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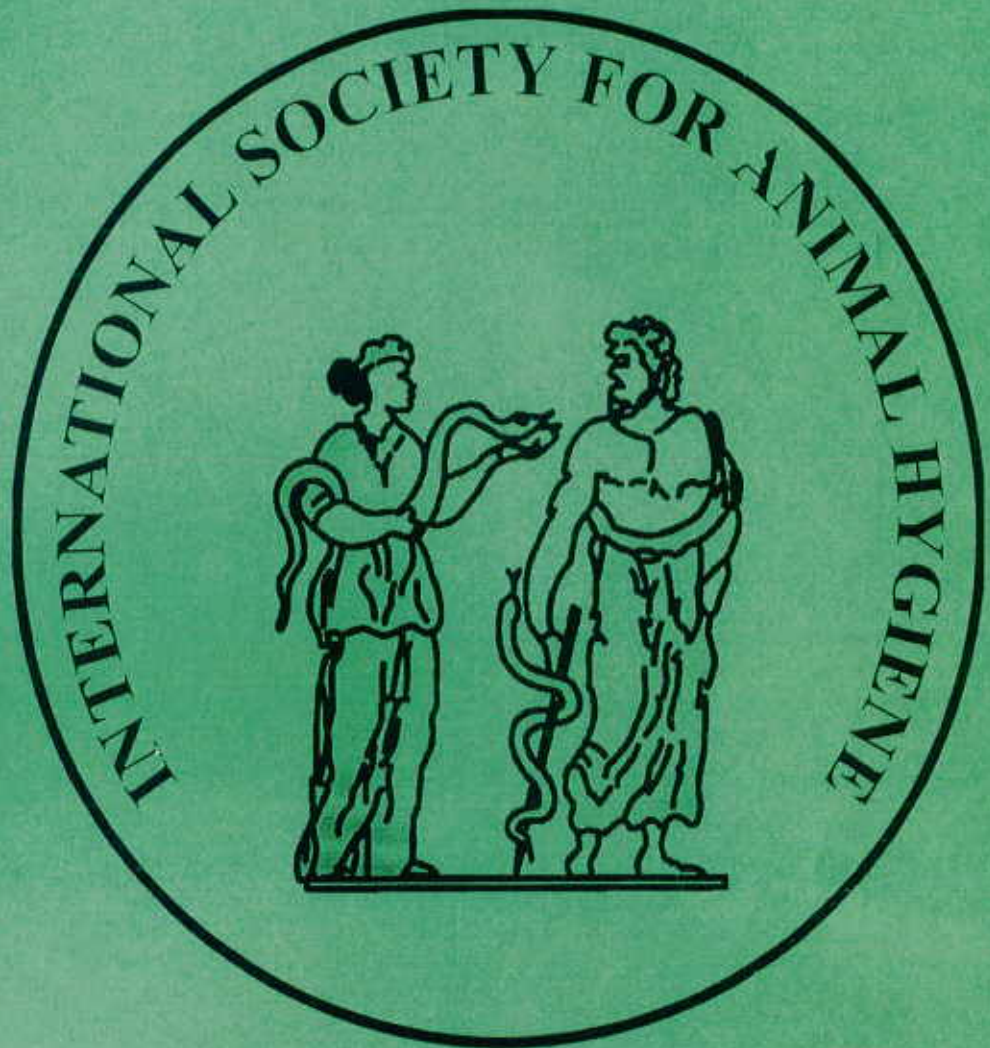
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International Society for Animal Hygiene

ISSUE 8

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Newsletter n° 8

Dear members of the ISAH

We have now opened a new century and there is the need to rethinking livestock production not only like an economic issue; it requires attention to a much broader range of ecological, ethological, social, psychological and ethical considerations.

We as professionals, scientists and technicians in Animal Hygiene have an important role to play in formulating a new concept of livestock production to make it more Sustainable and this includes the environmental protection.

Issues like BSE, FMD, Bio-terrorism, development of electronic media, changes in veterinary and agricultural education, privatization of veterinary services, are topical facts to note.

In 2001, BSE has been identified in local cattle in Italy (39 cases), the Czech Republic (3 cases), the Netherlands, (21 cases of infection have been confirmed since 1997), the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Greece. The Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has announced that Finland has its first confirmed case of BSE in a cow. The case was confirmed in the EU reference laboratory on Friday 7 Dec 2001, bringing the number of infected European countries to 18. So far, Japan is the only non-European country where BSE has been identified in non-imported cattle.

Re-emergence of foot-and-mouth disease in Great-Britain in February 2001 and one outbreak in Mongolia, caused intense reactions of fear of adverse economic impact, and a range of highly complex consequences for individuals and Society. The response in the United Kingdom has been to cull several million animals on affected and neighbouring farms. Nowadays it is necessary to examine both veterinary and socio-economic aspects of the disease and it will be a key step in the process to learn the lessons from the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the European Union this year. In June, September and November 2001 new outbreaks of Classical Swine Fever occurred in Spain, (Barcelona, Lleida, Valencia and Cuenca).

