

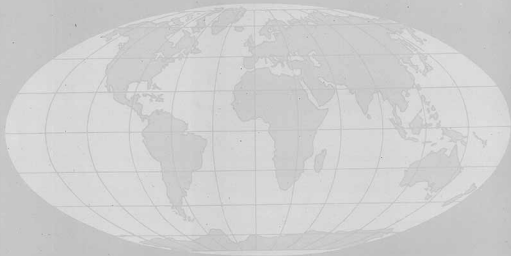
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Volume 11

No.2

July 1996



COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION



NEWS

Editorial



At the recently concluded CVA East, Central and Southern African Regional Conference and Seminar at Mauritius it was amply illustrated the role the veterinarian has to play in the 21st century. With the population explosion expected to hit Africa and Asia, the most developing continents in the Commonwealth, by the end of this century, there is expected to be an acute shortage of protein, especially animal protein. To meet the challenges of the future the veterinary profession has to be fully geared to combat this.

It is in this context that the Commonwealth Veterinary Association has planned its ambitious programs in the next few years so as to give a lead to the profession. Through Regional Conferences, Workshops and Seminars the CVA has been providing the veterinarians and farmers the insight into animal production, health care and veterinary education.

The importance of infertility in ruminant small herds has been a major constraint in animal production and it is this project that was given importance in the form of workshops, as an implementation of the resolution of the Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference at Harare in 1990. Two workshops have successfully been held in Malaysia and Sri Lanka and the third will shortly take place in Kenya.

Similarly the control of diseases has evinced keen interest and so also other problems facing the farmers and the veterinary profession such as natural calamities (floods, hurricanes and earthquakes) and regional workshops and conferences organised by CVA in different regions have addressed these issues as well.

The role women play in farming especially animal husbandry, in all Commonwealth countries (as also elsewhere) needs no introduction and there is urgent need to have a better understanding of their problems and the role NGO's such as Commonwealth Veterinary Association can play needs to be thoroughly discussed. It is in this context that the theme of the Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary conference scheduled for Feb. 1998 i.e. *Animal Health And Production In Rural Areas - The Essential Role Of Women At All Levels*, been selected.

It will not be an exaggeration if we say that the Veterinary profession will be playing a very crucial role in feeding the hungry masses of the world in the 21st century and the need of the hour is proper planning and setting our priorities and goals. It is the CVA which will give a lead to the profession as an International Organisation for the welfare of the animals and human beings.

July 1996

S. Abdul Rahman
Secretary/ Editor



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Association

● Advertising Enquiries ●
President

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● Ms. Vidya Ramanath ●
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Bangalore 560 011. Tel 6656761

● Editor ●
Dr. S. Abdul Rahman

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President's Column

Following the theme I developed in the last CVA News, I continue to be greatly impressed with the selfless service many veterinarians across the 48 member countries of CVA give to the organisation. These thoughts come to mind following several recent events. In Mauritius Dr. M. R. Jaumally backed only by a very small association, has put enormous honorary effort into delivering the forthcoming CVA workshop. His communication and efficiency would be hard to beat even in the best multinational companies.

Dr. Derek Timbs, CVA Councillor for New Zealand (and Regional Representative for Australasia) who lives in the North Island flew to Christchurch in the South Island to personally assist in placing CVA brochure, in the satchels of over twelve hundred attendees at the joint Australian/ New Zealand Veterinary Congress held in June to ensure that all the delegates were better informed as to CVA's structure and workplan. The idea came from Dr. Bert Stevenson who was planning to present a display of CVA activities at the annual conference of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association; communication of ideas is valuable at all levels.

As can be read elsewhere in this edition, Dr. Ken Lameta, CVA Councillor for Western Samoa, recently suffered yet another personal disaster. Within days of this being known, Dr. Doug Mitchell, Convenor of the CVA Book Programme and some of Ken's colleagues in the Australasian region had arranged for replacement of his essential teaching library. These small examples are the spirit of CVA that I see manifested in so many places.

The CVA Executive is very aware of the fact that it functions in an age of accountability, both to its member associations and to the Commonwealth Foundation and private benefactors. In the last five years it has moved actively to develop the use of a workplan to govern nearly all of its programmes. Each of the six CVA regions also have regional workplans themselves. Progress is regularly reported at CVA Workshops which are held in these regions in rotation. Readers will note the forthcoming workshops in Mauritius, Singapore and Barbados within the next twelve months which will focus on technical advances and evaluation of the Workplans.

I feel it a very special privilege to lead a dynamic but lean veterinary organisation devoted to helping its member associations to deliver affordable veterinary services to all parts of the Commonwealth whether they have 40,000 members (India) or just one (Montserrat, Tonga). Developed country members of CVA continue to generously provide finance and skills as a unique resource to help the less favoured countries of the Commonwealth, and in turn learn much from this contact to their own benefit.

July, 1996

W.J. Pryor
President

Looking Back

- Bakary Touray,
Immediate Past President

I can now sit back and relax with the pleasant feeling of an extremely rich experience of professional kinship resulting from my long experience as a member and official of the CVA.

It all started in 1972, when I became a member of the Gambia Veterinary Association, following my return from Calcutta, India, where I did my undergraduate studies. We were only five veterinarians in the country then - four practicing vets and the President of the Country. However my direct involvement with the CVA started in 1972 when I represented my small association at the inaugural meeting of the West African Commonwealth Veterinary Association (WACVA) in Kaduna, Northern Nigeria. This meeting was attended by representatives from all the four Commonwealth countries of West Africa, was well organised and delegates pampered by the Nigerian Veterinary Association which hosted the meeting. When I recall the extremely high interest and keenness of the Nigerian delegates in the CVA then and contrast that with the present situation where CVA has had to suspend Nigeria from membership due to persistent non-payment of their annual subscription, I find it difficult to discern what has gone so badly wrong with our colleagues in that country.

Since then, I have been actively involved with CVA, first as Council member for Gambia and then Regional Representative for West Africa from 1985. In these capacities, my first and most important role was to assist the Executive Committee of the CVA in organising the first Pan African Commonwealth Veterinary Association Conference which was held in Banjul in March 1987. This was my first opportunity to meet and interact with so many professional colleagues from all the other African Commonwealth member states, as well as the Executive Committee members from various CVA regions.

I was amazed by the energy and commitment of the Executive, especially the older fellows whom one would have expected to meet in their back gardens cutting roses for the flower pot rather than hurrying colleagues to the conference room. Dr. Laurent Choquette, the then President, and Professor Archibald, Secretary/Treasurer of the CVA, were so committed to the success of the Association that they appeared not to trust others in measuring up to their tasks. To them, every one had to do whatever according to the set rules but their firmness was always tempered with humour and respect. It was at this time that I sensed the differences in habits and procedures resulting in confrontations between the members of CVA's "Security Council". It smelt of the traditional rivalry between the super powers but the ultimate wish for the success of

the Association always prevailed.

I was elected Vice President from January 1988, succeeding Dr. Trevor Blackburn of the UK, who became President following Dr. Choquette's retirement. I do not know what sustains "short" guys and keeps them young and active, but Trevor was all these during the four years I worked with him. His exuberance and dedication was to a great measure responsible for the recognition that the CVA achieved among the Commonwealth Professional Associations, and certainly in the eyes of the Commonwealth Foundation which provides the major part of our funding. The high watermark of Trevor's reign was the successful organisation of the 1990 Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, and attended by two Commonwealth Heads of State and the Director of the Commonwealth Foundation.



At the following Executive Committee and Programme Review meeting in London in May 1991, I was elected President of the CVA with effect from January 1992. My term of office was a crucial period for the Association in terms of the implementation of the multitude of recommendations made by the Harare Conference. It was also a time when a great deal of tact and diplomacy was required as a result of tensions and controversies generated at that conference. It was essential to maintain both momentum and enthusiasm among members. At the personal level, it was a great challenge and a daunting task to step into the shoes of Trevor Blackburn, whose energy and devotion to the CVA was and still is remarkable. However, my role was enormously facilitated by the unflinching support I received from members of the Executive and the sacrifice made by the various project leaders resulting in the successful execution of most of our projects.

While one can be justifiably proud of the achievements of the Association, it must be said that there were hiccoughs and tense moments, just as in any other organization of this nature. The great diversity of cultures within the Commonwealth often subtly reflected or influenced attitudes and the ways individuals liked to see things done. The after dinner speech at the Harare Conference caused controversy in some quarters. Another instance was at the official dinner at the Royal Army Medical

College, London in 1995, when it was almost impossible to decide the sequence of speeches and toasts, i.e. whether to follow the English, Canadian, Australian or some African customary ethics. But since one of the underlying objectives of our Association and the Commonwealth itself is to use this diversity to the advantage of its members or peoples, rather than let it be an impediment, it was therefore not possible to reach consensus on the most crucial issues, given the goodwill and selflessness of members.

One of the urgent problems of the Association has been and still is how to identify and elect the right type of individual as Regional Representative for the various CVA regions, considering that the active involvement of the regional membership is a *sine qua non* for the very survival of the CVA itself. The Executive Committee deliberates on this issue at each meeting, yet it must be stated that some Regional Representatives leave much to be desired, thereby actually depriving their members of the potential benefits of CVA membership. It was however heartening to note the significant progress made in some regions particularly the

East/ Central/ Southern African Region, thus leaving the Canada/ Caribbean Region as our greatest headache.

To conclude, I would like to state that it was an honour and privilege to serve CVA in the various capacities mentioned above, particularly as its President for 4 years. I believe we have continued to make significant progress which I am sure will be taken to higher heights with the election of Prof. Dr. William Bill Pryor of Australia to the Presidency. With Bill's rich experience, his dedication and commitment to the ideals of the Commonwealth and CVA, the Association is sure to make even greater strides under his leadership, especially coming at a time when we are planning the second Pan Commonwealth Conference for 1998 in Bangalore, India. As with the Harare Conference, the forthcoming one will certainly help the Executive to chart the future evolution of the CVA and its programmes.

I am proud to have been associated with the CVA and the many fine colleagues that I had the opportunity to work with and who gave me so much support. My thanks to all of you and wish the CVA much more success.

Encephalopathies

Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) are invariable fatal diseases characterised by lengthy incubation and neurological signs. They are caused by infectious agents of uncertain nature. The animal diseases in this group are Scrapie, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Transmissible Mink

Encephalopathy (TME) and Chronic wasting disease of deer (CWD). Spongiform Encephalopathies (SEs) have also been diagnosed in domestic cats and captive wild species of felidae, ruminants and perhaps ostriches. Similar diseases (Creutzfeldt Jakob disease and kuru) occur in humans.

Trade Liberalisation

The resolution of the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations and the establishment of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) was a major step towards world trade liberalisation. The WTO requires member countries to remove unjustified import prohibitions, reduce import tariffs and is a forum for resolving trade disputes. It was recognised however that their are technical barriers that could be used to frustrate the

implimentation and realisation of the aims of the WTO. These potential barriers to trade include measures to protect human, animal and plant health. While no one would dispute that such measures are a necessary and desirable component of international trade, it is important that they are used only as necessary to protect human, animal and plant health and are not used to protect domestic agriculture from competition.

Commonwealth News



Commonwealth Day Message 1996

From Her Majesty The Queen - Head of the Commonwealth

The theme for Commonwealth Day this year is "Working in Partnership".

This theme reminds us that we can achieve much more if we work in a team, making use of each other's different skills and experience, than if we are all separately trying to do the same thing. A successful partnership depends on mutual respect and friendship, and what matters is not what people are but what they can contribute to the common purpose. Partnership builds on experience, drawing lessons from the past and cementing shared friendships, and it looks to the future as it tackles the challenges of the present.

The Commonwealth is an excellent example of this kind of partnership. The fifty-three sovereign nations who belong to it have vastly different social and ethnic traditions, but it has been able to fashion unity out of this diversity and to become a working partnership of governments and peoples. One of the most valuable aspects of this partnership is the network of Commonwealth Non-Governmental Organisations which link members of a wide range of professions and activities - architects, engineers, journalists and broadcasters, doctors and vets, magistrates and judges, and so on - and help them to benefit from each other's experience and to work together for the common good. There are thriving partnerships between Universities, the parliamentarians and the Trade Unions of the Commonwealth countries. In the arts, literature and music, there are Commonwealth links which enrich the cultural life of all the members, and there is also a friendly rivalry in a wide range of sporting activities.

The heads of Government of the Commonwealth set out its fundamental aims and principles in a statement adopted at Harare in 1991, and last November in New Zealand they agreed on an important Action Programme to give that mission statement a real cutting edge, with the emphasis on democracy, development and consensus building. Those aims, like so many others, can be best pursued in partnership both within the Commonwealth and on a wider global scale.

Young people learn early the value of taking part in teams and tackling projects in partnership. I hope that you will carry those lessons into later life and with the idealism and clear vision which the young can offer, help to build lasting partnerships to make the world a better and safer place.

11th March 1996

Elizabeth R.

New Commonwealth Leaders

Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam was sworn in as Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius on 27 December 1995. A former medical student and barrister, Dr. Ramgoolam was first elected to Parliament in 1991. In that year he became Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Benjamin Mkapa was sworn in as the third President of the United Republic of Tanzania on 23 November 1995. Mr. Mkapa has been a newspaper editor and a diplomat, and has a long career of service as a minister in various departments of the Tanzanian Government.

Mr. Basdeo Panday became Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago on 9 November 1995. Leader of the Opposition between 1981 to 1986 and again between 1990 and 1995, Mr. Panday served as Minister of External Affairs and International Trade from 1986 to 1988.

Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano is President of the Republic of Mozambique, which joined the Commonwealth in November 1995. Mr. Chissano participated in the 1962 founding of FRELIMO, the ruling party in Mozambique, becoming Secretary of the Security Department in 1965. He was appointed Prime Minister in the Transitional Government that led Mozambique to independence in 1975. He was Foreign Minister in the first government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, a post he held until 1986, when he became the President. He was re-elected as President in the country's first multi-party elections in 1994.



Dr. Ramgoolam

British Pupils Help Leprosy Victims As They Learn About The Commonwealth

Nada, a poor Indian schoolgirl aged 14, suffers from the rare but ancient disease of leprosy still found in some poorer parts of the world.

She needs care and attention to keep her disability under control. This will hopefully be provided if enough money can be found to establish a physiotherapy centre in Birmaharajpur, a small town in the eastern Indian state of Orissa where she lives.

Unbeknown to her, more privileged but concerned school children in another part of the world have been raising money for LEPRO, the British Leprosy Relief Association, which hopes to establish the centre in Orissa.

The youngsters attend Canford School in Britain where they collected the money during the Legacy of Empire Week devoted to a programme of cultural events, lectures, debates and seminars.

The week's aim was to raise the student's

knowledge and understanding of the 53 member Commonwealth, another was to explore the changing role of Britain and its former colonies in the modern world. Special emphasis was placed on Britain's relationship with Africa, Australia, the Caribbean and India.

Canford School has also been raising money for Goodwill Children's Homes in South India with whom it has special links.

With 500 boarding and day pupils aged 13 - 18, the school is set in sprawling and tranquil parkland on the banks of the River Stour at Wimborne, Dorset, in South - west England.

A number of the co-educational school's students come from Commonwealth countries such as Hong Kong, Kenya and Pakistan.

Commonwealth Feature Feb 96.

Mozambique Joins Commonwealth

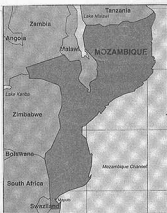
Mozambique was accepted as the 53rd member of the Commonwealth by the Heads of Government Meeting on 12 November 1995, "as an exceptional case" - exceptional in that it marks the first time a country with no history of formal administrative links with Britain or another Commonwealth country has been accepted as a member of the association.

In fact, the Commonwealth has long embraced Mozambique as a 'cousin'. Mozambique has been a part of the association's extended family since independence in 1975. Mozambique supported the struggle for majority rule in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) by closing its border and applying sanctions at great cost to its own economy.

In recognition of the importance of Mozambique's position and role in a region destabilised by the then apartheid government of South Africa and fragmented by war, the Special Commonwealth Fund for Mozambique - to which 18 member states contributed - was established in 1988 and operated until the end of its mandate in 1994. Since then its work has continued through the Commonwealth Capacity Building Facility for Mozambique.

Mozambique has also received bilateral assistance from Commonwealth members, for example the Mozambique - Australian Human Resource Development Programme, which is funded by AusAID and managed by the Commonwealth Secretariat. In a regional context, Commonwealth members provided assistance to Mozambique via the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (now called the Southern African Development Community) for the rehabilitation of the country's transport and telecommunications infrastructure. This was in the interests not only of Mozambique's development, but also of regional integration and restoring access to the sea for landlocked Commonwealth neighbours.

All Mozambique's mainland neighbours - Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe - are Commonwealth members, and all strongly supported its admission.



Algae fat

In an effort to save the world's dwindling stock of fish, pharmaceutical and nutrition products industry are turning towards algae-derived polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs). Two firms - Scotia Pharmaceuticals from Britain and Heliosynthese Research and Development from France - will harvest the PUFAs from microalgae grown in specially created photo-bioreactors on the Scottish and French coasts.

New Council Members Of CVA

Malta and Belize have new Council members, Dr. Vella and Dr. Gongora. The following is their address:

Dr. C.L. Vella
President and CVA Councillor
 Malta Veterinary Association
 P.O. Box 66 B'kara
 BKR 01, Malta

Dr. Victor Gongora
Secretary and CVA Councillor
 Veterinary Association of Belize
 96 Benque Road
 San Ignacio
 Cayo, Belize

Worldwide Celebrations To Mark 20th Commonwealth Day

March 11th is Commonwealth day. It is the day when Commonwealth countries which represent a quarter of all humanity acknowledge their membership of this unique voluntary association.

This year's celebrations had a special significance, for it was the 20th Commonwealth Day since 1977 when the second Monday in March was adopted by all member nations as the day when they would simultaneously mark their membership of the group. The second Monday in March was picked as Commonwealth Day because it is a day when all schools throughout the Commonwealth are in session. It does not coincide with a major holiday or festival.

Commonwealth leaders agreed that the day should be used to promote knowledge of the Commonwealth, particularly among the young people of their countries. The idea came from former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. He wanted one day each year on which all Commonwealth countries could mark their membership and encourage commitment to the association.

Since 1977 schools all over the Commonwealth have organised special activities to promote understanding of the association and to provide shared enjoyment, stimulating interest in and enhancing study of the Commonwealth is another objective. Commonwealth Day will be marked for the first time this year in the West African state of Cameroon and Mozambique in Southern Africa which recently joined the association as its 52nd and 53rd members.

The kind of activities a school may hold depends on the extent to which learning about the Commonwealth forms an integrated part of the curriculum. Some teachers encourage children to come up with their own ideas on what to do on the day.

