAND  
Tel/Fax : + 48 22 221 723

Dr F. MADEC  
President of Management and Health Commission



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 1 Call for news

Remind that the Newsletter is used as a tool for informing the members on different subjects related to animal hygiene. The letter is open for news coming from different countries. So please contact the members of executive board if you have proposals.

### 2 European Association for Animal Production : annual meeting 1998 in WARSAW POLAND (24-28 August)

Deadline for submission of abstracts 1/03/98 Correspondence : WAGENINGEN Pers PO Box 42 NL 6700 AA WAGENINGEN - The Netherlands. E-mail : [info@Wageningenpers.nl](mailto:info@Wageningenpers.nl).

The abstract form is also available on internet : [WWW.zod.wau.nl/WagPers/EAAP98.html](http://WWW.zod.wau.nl/WagPers/EAAP98.html)

#### Programme of Management and health study Commission :

- Session I** Behaviour of horses  
Chairman : Dr LADEWIG (Denmark)
- Session II** Free communication session. In the session the focus will be made on « animal transportation in relation to welfare »  
Chairman : Dr D. EKKEKEL (The Netherlands). Fax : 31320238050, e-mail : [E.D.EKKEKEL@id.dlo.nl](mailto:E.D.EKKEKEL@id.dlo.nl)
- Session III** Developments in pig husbandry systems and criteria for their assessment  
Chairman : Prof. E. Von BORELL (Germany). Fax : 493455527105, e-mail : [Borell@landw.uni-Halle.de](mailto:Borell@landw.uni-Halle.de)
- Session IV** Physiological aspects of reproductive disorders with special emphasis on embryo survival of pigs.  
Chairman : Dr SOLTI (Hungary). Fax : 3613426518, e-mail : [lsolti@ns.univet.hu](mailto:lsolti@ns.univet.hu)
- Session V** Free communication session - the focus here will be made on « aerial emissions from farm animal houses »  
Chairman : J. HARTUNG (Germany). Fax : 495119538588, e-mail : [itt@itt.tiho-hannover.de](mailto:itt@itt.tiho-hannover.de)
- Session VI** Free communication session on matter related to Management and Health of livestock  
Chairman O. SZENCI (Hungary). Fax : 3613426518, e-mail : [oszenczi@ns.univet.hu](mailto:oszenczi@ns.univet.hu)

## ③ Help to ALBANIA

A copy is here given of a letter received by Prof. BO ALGERS. The members of ISAH are kindly asked to reply on their own to our colleague of ALBANIA;

ANKOM

1997 -07-25

Dear Prof. Algers !

First of all we would like to thank you for your letter of July 03 , 1997 that we received in July 15 , 1997 , and in the same time we would like to wish you all the best.

We read carefully the "Membership Application Form" enclosed in the letter sent by you. We decide to complete them and to become soon members of the International Society of Animal Hygiene.

The ISAH memberships will help us for a more accurate qualification in the future. The seminars or workshops organised by ISAH and the publishing in refereed journals will be very helpful for us.

We need to know if ISAH issue any scientific journal or if ISAH has any refereed journal. If yes , we would pleased you to send more information about this (or these) journal (or journals) and about the way how we can take it (or them) free of charge if it is possible. Here in Albania we suffer very much the lacking of the contemporary literature and periodic. We are asking you and we believe in your and ISAH help for this problem.

Dear Sir ! Let us to inform you for another problem. During the chaotic situation in Albania , in the beginning of this year , was totally destroyed the Agricultural University of Tirana , situated 6 km far from the city of Tirana. The Agricultural University is composed of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine , Faculty of Forestry and Faculty of Agriculture. Together with the Agricultural University was totally destroyed and burned the Library of this University , one of the richest in Balkan. This was a great loss. As we have been graduated in this University , we feel very much this loss. For this reason we are asking you and/or ISAH (or other members of ISAH) to help the resuscitation of Library of the Agricultural University of Tirana , donating literature if you and/or ISAH (or other members of ISAH) have the possibility.

We would like to thank you in advance hoping in your help.

Best regards

  
Dr. Altin Telo

  
Dr. Kapllan Sulej

INSTITUTE OF VETERINARY RESEARCH

Tirana 16.07.1997

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