Anthrax, Tularemia, Plague, Smallpox, and Botulinum as biological weapons need further studies in relation to potential bio-terrorism. Animal hygienists are in a unique position to provide an early warning alert in the event of a suspected biological threat. It is necessary to recognize suspect biological agents used in bio-terrorism.

The electronic forum organized for FAO is an important step forward in the development of the field of Veterinary Public Health with a global perspective. By the end of 2001, 700 subscribers and more than 40 detailed contributions, so far, show how relevant was the idea of launching this forum.

Animal hygiene education for veterinary and agricultural students could be improved to include the basic principles of animal hygiene, food safety, quality systems in animal production, zoonoses control and environmental/community health. The global perspective should also be reflected in curricula in developing as well as developed countries.

ISAH recognizes several issues which have to be addressed like the current importance of emerging antimicrobial resistance in human and in veterinary medicine, the alteration of the environment, the industrialization and intensification of animal production; the increase in the international movements of people as well as international trade of animals and animal products. In our next main congress in Mexico most of these items will be considered and I hope that all of you will be doing their best to attend and present a paper.

My best wishes to ISAH members.

Prof. Dr. Jorge Saltijeral
President

Teaching Animal Hygiene

ANIMAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE IN ZIMBABWE

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Harare. Zimbabwe.

Background

Animal health falls in the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS), Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement (MLARR). DVS has four branches viz. Field & Training, Research & Diagnostics, Tsetse & Trypanosomiasis Control and Public Health. Public Health was formerly referred to as Meat Hygiene branch. While the other three branches are relatively self-explanatory, the Field branch is also responsible for (a) diseases control, (b) regulatory functions, (c) advisory role and (d) an element of animal health monitoring. On the whole, Government Veterinary officers, private practitioners, Faculty of Veterinary Science and veterinary colleges, play a complementary function of monitoring animal health.

The country is divided into ten administrative provinces, which, in DVS, are headed by Provincial Veterinary Officers who report straight to the Director of DVS. In addition to Government/Field Veterinary Officers, Animal Health Inspectors and Veterinary Technicians assist the PVO in ascertaining that the core business of DVS is carried out.

In essence the emphasis is on *animal health*, as opposed to *animal hygiene*.

Borders of Animal Hygiene

Hygiene is the basis of prophylactic medicine: avoidance of diseases by using cleanliness as a major tool. In other words, observing cleanliness and instituting disinfection protocols, are the cornerstones of a sustainable, economic, animal husbandry system particularly where animals are raised intensively in an artificial environment. Therefore, the boundaries of animal hygiene are likely to vary from country to country, region to region, community to community (especially in developing countries) and maybe, from time to time (in tandem with the pace of development).

In a world of anthropurgic ecosystems, of which animal husbandry systems are part, animal hygiene rightly falls within the confines of a management cycle (planning, executing, assessing and decision making). The management cycle, in the long-term and animal hygiene, in the short term, lead to accomplishment of farm objectives within the context of preset targets using known performance indices. Lack of, or inadequate hygiene is a disease risk factor in management that leads to undesirable production inefficiencies. Where then should we draw the borders of animal hygiene, or does what obtains in Zimbabwe ignore the rules and principles of animal hygiene?

Animal Health and Animal Hygiene in Zimbabwe

As hinted to above, neither animal hygiene nor meat hygiene are taught at University level, and to the best of my knowledge, not even in secondary schools or colleges. The emphasis is on animal health. But that does not mean that the country does not recognize the important bio-security niche occupied by hygiene. No. Since optimum production and productivity are goals of many a livestock industries, in practice the country implements the four pillars of any economic livestock industry, namely: sanitation, hygiene, disease prevention/control and primary animal health care.

The Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Zimbabwe, runs a five-year programme that churns holders of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science in veterinary medicine. In this curriculum, Animal Health and Public Health, as the names of these courses imply, are taught separately. Hygiene *per se*, is mentioned in passing as one of the predisposing factors of animal diseases. Animal Health is also offered to students who do BSc in Agriculture and to both Animal Health Inspectors and Veterinary Technicians. In other words, although animal hygiene is not mentioned, it is covered under the (a) Animal Husbandry and (b) Animal Behaviour, Handling and Welfare, courses that form part of the BVSc curriculum.

Teaching Animal Hygiene in Syria

By Prof. Dr. Darem Tabbaa

I- Introduction

Syria is a country well known for its animal and agricultural products through the Arab world and Middle East. The faculty of veterinary medicine is located in Hama, the centre of animal and agricultural production in Syria. The faculty established in the year 1969 and was teaching animal hygiene since the beginning with the syllabus of the Egyptian veterinary schools. 1981 the subject was renominated to veterinary public health and since 1988 this subject was adopted to the international development in the field of veterinary medicine and the topics were revised according to the recommendations of the ISAH (International Society for Animal Hygiene) and WHO/MZCC (World Health Organization /Mediterranean Zoonosis Control Center). For the year 2003 a new curriculum has been approved in which the subject divided in Animal Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine. In addition, the department teaches also zoonosis, veterinary legislation, epidemiology, and meat and milk hygiene.