Many institutions hold special events - sports and games, displays and exhibitions, general knowledge contests on the Commonwealth, film shows, speeches and parties. Some schools hold mock summits when children play various 'Commonwealth leaders' but talk about real issues, while others stage their own version of the four yearly Commonwealth Games.

There are speech and drama contests, folk dancing and displays of national costumes, cookery demonstrations involving recipes from member countries, parades of national flags and readings from the works of famous Commonwealth writers and poets. Projects involving the collection of stamps, food and matchbox labels, picture

collages and finding penpals and establishing links with schools in other Commonwealth countries are some of the other ways in which children's interest is stimulated. The activities are mainly designed to make learning about Commonwealth fun.

It publishes a special Commonwealth Day poster with a different theme each year. More than 125,000 copies of the poster have been produced this year for distribution in schools and public places throughout the Commonwealth.

'Working in Partnership' is the theme for the 1996 poster. The theme reflects the close links that exist not only between member governments, but also between non-governmental organisations, professional associations, sportsmen and women and committed individuals.

The front of this year's poster is dominated by colourful flags of all the 53 member nations, while the reverse contains a map of the Commonwealth and a list of members with their populations. The figures reveal that more than half the members are small states with populations of one million or under.

Inviting children to look at the map, the poster points out that they will find Commonwealth countries in almost every corner of the globe - from Belize in Central America to Nauru and Western Samoa in the Pacific. It adds: "As nations and individuals, we are committed to such things as good governance, democracy, human rights, economic and social development and protecting the environment. By working together, we can achieve more - and that means a better world".

The Secretariat, which is the international organisation at the service of all member countries, itself marks Commonwealth Day with a reception given by Commonwealth Secretary - General Chief Emeka Anyaoku and his wife Mrs. Bunmi Anyaoku.

It is held at Marlborough House, a former royal residence in the heart of London, which is the headquarters of the secretariat. The reception is usually attended, among others, by Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth, who issues a special Commonwealth message reflecting the year's theme.

There are multi-faith services in some cities, including London where it is held at historic Westminster Abbey and is attended by followers of the Commonwealth's major religions.

- Commonwealth Feature
Feb '96

CVA News

From The Secretary's Desk

I assumed the office of the Secretary CVA with effect from 1st January 1996 after being elected to the post at the London meeting of the Executive Committee. Succeeding stalwarts of the profession such as John A. Anderson, L.P. E. Choquette, Jim Archibald and Bill Pryor as Secretary of CVA is indeed a great honour and a challenge to implement and execute the objectives of the CVA. I will no doubt be supported by an experienced executive led by President Bill Pryor.

The immediate task before the CVA is the organisation of two Regional Seminars and one Executive Committee meeting in the current financial year followed by the preparation for the Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference in February 1998 at Bangalore, India. The East, Central and Southern African Regional Seminar and Regional Meeting at Mauritius from 31st July to 3rd August is important as various issues pertaining to the African region such as privatisation of veterinary practice and common curriculum in the veterinary schools of Africa will be debated. The second regional seminar in November will be the Australasian/ Oceania Regional Seminar at Singapore. The theme of the seminar is "**Contingency Planning And Diseases Control**" and will pertain to possible CVA support and help to Australasian Region will special reference to Island nations of the Pacific Ocean.

The executive committee meeting of the CVA will be held at Cape Town, South Africa from October 1st to 4th and will focus on issues involving African Region. South Africa itself a most welcome recent member of CVA and can contribute much to the programme in Africa. The programme Director Dr. Bert Stevenson has drawn out an action plan for the next four years and its implementation by the various regions of the CVA will be the main issues at the meeting.

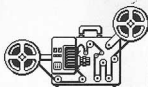
Five years after the first successful Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference at Harare in 1990 plans are afoot to hold the Second one at Bangalore during February 1998. Finances being the main constraint to hold such an event, it is gratifying to note that due to the untiring efforts of Bill, the CVA has been able to negotiate a major sponsorship for the conference from Ralston Purina, an International Pet Food Manufacturing Company. The major amount of this sponsorship will be spent on bringing renowned speakers from all over the world to Bangalore. The infatigable Trevor Blackburn, former president and Program Director of CVA, and now Chairman of the Scientific Committee of CVA has put up an impressive Scientific Program and identified possible speakers and their consent is being obtained. Local arrangements are being made for the conference and the first announcement has already been circulated to all the regions.

It is also noteworthy that barring Nigeria virtually all other members of the CVA are financial. However, due to the Regional seminars and meetings during the current financial year, there is a heavy strain on the CVA finances and austerity measures have to be undertaken.

The book and journal program is progressing well and to streamline the procedures of sending books it has been decided by the Program Director Dr. Doug Mitchell and the Secretariat that request for books should be routed through the respective CVA Councillors. The Australian Veterinary Association has donated a major library for a needy CVA Country. Dr. Mitchell is already seeking expressions of interest in receiving it. The CVA thus has a full agenda for the year 1996 - 97 and your cooperation is needed in fulfilling the objectives as set out in the Action Plan.

July 1996.

*S. Abdul Rahman
Secretary,*



JOURNALS, BOOK AND AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMME



Write To : Dr. Douglas Mitchell, Project
Co-ordinator, CVA JBAV Programme,
Animal Disease Research Institute Box 640,
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Z4, Canada

CVA Journal, Book, Audio-Visual Aids Program

The following books are available under the CVA book programme at its Australian depot.. They can be sent by surface mail to individuals or institutions affiliated with the CVA. Please address any requests to:

Dr. David Banks, 9 Mahon Pl., Hughes ACT 2605, AUSTRALIA.

Author	Title	Date
Piermattei D L and Greenley R. G.	An Atlas of Surgical Approaches to the Bones of the Dog and Cat - Second Edition	1979
Blood D C, Henderson J A and Radostits O.M.	Veterinary Medicine - Fifth Edition	1979
Adams O.R.	Lameness in Horses - Third Edition	1974
Springhall J.A.	Elements of Horseshoeing - Second Edition	1975
Kelly J.D.	Veterinary Review No. 17 - Canine Parasitology	1977
Arundel J.H.	Veterinary Review No. 18 - Parasitic Diseases of the Horse	1978
Rose R.J.	Vade Mecum No. 1 - Horses	1983
Perry R.A.	Vade Mecum No. 2 - Diseases of Birds	1983
Wilkinson G.T.	Vade Mecum No. 3 - Diseases of Cats	1984
Beveridge W.I.B.	Animal Health in Australia, Volume 1 (Second Edition) - Viral Diseases of Farm Livestock	1986
Seawright A.A.	Animal Health in Australia, Volume 2 (Second Edition) - Chemical and Plant Poisons	1989
Campbell E.A.	Animal Health in Australia, Volume 3 - Nutritional Deficiencies and Diseases of Livestock	1983
Beveridge W.I.B.	Animal health in Australia, Volume 4 - Bacterial Diseases of Cattle, Sheep and Goats	1983
Callow L.L.	Animal Health in Australia, Volume 5 - Protozoal and Rickettsial Diseases	1984
Buddle J.R.	Animal Health in Australia, Volume 6 - Bacterial and Fungal Diseases of Pigs	1985
Beveridge W.I.B. and Hart L	Animal Health in Australia, Volume 7 - Viral, Bacterial and Fungal Diseases of Poultry	1985

CVA Regional News

Asia

INDIA

Commonwealth Urges Women's Greater Participation In Local Government

A Commonwealth symposium held recently in India has urged member governments to encourage increased participation by women in local politics as part of the democratic process.

It called on male politicians and local government officials not to marginalise women and to cooperate with them in their decision making and community leadership roles.

The meeting suggested measures such as reserved quotas for women in local government and training programmes for female councillors to help them make a more effective contribution to the way local communities are governed.

Women politicians, it said, would benefit from the creation of Asian and Commonwealth wide networks of local authorities through which they could maintain links and exchange views and information.

It proposed public education campaigns to encourage families, the wider community and the mass media to seek the endorsement and encouragement of women's active participation in politics.

It concluded that no true democracy could exist unless women, who account for half the world's population, were given an equal opportunity to share power with men.

The week long symposium on women in local government, the first of its kind, was held in Mumbai, previously Bombay. It was arranged by the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) in cooperation with the All - India Institute of Local Self - Government, Mumbai.

The institute has been promoting research and training in municipal administration in India since 1926.

The regional meeting attracted about 50 participants, almost all women, from Bangladesh, India, Malaysia,

Maldives, Pakistan, Singapore and Sri Lanka. They were joined by resource persons from Britain.

Delegates were drawn from among local politicians, government officials, policy makers, academics and non-governmental organisations with an interest in women's issues.

Several former or current women mayors and elected councillors were among those at the symposium, sponsored by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) jointly with the British Council.

CFTC support came through the Commonwealth Secretariat's Management and Training Services Division. The division, headed by Dr. Mohan Kaul of India, is carrying out a public sector reform programme in the Commonwealth and is collaborating with CLGF in this field.

The forum is holding a similar meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, next month (Editors :May) for Commonwealth African countries, also funding with the CFTC

Its members include national local government associations and individual municipalities in Commonwealth countries as well as central government ministries concerned with urban and rural development. The establishment of the forum was welcomed by Commonwealth leaders, when they met in November, in New Zealand, as 'an important Commonwealth institution for strengthening action among member states on local government structures.'

CLGF says that women continue to be marginally represented, especially in areas where politics have a direct impact on them. Politicising more women and increasing the process of networking are key tasks for the women's movement.

- Commonwealth Feature April'96.

Incidence Of Malaria Assuming Alarming Proportions In Hyderabad, India

The incidence of malaria in the areas falling under the jurisdiction of the municipal corporation of Hyderabad, India is assuming alarming proportions. With only a small section of the entire city populace bothering to report, nobody knows for sure to what extent the disease has grown rampant in the city areas. While the official records puts the number of cases in 1995 at 120, the actual figure runs into thousands.

"It is a gala time for mosquitoes, what with over 4 million people readily available for a sumptuous dinner. They are found in hordes

everywhere, including posh localities giving sleepless nights to the residents even in this hot summer," remarks Venkatramana, a resident of Somajiguda.

According to official sources, *Plasmodium falciparum* (PF), one of the four species, is considered the most dangerous, as its attack can prove to be fatal. While, out of the 3234 detected cases in 1992, 40 were PF, there were 102 PF cases out of 2280 in 1993 and 126 out of 1317 in 1994.

Elephant Driving School Opened In Kerala Village

"Beware! Elephant Driving School nearby. No throughfare allowed," says the sign outside the world's only school for elephant drivers or mahouts, at the northern tip of India's Southwestern state of Kerala.

Motorists are well advised to take heed of the bizarre road warning, a screaming red sign - post set in the breath taking scenery surrounding the Peeci forest reserve.

Elephants are a common sight on India's roads, even in the bigger cities of Bombay and Delhi.

You don't need a license to be a mahout in India. But the school, set up by animal welfare group Zoo Outreach and the state's forestry service aims to change that all.

"We aim to create a new generation of mahouts," said K.C. Panicker, a state forest commission veterinarian and elephant specialist..

Budding mahouts spend months mastering the foot movements necessary to control the pachyderms - a slip of the foot might have the huge animal rolling in the mud instead of just stopping in its tracks.

Elephants are considered a valuable commodity

not only for their timber - hauling abilities. They are also often hired by rich temples for extravagant religious processions.

"Changing times have forced many Kerala temples to give up the herds of elephants they traditionally maintained," said Panicker. "Now they have to hire the beasts from the mahouts.

Mahouts can earn up to Rs. 3,000 (US\$ 90) a day at week long religious processions where festive crowds worship the ornately adorned mammals carrying effigies of Hindu gods.

"Mahouts can earn three times more at one religious festival than in an entire month of timber hauling," Panicker said.

But despite the huge amount of work they do, elephants are often treated badly by their owners.

"They are frequently chained to the side of the road, over exposed to the sun or beaten with hooks at the end of sticks", said Panicker.

"Mahouts in India are often ragamuffins and drunkards," said Panicker. "They sleep on the street, get drunk and beat their animals frequently.

The college hopes to end the cruelty through a new licensing system, with graduates accumulating negative points on their licences for "drunk driving" and heavy penalties for mistreating their animal.

The school, presently teaching seven students from a pool of 70 applicants, also hopes to combat the traditional conviction that the stick is the best teacher and the most effective method of control.

"We spend a month just observing individual elephants, learning their likes, dislikes and understanding their character," said Vijay Kumar, 22, a student at the college.

"Then we patiently repeat the orders, rewarding them with food when they get it right, until they get used to the sound of our commands," he added.

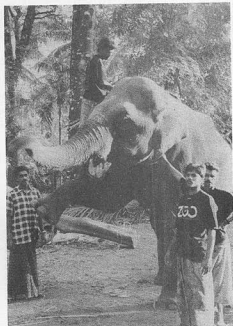
Experts say it takes five years to learn to drive properly, but the three - month course offered by the college gives the budding mahouts the basics on which to build. One month of the course is spent on elephant medical care.

"It takes about two weeks just to learn how to get onto an elephant," said Radhakrishnan, a driving instructor at the school.

Learning to effectively steer, accelerate, change gears and blow the horn with your feet tucked in behind enormous flapping ears is a tiring process.

"We poke the back of the elephant's ears to make him go faster, prod him with the heels to reverse, and the soles of the feet to make him trumpet people out of the way," Kumar said.

There are 550 domesticated elephants in Kerala, with 1500 people employed in related trades, the college staff estimated.



Vijay Kumar, a student demonstrates how to mount an elephant to his fellow students .

Elephant prices skyrocketed after poaching was outlawed in Kerala. Many now flow in from India's eastern state Bihar, where nature reserves are not so well policed.

"It costs around Rs. 1.2 million to buy an elephant these days and Rs. 800 (US\$ 30) a day for their upkeep" said Panicker. Fed Coconut leaves, bananas and grass, elephants are heralded by drivers as the ultimate eco friendly transport.

"Emissions are strictly eco friendly, though they can be quite large", said Kumar.

- The Hindu

The Aluminium used in aluminium cans each week in the U.S.A. could build all commercial (aluminium) aircraft.

San Diego 200

Important Bird Seminar In India

India has a long history of interest in, and concern for, birds and other wild life. The Bombay Natural History Society was founded in 1883 and over the succeeding 112 years has produced books, sponsored research and stimulated thousands of Indians and others to take an interest in wildlife and conservation.

One of the greatest names in Indian ornithology was Dr. Salim Ali, who was born in 1896 and died in 1987. The centenary of his birth is being celebrated in a number of ways. The Salim Ali Memorial Lecture, organised by the Centre of Wildlife and Ornithology, Aligarh Muslim University, was presented on Saturday 10 February by Prof. John Cooper, Programme Manager of the National Avian Research Center, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. From 12 - 15 February the Bombay Natural History Society hosted the Salim Ali Centenary Seminar on the Conservation of Avifauna of Wetlands and Grasslands.

The Centenary seminar consisted of seven Technical Sessions, covering I cranes, II ducks and geese, III bustards and flicans, IV raptors, V waders, storks and herons, VI conservation of wetlands and VII conservation of grasslands. Lectures were presented by ornithologists and others from India and

many parts of the world. Delegates discussed the threats to wetland and grassland birds, including habitat destruction and deterioration, persecution, illegal trapping, electrocution, feral dogs, toxic chemicals and disease.

Even when birds are not intentionally destroyed or disturbed, there are often conflicts between their requirements and the needs of farmers for agricultural land or for grazing for buffalo and cattle.

Wetlands and grasslands are ecosystems of importance, not only to birds, but also to many other species of animal and plant. Their continued survival is relevant to the long term well being of human communities, especially those peoples whose lives have traditionally brought them into close contact with such wild habitat and the creatures that live there. The Seminar in Bombay enabled scientists to discuss the threats and to formulate plans, on an international scale, for protection and management.

Further information about the Centre of Wildlife and Ornithology (CWO) is available from Dr. A.R. Rahmani, CWO, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 202 002, INDIA.

- From : Prof. J.E. Cooper

New Drug Cuts Heart Deaths By One - Third

Tests in the UK of a new drug that lowers blood cholesterol levels show it has the potential to reduce deaths from heart attacks by one third. Coronary heart disease is the biggest single killer in Britain and many similar countries, accounting for 170,000 deaths every year in the UK.

Approximately 6,500 men with high cholesterol levels but no history of heart disease were randomly allocated either the drug Pravastin or a placebo by researchers at Glasgow University led by Professor Peter Lorimer.

Over the next five years there were 248 heart attacks among those given the placebo drug compared

with only 174 among those given the new drug. Total cholesterol levels were down by 20 percent, heart attack deaths by 33 percent and deaths from all cardiovascular causes by 32 percent among the drug treated group.

Prof. Lorimer says that the first line treatment for high cholesterol levels should remain to just changing the diet and stop smoking. But an editorial in the Lancet says this survey shows drug treatment for high cholesterol is safe and could be as beneficial as drug treatment for high blood pressure.

For more information, contact : Glasgow University Department of Medicine, Royal Infirmary, 10 Alexandra Parade, Glasgow, Scotland G31 2ER Tel : 141 552 3535.

BANGLADESH

New Office Bearers Of Bangladesh Veterinary Association

The following are the new Office bearers of the Bangladesh Veterinary Association

- President** : Dr. Ziauddin Ahmen
- Vice Presidents** : Prof. Dr. Md. Akhter Hossain
Dr. Md. Kafil Uddin
Prof. Dr. W.I.M. Afzal Hossain
- Secretary General** : Dr. Mohd. Sultan Mohiuddin
- Joint - Secretary** : Dr. Safiul Ahad Sarder Sawpan
Dr. Md. Imran Hossain Khan
- Treasurer** : Dr. Syed Abdul Kader
- Organising Secretary** : Dr. Khondakher Helal Uddin
- Cultural Secretary** : Dr. Selimul Hoque Siddique
- Press & Publication Secretary** : Dr. Rafiqul Islam
- Members** : Dr. Md. Mozammel Hoque Siddique
Dr. Dilip Kumar Ghosh
Dr. Md. Mokhlesur Rahman
Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam
Dr. Shamim Hasan
Dr. Gholam Azam Chowdhury
Dr. Md. Abdul Latif



Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed



Dr. Mohd. Sultan Mohiuddin

PAKISTAN

New Office Bearers Of Pakistan Veterinary Association

The following are the new Office bearers of the Pakistan Veterinary Association

- President** : Taj Mohammed Hasni
- Vice Presidents** : Dr. Mohammad Ajmal Qureshi
Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Baroola
Dr. Rashid Javed
Dr. Shafique Butt
- General Secretary** : Dr. Mohammad Azam Kasi
- Joint - Secretary** : Dr. Rasheed Hussain
- Treasurer** : Dr. Qurban Ali

National Symposium On Nutrition

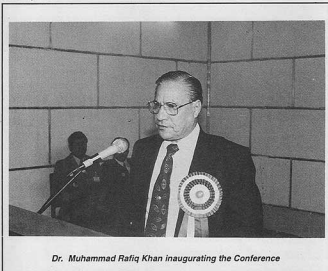
A National Symposium of Animal Nutritionists was held at College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan on 29th - 30th November, 1995. The Symposium was inaugurated by Prof. Muhammad Rafiq Khan, Vice - Chancellor, University of Agriculture Faisalabad. A large number of Animal Nutritionists from all over the country participated in the Symposium.

