

# Curriculum vitae

February 2018

## Prof Vet Med Dr Ingvar Ekesbo

### Place and date of birth

Ekebo farm, Otterstad parish on Kållandsö Island in Lake Vänern. A farm of 50-hectare land and forest and with horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, poultry, dogs and cats.

### Education

After matriculation 1948 studies at the then Royal Veterinary College in Stockholm. Military service (cavalry) during in total 17 months in periods 1948–1963. In veterinary practice 1953, veterinary exam 1955. Half time PhD studies 1960–66 (animal hygiene and epidemiology), PhD 1966.

### Work experience

Served as district veterinary practitioner including AI-veterinarian, abattoir veterinarian, food hygiene control office 1953–1957. Animal health officer at Skara regional laboratory (microbiology, pathology, mastitis control, pig and poultry health control) 1957–1966. Animal Hygiene Officer at the National Veterinary Institute 1966–1970 stationed in Skara. Part time farm animal practice Friday afternoon to Monday morning once a month 1966–93. Professor in Animal Hygiene 1970–1993. Professor emeritus 1993. After 1993 continuing research, education and consultancy.

### Educational experience

Time lecturer in animal health at Skara agricultural college 1966–1970. Lectures in Animal Hygiene at the Veterinary College 1960 to 1993. Lecturer at a great number of courses in animal hygiene and animal welfare arranged by the National Veterinary Board 1960–1973, the Swedish Board of Agriculture 1973–1998 and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Several lectures at universities, international and national organisations in Europe, USA, Canada and Mexico.

### Initiatives

In 1969 carried out a two-week intensive course for 48 experienced veterinarians, two from each county in Sweden, who learnt to scrutinize drawings and plans for new or rebuilt animal housing. As a result a law was introduced in Sweden from 1970 that no animal housing should be erected if the plans had not been scrutinised and approved by these veterinarians and that no new technique or method should be used in animal management if not tested and approved. Permanent cages for sows, battery keeping and early weaning of piglets, tying of calves, keeping of animals without litter and similar for health and welfare detrimental methods were not allowed anymore. Sweden thereby avoided most of the animal health and welfare detrimental methods and techniques, which have caused great disease and welfare problems in most other countries. The good animal health situation made it possible to ban antibiotics as growth promoters in Sweden as the first country in the world in 1986. By arguing that cattle are ruminants and not carnivores, he contributed to a ban on using meat



meal for ruminants in 1986. Founder of the department of Animal Hygiene in 1977. Succeeded to get the Swedish government to establish a chair in Farm Animal Ethology at the department in 1988.

### **Supervision of scientific studies**

Ten PhD-thesis work in Animal Hygiene, Epidemiology and Ethology regarding cattle, pigs and poultry. A number of licentiate and master thesis for these animals and for disease spreading via manure (Salmonella).

### **Administrative duties**

Head of the then Dept. of Animal Hygiene, now Dept. of Animal Environment and Health, Vet. Med. Faculty, Swedish Univ. Agric. Sciences, in Skara, 1977–1993.

### **Posts in ISAH**

Swedish representative in the Extended Executive Board of the ISAH 1970–80, board member of 1980–1994 (president 1986–88).

### **Other posts, national**

Member of the Board of The Swedish Veterinary Association 1969–1975. Member of Skaraborg Veterinary Association 1957–, chairman 1979–1985. Member of Skara Humanistic Association 1957–, board member 1968–2010, chairman 2007–2010. Member of Animal Welfare Council at the National Veterinary Board 1960–1973, of Swedish Board of Agriculture 1973–1998. Chairman of “Samarbetsdelegation-en för Husdjurshygien” 1968–1980. Editorial boards for scientific journals, e.g. Applied Animal Ethology 1984–1993; By the Swedish government appointed as member of Skara Diocese Cathedral Chapter 1973–1992. In 1986 appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture to prepare a draft for a new animal welfare act for Sweden which was approved by the parliament in 1988. (Several principles in this act have thereafter been applied in other countries.) Member of the Swedish government appointed official inquiries regarding “Alternative medicine for animals” 1999–2001 and “Animal transports” 2001–2003.

### **Other confidential posts, international**

Chairman and liaison officer in the FAO sub network ”Animal and Human health” within the FAO-network ”Waste handling” 1976–1990; Member EAAP Commission Management and Health (v. president 1986–94); Expert in the Swedish delegation in Council of Europe’s ad hoc Committee for a Farm Animal Welfare Convention (1972–76); Swedish representative and the government’s expert and leader of the Swedish delegation in the Council of Europe’s Standing Committee for Farm Animal Welfare 1979–1998 (elected chairman of the Committee 1979–86, 1st vice chairman 1986–1998).

### **Evaluator of studies and organization**

The international evaluation commission for Wageningen University 1991–1993.

### **Evaluator and/or opponent of PhD work**

The Veterinary College in Copenhagen (1), The Veterinary College in Oslo (2).

### **Publications**

Professor Ekesbo has published more than 200 scientific and great number popular scientific papers within the fields of animal hygiene, epidemiology, ethology and ethics in animal husbandry. He has written a Swedish textbook on Animal hygiene, which came out in nine

editions. In 2011, he published the textbook “Farm animal behaviour – characteristics for assessment of health and welfare”. A revised edition will be published in 2018.

## **Awards**

Doctor Honoris Causa at the ETH University, Zurich 1987, and Estonian Agricultural University, Tartu 1998.