II. Objectives

Having successfully completed the course of Animal Hygiene (Veterinary Public Health), the student should be able to:

- Identify the veterinarian's role in Animal hygiene and public health.
- Describe various Animal and human health hazards .
- Able to make environmental measurements in the animal farms and premises.
- Describe the principles of food handling and processing of animal food products using HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) system.
- Investigate foodborne disease outbreaks and identify the clinical symptoms, foods, and agents associated with foodborne disease outbreaks.
- Describe the mechanisms of water purification, water storage, and distribution systems for a community.
- Recognize the strategies for the control of bacterial, parasitic, and viral zoonotic diseases in animals and develop programs to ensure the safety of the public.
- Identify, both existing and potential, chemical and antimicrobial residues in animal products and develop programs to avoid such residues.
- Recognize occupational hazards such as radiation, chemical and biological hazards that occur in deliverance of veterinary medical services.

III. Texts and Special Teaching Aids

Required textbooks

Tabbaa, D. Textbook in Veterinary Public Health , published at Al Baath University, 1991, revised 1994.

Recommended texts

- JAVMA. ZOONOSIS UPDATES 2nd Edition. American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, IL. 1995.
- Acha. ZOONOSES AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES COMMON TO MAN AND ANIMALS. 2nd Edition. Pan American Health Organization. Washington, DC. 1987
- Proceedings of the ISAH- Conferences, USA 1994, Finland 1997, Holland 2000.
- Publications of the Mediterranean Zoonotic Control Centre, WHO/MZCC, Athens, Greece.

IV. Course details

Veterinary public health has been defined by the World Health Organization (WHO 1956) as "the field of activity which protects and advances human well-being by utilising the combined knowledge and resources of all those concerned with human and animal health and their inter-relationships.

The veterinary practitioner plays a major role in protecting and promoting public health. The veterinarian's functions include but are not limited to the delivery of wholesome and safe food and fiber products of animal origin to the public as well as the control and prevention of zoonotic disease.

Course leader: Prof. Dr. Darem Tabbaa

Credits: 2 theoretical and 4 practical hours per week

Semester: 2

V. Lectures:

For the topic of Animal Hygiene:

Theoretical Part of the study

1. Introduction to the importance and functions of Animal Hygiene: course overview: syllabus, course requirements, educational goals of the course, instructor background, what is Animal Hygiene involvement, applicability
2. Strategy and features of Animal Hygiene programmes

3. Air-, Soil-, and Water Hygiene
4. Principles of Bioclimate and Biometeorology
5. The hygiene of animal by-products
6. Control and eradication of infectious, and parasitic diseases and Pest control
7. The hygiene of the udder
8. The hygiene of Calves
9. The hygiene of Feed-, Houses and Pasteures
10. The hygiene of Wildlife and Zoo
11. Radiation activities in the Environments

☞ **Practical Part of the study**

- 1- Quality Control of the Air and Air Pollution
- 2- Quality Control of Water and Water Pollution
- 3- Evaluation of Disinfectants
- 4- Cleaning and Disinfectants in Animal Breeding Farms
- 5- Environmental Hygienic Evaluation in animal Breeding
- 6- The Hygiene of Animal Care and Transport
- 7- The Hygiene of SPF and Laboratory Animals
- 8- Control and Eradication of some important common Zoonotic diseases

For the Topic of the Veterinary Public Health:

☞ **Theoretical Part**

- 1- Definition of Veterinary Public Health and its Activities
- 2- Disease Complexes and Epidemiological Triangles
- 3- Public Health Education and personal Hygiene rules
- 4- Veterinary Public Health and Procedures for Preventive Medicine
- 5- Veterinary Public Health Activities in Disasters and Emergency Situations
- 6- Occupational Hazards in Animal Farming and related Industries
- 7- Environmental Pollution of Animal Origin and Public Health
- 8- Surveillance, Prevention and Control of major Zoonotic and related Foodborne Diseases

9- International Technical Co-operation in the Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Zoonotic and related Foodborne diseases

10- National Intersectoral Collaboration and Co-ordination for the Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Zoonotic and related Foodborne Diseases

11- Residues: use of antibiotics in animal agriculture, why residues are important health issues, risk factors associated with residues, residue avoidance techniques, residue testing

☞ **Practical Training**

A- Establishment of a Human and Animal Brucellosis National Surveillance System

B- Establishment of a Human and Animal Zoonotic Salmonellosis National Prevention and Control Activities

C- Establishment of National Programme for the Prevention and Control of Echinococcosis/ Hydatidcystosis

D- Establishment of National Programme for the Prevention and Control of Human and Animal Rabies

E- Veterinary Public Health Activities in Emergencies Preparedness and Disaster Situation

F- Collaboration between Medical and Veterinary Services in Emergency Situations

G- Occupational Hazards in Animal Farming and related Industries

H- International Technical Cooperation in the Surveillance, Prevention and Control of major Zoonotic Diseases

I- National Intersectoral Collaboration and Co-ordination in the Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Major Zoonotic and related Foodborne Diseases

J- Surveillance and Monitoring of Antimicrobial Resistant Foodborne Bacteria

Teaching animal hygiene in Timisoara (Romania)

By Professor Dr. Mihai Decun, Ph.D.
Veterinary Medicine Faculty, Timisoara, Romania
Romanian Agricultural and Forestry Science Academy member
Head of Department of Animal Production and Veterinary Public Health
Director of the Hygiene and Animal Pathology Research Center

All five Romanian veterinary medicine faculties (of which four are run by the State, one being a private institution) include in their required curriculum the course in Animal Hygiene and Environmental Protection. Some faculties, including Timisoara, have opted for changing the course title to "*Veterinary Hygiene and Environmental Protection*".