Ruminant Nutrition session was chaired by Prof. Abrar Hussain Gilani, Dean Faculty of Animal Husbandry, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. The co-chairman and moderator were Prof. Syed Iqbal Shah, and Dr. Ghulam Habib, Dean and Assistant Professor of Faculty of Animal Husbandry, NWFP Agricultural University, Peshawar and respectively. Thirty three papers from all parts of country were presented in this session. At the end Prof. Dr. Gilani presented the history of ruminant nutrition in Pakistan and Dr. Syed Iqbal Shah in his concluding address praised the organisers for arranging the symposium and emphasized the need for continuing these kind of activities in future.

The Poultry Nutrition session was chaired by Prof. (Retd.) Dr. Muhammad Yaqoob Malik. The co-chairman and moderator were Prof. Dr. Nisar Ahmad Mian, Officer Incharge Animal Nutrition Section, College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore and Dr. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, Big Bird Poultry Breeders (Pvt.) Ltd., Lahore. Several Scientists from eminent poultry feed industry participated in this session. Seventeen papers on different aspects of poultry nutrition were presented in this session. Prof. Malik in his keynote addresses presented the potential and nutritional appraisal of indigenous feed stuff for poultry.

The Livestock and Poultry Industry Session was chaired by Dr. Muhammad Saleem Qureshi, Director General Research (Rtd.) Livestock and Dairy Development Department. The co - chairman and moderator were Dr. Mustaq Asif, Technical Director, National feeds Pvt. Ltd., Lahore and Dr. Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Director, Animal Nutrition Institute, National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad, respectively.

The invited speakers from all the provinces presented their research findings. Dr. Muhammad Saleem Qureshi in his concluding address appraised the status of Poultry Feed Industry in the country and described in detail the livestock and poultry products availability and role of animal nutritionists to meet the targets of enhancing milk, meat and eggs for the years to come. He also emphasised the need to review of animal nutrition research work done in the country and to develop future research priorities on country level. Prof. Dr. Rashid Ahmad Chaudhry presented Souvenirs to the guests and thanked the participants for



Dr. Muhammad Rafiq Khan inaugurating the Conference

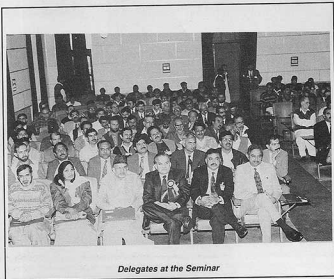
Prof. Dr. Rashid Ahmed, Principal of the College presented the welcome address and appraised the audience about the role of his institution for the enhancement of milk, meat and eggs in the country. He told the audience that holding of seminars and symposium is a regular feature of this institution to provide venue to the animal scientists of the country to develop strategies to meet the targets of providing healthy food to the nation.

Prof. Muhammad Rafiq Khan advised the scientists to show greater professionalism in livestock development so as to meet the special problems of research, extension and appropriate technologies in the 21st century, to suit the small farmers who are illiterate and poor and cannot adopt the affluent models of development evolved elsewhere.

The symposium which was held for two days consisted of three working session i.e. Ruminant Nutrition, Poultry Nutrition and Livestock and Poultry Industry. The

their contributions, in all the sessions.

The concluding session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Rashid Ahmad Chaudhry, Principal College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore. The co-chairman and moderator were Dr. Shahid Rafiq, Senior Scientific Officer, Arid Zone Research Institute, Quetta and Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, Assistant Professor, Animal Nutrition Section, College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore respectively. The Chairmen of the three sessions presented the recommendations. The scientist recommended that there is need to have institutional linkages between Government and private sector. Government assistance for importation of raw material such as duty free corn, soybean meal, vitamins and amino acids and equipment related to feed industry. Establishment of Animal Nutrition Society of Pakistan and frequent holding of regional and national Scientific meetings was recommended. The scientists also stressed the need of compilation of previous research work conducted by various animal nutritional institutions of the country and need to prioritize research at national level. The committee also recommended to establish a chair in animal nutrition section for Prof. (Rtd.) Dr. Muhammad Yaqoob Malik. In the end Prof. Dr. Rashid Ahmad Chaudhry presented the concluding address and thanked the



Delegates at the Seminar

participants for sparing the time to attend the symposium and making useful contribution. Prof. Chaudhry stressed that the focus of animal nutrition should be the farmer and feed industry to solve their day to day problems

from : Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha
Secretary, Organising Committee.

Significant Selenium

Low levels of important nutrients like selenium can turn a benign virus into its virulent form, claim American scientists.

Researchers Melinda Beck and her colleagues at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, say that Keshan disease - a fatal virus induced disease that causes inflammation of the heart muscles - is endemic to China, where the grain is deficient in selenium (New Scientist, Vol 146, No 1978).

The researchers are speculating if the emergence of HIV could also have a selenium link. The clue lies in that the virus is thought to have originated in Zaire, where the people have been found to have low levels of selenium in their blood.

Tracking AIDS

A US company, T Cell Sciences, has developed a cheaper and easier diagnostic test for people infected with AIDS. Called TRAx CD4, the test measures levels of critical white blood cells, known as CD4 cells, that steadily decline in people with HIV. Current techniques are not only expensive, but can only measure 1 blood sample at a time, which must not be more than 2 days old (Science, Vol 268, No.5215).

The new method, which will soon hit the US market, can test several blood samples at once, and allows samples to be stored at room temperature for 5 days. Each test will cost only about US \$18, compared to US \$50 for the prevalent technique.

Australasia

Future New Zealand Veterinarians

A number of overseas veterinary graduates, many from the former Yugoslavia, are currently working toward sitting the Veterinary Council's registration examinations. The Veterinary Council came into being last year and has had to establish principles and procedures for registration of foreign graduates. Halid Alic, a graduate from Belgrade University, qualified for registration by examination last year, the first to do so under the new council.

For most veterinarians who have been in the work force for a while, resitting the final year veterinary exams would pose some difficulties. It is not hard to imagine how much more difficult it would be sitting the final year examination in a foreign language as well, which is what the Veterinary Council effectively asks the foreign veterinarians to do before they are registered.

It quickly became obvious to NZVA and Veterinary Council staff that these people needed more than just a syllabus and list of text books to pass the council's exams. As a result NZVA and Veterinary Council have formed a support group for foreign veterinarians working towards registration. The NZVA held the first highly successful support group meeting in December and the Veterinary Council will host another in March. In the mean time, NZVA has launched a pilot mentor scheme whereby a practising veterinarian will take one candidate under their wing and provide guidance and practical experience.

Veterinary Council staff are organising billets on farms so candidates can experience New Zealand Animal Husbandry at first hand and also with rural and city veterinarians so they can learn about New Zealand Practice. We need more veterinarians who are prepared



Veterinarians from the former Yugoslavia and Sri Lanka at the NZVA office with Caryl Forrest (second from left), Ken Kissling and Boyd Jones (far right)



Halid Alic with Boyd Jones (right)

to act as mentors, and rural veterinarians who are prepared to have a foreign veterinarian in their practice.

-Vet Script March'96

It's hard to be falsely genuine

- ABR

Malaysia Announces Sports Drugs Centre For 1998 Games

The government of Malaysia has appointed King's College in London to design and commission a new Doping Control Centre for the 16th Commonwealth Games to be held in Kuala Lumpur in 1998.

The laboratory, to be based in Penang will be accredited by the International Olympic Committee. On 25 August, the Malaysian Minister of Youth and Sports, the Hon Tan Sri Dato' Hj Muhyiddin bin Hj Mohd. Yassin, visited the Drug control Centre at King's College and saw first hand how competitor's samples are received and analysed for substances such as stimulants, narcotics, beta - blockers and anabolic steroids. The drug centre was established in 1978 at King's College and is the only British Laboratory accredited by the International Olympic Committee.

Referral Centre Opens In Papakura

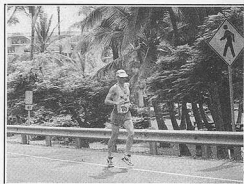
Franklin Veterinary Services Referral Centre opened its doors in November with a grand opening celebration for its clients - the practicing veterinarians of the region. Catherine Smith, President of NZVA, opened the new Centre and veterinarians from Auckland and Waikato enjoyed the hospitality and the opportunity to inspect the premises

- Vetscript March '96



Catherine Smith, President NZVA, with Franklin Veterinary Services Practice Manager John MacLachlan (left) and Referral centre veterinarians Ian Robertson and Debbie Osuna

Iron Constitution Needed



Auckland veterinarian Patrick Foley successfully survived some of the nastiest conditions seen at the Hawaiian Ironman for years. Fifty knot winds on the 180 km cycle course and temperatures over 30 degrees celsius on the marathon run took its toll on the 1500 strong field.

Patrick finished in time of 10 hours and 39 minutes with an overall placing of 332nd and was seventh placed New Zealander.

Six vets completed this year's Hawaiian Ironman, mostly from the United States. The Veterinary profession was well outnumbered by the medical fraternity; 54 physicians and doctors from around the world completed the race, including the third place finisher from Germany

Pike Sense

Canadian researchers have identified the first species of toilet-trained fish - pikes select secluded areas to deposit their faeces to safeguard against being detected by their prey (New Scientist, Vol 146, No 1976).

When pikes attack fat-head minnows, the victims release an alarm pheromone that alerts other minnows to keep away. Researchers Grant Brown, Douglas Chivers and Jan Smith of the University of Saskatchewan showed that the pheromone can even survive the journey through the pike's intestines.

Commonwealth Veterinary Association
Singapore Veterinary Association
Australasia Regional Conference Singapore
Contingency Planning & Disease Control

The 1996 Commonwealth Veterinary Association Conference for the Australasia region will be held from 7 - 10 Nov. 1996 at the Goodwood Park Hotel, Singapore. This event is organized by the Singapore Veterinary Association in collaboration with the CVA.

The theme for this Conference is "Contingency Planning and Disease Control". This event brings together veterinarians for a valuable exchange of knowledge and experiences on contingency planning and control of major diseases. Invited speakers will be presenting papers on risk analysis, concepts and practices of contingency planning, practical experiences in controlling disease outbreaks and computer software on exotic disease management. Diseases of economic and public health importance will be represented including FMD, Rabies, screw - worm fly, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Epizootic Haematopoietic Necrosis Virus, Swine Fever and Equine Morbillivirus. There will also be a plenary session on Strengthening National Efforts on Contingency Planning Against the Introduction and Spread of Exotic Diseases.

Scientific Topics to be presented include :

- Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

- Computer Software on Exotic Disease Management
- Concepts and Practices of Contingency Planning
- Epizootic Haematopoietic Necrosis Virus
- Equine Morbillivirus Infection in Australia
- Foot & Mouth Disease : Control Strategies and Experiences
- Rabies
- Risk Analysis : Application in Management of Exotic Disease
- Screw - worm Fly : Surveillance in Malaysia
- Swine Fever

Plenary Session : Strengthening National Efforts on Contingency Planning Against the Introduction and Spread of Exotic Diseases.

For enquiries contact :

Dr. Tan Lee,
Tel : 652670833 Fax : 652650784

Disaster Strikes Lameta Again

Ken Lameta, CVA Councillor for Western Samoa lives in a part of the world where unexpected things are always happening, usually in the form of natural disasters. He's become good at coping with them. However nothing would have prepared him for the personal disaster which he describes in a letter to the President.

"Well, Bill you will never believe this but it looks like I am never out of disaster zone. Just a few hours after I prepared my last fax to you and left it at the office for dispatch yesterday, I was faced with the worst - ever calamity. My house was burnt

to the ground at about 4.30 am. It is assumed to be due to an electric fault. Honestly, it's not the house as it that I've lost, but my library and every thing I have had for my clinic as it would be very difficult to obtain. The value of those considering they were mainly donated is above the price of everything including the house."

CVA has rallied to its Pacific Island colleague and already Australia has sent parcels of veterinary textbooks and David Banks, the Australian CVA Councillor is in process of trying to fully replace Ken's library which he needs for his teaching.

New Zealand Veterinarian Honoured



Congratulations to Professor Bill Manktelow on being named a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZOM) in the Queen's Birthday honours list, for services to veterinary science.

Bill's distinguished career

spans more than 40 years since he graduated from Bristol University. His first job when he came to

New Zealand was as a diagnostic pathologist with the Department of Agriculture. To most New Zealand veterinarians he is best known as a teacher of veterinary pathology at Massey University, a position he took up in 1968 and continued until retirement. Under Bill's leadership, the Department of Veterinary Pathology and Public Health produced a substantial amount of world class research, which has earned it a high reputation both nationally and internationally. Bill's contributions to the profession over the years have included active participation in all major veterinary institutions: NZVA, Veterinary Surgeons Board (now the Veterinary Council), Foundation for Continuing Education, New Zealand Veterinary Journal and Australian College of Veterinary Scientists.

- Vet Script March '96

Drug To Attack Chronic Disease

Scientists at the research laboratories of Glaxo - Wellcome, one of the world's biggest pharmaceutical company, are developing a new treatment for chronic infections and recurrent cancers.

They aim to use a drug called Tucaresol, already used to treat the tropical sickle cell anaemia, to stimulate the immune system to renew its attack upon the chronic disease.

T-cells, the white blood cells of the immune system, require two stimuli to make them attack the microorganisms or cancer cells. Tucaresol mimics one of these stimuli. When infections or cancers have been present for a long period, the T-cells' attack on them becomes weaker and may cease altogether. But laboratory research, using first cell cultures and then mice, has shown that the immune system can be revived by the added stimulus provided by Tucaresol.

Clinical trials of Tucaresol began in 1995 in human patients suffering from chronic infections with hepatitis B and HIV, and with melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer. Even if all goes well, it will be several years before the drug could become widely available.

As the only drug that stimulates the immune system which can be given by mouth, Tucaresol may prove specially valuable to treat chronic infections with parasites - causing diseases such as malaria and schistosomiasis - in tropical countries.

New President Of New Zealand Veterinary Association



Dr. Adrian Rhodes is the new President of NZVA. He was the first veterinary student intake at Massey, worked for a period with the Ashburton Veterinary Club and then returned to Massey and completed a PhD in applied reproduction. The next fifteen odd years were spent in the commercial artificial breeding industry. In the last five years he has worked in the pharmaceutical industry, lately with Pfizer Animal Health.

The New Zealand Foundation For The Study Of The Welfare Of Whales

Mission Statement

To improve the welfare of cetaceans (whales and dolphins) by determining ways in which human intervention can avoid or reduce the suffering of animals involved in both natural disasters and adverse circumstances resulting from human activities

Objectives

- To investigate causal factors associated with mass strandings, including the possible effects of toxins and pollutants

- To develop methods for preventing strandings

- To investigate the pathological status of stranded individual animals.

- To develop appropriate clinical methods to advise on whether or not to rescue stranded animals.

- To develop techniques to assess the welfare of captured or stranded animals, including criteria for the diagnosis of unconsciousness and death.

- To develop methods to prevent or reduce the accidental capture and subsequent injury or death of cetaceans resulting from human activities, for example, fishing nets, under water cables, etc.

- To evaluate, critically and objectively, welfare aspects of the capture of cetaceans.

- To carry out anatomical and physiological investigations relevant to the euthanasia of cetaceans which cannot be rescued.

- To develop the most humane methods of

euthanasia appropriate for different cetaceans species and in differing circumstances.

- To conduct anatomical and physiological studies relevant to cetacean biology, behaviour and responses to stress.

- To liaise and co-operate with other individuals and groups associated with cetacean biology and welfare, both nationally and internationally.

Why was the Foundation Formed?

The concept of a foundation for the study of the Welfare of Whales developed from the involvement with Whales (Cetaceans) by a group of scientists mainly from Massey University, in early 1992

With these assurances from the University, a Trust and a Board of Trustees for the New Zealand Foundation for the Study of the Welfare of Whales has been established under the Charitable Trusts act, 1957 with Sir David Beattie as Patron. This Trust provides the basis for the receipt and investment of funds which allow a full-time Director to be appointed who will pursue the objectives of the Foundation.

Trust Members

- Sir David Beattie (Patron)
- Dr. Mervyn Probine
- Mr. Martin Cawthorne
- Prof. Peter Stockdale (Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Massey University)
- Prof. Stuart McCutcheon (Assistant Vice - Chancellor (Research), Massey University)
- Prof. David Blackmore

In professional and in private life, ongoing success comes from self acceptance.

Second Pan Pacific Veterinary Conference, ChristChurch, New Zealand

The Second Pan Pacific Veterinary Conference held at Christchurch, New Zealand from 23rd to 28th June was jointly organised by the New Zealand and Australian Veterinary Associations. Over 1400 delegates from the two countries in addition to experts from USA, Japan, Philippines and U.K. The CVA member countries were well represented with delegates from Malaysia, Pakistan, India and Canada. Dr. Ramzee RR Asian Region, Dr. Derek Timbs RR Australasian Region and Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, Secretary CVA represented CVA at the conference. The theme of the Conference was "Veterinarians Internationally". The Scientific Program provided essential information for the veterinary practitioners and provided them with an opportunity to improve their skills and knowledge while joining with their colleagues to discuss some of the pressing issues which will confront the profession over the next decade. The highlights of the scientific program included a session on "What do animals think and feel?" by Prof. Lesley Rogers, who had appeared on the Australian Science Program "Quantum". Do animals conceive of ideas, think of objects or events that are not part of their immediate situation? Do they consciously formulate plans that will direct their future behaviour or do they simply react unthinkingly to situations and stimuli as they arise? These were some of the interesting issues discussed.

The sustainability of our planet in a "greenhouse" world was the topic of Dr. Tim Flannery the author of the best seller "The Future eaters - An Ecological History of the Australasian Lands and the People" (1996). Dr. Flannery's key note address was well received.

The session on Veterinarians, Zoos and International conservation reviewed the roles of veterinarians and of zoos in International conservation.