Honorary memberships: Association Swedish Veterinary Students 1990; International Society for Applied Ethology, (1993); Skaraborg Veterinary Association 1993; International Society for Animal Hygiene (1994); Sociedad Mexicana de Etologia Veterinaria 1997; Honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, UK, (1999). Skara Humanistic Association 2010.

Honorary president: Honorary president of the ISAH in 2015.

Other awards: Swedish Veterinary Association’s prize for scientific publishing (1966); Swedish Animal Welfare Association’s gold medal for research (1970); Kiel University, Germany, Justus von Liebig prize for research, (1975); The Swedish Animal Welfare Association gold medal 1980; Skaraborg agricultural Society gold medal for contributions to improved animal health (1982); University of Munich, Germany the Felix Wankel Prize for Animal Welfare Research (1989); The Brownlee Award (Canada) for scientific publishing (1990). Swedish Farmers’ Slaughter Association award for pig research (1993); Eurogroup Gold Medal for research and for considerable service in the Council of Europe’s Standing Committee for farm animal welfare (1998); Swedish Government’s gold medal ”Illis quorum meruere labores” for his research and contribution to improved animal health and welfare, nationally and internationally (1998); The University of Helsinki, Finland, Honorary Medal for Scientific Research (2008); Swedish Veterinary Association’s Peter Hernquist gold medal (2012); Conferred a ‘jubilee doctor’ by the Vet. Med. Faculty (2016).

## **Military rank**

Lieutenant

## **Publications**

Published about 350 scientific, popular scientific articles, papers at national or international congresses or symposia, chapters in books or books. Only some of those written in English or German are mentioned here.

Ekesbo, I. Disease incidence in tied and loose housed dairy cattle and causes of this incidence variation with particular reference to the cowshed type. *Acta Agriculturae Scand. Suppl.* 15, 1966, 74 pp.

Ekesbo, I. Animal health, behaviour and disease prevention in different environments in modern Swedish animal husbandry. *Vet. Rec.* 1973, 93, 36–40.

Algers, B., Ekesbo, I., Strömberg, S. The impact of continuous noise on animal health. *Acta Veterinaria Scandinavica, Suppl.* 67. 1978. 26.

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Ekesbo, I. A study of methods for handling and composting of cattle and swine manure and urine from the point of view of hygiene. *Agricultural Wastes* 1979, I, 205–221.

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- Bendixen, P.H., Vilson, B., Ekesbo, I. Disease frequencies of tied zero-grazing dairy cows and of dairy cows on pasture during summer and tied during winter. Preventive Veterinary Medicine, 4, 1986, 291–306.
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- Bendixen, P.H., Vilson, B., Ekesbo, I., Åstrand, D.B. Disease frequencies in dairy cows in Sweden. IV. Ketosis. Preventive Veterinary Medicine, 5. 1987, 99–109.
- Bendixen, P.H., Vilson, B., Ekesbo, I., Åstrand, D.B. Disease Frequencies in Dairy Cows in Sweden, V. Mastitis. Preventive Veterinary Medicine, Nr. 5, 1988, 263–274.
- Ekesbo, I. Animal Health Implications as a Result of Future Livestock and Husbandry Developments. Applied Animal Behaviour Science, Nr 20 1988, 95–104.
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- Bendixen, P.H., Vilson, B., Ekesbo, I., Åstrand, D.B. Disease Frequencies in Dairy Cows in Sweden. VI. Tramped Teat. Preventive Veterinary Medicine, 6, 1988, 17–25.
- Oltenu, P.A., Bendixen, P.H., Vilson, B., Ekesbo, I. Tramped teats – clinical mastitis disease complex in tied cows. Environmental risk factors and interrelationships with other diseases. Acta Veterinaria Scandinavica, 31. 1990, 471–478.
- Plym Forshell, L., Ekesbo, I. Survival of Salmonellas in composted and not composted solid animal manures. J. Vet. Med. B 40. 1993, 654–658.
- Ekesbo, I., Oltenu, P.A., Vilson, B., Nilsson, J. A disease monitoring system for dairy herds. The Veterinary Record, March 12. 1994, 270–273.
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- Ekesbo, I, 2011, Farm animal behaviour – Characteristics for assessment of health and welfare, CAB International, Wallingford, UK, 237 pp.

## Prof Ingvar Ekesbo's Photo Gallery



Ekesbo served as part time farm animal practitioner from Friday afternoon to Monday morning once per month 1960–1993. This gave him important knowledge of the changes in animal husbandry, animal health and in the farmers' changing attitudes over the years. These experiences had a great influence on both his research projects and his education of students, colleagues and decision-makers



Ekesbo, second from the left, leading a session in Council of Europe in the 1970s. This work gave him important experience in international differences in attitudes to animal health prevention as well as in judicial procedures in different countries



A single consultation with Mrs Ruth Harrison and prof. Andreas Steiger in the Council of Europe in the 1980s



Irma and Ingvar Ekesbo at the ISAH congress in Tartu in 2007



The professors Aland, Ekesbo and Rafai at the ISAH-congress in Nanjing in 2013



Visit together with prof Gunnarsson at the Yangtze River during the ISAH-congress in Nanjing in 2013



Prof Ekesbo chairing the ISAH AGM in Nanjing in 2013



Two old friends, prof Ekesbo and prof Rafai, before a session during the ISAH congress in Košice in 2015





Mrs Ibolya Rafai, prof Ekesbo and Mrs Tilly Linder in Budapest in 2015. The ISAH meetings give opportunities meet privately with friends



Professor Ekesbo expressing his thanks for being a “jubilee” doctor at the Swedish Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in 2016