Animal hygiene refers to the science studying the existing relations between the domestic animal organisms and their living environment, with emphasis on finding adequate measures for maintaining a healthy livestock, as a premise for a better productivity. Animal hygiene systematises the preventive measures with special reference to their economic consequences. In other words, animal hygiene strives to discover such productive environmental patterns, representing various dynamic circumstances, whether they are of physical, chemical, biological or technological nature, including animals' interaction [with each other and] with humans. These conditions are studied in animals of all species, ages, categories, and productive purposes, and the productive potential is sought to be used in the least harming way for the animal itself. Therefore, animal hygiene strives to preserve the possible balance between the biological potential of the organism, the planned production and the actual environmental conditions allowing this production.

Between the two denominations in use in Romania - animal hygiene *versus* veterinary hygiene, there are not only name differences, but also some distinguishable content discrepancies. The name difference is of little importance, because the adjective "*veterinary*" arises from the Latin word "*veterina*", meaning "beast" or "animal of burden". The content difference points out to the veterinary hygiene collocation, which is a bit of a wider meaning, because it includes animal hygiene, but also includes the study of the prevention of disease transmission (which is, obviously, another factor impacting animal health beside the environmental factors, resulting in decreased productivity). Veterinary hygiene is, in this respect, a more inclusive term than the notion of animal hygiene, and is somewhat equivalent to what is called "*herd health*" in the American veterinary colleges.

In the light of the above considerations, the Veterinary Medicine Faculty in Timisoara has adopted the course entitled "*Veterinary Hygiene and Environmental Protection*", that includes the following subjects: air hygiene; soil hygiene; water and watering hygiene; nutrition and grazing hygiene; body hygiene of domestic animals; animal hygiene during transportation; general hygiene measures to prevent the spread of infectious and parasitic diseases (prophylactic quarantine, disinfections, insect control, rodent control, animal waste management); livestock housing and herd health management; animal welfare and animal protection. All these are taught to students during 70 course hours, in the 6th and 7th semesters, at the end of their third year of study and the beginning of their fourth year.

The practical (laboratory) training framework is conceived for 13 to 15 students in a group. They learn, over a period of 70 hours (in addition to the course time), to apply veterinary sanitation measurements: air and water analysis; setting standardized conditions favourable to animal health and production: comfortable microclimate, disposal of infective materials, application of disinfectants and insecticides, calculation of heat balance and improvements in ventilation, feeding and watering arrangements to avoid faecal and urinary contamination of food and water.

There are several new improvements that we have adopted this year, in order to be able to join European Community's Course Credit Transfer System, also as an attempt to meet the veterinary

education minimum requirements established by the World Veterinary Association Committee on Education and by the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education. In order to provide a veterinary medical training in Romania that is fully compatible and worth being recognized academically abroad, the Veterinary Hygiene and Environmental Protection was divided in two parts:

Animal and Environmental Hygiene, which is taught in the sixth semester, within 42 hour courses and 42 practical training hours;

Animal Welfare and Animal Protection, which are taught in the seventh semester, within 28 hour courses and 28 practical training hours.

The first discipline is almost similar to what we have previously had, and which used to be called Veterinary Hygiene and Environmental Protection. However, the main difference between this former discipline (from the old curriculum structure) and the newly implemented Animal and Environmental Hygiene, consists of the fact that the interaction between the animal and the (often polluted) environment is especially emphasized. The environmental protection measurements are only briefly presented, because they are also studied along with other disciplines (Ecology, Toxicology). This applies to other Veterinary Medical faculties in Romania as well.

Within the Animal Welfare and Animal Protection unit, we include the following subjects: ethical, biological and legal motivation concerning animal protection of domestic animals; animal behavior as a welfare indicator; intensive livestock farming and animal protection; vulnerability and protection of animals during transportation; animal protection in the slaughterhouse; pets' protection; dog population management; ethical aspects of animal experimentation.

The above-presented division within the Veterinary Hygiene course is carried out only for didactical considerations. In order to finish the academic studies, after each semester, the students are being examined on both theoretical and laboratory subjects, in order to ensure the possibility of European Community's Course Credit Transfer System, adopted for European integration purposes.

Generally, Romanian specialists consider that animal hygiene collocation represents an interdisciplinary domain that establishes a bridge between animal husbandry and veterinary medicine. Thus interpreted, animal hygiene comprises: animal environmental hygiene, veterinary ecology, domestic animal behaviour (veterinary ethology), animal welfare, and animal protection.

The intended learning outcome of study course in animal hygiene is to provide the student with an approach allowing the graduate to be able to critically analyze and participate in the animal husbandry management. Veterinarians help combat animal production decline, they struggle to prevent abnormal animal behaviour and the onset of animal diseases, and work toward maintaining the delicate health balance of the complex interactions between animals and their environment.