L- R Drs Ramzee, Timbs, Adrian Rhodes, President Elect NZVA and Abdul Rahman

Dr. John Kelly from Australia and Dr. Richard Jacob Hoff from New Zealand were the main speakers on mammals and reptiles and birds respectively. Keeping pace with modern times, the session on "The New International Trade Environment" was of great interest. The development of new international trade agreements and the changing patterns of market access affects everyone involved in agricultural industries. Dr. Lonnie King of the US Dept. of Agriculture led the debate in this session.

An interesting session on motivating oneself to achieve and reach goals was held by Ms. Iris Barrow who runs a successful Counselling and Seminar Service in Auckland.

In addition to the above main symposia, the scientific program included specialists sessions on Equine, Sheep, Acupuncture, Dentistry, Industry, Education, Cattle, Small Animals, Pigs, embryo Transfer, Ophthalmology and Wild Life.

A variety of social programs for the delegates and the accompanying persons was the highlight of the conference. These included skiing, Whale watching and visit to the endangered Hextor's Dolphin.



Canada Caribbean

Views of Dr. Terry D. Hunt President Canadian Veterinary Medical Association On The Future Of Veterinary Profession



The priorities of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) are **Leadership on National Issues, Promotion of the Public Profile of the Profession and, Animal Welfare Advocacy.** Members feel strongly that the CVMA should

voice for veterinarians across Canada and that it must project a positive image of the profession nationally. The previous Council of CVMA under the guidance and leadership of Dr. Donald MacDonald took a number of bold steps forward. A national advertising campaign to promote the public profile of the profession was launched (Can Vet J, 1995; 35 : 266 - 267). Council established a National Issues Committee drawing in key individuals from the profession. This committee will be proactive on all issues that can affect our profession. The Animal Welfare Committee, always active, has been expanded to ensure that it can meet its mandate of being an advocate for animal welfare.

The economy of Canada is globalising and there is much freer movement of goods (animals, embryos, semen) across international borders. Canada is trading nation and has had the reputation as a country with high health standards. Government cutbacks at all levels raise some concerns for the veterinary profession. The national association must ensure that changes in government and industry do not jeopardize in any fashion the safety of food and animals in Canada. In a global economy with multilateral trade agreements, solutions to food safety cannot be taken in isolation

**Terry D. Hunt, DVM
President CVMA**



**Caribbean Veterinary
Medical Association
XX Biennial Caribbean
Veterinary Congress**

Expanding Veterinary Horizons In The Caribbean

The Caribbean Veterinary Association's 20th Biennial Congress will take place in Barbados from December 1st to 5th, 1996.

The scientific sessions will feature internationally acclaimed specialists discussing current issues in the major veterinary disciplines including small animal and equine medicine and surgery, farm animal and poultry medicine, fish disease and environmental health and professional public relations.

A full recreational and social programme will be provided for accompanying persons.

Contact Dr. Mark Trotman, 4 Club Morgan Ridge, Christ Church, Barbados, West Indies.
Phone : (246) 436 - 6118 Fax : (246) 436 - 4386 or (246) 429 - 2143



Golden Jubilee Of Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association

Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association established in 1946, is one of the oldest Professional Association in the Caribbean will be Celebrating its Golden Jubilee during the month of July 1996.

The month - long celebrations will start with a Church Service and culminate with a Banquet and Award Function on July 27, 1996.

There will be Regional Seminars for Farmers, Career Counselling and Talks for High School Students. Posters and Photography Displays throughout the Country, at libraries etc. An Open day at the Veterinary Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Mining for Children and Public will be held. On Friday 26, 1996 there will also be a Scientific Seminar for Veterinarians and Farmers.

The Patron of these Celebrations, is the Governor General of Jamaica, The most Hon. Sir Howard Cooke. President - Dr. Trevor Dewdney Chairman - Dr. George Grant Convenor - Dr. Panampilly Vijayan

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Convention

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) held its annual Convention in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, July 3-6, 1996. Veterinary Associations represented included the American Veterinary Medical Association, British Veterinary Association, Australian Veterinary Association, New Zealand Veterinary Association, American Animal Hospital Association, Barbados Veterinary Association and the Commonwealth Veterinary Association.

In excess of 500 veterinarians, many accompanied by spouse and family, enjoyed an excellent scientific and social program. The closing ceremonies saw Dr. Terry Hunt present four Life Memberships to distinguished Veterinarians Drs. Bob Curtis, Ray Butler, Myron Mills and Russ Willoughby. Dr. Andre Cecyre was then installed as the new President of CVMA. Dr. Cecyre is from the Faculte de medicine veterinaire, Universite de Montreal, St. Hyacinthe, Quebec.

Of particular interest was a day long session on international veterinary development and possible roles for Canadian veterinarians. The event was organized by Dr. Ian Dohoo, Atlantic Veterinary College with financial assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Veterinarians from Africa, Asia and Latin America reported on projects involving Canadian veterinarians. Representatives from different aid organization also gave presentations on how their organizations work and how Canadian veterinarians can become involved.

The standing room- only crowd was split into three groups to examine a) Needs b) Delivery and c) Canadian Involvement. Each group then reported back and a rapporteur summarized the discussion. The next step in the process was to have the visiting veterinarians and previously identified Canadian veterinarians spend some time travelling in Canada and then prepare a report. Dr. Dohoo expected the report to be completed by this fall for presentation to CVMA and CIDA.



Commonwealth Veterinary Association Exhibit

The CVA had an exhibit at the CVMA Convention hosted by Dr. Bert Stevenson and his wife Marg. In addition to displaying CVA material such as the new CVA Constitution, CVA Workplan, and the CVA News, tickets for a donated oil painting by a Canadian Veterinary artist (Dr. Merlin Wilson), and a beautiful CVA Batik donated by Gambia Veterinary Association, were sold to raise money for the CVA Study Fund.

The CVMA supported this project by advertising the raffle in the Canadian Veterinary Journal. There was also an opportunity to discuss CVA and some of its activities during noon hour luncheon. The lucky winner of BOTH prizes, Dr. Tim Gurnell, operates a mixed and exotic animal practice in St. Pierre, Manitoba.

Brochures explaining the CVA and those announcing the Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference in Bangalore, India in February, 1998 proved very popular.

The Barbados Veterinary Association, advertising the Caribbean/ Commonwealth Veterinary Conference to be held in Barbados December 2-6, 1996 was well represented by Dr. Mark Trotman and his wife. Both of them put long hours at their booth and because of this there should be a good turnout of Canadian Veterinarians at this Regional meeting in Barbados. - Bert Stevenson, Program Director

East, Central and Southern Africa

LESOTHO

Lesotho's 'Great Leader' Dies In Car Crash



His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho died tragically in a car accident on 15, January 1996, aged 57. Moshoeshoe II was the beloved Head of the State of Lesotho and a statesman highly respected throughout Southern Africa and further afield.

In his oration delivered at the funeral on 26, January, Commonwealth Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyaoku said, "In his untimely death, the Basotho Nation, Southern Africa, the entire African Continent and the Commonwealth of Nations have lost a great leader. And neither the sharpness of the blow nor the bitterness of the loss can be disguised."

Chief Anyaoku continued: "I know from my countless conversations with him that he valued the Commonwealth Association and treasured Lesotho's membership in it. In turn, the Commonwealth came to regard him with affection and respect as one of its own."

A direct descendent of the 19th century King Moshoeshoe who founded the Basotho Nation, Moshoeshoe II was educated at Roma College in Maseru, and then at Ampleforth and Oxford in Britain. A monarch who frequently sought involvement in politics, he was dedicated to democracy and an outspoken critic of military rule in Lesotho.

In the 30 years since he led the country (then called Basutoland) to independence from Britain in 1966, King Moshoeshoe's reign was as difficult as the history of Lesotho itself, ever vulnerable to political tides in neighbouring South Africa, which surrounds the Country. Exiled in 1970, he was allowed back within the year on condition that he stay out of politics. Over the next 20 years, his role was mainly that of a figurehead, but his ongoing criticism for the military regime of Chief Leabua Jonathan won respect from many of his people.

The military regime of Major - General Justinus Lekhanya seized power in 1986, and in 1988 King Moshoeshoe became the first black African Head of State to visit South Africa for nearly a decade. But he continued to seek greater political participation, and in 1990, Lekhanya stripped him of power and banished him to London, where he remained for two years. His son reigned as King Letsie III during that time.

The bloodless coup which brought Major - General Elias Ramaema to power in April 1991 set the stage for Moshoeshoe's return, after various difficulties had been resolved with the assistance of Chief Anyaoku. He came home in July 1992 to a rousing welcome from his people. Democracy returned to Lesotho in 1993, but the following year, disagreement with King Letsie III and the elected government created a constitutional crisis, which was resolved by the intervention of Presidents of Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe, with support from the Commonwealth Secretary General. In January 1995, Letsie III abdicated and Moshoeshoe returned to the throne.

NYLON, FROM SEED

Coriander, used only for culinary purposes till recently, can now be used as a source of industrial nylon. Scientists of the John Innes Institute in Norwich, United Kingdom, have found out that coriander seeds contain peroselinic acid, which can be broken down to yield adipic acid, used in the production of tough and resilient nylon for the automobile industry. However, the search for a more eco-friendly process to obtain this nylon is on, as the current production process releases nitrous oxide, which, as nitrogen oxide, is harmful for the ozone layer.

SOUTH AFRICA

An Entrepreneurial Animal Lover Launches Ambulance Service For Veterinary Clients

Veterinarians in Pretoria now have access to a 24 hour transport and emergency ambulance service for clients whose pets require veterinary attention but are not able to get them to the clinic themselves.

This service is available only in Pretoria, but there is a possibility that it will be extended to other major cities also.

Animal lover Gideon van Zyl started out providing a back - up transport/ ambulance service for the SPCA in Pretoria. He started receiving calls from veterinarians requesting a similar service for their practices, so he included them in the service. Several veterinarians have already joined the scheme.

Now, if the clients are a Pretoria based working couple whose children are at home alone when the pet is injured, all they have to do is contact the ambulance service to pick it up and bring it to you. Senior citizens who are no longer able to drive can also make use of the service even for routine check - ups for their pets.

To join the programme, the client signs up a contract basis at R25 for the first pet and R5 for each pet thereafter, per month. This affordable service can go a long

way in attracting clients to your practice and save you time because you don't have to make house calls. The vet is required to pass 10% - 15% reduction on the service he/ she provides to clients contracted into Animal Care Scheme. Each vet who signs up has his list of clients and their pet details loaded onto the Animal Care database for quick referral in an emergency.

When the client goes on a holiday Animal Care personnel will feed and check on pets daily.

- Vet News Oct ' 95



Standing in front of Animal Care's ambulances are founder of the service Gideon van Zyl, Pretoria veterinarian Dr. Jaco Jacobs and Animal Care's Danie de Bruyn.

Four Eyed Fish

Eyes play a significant role in the life of an organism. Be it man or animals, eyes have a specific role to play. Take the case of the four eyed fish.

One pair of eyes just above the surface of the water to lookout for flying insects. the second pair watches for predators and meals underwater.

The four eyed fish, related to the guppy is found in fresh water streams in Central and South America.

The fish is 25 cm long. Infact, it has only two eyes. Each eye is divided into two halves. This unbelievable feat is possible because the lens is specially adapted for bifocal vision.

- Indian Express, May 12, 1996.

Onderstepoort Faculty Celebrates 75 Years And Looks To The Future



The 75th Anniversary of the University of Pretoria's Faculty of Veterinary Science was celebrated over a period of several days. The programme included **The Theiler Memorial Lecture** by Prof. Bill Jenkins. Guided tours around the campus, CE Courses, workshops and a gala Dinner - Dance at the State - Theatre - where the 1995 SAVA award winners were honoured.

Mrs Gretchen Hesse, Dr. Viktor Hesse, Chairman : Council University of Pretoria, Mrs. Peggy Jenkins Prof. Bill Jenkins invited speaker Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Prof Brough Coubrough gathered on the lawn outside the Theiler Building on the Onderstepoort campus, after the memorial lecture.

The 1995 SAVA award winners :

Back row (f.l.t.r.)

Dr. Joseph van Heerden - President's Award, Prof. Banie Penzhorn - Research Award, Dr. Pieter Basson - Gold Medal, Dr. Chris Kingsley - Clinical Award and Prof. Gareth Bath - SAVA President.

In the front row - (f.l.t.r.)

Dr. Melvyn Greenberg - Boswell Award, Dr. Annie Oliver - current leader of the Equine Colic Team which earned the Clinical Award and Dr. Brian Romberg - Boswell Award.



The Lecturer of the Year Award for 1995 went to Prof Johann Nothing of the Department of Theriogenology. Bridget Lupton - regional manager, Pfizer Animal Health (sponsor of the Award), Gavin Purdon - OPVSC Chairman, Prof Noethling and Wynand Jacobs - Sales manager at Pfizer gathered outside after the award was made. Prof. Nothing made a clean sweep, winning one of the poster sessions as well.



NAMIBIA

Recommendations Of The Lion And Cheetah Population And Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) Disease Study Group

During a PHVA workshop for the Namibian Cheetah and Lion, held in Otjiwarongo in the week 11 - 16 February, 1996, the Disease Working Group's report (currently in draft form) identified a variety of problems and set the following goals.

- To, within the year, identify sources of funding (Non - Governmental Organizations and other private organizations) to meet the needs for long - term surveillance, on site training and applied research regarding the species involved. The Namibian Veterinary Clinicians Forum (NVCF) has been identified as the fund administrator.
- To identify specific applied research projects and get working protocols
- To train Namibian Veterinarians as well as Laboratory personnel in the procedures used to diagnose disease in the mentioned species.
- To motivate and train farmers as well as field personnel to collect the bio material needed for disease monitoring.
- To identify the prevalence of infectious diseases in the Namibian Cheetah and Lion populations.

- To establish the pathogenicity of infectious disease strains in Namibia (e.g. Feline Immuno - deficiency Virus and Canine Distemper Virus)

- To Utilise the information gathered in the formulation of recommendations regarding disease prevention in captive as well as free ranging Cheetah and Lion populations.

As a first step towards achieving the set goals, the Cheetah Conservation Fund organised an outstanding Veterinary "Mini- Congress" on Cheetah and Lion diseases, management and nutrition in Otjiwarongo on February 17 - 18, 96.

During the NVCF meeting held subsequent to the Congress, the above action plan was discussed and welcomed by all Forum members present. It was decided that the Forum, through its members, will do everything possible to assist and participate in research and conservation projects for Cheetah and Lion. The Forum elected Drs Hermann Scherer and Mark Jago as coordinators for future cooperation with CCF and Africat.

Once the working papers from the PHVA workshop have been processed and reviewed, a detailed protocol on the collection as well as handling of samples will be distributed to all interested parties.

Botswana Veterinary Association

Following are the office bearers for the Botswana Veterinary Association

President Dr. I.T. Ndzinge **Vice President** Dr. A. Kalake
Secretary/Treasurer Dr. M. Fanikiso **Committee Member**
 Dr. K.V. Masupu **CVA Councillor** Dr. M. Chimbombi

Botswana Veterinary Association is organising its scientific conference to be held in the second week of September (11th to 13th). Persons interested in presenting papers or posters are most welcome

News From The Veterinary Council

Congratulations to Dr. Ursula Jurss and Dr. Olaniyi Olaloku on their successful passing of the Council examination for Unconditional Registration in Namibia during February. Currently four Namibians with foreign veterinary qualifications not acceptable in Namibia have been admitted to the fourth year of study at the veterinary faculty at Harare. Once they have passed their examinations and upon admittance to the final year, these students will have to "see practice" in Namibia. This will be organised by the Veterinary Council.

Soft Tissue Injury Scientific Congress And AGM : 5- 6 September 1996 : Windhoek

Date of Congress : Thursday, 5th
September and Friday, 6 September 1996

Annual General Meeting : Friday, 6
September 1996, afternoon

Venue : Conference Centre : Pension
"Kleines Heim", 10 Volan Str. Windhoek. A limited
number of rooms available at the venue, please
book early.

Tel : 061 - 248200 Fax : 061 - 248203

Scientific Theme : Soft Tissue Surgery

Short Communications : Case Reports
from Namibian Veterinarians

For Further details Contact : Dr. U. Tubbesing
Tel : 061 - 228405 Fax : 061 - 221743

5th Anniversary Of The Veterinary Association Of Namibia And International Scientific Congress : 10th - 13th September, 1997 : Swakopmund

Date of Congress : Wednesday 10th,
September to Saturday 13th September 1997

Annual General Meeting to coincide with
the 50th Anniversary on 12th September 1997.

Venue Conference Centre : Fisheries
Research Institute : Swakopmund

Scientific Themes Topics to address
various aspects in respect of the following :
wildlife, Cheetah/ Lion Seminar, Ostrich, Fish
Hygiene etc. Private Veterinary Practice in Africa,
Veterinary Education and Training, Veterinary
Professional Associations and Councils. Parallel
sessions are planned.

Zimbabwe Veterinary Association

Centenary Congress 1996

The Zimbabwe Veterinary Association will
be holding their Centenary Congress - "100 years
of Veterinary Science in Zimbabwe" from Monday
16th to Wednesday 18th, September 1996 at
the Makasa Sun Hotel, Victoria Falls.

For further details contact : The
Congress Convenor, Dr. D. Bruce, c/o P.O. Box
2699, Harare Tel : 00263 - 4- 665711
Fax : 00263 - 4- 665715. The Congress does
not have any specific theme and any papers of
veterinary interest will be considered.



Zimbabwe Veterinary Association Committee Members

The following have been elected as office bearers

- President/ Congress Convenor** - Doug Bruce
Vice President WVA &
CVA Representative - Rodgers M. Busayi
SPCA/ PRO - George Gwaze
Continuing Education, Asst. Convenor &
Asst. Secretary - Doesmatter Karenga
Secretary - Sue Rogers
Treasurer
Constitution Printing - Cecilia Masvingwe
Wildlife/ SPCA - Carol Smith
Fees Committee
PRO Practitioners Group - Rob Gordon
Editor Burdizzo - Dave Hensman
Association Secretary - Brian Vickers

Zambia

The Veterinary Association Of Zambia Annual General Meeting And Scientific Conference

A One day Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference was held on 10th May 1996 at Samora Machel School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zambia, Lusaka. The meeting was attended by more than 100 veterinarians who came from all over the country. The theme was "Delivery of Veterinary Services in Changing Agriculture Scenario". The theme was chosen for the main reason due to the government encouraging privatization of certain Veterinary services. Papers were presented by the Director of Animal Production and Health, Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, Commercial Farmers Union, Traditional Farmers Union and Private Veterinary Surgeons, Minister of Agriculture Food and Fisheries, Hon. S. Desai officially opened the Conference and advised the vets to take the challenge to meet the needs of the farmers, contribute towards food sufficiency and security and be united to uphold the veterinary profession an oldest profession in Zambia. Hon. Minister further informed the gathering that current revision of existing act of parliament has been completed and will be placed before parliament very soon and will make provision for the establishment of a fully autonomous body to be known as 'Veterinary Council of Zambia' to replace present 'Veterinary Board'. Members were also informed about BSE from the scientific point of view.