On the basis of such a complex task, the becoming veterinarians will be able to identify, beside the etiological diagnosis of illness, also an ecological diagnosis regarding the factors allowing, favouring and triggering diseases in livestock. In order to find the best ways to achieve the best production possible for the given biologic potential of a particular species, the veterinary clinician is directly involved in keeping a harmonious interaction between humans, animals and the environment, and is prepared to accurately measure the parameters defining the best biological potential and productive levels. The livestock's health is regarded as a main safety concern for the health of the consumers of animal product, as well as for the health of people involved in close contact with animals, whether they are farmers or pet owners.

XITh International Congress in Animal Hygiene

23-27 February 2003, Mexico City

Call for abstracts



Abstracts are invited for papers and posters.

Abstract deadline is 7 September, 2002

The abstract should be written in English in Word processing program Microsoft Word (for Windows). Abstract could be a maximum of half a page of A4-sized paper including 30 mm margins. The Title of the paper is written in capital letters, followed underneath by the name (s) affiliation (s) and email, and postal of the author (s). Please put asterisk (*) in author who will be presenting the paper.

Proposed papers will be selected for oral or poster sessions by the organizing committee and the Executive Board of ISAH. Authors will be notified of acceptance by September 30, 2002. Congress proceedings containing the four-page version of the papers will be made available to the participants at the symposium.

The full paper deadline is December 31, 2002

Abstracts, Papers, preliminary registration and doubts in relation with congress, please send to:

Scientific Committee ISAH 2003

Attn. Prof. Dr. Jorge Saltijeral

isah2003@cueyatl.uam.mx

Or

isah2003@email.com

Fax + 525 -5483-7480

Internet: <http://cueyatl.uam.mx/~oaxaca/isah/index.html>

Important dates

Deadline Abstract : 7 September, 2002

Acceptance Communication: 30 September, 2002

Deadline for the full Paper: 31 December, 2002

Final Announcement: 31 December, 2002

ISAH 2003 Congress: 23 - 27 February, 2003

Congress topics

1. Animal Welfare and Developments in Animal Housing and management.
 2. Quality Control Systems in Animal Production.
 3. Environment Protection and Waste Management
 4. Veterinary Medicine and Bovine, Pigs and Poultry Husbandry
 5. Veterinary Medicine and Goat and Sheep Husbandry
 6. Animal Welfare and Animal Hygiene in Companion Animal Husbandry
 7. International Trade and Animal Health
 8. Challenges and Opportunities in Food Safety
 9. Animal Husbandry and Public Health.
 10. Veterinary Education and Animal Health
 11. Free Topics
-

Registration fee

This Congress has two registration types : all included vs only scientific activities.

Payment before 10 January 2003 is different than after this date.

Reduction of the congress fee is relevant for all the participants who are registered member of the ISAH before 10 January and have paid their membership fee. Prices are in Mexican pesos ("about" is in American dollars).

Inscription Type	Members	Participants	Accompanying persons
All included	\$ 3700 pesos (about 370 dlls)	\$ 4000 pesos (about 400 dlls)	\$ 2100 pesos (about 210 dlls.)
All included after 10 January 2003	\$ 4000 pesos (about 400 dlls.)	\$ 4300 pesos (about 430 dlls.)	\$ 2500 pesos (about 250 dlls)
Only Scientific activities	\$ 1800 pesos (about 180 dlls)	\$ 2100 pesos (about 210 dlls)	
Only Scientific activities after 10 January 2003	\$ 2200 pesos (about 220 dlls)	\$ 2500 pesos (about 250 dlls.)	

Young Scientists Support

The Prof. Tielen Foundation and Organizing Committee of Mexico makes it possible to support scientists in developing countries to participate in the congress and to present a paper. Financial support can cover the congress fee, the lodging costs and a contribution for the travel costs. For more information please contact us. Young scientists who want to apply for financial support have to request a "young scientists support form" to Prof. Martin Tielen Martiel@tref.nl or Prof. Jorge Saltijeral isah2003@cueyatl.uam.mx

Technical Excursions

On Thursday 27 February a technical excursion will be organized for all participants and accompanying persons. Tours will be organized related to the topics of the congress. Visits will be made to research institutes, universities, slaughter houses, experimental farms, animal farms, small animal practices etc. All tours will end in a central place where the farewell party will take place.

Excursions: Milk production (cow and goats), Pig production, Poultry production, Horse production, Small animal practices, Zoo Animals and Veterinary education and research. To organize an excursion we must have a minimum of 10 persons to make a group.

J. Saltijeral
President

Reports

1st International symposium on sustainable livestock production

(Univ. Auto. de Guerrero, Mexico. 21-23 Feb. 2002)

The symposium was organised by Guerrero University at the convention centre of Acapulco on the Pacific coast of Mexico. The organizing committee was chaired by Dr. A. Cervantes Nuñez and Dr. Jorge Saltijeral, president of ISAH. About 200 participants attended the symposium mainly veterinarians and people involved in teaching animal production. Veterinary students currently at the last year of their curriculum also participated. The presentations were either in English or in Spanish. An excellent simultaneous translation was provided along the symposium. It is out of question to report here the details of all the presentations. Only some elements are reported.