In the afternoon business session the following were elected to the Executive Committee for 1996 - 97.

President	: Dr. D.C. Mimba
Vice President	: Dr. K. Samui

Secretary	: Dr. S. Singh
Vice Secretary	: Dr. M. Siame
Treasurer	: Dr. A Songo
Public Relations Officer	: Dr. B. Mukanda
Committee Members	: Dr. H. Careen Dr. C. Nyeleti Dr. W. Phiri

Regional Representatives	:
Southern	: Dr. C. Chisembele
Northern	: Dr. M. Shamunenge
Western	: Dr. G. Munthali
Eastern	: Dr. J. Sitali

CVA Councillor	: Prof. G. S. Pandey
	Dept. of Disease Control, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zambia, P.O. Box 32379 Lusaka, Zambia
	Fax : (+260) - 1- 253952
	Tel : (Off.) (+ 260) -1 - 291512
	Tel (Res) (+260) - 1- 291197



Address of the Association
The Veterinary Association of Zambia
P/ bag 371x Ridgeway,
Lusaka, Zambia
Tel : (+260) -1- 611073
Fax : (+260) -1- 611053

Nerd calendar

American scientists are trying their best to change the popular impression that they are all nerds. Standmuffins of Science is a 1996 calendar with boffins for models. The photographs show them exercising their muscles, not their brains, through skating and running. But they haven't discarded mentation altogether : biographical details under some of the pictures state the models' favourite bacteria, their favourite subatomic particle, and so on. Pointedly, however, the calendar has no female scientist lightening the essential nerdishness of models in lab coats.

Commonwealth Veterinary Association/ Mauritius Veterinary Association International Conference 31st July - 2nd August, 1996 Mauritius

The Second International Scientific Conference East, Central and Southern Africa and Regional Meeting

Mauritius, the beautiful island nation on the east coast of Madagascar in the Indian Ocean is approximately 1,865 square kilometers with 330 kms of coastline almost entirely surrounded by coral reefs, a great central plateau and impressive mountains. The island was known to the Arabs in the 10th century and was discovered by the Portugese navigator Pedro Mascarena in 1505. The island was successfully occupied by the Dutch (1638 - 1710), the French (1715 - 1810) and was ceded to Great Britain in 1814 by the treaty of Paris. On March 12, 1968 Mauritius acceded to independence and the country was proclaimed a Republic on March 12, 1992. It has a population of just over a million (1,082,998); according to 1993 census) comprising of Indo - Mauritians, Creoles (i.e. people of mixed European and African origin and indo Mauritians).



Inauguration Ceremony L- R Dr. Pryor, President CVA, Mr. Boyjonanth & Dr. Beehary, Chief Veterinary Officer

Mauritius' main crop is sugarcane , for whose cutting the indented labour came from India and Africa.

It is free from infectious diseases such as Rinderpest, Foot and Mouth and Rabies. There are 45 Veterinarians employed in the government services and a few private practitioners and retired vets.

The venue of the conference was the PML Azur Hotel on the north west beaches of the island at Mont Choisy. A total of 52 delegates from 16 Commonwealth countries and from U.S.A., France and the Mauritian Veterinarians participated in the conference which was organised by the Mauritius Veterinary Association and supported by the Comonwelath Veterinary



L- R Dr. Peter Msolla, RR ECS Africa, Dr. Pryor, Mr. Boyjonanth and Dr. Beehary

Association

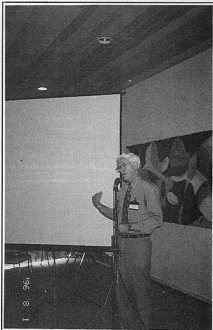
The conference was to be inaugurated on July 31st by The Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dr. Arvin Boolel but as he was indisposed and could not come it was inaugurated by Mr. Boyjonanth Hon. Junior Minister of Agriculture.

A warm welcome was given to all the delegates by Dr. Dewan Sibartie, Chairman of National Steering Committee who acted as a Master of Ceremonies.

Dr. L.L. Beeharry, Chief Veterinary Officer and President of Mauritius Veterinary Association delivered the welcome address and Dr. Peter Msolla Regional Representative of the ECS Africa, then reported on the activities of the region.

Dr. W.J. Pryor, President CVA, appreciated the efforts of the Mauritius Veterinary Assoc. in organising this important conference in this part of the region.

The Minister in his inaugural speech stressed



Dr. R.J. Dalglish delivering his paper

the role of the veterinary profession in the economy of the country. (Addresses are printed elsewhere in this issue).

The theme of the Scientific Session was "**The Veterinarian in the 21st Century**". The Conference was divided into three Sessions with one whole afternoon for the CVA ECS African Regional Meeting.

On the 31st the Plenary Session had three speakers, namely Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Bangalore, India and Secretary, Commonwealth Veterinary Association giving a keynote address on the "**Role of Veterinarians in the 21st Century**", the second by Dr. Peter Msolla, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Sokoine University, Tanzania and Regional Representative, ECS Africa, on "**Veterinary Education for the 21st Century**" and the third by Dr. P.K. Uppal, Retd. Director, Equine Research Centre, Hisar, India on "**Biotechnology and its Application in Zoonotic Diseases of Public Health Significance.**"



Dr. P. Msolla presenting his paper

On Wednesday afternoon the ECS African Regional Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Peter Msolla, Dr. W.J. Pryor, President CVA and Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, Secretary CVA were present as observers. The details of the meeting are published elsewhere in this issue.

On Thursday 1st August, the morning session was Chaired by Dr. M.F. Mosaheb, Veterinary Officer Govt. of Mauritius. There were two papers one by Dr. R.J. Dalglish, Queensland, Dept. of Primary Industries, Animal Research Institute, Brisbane, Australia on **"Collaborative Research on the Diagnosis and control of Bovine Babesiosis and Anaplasmosis in Zimbabwe and Australia."** An Australian Perspective and the Second on Biotechnological development for tick - borne disease control by Ms. Unesu Ushewokunze - Obatolu of Central Veterinary Laboratory, Harare, Zimbabwe. The papers generated number of questions from the audience and an interesting discussion ensued.

The afternoon session was chaired by Prof. J.G. Wandera and three papers were presented. One was by Dr. R. Reichard, of OIE Paris, on **"The Office International des Epizooties looks to the future."**



Dr U. Ushewokunze - Obatolu delivering his lecture

"Role of the University of Zimbabwe Veterinary Ambulatory Clinic Service (Uzvth) as one of the diseases information systems in Zimbabwe.

The post tea session included three more papers one by Dr. Musonda, School of Veterinary Medicine, Univ. of Zambia, Zambia on **"Utility of immunohistochemical staining technique as a routine tool for rabies diagnosis"** and one by Dr. A. Desai, Serum Institute of India, Pune, India on **"Rabies and its preventions"** and by Dr. Sharma, R.N. School of Veterinary Medicine, Univ. of Zambia, Lusaka

on **"Occurrence of Salmonella enteritidis phage type 4 in chicken embryonated eggs in Zambia"**.

On Friday 2nd, the morning session was chaired



Delegates at the Conference

The second paper was by Dr. E. de M. Bestel on **"The Contribution of the Veterinarian to Deer Farming in Mauritius"** and the third by Dr. Busayi, of Department of Clinical Veterinary Studies Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Zimbabwe on the

by Dr. W.J. Pryor President of CVA and the Co - Chairman was Dr. Anbumani, Director of Veterinary Services, Govt. Of Tamil Nadu, India. This session was highlighted by three speakers Dr. P. Spradbrow Department of Veterinary Pathology, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia who presented a paper on "New castle Disease Control under African Conditions". The second one by Dr. D. Sibartie, on "Infectious Bursal disease of Broiler Chickens in Mauritius" and the third on "Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)". Its relevance to the 21st century by Dr. D. Mathews Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, U.K.



Aussies at the Conference L - R Jenny Turtour (At present in Zimbabwe), Ann Foster and Karen Staudte

The Seminar concluded with a closing ceremony which was presided by Dr. L.L. Beehary wherein Council Members from different national associations spoke on the magnificent organisation of the conference. Dr. W.J. Pryor President of the CVA praised the efforts of the Mauritius Veterinary Association in hosting this conference which was a great success.

The proceedings of the conference will be published in the next issue of the News.

The conference highlighted the importance of the veterinary profession and the role the Veterinarian will have to play in the 21st Century to alleviate the problems Africa and Asia would be facing because of the tremendous population explosion. Alternate

farming methods of control of diseases and production of high quality animal protein will be the need of the hour.

The conference was a success due to the untiring efforts of the members of the Mauritius Veterinary Association and especially Dr. D. Sibartie and Secretary Dr. M.R. Jaumally. Other members of the committee namely Dr. V.B. Groodoyal, Dr. Meenowa, Dr. D. Jusrut, Dr. A.M.S. Abdoolah, Dr. R. Veerapa and Dr. I. Mamode gave unstinted support to the chairman and Secretary.

At the CVA ECS Regional Meeting it was decided that the 3rd International Conference and Regional Meeting would be held in Kenya during 1999 or 2000.

New Regional Representative CVA ECS African Region



Dr. Mahmud Reshad Jaumally (40) Council Member (Mauritius) was unanimously elected as Regional Representative of ECS Africa with effect from 1.1. 1998. He succeeds Dr. Msolla. At the ECS Regional Meeting held on July 31st 1996 at Hotel PML Azur, Prof. Bath, Council Member (South Africa) proposed Dr. Jaumally and was seconded by Dr. Pandey (Zambia).

Dr. Jaumally graduated from Bombay Veterinary College, Bombay, India in 1982 and joined

Mauritius Veterinary Services as Technical Officer in Dairy Extension. He was appointed as Veterinary Officer in 1987. He has worked in various diagnostic sections of the Animal Health Laboratory and is presently responsible for virology section and the production of poultry vaccines. Dr. Jaumally has had post graduate training in Virology in France and Diagnostic techniques in virology in Japan. He has many scientific papers to his credit.

He has been very active in the Mauritius Veterinary Association and later on as Council Member of Mauritius to the CVA. As the Organising Secretary for the Second International Conference at Mauritius he has shown his organisational capabilities which have been appreciated by all the members who attended the conference. Under his dynamic leadership, when he assumes the role of RR in 1998, the ECS African Region will lead in CVA activities and achieve the goals which have been laid out by the CVA for the region.

Meeting Of The ECS African Region Of CVA - 31st July 1996

The ECS Regional meeting was held at Hotel PLM Azur, Mauritius on July, 31st, 1996. Dr. Peter Msolla, Regional Representative ECS Africa was in the chair. Dr. W.J. Pryor, President CVA and Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, Secretary CVA (who had come to Mauritius to present a Key Note Address in his personal capacity) were also present. The following Council members attended the meeting.

Prof. Dr. G.F. Bath (South Africa), Drs. H. Schneider (Namibia) (In Place of Dr. Hassell), Ogara (Kenya), M.R. Jaumally (Mauritius), S.Y. Sinare (Tanzania), G.S. Pandey (Zambia), R.M. Busayi (Zimbabwe), Mainza N. Shandomo (Swaziland)



Standing L - R Drs. Pandey, Sinare, Schneider Bath, Shandomo, Busayi and Ogara Sitting L - R Drs. Abdul Rahman, Pryor, Msolla and Jaumally

The meeting started with a welcome by Dr. Msolla. The minutes of the last meeting of the Regional Council at Arusha Dec. 1993 and Mokuti Lodge - Namibia were confirmed (The minutes have been published in CVA News Vol 9 July 1994 and Vol. 10 Jan. 1995).

The Council members presented the country's reports which highlighted the activities of the National Associations.

The regional work programme was discussed which includes a) Privatisation of Veterinary Services in Africa. b) a meeting of Veterinary Deans to evolve a common syllabus and accreditation of degrees within the African Commonwealth countries and c) the Stage 3 workshop on fertility problems in small village herds in Africa.

Dr. Pryor, President CVA mentioned that the ECS African region was fully financial and all the subscriptions have been paid. He also explained the arrangements being made for the Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference in Bangalore, India in February 1998. He also appraised the members about the Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship and the CVA Study Fund.

The members unanimously elected Dr. M.R. Jaumally, Council Member, Mauritius as the Regional Representative of the region effective from 1.1.1998.

Kenya was chosen as the venue of the next Regional Conference and meeting which would be held in 1999 or early 2000.

Proceedings of the Conference and Minutes of the meeting will be published in the next issue

Hail Marie

Polish born Marie Curie was the first woman to be awarded the noble prize. She is perhaps the first woman scientist whose life Hollywood thought eventful enough to make a film on. She was portrayed as a paragon of scientific virtue, noble and self sacrificing. Now a long - awaited biography Marie Curie - A Life written by Susan Quinn, peels back the mildewed layers of myth to reveal her as an asthete of no mean amplitude. In her younger days, Madam Curie wrote winsome poems and even conjured and set up practical jokes. But her adulthood was spent racked by illness and rivalry from a brutally male dominated profession.

Welcome By Dr. Dewan Sibartie, Chairman of National Steering Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen I welcome all of you to this Conference. My special welcome for Professor Rahman, Dean of Faculty of Veterinary Science, Bangalore. Prof. Rahman is the guest of the MVA and is going to deliver a plenary paper on "The Role of the Veterinarian in the 21st Century."

Our welcome to Dr. W.J. Pryor, President of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, former Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Queensland and later Professor and Dean of the Veterinary School, Massey University, New Zealand. Professor Pryor is currently the Deputy Chancellor of the University of Ballarat in Australia.

I also welcome Dr. Trevor Blackburn, another distinguished veterinary surgeon who has been Past President of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, World Veterinary Association, British Veterinary Association and European Association of State Veterinary Officers.

Dr. Blackburn has played a key role in rejuvenating the Commonwealth Veterinary Association which is now a highly respected association.

I welcome all the delegates to the Conference.

Joint Regional Commonwealth Veterinary Association Mauritius Veterinary Association Meeting And Scientific Conference

Welcome Address By Dr. L.L. Beeharry President Mauritius Veterinary Association

It is with much pleasure that the Mauritius Veterinary Association welcomes all delegates and guests for the Joint Regional Conference Commonwealth Veterinary Association/ Mauritius Veterinary Association Meeting and Scientific Conference

Our association born in the early 1970's has never stopped to strive for higher knowledge believing that knowledge will forever govern ignorance and we must arm ourselves with knowledge that power gives and share it to them who cannot procure it for themselves.

It is in this spirit that the present conference and scientific meeting is being organised.

Despite the very tiny size of Mauritius and the relatively new born Veterinary Association we are doing our utmost in contributing to the scientific aspects of the veterinary world. It will not be out of place to mention here that it is the veterinarians of this country that have placed on record Heartwater disease in the deer species.

Like many citizens of this world we are also preparing to face the challenge of the year 2000, the veterinary profession of the year 2000.

Perhaps the most challenging aspect of the veterinary work will be his contribution to feed a growing population without further degrading land resources. Therefore it will require increased productivity but on a sustainable basis.

Increasing productivity can only be achieved by improving animal health, but this often leads to increased risk of chemical residues in meat, milk, eggs, salt, water etc. On the other hand, intensification of livestock farming also carries the risk of over production which could be detrimental to environmental quality or the quality of life of the animals themselves, soil damage, water pollution and finally emergence of new diseases. Torn between the constraints of the farmer and the expectations of the consumer, veterinarians must find means to meet these new challenges in an attempt to reconcile often contradictory demand from various quarters.

Finally, we are at the door steps of year 2000, and we hope and pray for a peaceful century starting year 2000 but we will all agree that there cannot be peace with empty stomachs around us and we shall all endeavour to feed the world to achieve what mankind has always dreamt of.

Commonwealth Veterinary Association - Mauritius Veterinary Association Conference - Inaugural Address - Hon. Min. Mr. Boyjonanth

Distinguished Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I should first of all like to express to you the apologies of Dr. The Hon. Arvin Boolell for his inability to be with us as he is not too well and has asked me to stand for him for at this function and I have kindly obliged. Having said this I should like to state that it gives me great pleasure to be in your midst this morning on the occasion of the Joint Regional Commonwealth Veterinary Association / Mauritius Veterinary Association Meeting and Scientific Conference.

I consider it to be a great honour for Mauritius to have been chosen as the host country for such an important meeting of veterinarians. It is therefore my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you today both as citizens of the Commonwealth and as professionals in the field of veterinary science.

I am informed that the Commonwealth Veterinary Association since its creation has been instrumental in the establishment of National Veterinary Associations in member countries and in the dissemination of veterinary knowledge throughout the world. And I am glad that the Mauritius Veterinary Association has benefitted largely through textbooks and periodicals made available by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and through participation in Scientific meetings organised and funded by Commonwealth Veterinary Association.

Coming to the programme established for the Conference, I note that many of the topics included therein are highly relevant in the general context of livestock development in Mauritius as well as member countries. It is widely acknowledged that every possible encouragement should be given to our technicians and professionals in the field to strive towards our declared aims and objectives in livestock production. While it is true that economic development is highly related to the physical health of the population, it is also true that the health of the animal population of the country has an important effect in the overall economic development. This is why I consider it important to have an efficient corps of veterinarians.

You may be surprised to know that as far back as two centuries ago we have had the privilege of benefitting from veterinary services, albeit in a small scale. The Island of Mauritius known as "Isle de France" during the French Colonial days, welcomed its first veterinarian in the name of Marie Francois Eloy de Beauvais in 1771. A graduate from "l'Ecole Veterinaire de Lyon", Beauvais succeeded in asserting himself as a veterinarian despite numerous difficulties. He even setup a veterinary school in 1784 which he administered till 1810, the year when Island was ceded to the British.

The Department of Agriculture was founded in 1930 at a time when local livestock was seriously affected by Trypanosomiasis. A year later Felix Edouard Lionet, again from "Ecole Veterinaire de Lyon", came to manage the veterinary services. He performed so well that in 1919, he was called upon to be incharge of the human hospital at Candos.

Veterinarians, thus, do not excel only with animals. History provides numerous examples to demonstrate the polyvalence of veterinarians. As a scientist, I cannot ignore that the famous B.C.G. vaccine against human tuberculosis, was developed by Calmette and Guerin the latter having been a veterinarian.

Veterinarians have excelled in other fields as well. Many people are aware that the famous "Pneumatic Tyre" Dunlop was invented by Dunlop who was also a veterinarian. A most interesting case refers to the work performed by a veterinarian LAFONT who in 1909 discovered plant Trypanosomiasis in Mauritius, a disease also occurring in man and animals.