Prof. M. Tielen, past president of ISAH and current vice-president of the European federation of the feed companies showed the procedures implemented to ensure a good traceability of raw materials. He underlined the market forces currently driving the exchanges worldwide and the major role of feed cost in animal production. He also mentioned the consumer's demand and critical technical issues like GMO's, fat content, mycotoxins which will have to be properly addressed in the future. Prof. Bo Algers dealt in his talk with the welfare of dairy cows in Sweden. During winter time the majority of the cows are kept tied and studies are being carried out to test other systems. He mentioned the high productivity of the cows in Sweden and also their low life expectancy. The dairy industry is positively involved in the process trying to improve animal welfare in the country. Prof. Thomas Blaha (Germany), spoke about the lessons learnt from the BSE crisis in Germany. He insisted on "quality management" at each stage of the production chain. Prof. Saltijeral talked about livestock production in Mexico. He outlined the complex equation to be solved : providing food to 100 million people in a country where the agro-climatic conditions are very various and which is located close to the USA. The situation of the dairy industry in Argentina was given by Dr. Castaneda. He told that the dairy companies took the initiative of paying milk according to its hygienic quality and this resulted in real changings in farm practices. Prof. P. Rafai (Hungary) presented a paper about mycotoxins in feedstuffs. A sort of scale of contamination could be proposed for practical use. However he drew attention on both the limitations of the detection techniques and on the broad variation of the response of the animals. Prof. Böhm (Germany) spoke about hygiene issues related to slurry and by-products. Numerous pathogens like salmonella can survive in those compounds depending on the process involved. Dr. Madec (France) presented a paper on PMWS (Post-Weaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome), an emerging disease. He outlined the pivotal role of a virus (porcine circovirus) but also the paramount importance of the environment and care the pigs are offered on the farms. Dr. Ferrer Carbajal (Cuba) spoke about certification and monitoring hygiene when food preparation. Dr. Loparatova (Czech. Rep.) talked about sex determination in bovine embryos whereas Dr. L. Holy explained the early development of those embryos. Then two speakers from Mexico (Dr. C. Vega and L. Avalos Flores) presented papers on sustainability of animal production and the relevance of a wholistic approach.

A CD-Rom was prepared by the organizers with the contents of the presentations. It was distributed to the participants. Website : www.uagro.mx/symposio/index.htm

It must be here mentioned the good organization of the meeting and the lively discussions that followed the oral presentations. And obviously, needless to remind the paradisiacal place where the symposium took place. This symposium was also an opportunity to the Executive board of ISAH to meet.

Dr. F. Madec
ISAH's Secretary

i3S international
Symposium
Salmonella and
Salmonellosis

29 - 31 may 2002
Saint-Brieuc
FRANCE

By Christelle FABLET
French Agency for Food Safety - Ploufragan
Epidemiology Research Unit

The International Symposium Salmonella and Salmonellosis takes place every 5 years in France. The third Symposium was organized by the French Agency for Food Safety (AFSSA) and other partners the 29, 30 and 31 may 2002.

There were 335 participants from 33 countries. 49 oral presentations and 151 posters were presented during those 3 days in Brittany. All the sessions were plenary with keynote speakers giving a main talk at the beginning. The titles were the following :

- Session 1 : Detection, Identification, Typing
- Session 2 : Interactions between hosts and bacteria
- Session 3 : Ecology and animal epidemiology
- Session 4 : Epidemiology and public health
- Session 5 : Antimicrobial resistance
- Session 6 : Risk assessment and management

Session 1 focussed on molecular techniques which can be used to complete the phenotypical characterization based on serotyping. These methods can be applied in epidemiological investigations. They may also be a useful tool to better understand the host resistance mechanism and to investigate the determinism of the host specificity as presented in some papers.

Session 2 : Among 47 presentations (oral communications and posters), several dealt with the pathogenesis of *Salmonella* in different hosts, especially chicken.

Session 3 typically illustrated the "farm to table" concept. Regarding the ubiquitous characteristics of *Salmonella* and its persistency in environmental wildlife, an essential contribution to improving food safety and consumer protection is the reduction of *Salmonella* introduction at any level of the food chain.

In **session 4**, it appeared that the implementation and intensification of monitoring and control programmes have been associated with a decrease of salmonellosis. But new serovars are now isolated as sources of foodborne disease. As a consequence, surveillance programmes of human salmonellosis and identification of the outbreak sources have to be continued in order to take the appropriate measures to protect public health. One paper outlined the benefit of an international communication network and standardized methods for epidemiological investigations.

Session 5 was devoted to antimicrobial resistance. An increasing number of outbreaks where multidrug resistant salmonella strains are involved is indeed observed. Two main aspects were dealt within the session : detection and characterization of resistance genes and resistance monitoring of human and non human *Salmonella* isolates. It was also pointed out the necessity to harmonize monitoring programmes and methods in the different countries.