In Mauritius we are keenly following the activities of International Agencies and are attempting to derive as much benefits as possible. My Ministry is making a determined effort to work out policies and projects in the field of livestock development for some of which, financing has already been negotiated with International Agencies. We are also currently

negotiating with the Commonwealth Secretariat which is not alien to this conference to finalise assistance in the field of artificial insemination.

To illustrate our determined effort to promote livestock my Ministry ensures that all small livestock breeders benefit from free veterinary services and advice, in addition to a veterinary night service to cover emergencies outside official hours. Government also provides substantial subsidies on animal feeds and the artificial insemination service. In addition, Government provides cash incentives for every calf. It is realised however in a fast developing economy like ours, various socio - economic factors do have certain adverse effects on livestock development. My Ministry is doing its utmost to counteract those obstacles and I am happy to state that positive signs are now emerging. We are already self - sufficient in Poultry and venison and almost self - sufficient in pork.

Another project which is currently in the pipeline is the modernization and upgrading of the Central Abattoir to EU Norms. Thus it is expected that in the very near future the efficiency of the abattoir will be greatly improved with higher quality output, thus enabling meat export to EU market.

Thanks to our stringent but effective animal disease control system, Mauritius has remained remarkably free from the major animal epizootics. Classical Swine Fever introduced into Mauritius a few years ago has been rapidly brought under control and almost eradicated through campaigns of mass vaccinations carried over by the services of my

Ministry.

Our veterinary services are well known, our veterinarians have earned international recognition via their scientific publications and their participation in international seminars. The veterinary services have been assessed by international agencies and thanks to the competence of our veterinarians, Mauritius has been able to export meat products to countries of the European Union known for their stringent veterinary import conditions.

This conference comes at the right time when the World Trade of Meat has been severely shaken by the scare of the effects of Bovine Spongiform Encephelopathy commonly known as the " Mad Cow Disease" . I am particularly thankful to the National Steering Committee for having invited a technical paper on that disease and I can only wish that the doubts still being entertained in certain quarters will soon be dispelled and trade can resume normally.

Before ending I would like to congratulate the CVA and the MVA for the efforts they have put in. I also wish foreign delegates a happy stay in our country and I am sure that they will enjoy Mauritian hospitality.

I now have much pleasure in declaring the joint conference of the CVA /MVA Meeting and Scientific Conference open.

Thank You

Noble Crabs

The blue blooded horseshoe crab found along the Orissa coast, India is set to change the face of the Indian Pharmaceutical industry. These crabs, termed as 'living fossils' because of their primitivity, produce a substance called lysate, which is used to establish the safety of a wide range of drugs and medical devices by detecting pyrogen, a substance which when introduced into the blood produces fever. Deepak Bhattacharya, a Bhuvaneshwar - based scientist has successfully produced and demonstrated the testing technique at a National Pharmaceutical Congress at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, recently.

The Pharmaceutical industries in the West have long relied on the lysate tests, popularly known as Lal tests, but they are yet to catch on in India because of lack of technology. The lysate tests are an alternative to traditional rabbit pyrogen tests which have long been discarded in countries like the US. The crabs are not killed even after tapping blood four or five times. The Orissa coast is only one of the five places in the world where horseshoe crabs are found, hence they offer exciting commercial prospects.

Address by Dr. W.J. Pryor, President CVA

Mr Chairman, The Honourable Mr. Arvin Boolell, Minister of Agriculture Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen .

It is a real pleasure to join with the previous speakers and say how pleased CVA is to be actively associated with this unique conference. The CVA is a global organisation which functions through six regions one of which is East, Central, Southern Africa which is the joint host of this meeting. CVA functions as a low cost cooperative professional group whose object includes the sharing of veterinary knowledge to advance the production of food of animal origin and the welfare of domestic animals in all climatic regions of the globe. CVA runs a book exchange programme to help developing countries. It sponsors travel funds to aid further education of young veterinarians and organises in each of the six global regions regular workshops or training programme each three years and publishes the material presented. It functions totally as a voluntary organisation, has no paid professional staff, yet is highly successful in marshalling goodwill and help to aid education of veterinarians and livestock farmers in its 50 member countries.

Now to this particular conference in Mauritius, CVA is proud to be closely associated with this very special conference. Mauritius veterinarians are highly respected in the wider international community and

amongst other achievements have been particularly successful in keeping out of Mauritius exotic diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease, Rinderpest and Rabies. They have not shirked taking hard decisions but ones which are technically correct, to institute sound quarantine policies. There are many countries that envy the good animal health status of Mauritius.

To hold this conference in Mauritius was a bold step because of the difficulty of access and limited number of veterinarians in the host country. The exciting thing is that good support has been obtained from many overseas countries, nearly 20 in number and some outstanding veterinary scientists will be speaking to us over the next couple of days.

CVA pays tribute to the Mauritius Veterinary Association for reaching this high level of activity following work that has been going on for over a year. This includes a most impressive body of sponsorship support.

In conclusion CVA salutes our colleagues in Mauritius for their achievement in mounting this conference, thanks them for their care and attention to the visitors so far and is confident that a unique educational event is now taking place in this magical island country, due to fine planning and energy. CVA will not forget this historic gathering, and the veterinary science that is communicated and discussed during the conference.

**W.J. Pryor,
President, CVA**

The Mauritius Race Club named one of the horse race on Saturday 3rd August as CVA Cup. The cup was donated by Mauritius Veterinary Association and was presented to the owner of the winner by Dr. Sibartie in the presence of Dr. W.J. Pryor, President CVA and Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, Secretary CVA

"Oil to fuel"

Brazilian researchers claim that they have been able to turn the oil of the African palm into a diesel substitute (Indian Forester, Vol 121, No.4).

This exceptional fuel possesses

thermodynamic properties that are far superior to those of diesel fuel that is obtained from crude oil. It has been tested with vehicles of different types and sizes and has shown remarkable results.

Down to earth, July 31, 1995

Address by Prof. P. Msolla RR, ECS Africa

Welcome To the Guest of Honour Hon. Minister For Agriculture, Mauritius The Minister for Agriculture - Hon. Dr. A. Boolell The President - CVA Dr. W.J. Pryor, The President - MVA, Distinguished Invited Guests, Conference Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Regional Commonwealth and Mauritius Veterinary Associations and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to express my very sincere gratitude to your Honour, the Minister for Agriculture for having accepted our invitation to officiate the opening of our joint Regional Commonwealth and Mauritius Veterinary Association Scientific Conference. Your acceptance to officiate this function albeit your busy schedule is a clear testimony of the importance you personally, and that of the Government of Mauritius attaches to the livestock industry.

Honourable Guest of Honour, this Conference is being attended by delegates from within and outside the region. I take this opportunity to thank all conference participants especially those from outside Mauritius for having found time to come and share their experiences with us.

Honourable Guest of Honour, the theme of our conference today is "The Role of a Veterinarian in the 21st Century". This theme has been chosen so as to discuss the challenges of the profession more so as we enter into the 21st century. Among the challenges: include the erosion of the profession monopoly on the aspects of disease diagnosis, treatment and control primarily due to introduction of diagnostic packages etc. as well as the ever growing demands of the society viz. services on wildlife, aquaculture, biotechnology, environmental concerns, computer science etc. There is therefore an urgent need for a veterinarian not only of being ahead of his clientele but also to play a different role. It is my hope that in the course of this conference we will be in a position to chalk out the type of veterinary education we need to impart to our graduates.

With the socio-economic and political changes sweeping across Africa, free market economy has been adopted and has resulted in commercialisation of different sectors of the economy including animal production. Consequently, private veterinary practice is being introduced in many countries. In the course of the conference, participants will discuss and exchange views on progress being made in the privatisation of veterinary services.

Honourable Guest of Honour, the holding of this joint conference is a very important event for the Commonwealth Veterinary Association as testified by the attendance of both its President and Secretary. This conference is one of the activities in the Region's workplan and funded by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. Broadly the objectives of the Association, among others include:

- Promoting the interests of the Veterinary Profession in the Commonwealth.
- Enhancing the closest possible links between Associations.
- Facilitating the dissemination of professional knowledge and information.
- Encouraging the creation of statutory bodies to regulate the study and veterinary practice among member countries

It is through these Conferences and Regional Meetings that members can meet and discuss the afore mentioned issues.

Honourable Guest of Honour, the holding of this conference would have not been possible without the generous support of the Government of Mauritius more so the Ministry of Agriculture and the Commonwealth Veterinary Association to whom we would like to record our most sincere gratitude.

At this juncture, I would also like to recognise the very good work done by the veterinary profession in Mauritius by controlling, through quarantine and other measures, the major epidemics such as Rinderpest, Foot and Mouth Disease, contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia etc. all this has been achieved through concerted efforts by well trained Veterinarians in Mauritius who are also well known not only in the Region but also outside the region as well.

I also would like to thank the Executive and organising committees of Mauritius Veterinary Association for their tireless efforts and enthusiasm towards the preparation of this conference and to all those who in one way or the other have assisted to make this conference a reality.

Finally it is my hope that this conference will not only be enjoyable but fruitful as well. Mr. Chairman, Honourable Guest of Honour, Distinguished invited Guests, Conference Participants, thank you very much for your attention.

President Mugabe Installed For Another Term

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has been installed for another six - year term after winning by default presidential polls in which he was the sole candidate.

Mugabe, aged 72 has been the ruler of the Southern African country for the past 16 years. He was sworn in by Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay after which he was presented with African traditional symbols of office - a leopard skin, spear, axe and a walking stick.

He was sworn in at Rufaro stadium in Harare's oldest and poorest black suburb, Mbare, where he was installed as Prime Minister in 1980 when the country won independence from Britain.



Electronic Soles Help Foot Problems

Scottish engineers in Dundee University have developed an electronic insole that redistributes a shoe wearer's weight over his or her feet more evenly. They believe that it should help the condition of people with foot problems without resorting to surgery.

Corns and inflammation are frequently caused or aggravated by ill fitting shoes, especially high heels or tight, narrow fittings. The new electronic device produced by researcher Rami Abboud redistributes weight more evenly, helps to prevent excess pressure on small areas and relieves the strain on joints that can help to cause or intensify the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis and gout.

Garbage

It is deposited in dumps distinguishingly called "land fill", as if the land needed filling. World wide, people produce 4.5 million tonnes of "land fill" garbage/day. New Yorkers produce one tonne/ person/ year - 15.5% is solid food; 16 % is paper. a large modern, plastic lined garbage tip (e.g., taking 13,000 tonnes/ day) can subsequently produce enough methane to produce power for 100,000 homes while another non - lined version leaks 11 million litres/ day. Packaging, the wonder marketing tool for affluent countries since the 1960s, engenders much waste, non - recyclable due to its multi - format nature of plastics, papers, chemicals etc. The USA recycles about 10% - in theory 80% is achievable. Does our profession do all it can to set a reversing trend? Are we becoming green enough

- ABC TV 27/10/95

Brays, The Bull And The Blame

The only time I have seen donkeys extremely happy, is during their breeding season. At this time they behave as if the world is coming to an end, and that they have to enjoy themselves for the last time! Otherwise, working, during rest periods, on a full stomach, hungry and thirsty or when they are sick, they look the same: dull, depressed, sleepy and unreactive. And they seem to think that they have an unassailable right of way on tarred, never mind, dirty roads.

On this day they brayed in earnest, dispensed unrestrained double legged kicks, purposefully bit colleagues' vulnerable legs and judiciously anchored full complement of incisor teeth on each other's manes. Against this milieu they found time to take turns in serious hearted procreation. Ignoring the braying, excited donkeys. I disembarked from the truck, greeted the farmer perfunctorily and proceeded to confirm his complaints.

Clutching a black medicine box and a slinging nylon rope like an 18th century American Indian I advanced resolutely towards the patient. The heaving farmer sauntered besides me with perceptible, age related arthritic limp on his right leg. An assortment of work - weary labourers kept pace with us. They looked uninterested and bored. But in a pompous show of solidarity and red carpet welcome for the vet, frogs croaked zealously, insects chirped with frenzy and birds enthusiastically sang impromptu and pleasant tunes. The farmer pointed at the Brahman bull as if I could have missed it in that open treeless field.

The bull remained motionless and continued with deep meditation. It's floppy ears, big enough to conceal a day old baby, were not moving. The approximately 100 kg head was lowered in a sorrowful posture. On the bull's withers proudly stood a 50 kg hillock of boneless meat and fat. The neck was rounder than an olive oil bottle. At first impression, the bull appeared as if it had 5 legs. The fifth leg originating from the umbilical region was thicker and reddened at its distal part but made no contact with the ground. Apart from this defect, the bull referred to as a BZ052 was a textbook example of what vets describe as a well managed animal.

In no uncertain terms, the bull made it very clear to all and sundry that it was not going to be cooperative. So the other option was to drive him to the nearest cattle - restraining facility, 1^{1/2} km away. We followed at a safe distance because occasionally BZ052 would stop and stare at us with creased eyebrows and a snarl on his mouth. If we moved too close the bull freely but accurately threw one of his limbs against our shins. Timidly we pelted the bull mild rebukes to urge him move on.

After much hush - cushioning, whistling, swearing, prodding and shouting the bull forced himself into the crush pen which had seen better days. According to the bull, the last insult, the last straw, was to clump his neck. Defying his weight, he responded violently by jumping so high that when he descended in fulfillment to forces of gravity, his left leg which was caught in the second rail from the top, bent well above the hock in an unusual angle...

As the farmer blacked out, the bull produced an out of this world groan as if it was mourning the plight of the owner. Having failed to shake Mr. Showgun out of the subconsciousness and as I was not schooled in human first aid, I threw a bucketful of almost clean water straight on the face of my client. When he regained consciousness, the bull which we had both briefly forgotten stopped groaning. It was however still lying down in a clumsy pile with the extruded part of its body coiled on the powdery manure like a wounded African royal python.

What was once a crush pen lay scattered around the bull as if a powerful hurricane had paid an inaugural visit to that obscure corner of Zimbabwe. Mr. Showgun looked at the ill - fated Brahman bull, looked around himself aghast; looked through me, beyond and far away.

I could read total blame apportioned to me in the farmer's face.

R. M. Busayi, Faculty of Veterinary Science,
University of Zimbabwe, P.O. Box MP 167
Mount Pleasant, Harare,
Zimbabwe

West Africa

SIERRA LEONE

Sierra Leone Swears In Civilian President

Sierra Leone's new President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, was sworn in March 96, bringing an end to four years of military rule, at the parliament building in a festive capital where he pledged to make peace with the rebels.

Immediately after being sworn in by acting Chief Justice Samuel Beccles Davies, Mr. Kabbah said he welcomed the outcome of talks in Ivory Coast's capital Yamoussoukro between the outgoing junta and the rebels and would pursue negotiations until lasting peace had been achieved.

The President added that he wanted to meet the leader of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebels, Foday Sankoh, "at the earliest opportunity", but his hour-long address concentrated mainly on domestic issues.

Mr. Kabbah pledged to work "to end dishonesty and apathy in the society" and he said his election was "all the more reassuring in that it was brought about by hundreds of thousands of devoted, dedicated, tireless and motivated Sierra Leoneans, young and old."

Amid thunderous applause from thousands of onlookers, he declared: "This is, indeed, an inauguration of all Sierra Leoneans.

However, he cautioned his audience that the country "stands virtually in ruins with thousands slaughtered, soldiers and civilians alike, tens of thousands maimed and mutilated and hundreds of thousands displaced, traumatised and living in poverty while the country's moral and physical infrastructure are destroyed."

The civil war launched by the RUF in 1991 has claimed more than 1,500,000 lives and displaced half of West Africa's population.

He stressed that "the restoration of the dignity and worth of every Sierra Leonean will be the guiding

principle of my presidency".

"We have witnessed an epoch of indifference to the legitimate concerns of citizens before the seat of justice by those who are paid to administer her," Mr. Kabbah said. "We have seen dishonesty in the state-owned organisation and apathy on the part of functionaries. Today we should mark the end of that epoch and the start of a new era."

He also disclosed that his government would create an institution to enable women to redress unacceptable indignities and facilitate the planning and preparation of programmes to enhance their public life.

Before handing over the staff of office the outgoing military leader Brigadier - General Julius Maada Bio told the crowded parliament that "our move to restore democracy and peace was not due to any pressure whatsoever from any where, other than in fulfillment of the commitment to the values of democracy and the attainment of lasting peace."

Brig. - Gen Bio said the occasion put to rest "some of the doubts that may have existed concerning the sincerity of our intentions and we have achieved the reality we see today in the handing over of power to a democratically elected president.

He told the army that their responsibility was the security of the state. "I urge you at all times to demonstrate and maintain your loyalty to the incoming government as the armed forces must play a neutral role in the politics of the state," he said.

Making Ghee Through Microwave Heating

Ghee is a fat-rich Indian Dairy product extensively consumed in India. The traditional method of ghee is highly energy and time consuming. It is found that microwave technology could be used to manufacture ghee from high fat cream and butter. The chemical nature, flavour, colour and texture of microwave processed ghee are similar to traditionally prepared ghee.

"All That Litters Is Not Gold"

Increasing gold Production has become the key objective of Ghana's economic recovery programme, and it has become the second largest producer of gold in Africa. But Ghana is paying a high price for its gold rush. With the demand for investments and exports, many developing countries, including Ghana, have turned a blind eye to pollution.

Ten years ago, the Woara Woana River was the main source of drinking water for the people of Mpohor in Western Ghana. In the rainy season it watered farmland along its course and maintained soil fertility.

Today the river banks are bare, the water is muddy and only an occasional fish darts by. The river has been poisoned by mercury and other chemicals used in mining.

This is the result of a surge of small scale mining activities, known here as "galamsey", promoted by new mining legislation. In the western region alone, 53 new gold-mining companies - mostly small scale - have been established.

The first new large gold mine in 40 years has recently been opened, and existing large mines are being expanded. In Obuasi, 350 km from the capital Accra, residents are of two minds about expansion of Ashanti Goldfields, the community's major industry. They worry about pollution and land degradation, but they like the jobs and the school and clinic built by the company.

"The situation is bleak", says Kofi Kutin-Mensah, a local resident, as he gazes at the plume of white powder spewing from the smokestack of the gold refinery. The powder contains arsenic trioxide, a waste product of the refining process, as well as sulphur dioxide and sulphur trioxide.

Residents complain that the smoke causes coughing, because these compounds irritate the respiratory tracts of people living nearby and damage lung tissue. The chemicals have also killed vegetation on land surrounding the refinery. Cotton and alfalfa on surrounding farms seem particularly vulnerable.

Ghana President Jerry Rawlings admits that "mining companies in the past operated with scant regard for the negative impact of their activities on the physical environment and the implication for the land, health and

livelihood of local people. But like the people of Obuasi, Rawlings is also of two minds about mining. On one occasion he said that "after years of mining at Obuasi, Ashanti Goldfields owes it a duty to see to the environmental protection of the Obuasi community". But when he commissioned a new shaft as part of the mine's expansion, he said the mine "forms part of the country's life-blood and everything should be done to prevent any further disruption of work at the mine".

With the demand for investments and exports, many developing countries, including Ghana, have turned a blind eye to pollution. Rather than frighten away foreign translational companies, little or nothing is done to regulate their activities. Effluent continues to be discharged daily into rivers and the air.

Small-scale mining, too, is being encouraged in the desperate race to earn foreign exchange. A mining law was passed in 1989 intended to encourage small-scale miners and to bring under control the many miners who had been operating clandestinely. But there has been little actual supervision and control. The result has been a host of other problems. In Obuasi there have been violent clashes between rival groups of small-scale miners over the right to extract gold from heaps of sand dumped by Ashanti Goldfields. And small-scale mining is dangerous. Recently three miners were found dead from fumes from a machine in the tunnel they were mining. At first the incident shook the town of Tarkwa, which is one of Ghana's major gold-mining centres. But the shock was temporary.

"Such risks are part of our operation: We know that and we're unperturbed. The 'galamsey' operation is our very existence; we'll go to great lengths to get the gold", said 14 year old Kwesi Anto. And that seems to be the feeling of many youths who have availed themselves of the 1989 law to go into small scale mining. President Rawlings said recently that "a formal framework and guidelines regulating the conduct of mining companies in environmental matters will soon be established". All new mining companies must submit environmental assessments and indicate how they intend to limit the adverse effects of mining. But so far, no mechanism has been established to regulate the environmental and safety impact of gold mining.

Samuel Sarpong, Panos"
Deccan Herald , Oct 95



Report On 21st Annual Meeting Of Ghana Veterinary Medical Association

GHANA

The Ghana Veterinary Medical Association meets annually to deliberate on issues affecting the veterinary profession as a whole, veterinary practice in Ghana in particular and to interact with farmers and the general public. The 1995 annual meeting which was the twenty first in the series was held under the theme "Menace of Gumboro Disease to the Poultry Industry in Ghana" at the Kumasi Technical Institute in the Ashanti region of Ghana from 30th August to 2nd September. More than 100 registered veterinarians and about 500 farmers attended this important meeting which afforded a forum for discussion among scientists, researchers and farmers alike.

The acting President of the GVMA, Dr. Bawa Awumbilla welcomed participants to the function and later a keynote address was delivered by the Hon. Mike Acheampong, Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture responsible for Livestock and Fisheries. The Hon Deputy Minister for Food and Agriculture, Ashanti Region deputised for the Regional Minister and graciously chaired the opening ceremony activities.

A very impressive and educative farmer's forum at which papers were delivered by well informed people of the poultry industry in Ghana, followed the opening ceremony. Dr. George Opoku - Pare, a veterinary surgeon spoke on the Menace of Gumboro Disease in Poultry Production. While Mr. Kwabena

Darko and Mr. Kenneth Quarthey both prominent and experienced poultry farmers delivered papers on "The Development and the Future of Poultry Production in Ghana and New Technology in Poultry Production. Present Experiences and Challenges" respectively. The lively discussions and keen interest generated at the farmers' forum showed the success of the programme.

After the farmers' forum, pertinent matters of great concern to the GVMA which were discussed at the general meeting included

- Privatisation of veterinary services in Ghana
- Employment opportunities for newly qualified veterinarians
- Representations of veterinarians on boards and both local and international bodies.

The 1996 GVMA Annual General Meeting and Congress is scheduled to take place in September in the Eastern Regional Capital, Koforidua.

The 21st Annual General Meeting was crowned with a grand dinner dance at the Auditorium of the Kumasi Technical Institute on 1st September, 1995

- Dr. E.B.M. Koney
Secretary

Rapid Microbial Test For Meat And Poultry

The agricultural department of the Embassy of South Africa in Washington DC reports that a rapid microbial test that can detect generic bacteria on poultry, pork and beef has been developed. The test is as accurate as the standard 48-hour plate culture for determining high levels of generic bacteria. The test which adapts bioluminescence technology, takes five minutes and can be used in commercial plants. The Food Safety and Inspection Service and the

Agricultural Research Service have been instructed to develop a plant which best incorporates this new test into the inspection system. The method and approach used to validate the tests were reviewed by scientists in government, academia and industry. It has been tested on more than 1,000 beef carcasses, 500 poultry carcasses and 300 pork carcasses.

U.K. Mediterranean

Prediction Of Future Incidence Of BSE

Researchers in the Zoology department at the University of Oxford have predicted that, between 1996 and 1999, about 15,000 to 24,000 cattle in the U.K. born before 1993, will develop BSE. During this period, they expect about 11,000 cases to arise in animals born after the introduction of the ban on ruminant protein in feed.

In a letter published in *Nature* on May 9 (vol 381, page 119), Mr. Dov Stekel, Dr. Martin Nowak and Prof. Sir Richard Southwood, describe how they estimated the future incidence of BSE, based on data on the number of BSE cases in different age cohorts of cattle over the past five years. From these data they attempted to predict the number of BSE cases

by age for the years 1995 to 1999. Existing data, the authors state, indicate that most cases of BSE occur in cattle between four to six years old, suggesting a common underlying incubation period for the disease.

Using their predicted incidence of BSE and knowledge of the age distribution in adult animals in UK cattle herds, the researchers calculate that the highest incidence of BSE per capita will be among animals born between 1987 and 1990, with a peak among those born in 1988. They estimate that about 75 percent of future cases will occur in animals born in 1989 or later, which they say, reflects 'a continuing, though diminishing, rate of infection.'

- Veterinary Record June '96



The High Sheriff of Cheshire, Mr John Pickering (right) recently opened a newly refurbished farm animal hospital at Liverpool Veterinary school's veterinary field station at Leahurst. The hospital provides both academic facility for students, and a practical and specialist centre for the treatment of farm animals. It is envisaged that the improved facilities will enable the hospital to increase its client base while continuing to provide a 24 hour service for a full range of medical, surgical and reproductive cases. Pictured with Mr. Pickering is Viscount Leverhulme, patron of the veterinary faculty at Liverpool.

Plant Parely

"Shut up and die," the orchid's flower tells its petals once it is pollinated. But the language used is not known to us-it is chemical talk and in orchids, ethylene does the talking. Now, botanists have found a way of tapping into the chemical talk of plants using lasers which are so sensitive as to pick up even one molecule of the substance targeted. A lot of work has been done with lasers tuned in to ethylene gas - a plant hormone, which can be released if the plant is overwatered (BBC-Wildlife, Vol 13, No 5). Lately, Bristol University botanists have been targeting a fragrant gas called methyl jasmonate that appears to warn neighbouring plants of potential insect attacks.

Double Vaccine To Control Livestock Diseases

Two of Africa's most crippling livestock diseases will soon be controllable by a single vaccination.

Rinderpest and Capripox (lumpy skin disease of cattle, sheep pox and goat pox) cause serious loss of productivity and can lead to mortality rates that can exceed 90%. Vaccines have been available to control rinderpest and they are effective, but because of their poor thermal stability in the tropics, they have not led to the eradication of the disease. A capripox vaccine is widely used to vaccinate against sheep and goat pox. It is also effective in protecting cattle against lumpy skin disease.

Researchers at the Pirbright Laboratory of the Institute of Animal Health, in the U.K. have taken the capripox vaccine and added into it two genes from the rinderpest virus, to create what is known as a recombinant vaccine. These two genes produce proteins which play an important part in developing immunity against rinderpest. The genes are known

as the Fusion or F gene, and the Haemagglutinin or H gene. Either the F or H gene are spliced into the genetic make-up of the virus that causes lumpy skin disease, making two recombinant vaccines. These recombinant vaccines continue to protect cattle, sheep and goats against lumpy skin disease as well as producing either F or H proteins which give protection against rinderpest. Thus one injection will provide protection against both diseases.

The researchers have also achieved better shelf life with the new vaccines than the old rinderpest vaccine. This means they will not be dependent on refrigeration, so their distribution in tropical Africa will be easier.

A mixture of the recombinant capripox - rinderpest F and the capripox - rinderpest H vaccines is now under trial with the Kenya Agriculture Research Institute at Mugaga

Institute of Animal Health, Ash Road, Pirbright,
Working Surrey GU24 0NF, UK.

New Synthetic Vaccine For Malaria

A landmark of sorts has been achieved in the area of synthetic vaccine development. The vaccine-SPf66 - is an outcome of the research work of a Colombian scientist. Of added significance is the fact that the vaccine emerged from the laboratory of a third world country where the endemic problems of malaria are a major cause of health problems.

The vaccine, initially considered very promising, is reportedly "far from the ideal stuff, but is safe enough to be tried, says Dr. Valeri S Orlov, WHO's senior regional adviser on malaria. SPf66 malaria vaccine is a polymeric synthetic peptide with aminoacid sequences derived from three *P falciparum* asexual erythrocytic stage proteins, linked by the Asn-Ala-Asn-Pro motif derived from the circumsporozoite protein of *P falciparum*.

The vaccine research work was supported by the special programme for tropical diseases founded by the World Bank, the UNDP and the WHO. Right now malaria is proving to be one of the major re-emerging

infections of the world.

According to Dr. Orlov, SPf66 is to be administered in a three-dose regimen for cerebral malaria. Hence, it is best suited for control of malaria in organised groups and its trial, could be difficult on target groups like tribals and other high risk groups for cerebral malaria. A study of the efficacy of SPf66 on 586 Tanzanian children aged 1-5 years showed that it had a protective efficacy in 31 per cent children. However, according to another study reported in the August 19, 1995 issue of *Lancet*, there was practically no protection when tested on 630 Gambian children aged 6-11 months old.

Even though the exact mechanism of the vaccine's protection is unclear, the finding that a chemically synthetic vaccine could be safe in humans, albeit of limited efficacy for now, is in itself a step closer towards unravelling the power of the *P falciparum* parasite.

Scientists Create Tiny Antenna To Keep Eye On Bees

British Scientists have developed the world's smallest radar antenna to track bees and other low flying insects.

The device could improve the efficiency of bee keeping and help combat the tsetse fly, carrier of sleeping sickness in Central and Southern Africa.

The antenna, which weighs three milligrams and is 16 millimeters high is glued to the back of the bees. Field trials show the creatures can fly normally with the extra load but have some difficulty in entering their hives.

Radar has already been used to monitor high flying insects, but their ground hugging counterparts could not be tracked because of the signals returned from plants and other objects.

With the aid of a Pound 65,000 grant from the Overseas Development Administration, Joe Riley and his colleagues at the radar unit of the Natural Resources Institute at Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, devised the antenna, technically known as a harmonic generating tag, to get round this problem.

"The tag reflects a harmonic of the radar signals which can be detected even against strong competing echoes from the ground," he said. "The insects are then tracked by a radar scanner with two dishes, one to send signals and one to receive it.

The key to the device's tiny size is its ability to pick up the operating power it needs from the incoming signals and so no on board battery is required.

The next step is to develop an antenna weighing no more than one milligram capable of being attached to the tsetse flies which themselves only weigh between five to ten milligrams. Such a device could be ready for field trials next year. Dr. Riley and his team are working at the request of scientists in Zimbabwe who think radar tag will enable them to control tsetse flies more effectively and without the environmental damage caused by insecticides.

"The Zimbabweans are already using decoys to trap the bloodsucking flies," Dr. Riley said. "Rods are placed in fields and covered with black cloth impregnated with the odour of an ox and also the insecticide. But it is a bit hit and miss. The aim is to use radar tags to find out the insects precise flight patterns making it possible to site the decoy rods in places where they will catch most flies."

Bees were originally chosen simply because they provided a good model on which to test the antenna. Entomologists now think the tags could also be used to improve knowledge of the foraging and pollinating habits of bees, enabling hives to be sited and more effectively and perhaps throwing light on the decline of the wild bumble bee.

Michael Hornsby

Countryside Correspondent - The Times

The Institute Of Zoology (Zoological Society Of London) and The Royal Veterinary College (University Of London) - MSc in Wild Animal Health

This is a twelve month course for European and Overseas graduates in veterinary and relevant sciences making a career in wild animal health. The course includes practical and theoretical instruction in the husbandry and nutrition of wild animals, taxonomy, population biology, conservation genetics, welfare and ethical aspects, epidemiology, immunology, infectious and non - infectious diseases, disease investigation, restraint, preventive medicine and surgery together

with an individual research project. Training will be given by staff at the Institute of Zoology and the Royal Veterinary College, as well as invited speakers from other veterinary and zoological centres. Applications are now invited for the 1996/97 or the 1997/98 courses starting in October 1996 and October 1997 respectively. Full particulars and an application form are available from the Registrar, The Royal Veterinary College, Royal College Street, London NW1 0TU - UK Tel : 44 (0) 171 468 5000 Fax : 44 (0) 171 388 2342

General Articles

Ostriches, Omelettes And Orioles : Wild Birds As A Sustainable Source Of Food

John E Cooper,
Programme Manager, National Avian Research Center
P.O. Box 45553, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Abstract

Birds such as the domestic fowl, turkey, duck, guineafowl and pigeon are an important source of food in most parts of the world. However, although there are nearly 9,000 species of bird, fewer than a dozen of these have been successfully domesticated. Many other avian species are taken (harvested) from the wild and used for food. These include pheasants, partridges, guineafowl, ducks, seabirds, wood pigeons and small passerines such as weavers.

Much better use could be made of wild birds to provide food, particularly protein, in localities where people are malnourished or disadvantaged. It should be possible to bring certain new species of bird into domestication. Examples include chachalacas (*Ortalis sp.*) in South and Central America, whistling ducks (*Dendrocygna spp.*) also from the New World, Hartlaub's duck (*Cairina hartlaubi*) from West and Central Africa and the Egyptian goose (*Alopochen aegyptiacus*), another African species, which was originally domesticated long ago by the ancient Egyptians.

In addition to domesticating new species, more extensive and better organised harvesting of free-living birds could be considered. The killing of wild birds for food is not always viewed sympathetically in the West but is traditional and essential part of the lifestyle of many people in poorer countries. Harvesting must be carried out efficiently, humanely and sustainably. Local people must be consulted and involved in decision making such as management schemes and the application of quotas. The greater use of wild birds as food source will not only be of benefit to human beings but might, paradoxically, contribute also to the conservation of wild species and their habitats.

Reference

Cooper, J.E. (1995). The role of birds in sustainable food production. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 4, 266 - 280.

Paper presented at meeting of Section of Comparative Medicine, Royal Society of Medicine - 17/4/96, London - "Food From Unusual Animals"

"Solar Craft"

From environment-friendly cars, researchers move on to an environment-friendly aircraft, which derives all its energy from sunlight.

Developed by a team of scientists from Aero Vironment, an engineering company based in Simi Valley, California, this new version of Pathfinder, a 181-kg aeroplane, is to begin test flights soon (*Nature*, Vol 375, No.6528).

Aero Vironment hopes to get this unmanned aircraft to attain heights of 20,000 metres and touch speeds of 160 km an hour.

Lightweight silicon solar cell arrays laid out on the 74-square metre wings make the new version twice as efficient as its predecessor.

First Veterinary Disaster Team Mobilized

"On Alert"

By Cristin Merck

The phone message caught Dr. Janet Martin by surprise. A member of the newly organized Veterinary Medical Assistance Team - VMAT - 1 - Martin was instructed to be ready to mobilize within 24 hours.

Two days earlier, on September 16, St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands had been ravaged by Hurricane Marilyn, causing injuries, loss of shelter, food and water and the risk of disease for the island's inhabitants. While medical teams already had been dispatched to the island the destruction of the island's animal shelter prompted the Federal Emergency Management Agency to contact VMAT - 1 .

"One day we were at VMAT planning workshop discussing the basic supply list we would need for a hypothetical mission, and less than a week later we were called to respond to an actual disaster," said Martin, V90, associate veterinarian at Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, R1.

Under an agreement with the U.S. Public Health Service that formally incorporated veterinary services into the federal response plan for disaster relief the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) last year began soliciting veterinary professionals to establish a four - region, national network of VMATs. Before they left for the island the three member VMAT - 1 team had the massive task of working with area suppliers and humane groups to assemble initial stocks of veterinary supplies, animal food and equipment - from vaccines, antibiotics and fluids to a dart gun, nets, a snare pole and portable kennels. The trio arrived in St. Thomas late on September 22.

The next day, they went to FEMA headquarters at the Frenchman's Reef Resort, which was equipped with its own power plant and water purification system, to discuss their role in the disaster relief effort.

"Simply driving around the island was a nightmare," said Martin, who although she had seen several hurricanes while growing up in Florida, had never seen this degree of devastation. "It took two hours to go just 10 miles," "There were uprooted trees,

downed power lines, splintered telephone poles and debris from damaged and destroyed buildings.

While checking in with a medical team based at the hospital, the VMAT - 1 team encountered its first patient in a nearby field. Immobilized by a tangle of wire, an old horse was able to stand, but three of its legs were badly cut. "We cleaned its wounds and gave it antibiotics and anti - inflammatories," Martin said. "We cared for the horse daily and saw great improvement in its condition during the week we were on the island.

Close by, the humane society's animal shelter had received heavy damage including loss of its roof., but miraculously none of the 50 animals housed there had been killed or badly injured. The island's four private veterinary clinics also sustained varying amounts of damage and the island's five veterinarians were trying their best to treat the injured animals without electricity, running water and many vaccines and medicines.

"In an emergency situation like this, the local veterinary professionals are the strongest resource for providing care," said VMAT team leader Dr. Barry Kellogg. "The best role for the VMAT is to ask the local veterinarians what they need and to assist them in that way."

For the next week, the VMAT team facilitated relief efforts among the island's veterinary clinics. "We helped them by going to the shelter every day and examining the incoming animals," Martin said. "There were a lot of minor injuries and some broken bones, but most of the animals were simply lost and hungry." Using the portable kennels, the shelter was able to keep more animals and allow owners extra time to claim lost pets.

As other VMAT teams are being formed, the VMAT - 1 experience is providing AVMA with important insight about integrating emergency services into the resources already in place.

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International Equine Symposium, Dubai

Professor Reuben Rose, Professor of Veterinary Clinical Studies at the University of Sydney, Australia was the Representative of CVA at the recent Dubai International Equine Symposium - March 26th - 30th, 1996. In his report to the CVA he describes his impressions.