The **last session** focussed on risk assessment and management. During the session, results and evaluation of monitoring and control programmes along the animal food chain in different countries were presented. Another item well developed in this session was the efficacy of chicken vaccination against *Salmonella* (8 presentations).

The proceedings and CD-ROM of all presentations and posters were prepared and they were given to the participants. Copies of the proceedings of the third Symposium are available either in hard copy or CD-ROM formats. They can be obtained from the editor :

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www.zoopole.com/ispai

OIE 70th General session

(International committee of the world organisation for animal health)

PARIS 26-31 May 2002

OIE (in French : Office International des Epizooties) is an intergovernmental organisation founded in 1924 due to help animal health maintenance worldwide. 158 countries are currently members of OIE. About 600 hundred delegates were present in Paris, attending the 70th general session.

Both plenary and parallel sessions were scheduled during the three-day meeting. During the first plenary session, Dr. Vallat, general director, presented the annual report of OIE for 2001. The report covered three main points :

- **The implementation of the work programme of the general director.** A new strategic plan was adopted in May 2000. Beside financial aspects, major innovations were initiated in 2001. Among these can be here mentioned an extension of the normative and scientific areas covered by OIE (animal welfare, food safety). It can also be outlined the preparation of a new animal health information policy based on an active search for information on the presence of disease and on the modernisation of the OIE early warning system. The general director also told he has been strongly involved in matters relating to the North-South dialogue especially those aspects concerning the development of international sanitary standards.
- **The implementation of the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the international committee.** They concern a wide range of topics going from specific animal disease problems to broader

aspects like antimicrobial resistance or member States contributions.

- **The international meetings where OIE was involved** Three main international conferences were organized by OIE (BSE, FMD, Microbial resistance). In addition, OIE was involved in 103 meetings.

During the second plenary session a key-note lecture was given Dr. A. Mc Kenzie from New-Zealand. It dealt with the role of veterinarians in the prevention and management of food-borne diseases, in particular at the level of livestock producers. Most of the contents related to a questionnaire-based survey distributed to OIE member countries. Almost all countries reported that food safety was a priority public health issue. Evidence of systematic application of a generic framework for managing food-borne risks was sporadic. The survey showed that at the level of international standard setting, developing countries were markedly less represented than developed countries. In another session risk analysis was presented (Dr. C. Zepeda Sein, Mexico). Through a brilliant presentation he demonstrated why animal health risk analysis is a very useful tool for decision-making. He also contacted OIE member countries and it came out that most of the respondents would like OIE to play a more active role in training as well as in the dissemination of risk analysis results. A main other lecture was devoted to FMD diagnostics and to the requirements for demonstration of freedom from infection (Dr. P. Kitching, Canada). Obviously a key question is to know the importance of carrier animals in causing new outbreaks

of FMD. Until we can quantify the risk posed by carriers, however, the presence of live FMD virus in an immune animal will be sufficient to influence decisions on international trade. The surveillance guidelines developed do provide some guidance to manage these risks. It was recommended that all member countries be aware of the background to this guidance in order to develop their own import risk analysis.

Animal health status worldwide is always a major point of the general session of OIE. A lot of tables were provided for the purpose. They relate to the outbreaks which were notified to OIE during 2001. Both list A (major diseases) and list B diseases are concerned. Foot and Mouth disease takes a place of choice in the report. In Africa, little change was seen in 2001 compared to 2000. The available results of serotyping show that serotypes O, SAT1 and SAT2 continue to be isolated in various countries whereas virus type A was only isolated in Kenya. In Americas, outbreaks occurred in Argentina, Uruguay and in South Brazil. FMD cases were also reported in Asia, both type O and A viruses (China, Mongolia, Taiwan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan). In Europe an epizootic (type O Pan Asia strain) started in Great-Britain in February 2001. The movement of animals caused the disease to spread to Northern Ireland, France, Ireland and the Netherlands. In Sept. 2001, France, Ireland and the Netherlands recovered their status of "FMD free country where vaccination is not practised". Outbreaks were also reported in Turkey (type O virus), whereas in the Middle East, FMD is still endemic.

- Vesicular stomatitis was only diagnosed in the Americas (12 countries with the largest amount of cases in Columbia). As the disease is clinically indistinguishable from FMD, a differential diagnosis is of particular importance for the region.
- Italy was the only country to report the presence of Swine Vesicular Disease.
- Kenya was the only country that reported Rinderpest
- Rift Valley fever was reported in Yemen and Zimbabwe

- Bluetongue virus was isolated in Americas (Argentina, Brazil), in Europe (France-Corsica, Italy, Bulgaria, Greece, former Yugoslavia and in Australia).
- African Swine Fever was declared in South-Africa, in Namibia and in Kenya. It was also reported in Italy (Sardinia)
- Classical Swine Fever was found in Mauritius, Madagascar, Cuba Germany, Spain, Romania, Slovakia. It was also found in wild boars in Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and Ukraine.
- Highly pathogenic avian Influenza (H5N1 virus) occurred in Hong-Kong (China). Outbreaks were also reported in Saudi Arabia.
- BSE. In 2001 seven countries reported cases of BSE for the first time (Austria, Czech Rep., Finland, Greece, Japan, Slovakia and Slovenia).

Another important point of the agenda was the "**International animal health code**"⁽¹⁾. A specific study commission is working on this crucial issue since many years. A comprehensive job is being done. The "code" is a major document which is continuously updated according to the most recent scientific knowledge. The aim of the code is to ensure the sanitary safety of international trade and animal products through the detailed definition of health guarantees to be required. Among the topics which were prepared to be submitted for adoption by the international committee of the current general meeting were : general definitions of terms, certification procedures, evaluation of veterinary services in member countries, zoning and regionalisation... The chapter on BSE was also re-considered. Finally I must emphasize the perfect organisation of the meeting where most of the 158 member States had representatives and could express their opinion in their mother language.

F. MADEC
ISAH's secretary

(1) : The international zoosanitary code is a key document for all aspects concerning international animal trade (or products of animal origin : meat, semen, embryos... : 10th ed. (2001) available on the web site : <http://www.oie.int>



The 17th congress of the International Pig Veterinary Society (IPVS) - AMES, IOWA, USA

The congress was held at the IOWA State University in Ames (IOWA) on June 2-5, 2002. A total of about 1900 people from 54 countries, attended the congress. The main issues related to the pig were given consideration during the 2.5 day congress. Three main lectures (plenary) dealt each with a general item of major concern. The first one was about "the evolution of diseases in the world's pig industry". It was given by an epidemiologist : Roger Morris (NZ). The second was about "pigs and Society" (by C. Glossop, UK) and the third was about "pork production around the world (by S. Henry, USA). In his talk the latter speaker emphasized the huge increase of food demand in the coming decades due to the expected increase in world population (around 9 billions in 2050 vs around 6 billions now). He mentioned the challenge ahead of us and the necessity to preserve the resources. Each day, just after the plenary, three sessions ran in parallel. In our field of main interest as animal hygienists can be mentioned the lectures given about "the emergence of novel strains of Swine influenza" (C. Olsen, USA), Foot-and-Mouth Disease (by Stan Done, UK), Growth promoter alternatives (by C. Wenk, CH), strategies to tackle multifactorial diseases (F. Madec, Fr.), Pork safety (Bent-Nielsen, DK), the role of culture and veterinarians in the welfare of pigs (D. Fraser, Can.). Then the remaining oral presentations (contributed papers) took place with 5 sessions running in parallel. A main subject was PMWS in pigs (Postweaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome). This emerging disease is now matter for concern in most of the pig-producing countries. Management and husbandry are suspected to play a role in disease severity on the farms beside the pivotal role of PCV2 (Porcine Circovirus Type 2). PRRS (Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome) was another subject of main interest (three sessions dedicated to the topic). The presentations were focused on both virology and epidemiology but most of the papers only concerned the reproductive side of the disturbances induced. As regard animal health, several other areas were covered like enzootic respiratory disorders. Two sessions were dedicated to *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* and another to *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*. In addition to animal health, in respect to Swine Influenza, the situation seems to evolve, especially in North-America. Beside A/H1/N1 and H3N2 viruses, new isolates H1N2 and even H4N6 (the latter of avian origin) could be detected. In this 17th IPVS congress a particular attention was paid to food safety. An entire session was focused on *Salmonella* infections in pigs. A variety of presentations dealt with *Salmonella* detection, genotyping, prevalence, transmission. The role of animal hygiene remains crucial in this field. A session was also devoted to antimicrobials and drug resistance, (another topical subject).

Finally I must outline the perfect organisation of the congress. Two books of proceedings were produced and given to the participants. Volume I contains the papers prepared by the invited speakers and the contributed papers. Volume II compiles all the posters (more than 500). A CD was prepared. For further informations : IPVS 2002

902, 1st Avenue, Perry, IOWA 50 220, USA

On the day before the congress an international symposium was organized in Ames by Merial company about PMWS. A booklet was produced : title : "PMWS and PCV2 diseases : beyond the debate". Further info : Merial, 29 Avenue Tony Garnier, 69 007 Lyon, France.

F. Madec
ISAH's Secretary

Announcements



- I- August 18-23, 2002
XXII. World Buiatrics Congress
Hannover, Germany
Detailed informations : <http://www.wbc2002.de>



- II- September 01-04, 2002
53rd annual congress of EAAP (European Association for Animal Production)
Cairo, Egypt
Programme of Management and Health Commission : see Newsletter N°7
Cise@main-scc.cairo.eun.eg



- III- September 16-18, 2002
International Symposium on Vaccines and emerging diseases in Animals
Ames (IOWA), USA
Organisers : Institute for International cooperation in Animal biologics,
IOWA State Univ.
Email : iicab@iastate.edu



- IV- September 25-29, 2002
27th Mondial Vet. Congress, TUNIS, TUNISIA
with a special focus on food safety
email : conord.vet@planet.tn



- V- November 18-22, 2002
18th panamerican congress on Vet. Sciences (XVIII PANVET)
La Habana, CUBA
email : scmvcd@infomed.sld.cu



- VI- February 23-27, 2003
XIth ISAH congress
Mexico city, Mexico
Please take care of this event and prepare scientific contributions ; see page 7 for details