The Equine Athlete: Tendon, Ligament and Soft Tissue Injuries

Overview of the Conference

The First Dubai International Equine Symposium was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from March 27th - 30th, 1996. The symposium was sponsored by His Highness General Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, Minister of Defence of the United Arab Emirates and Crown Prince of Dubai. More than 400 delegates attended the conference from 40 countries. The conference was unique in considering as a theme, equine soft tissue injuries, which are some of the most perplexing problems to treat for veterinarians in equine practice. A total of 29 international speakers provided 3 days of state-of-the-art information about the diagnosis and treatment of soft tissue injuries in the horse. The speakers included veterinarians and scientists in universities, veterinarians in practice and also a physiotherapist and were from the United States of America, United Kingdom, France and Dubai. The hospitality provided by Sheikh Mohammed was exceptional and delegates attended the Inaugural Dubai World Cup International Horse Race during the conference.

Day One - Anatomy, Physiology and Diagnosis

The first day of the conference was with basic issues of structure and function. Dr. Julia Wilson from the United States of America presented the epidemiological material from racetracks in the United States of America, which showed different rates and types of soft tissue injuries, depending on the type of track that the horse raced upon. Severe, traumatic injuries such as luxation of the fetlock joint differed widely between tracks. There was a higher frequency of tendon injuries on dirt racetracks than on turf racetracks but luxation of the fetlock joint was found more commonly on turf than dirt racetracks. The research showed the importance of track type in the genesis of soft tissue injuries and the need for better

databases on injuries, so that factors responsible for track injuries could be identified through epidemiological techniques.

Professor Jean-Marie Denoix from France presented elegant material on functional anatomy of tendons and ligaments. He noted that the function of the tendons and ligaments was not only to provide support to the fetlock joint and prevent hyperextension of the carpus, but also to "restore the energy of impact and full weight bearing during propulsion and lift off." By using anatomical dissections and examining mechanical functions using isolated limb specimens in hydraulic presses, Prof. Denoix noted the relationship between structure and function. He showed that more detailed anatomical and *in vivo* studies were necessary to understand how tendon and ligament injuries occurred.

Dr. Nathalie Crevier-Denoix presented information on the microanatomy of tendons and ligaments. She showed the important microanatomy of the arrangement of collagen fibres within tendon and noted the important mechanical properties of tendon, which came with elasticity from crimping of collagen.

Dr. Roger Smith from the United Kingdom, presented exciting new information on biochemical composition of tendons. As well as collagen, there are substantial amounts of proteoglycans. His research has demonstrated the importance of a number of proteoglycan species including fibromodulin and decorin. He also indicated that one glycoprotein, cartilage oligomeric matrix protein (COMP) has considerable potential as a marker of tendon damage. It may be possible to develop tests to detect tendon damage with a blood marker.

Professor Allan Goodship from the United Kingdom, presented information on extensive research performed at the University of Bristol on tendon healing. He showed that in damage tendon, normal Type I collagen was replaced with Type III collagen and that the process of collagen cross linking,

important to tendon function took many months. Controlled exercise is important for assisting tendon healing and the Bristol studies have shown that polysulphated glycosaminoglycans are helpful in the healing process, with one injection every four days for four weeks.

The pathology of tendon injuries was discussed by Dr. Roy Pool from California. Dr Pool was the senior pathologist at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis United States of America for 25 years and has considerable experience in the pathology of soft tissue and bone injuries. Dr. Pool pointed out that differences in the mechanical properties of normal tendon and scar tissue can result in persistent low grade inflammation. He presented results of the pathology of tendon injuries that had been injected locally with corticosteroids, showing that mineralisation could occur at the injection sites.

Dr. Dan Hawkins discussed the physical examination of soft tissue injuries. He pointed out the importance of history as well as a standardised and detailed physical examination. He commented on the use of two relatively underutilised diagnostic tests: the Churchill hock flexion test and the hip adduction test, for evaluation of hock and hip problems respectively.

Professor Joe Mayhew from the United Kingdom outlined the importance of the neurological examination and emphasised the importance of a detailed and systematic neurological examination. He discussed the importance of equine protozoal myeloencephalitis as a differential diagnosis in horses that have unexplained neurological signs. This should be considered in any horse from the Americas. He showed several interesting videos of gait abnormalities in horses with different types of neurological disease.

Day Two - Diagnostic Aids and Tendon and Ligament Injuries

Dr. Rantanen from the United States of America presented background information about the history of ultrasound use for evaluation of tendon and ligament injuries. He detailed the current types of equipment used and described the use of computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and nuclear scintigraphy. Scintigraphy has become a valuable tool for evaluation of acute bone injuries and Dr. Rantanen pointed out that it also was possible to use scintigraphy

to evaluate soft tissue problems.

Dr. Tracy Turner from the United States of America reported on the use of thermography, a non-invasive method for assessing inflammation involving the whole body. He noted that while care had to be taken, it was possible to use thermography to assess problems in the foot, tendon and ligament injuries and muscle problems. Comparison of thermography patterns on opposite sides of the body allows detection of abnormal blood flow or temperatures, indicating a problem that may be subclinical.

Dr. Ted Stashak from the United States of America discussed some of the important issues relating to the emergency evaluation of soft tissue injuries. He noted that it was important to assess the vascular supply to the injured region and that this was possible by administering 5 grams of sodium fluorescein intravenously, will assist in determining if there is adequate blood flow to injured soft tissue. He also showed the importance of utilising sterile probes to assess the extent of a penetrating injury and the importance of using contrast radiography, with dynamic evaluation.

Assessment of tendon and ligament injuries was discussed in a range of locations by Dr. Ron Genovese from the United States of America, Dr. Sue Dyson from the United Kingdom, Dr. Rich Redding from the United States of America, Dr. Ian Wright from the United Kingdom and Professor Jean-Marie Denoix from France. Respectively, these speakers dealt with flexor tendinitis, suspensory ligament desmitis, distal sesamoidean ligament and check ligament desmitis, desmitis of ligaments associated with various joints and ligament injuries associated with the back. The critical role of ultrasound examination was noted by all speakers and was the most useful diagnostic aid, apart from evaluation of ligaments involving joints, where arthroscopic examination was very important. Dr. Ron Genovese showed the importance of objective ultrasonographic measurements in the evaluation and prognosis of tendinitis. He also emphasised the importance of a consistent and detailed ultrasound examination, which should also include the normal leg. Professor Denoix, showed that imaging of various soft tissue injuries in the back could be successfully imaged using ultrasound examination.

Dr. Wayne McIlwraith from the United States of America discussed current concepts in the

management of soft tissue injuries to joints, mainly synovitis. He noted that while corticosteroids had received bad press over the years, with fears that their use intra-articularly would cause cartilage destruction and degeneration of the joint, this was not the case. Experiments undertaken at Colorado State University had shown that Triamcinolone acetonide was very effective and may have chondroprotective effects in joint function. He also presented interesting research which indicated that intravenous hyaluronic acid. Horses with experimentally induced arthritis were given 40 mg of sodium hyaluronate intravenously on days 13, 20 and 27 after a fragment in the joint was created. Examination 72 days after the disease was created indicated substantial improvements in the healing and progress of joints compared with control horses that were given saline. This research is important in providing new information about the beneficial role of some corticosteroids in the treatment of synovitis and joint disease in horses.

Dr. Barrie Grant from the United States of America presented information on the treatment of bursitis in horses and noted range of bursae in the horse that could be involved in trauma. He noted that the most difficult problems to treat were infections of the bursae.

Dr. Alan Nixon from the United States of America discussed the diagnosis and treatment of tenosynovitis, particularly involving digital tendon sheath. Ultrasound examination was important and Dr. Nixon described a technique of tenoscopically evaluating the tendon sheath for removal of some masses and dividing the annular ligament in cases of annular ligament constriction

Day Three - Treatment of Soft Tissue Injuries

Professor Leo Jeffcot from the United Kingdom discussed some of the difficulties in assessing horses with back pain. He presented information on the treatment of various types of muscular problems involving the back and noted that there were still difficulties in effective treatments for soft tissue injuries to the back, which are the main problems encountered. There are a range of alternative medicine treatments being utilised for these types of injuries but none of the treatments have been properly evaluated, including manipulation of the back.

Dr. Dill Moyer discussed soft tissue injuries to

the foot and noted difficulties with current methods. He presented information on the importance of foot conformation and a new diagnostic technique for injection of the distal interphalangeal (coffin) joint, on the palmarolateral aspect of the pastern. He noted good results in some horses with the use of corticosteroids injected into the coffin joint. He also told the conference that the use of wedges and rim inserts under horseshoes was seldom effective.

Dr. Joe Cannon from the United States of America discussed non-orthopaedic causes of lameness and noted several cases of colic and vascular compromise that could present as lameness.

Dr. Mike Hauser from the United Arab Emirates believes that many soft tissue injuries need to be approached as emergencies. Once an injury has occurred to structures such as tendons, early intervention with ice packs and systemic anti-inflammatory drugs can help in limiting the extent of the damage.

The treatment of tendon and ligament injuries was dealt with by a range of speakers from the United States of America and exciting new research was presented on the use of beta amino propionitrile (BAPN) as a scar remodelling agent. Dr. Larry Bramlage reported on results obtained with the use of superior check ligament desmotomy in horses. The largest group of Thoroughbred horses was the 3 and 4 year old colts and geldings. 71% horses raced and the median of starts was 7 in 131 horses. Median time to start after surgery was 316 days. Postoperatively, 66% horses had > 2 starts and about 50% of horses > 5 starts. Of the maiden horses, 14 of 21 did not start, 36% earned zero, about 50% earned > \$500/ start. Surgical results are best for horses that have previous had a race start.

Dr. Mimi Porter, a physiotherapist from the United States of America, spoke on rehabilitation of injuries Treadmill and round pen design with a walker can be useful in rehabilitation. Prevention of problems is important. Imbalance in muscle related to tension/flexibility and strength/weakness, can lead to injury. Maintenance of intratendinous blood supply is important. Early in the process, stimulation of blood supply by vasodilatation and also stimulation of muscle with manual stretching, is useful. Dr. Carol Gillis presented information on exercise programmes for tendon and ligament rehabilitation. Ultrasound is useful

for prognosis. Need to classify as mild, moderate and severe. Concepts : initial rest for 3 - 4 weeks and then controlled exercise to stimulate healing of the tendon and also to recondition the horse.

Mild damage - the first 90 days.

Confine to stall

0- 30 days hand walk 30 minutes

30 - 60 days hand walk 20 - 40 minutes

60 -90 days ride at walk 20 - 40 minutes

Re-examination with ultrasound examination at 90 days to classify as good, fair or poor progress. After 90 days examination, if there is good progress, controlled exercise is useful, perhaps using a treadmill. At 4th month the amount of exercise can be increased to 60 minutes riding at the walk over a period up to 6 months after injury. Examination again using ultrasound should be undertaken at 180 days after injury. Rehabilitation from 7- 9 months should add trotting , 5 minutes every 2 weeks, with 5 minutes cantering being added every 2 weeks and at 9 months, the horse can return to full work, if the tendon has a good ultrasonographic appearance.

Dr. William Davis spoke about the mode of action of BAPN, which temporarily blocks receptor sites involved in cross linking of collagen. The key to remodelling is to inhibit cross - linking but the price is a delay in the tensile strength due to delay in cross linking. One of the important effects of BAPN is to decrease cross sectional area of tendon when compared with control. BAPN comes from seeds of the sweet pea and blocks lysyl oxidase. Dr. Virginia Reef presented information from a comprehensive

double blind dose ranging trial, where BAPN was administered at dose rates of 0, 3.5, 7 and 8 mg. The dose is diluted in 10 ml and injected with 27 gauge needles into the lesion. About 0.2 ml is administered per site into the lesion. The study included horses that had injuries that had been present for more than 10 days but for less than 4 months. Excellent results were found in comparison with control horses and the most notable finding was a decrease in cross sectional area and excellent alignment of the collagen fibres. Significantly better results were obtained with the 7 and 8 mg doses compared with 0 or 3.5 mg doses of BAPN. Care had to be taken in the timing of commencement of exercise, because cross linking of collagen is delayed and the tensile strength of the injured area is low until atleast 6 months after treatment.

Conclusions

The Conference was a great success in dealing with a major problem in horses that had not previously been dealt with in the range and detail, anywhere in the world. The success of the conference was due to the efforts of Dr Michael Hauser from Dubai Equine Hospital and Dr. Norm Rantanen from the United States of America, who was the programme chairman. Outstanding proceedings of the Conference have been published and are available by writing to Dr. Norm Rantanen 5256, South Mission Rd., Suite # 1002 - 514 Bonsall, California 92003 USA. Another conference is planned for March 1997, dealing with respiratory diseases of racehorses.

- Dr. Reuben Rose

"Hydrogen motion"

A non-polluting hydrogen-powered automobile developed over 14 years may well be the vehicle that its inventor Gus Ehrenberg, an engineering graduate from the California Institute of Technology and now an octogenarian, dreamt of.

The automobile has potential use as a family vehicle with a range of more than 240 km on the

hydrogen energy equivalent of 3.79 litre (1 gallon) of gasoline (Hydrogen Today, Vol.6, No.1).

The vehicle uses a series - wound electric motor for each wheel which permits generation of electricity during braking or down-hill motion. The energy can then be stored in a flywheel and used for acceleration or up-hill climbs. A fuel cell can be used for primary electricity production.

Titbits

HBV Vaccine Fights Malaria

The researchers suspect a sinister association between hepatitis B carriage and malaria because the hepatitis virus weakens the body's ability to clear the malaria parasites during their early liver stage. They recommend, therefore, that widespread vaccination against HBV should be investigated, and propose "intervention studies" with HBV vaccine in malaria-endemic zones.

Vaccines are already available. Such a new benefit would add to their fame, they were the first vaccines known to prevent cancer. Long term carriage of HBV often leads to liver cirrhosis, then cancer. Populations of the Pacific rim are notoriously susceptible to such cancer and some of their countries have enthusiastically embraced mass vaccination.

Major Killer Of Young Children

The perceived HBV malaria connection in Africa has equally dramatic implications, international public health experts say. One million people die annually of malaria in that region, 90 percent of them children.

It is vital to learn what factors contribute to severe forms of malaria as such a leading cause of early childhood mortality, researchers pointed out. Drs. Mark R Thursz of the St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London (UK), Catherine E Allsopp of Oxford University - John Radcliffe Hospital and Colleagues of the Medical Research Council Laboratories in Fajara, The Gambia, conducted a case control study of 1,268 children.

Pharmaceutical industry institutions, notably the Wellcome Trust and Boehringer Mannheim in Germany, supported the work.

HBV carrier state (but not necessarily active infection) was much increased, up to double, among cases of severe malaria compared to non malaria infected controls.

Almost all young children in the region eventually became infected with the worst *Plasmodium falciparum* parasites, but only about one percent per year develop the life threatening forms such as cerebral malaria and severe anaemia, authorities say. Blood, immunogenetic, environmental and parasitic factors have been assumed to elevate the children's risk of progressing to severe disease. As for HBV, more than half of the children are infected by seven years of age. Most of them have a sub-clinical infection and recover, but 15 percent fail to clear the virus and can develop liver cancer later in life (even more carry the market HBV surface antigen (HBsAg) before eliminating the virus during adolescence). Researchers found that HBV is "hyperendemic" in The Gambia and also that 80 percent of adults have been infected, and 15 percent are chronic carriers of HBsAg. The associated liver cancer is the leading cause of death among men of working age there.

Malaria hepatitis B co-infection in Gambian children is thus presumably extremely common. Of the 1,268 children in this study, 414 had severe malaria, 336 had mild cases and 518 controls had no clinical signs. By one measure of the association 55 of 136 non-malaria controls were positive for HBsAg versus 81 of 144 children with severe malaria (the researchers emphasise the link is with HBsAg carriage, not HBV infection). Other research by the same group has shown that clearance of HBsAg (and probable protection from severe malaria) is associated with the same host immune factors, including HLA class II allele, DRB1 1302.

HBV Vaccination Urged

A recent report on a hepatitis vaccination study programme in Gambia also brought extremely good news. After eight years, the infectivity of chronic carriers has diminished. Doctors urge that it is time for "Universal inclusion of HBV vaccination in the world wide expanded programme of immunization" of all children against all major preventable diseases.

Health Horizons

CALENDER 1996 - 1997

XX World's Poultry Congress and International Exhibition, 2nd - 8th September , New Delhi, India

Veterinary Association of Namibia : Scientific Congress and 13th AGM, 6th - 7th September, Windhoek

Third World Congress of Dermatology, 11th - 14 September, Edinburgh, Scotland

Zimbabwe Veterinary Association Centenary Congress : 100 Years of Veterinary Science , 16th - 18th September , Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

The 23rd ASAVA Annual Conference, 23rd - 27th September , Adelaide , Australia

BVA Congress, 26th - 29th September, Chester, U.K.

IX National and VI International Seminar on Endoscopy Theory and Practice, 28th - 30th September
Caceres, Spain

The 21st Congress of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association ,20th - 23rd October , Jerusalem,
Israel.

XV Panvet Pana Congress of Veterinary Sciences, 21st- 25th October , Mato Grosso do sul, Brazil.

Commonwealth Vet Association (Australasia/ Oceania Region) Workshop on Contingency Planning for
Exotic Disease in the Asia - Pacific Region, 8th - 10th November , Singapore.

First International Conference on Emerging Zoonoses, 24th - 28th November , Jerusalem , Israel.

XX Biennial Caribbean Veterinary Congress, 1st - 5th December, Barbados, West Indies.

WSAVA 22nd Annual Congress 3rd - 6th April 1997, Birmingham, U.K.

50th Anniversary Congress of the Veterinary Association of Namibia, 10th - 13th September 1997,
Swakopmund, Namibia.

Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference, 22nd - 28th February 1998, Bangalore India.

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- President** : Dr. W.J. Pryor
Galwiji, Pryor's Road, Scotsburn,
RMBN 141, Victoria, Australia 3352
Tel : Off : (0061) 53 413397, Fax : (0061) 53 412273
- Secretary** : Dr. S. Abdul Rahman
123, 7th 'B' Main, IV Block (West) ,
Jayanagar, Bangalore 560 011 India.
Tel : (0091) 80 6635210/646857 Fax : (0091) 80 6635210
E mail : rahman.cva@sm4.sprintrpg.sprint.com
- Programme Director** : Dr. Bert Stevenson
93 Mount Edward Road,
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada CIA 5T1
Tel : (001) 902 3680950 Fax : (001) 902 3680960
- Immediate Past President** : Dr. B.N. Touray
C/o International Trypanotolerance Centre,
Private Mail Bag 14 Banjul, The Gambia (West Africa)
Tel : (00220) Off : 462925/ 462228/ 462929/ 495752
Cable : ITC, Banjul The Gambia Telex - 2301. GV Fax : 462924

Regional Representatives

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|
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7/2nd Floor, Farid Plaza,
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Lahore 54000 Pakistan
Tel : (0092) 42 583 4609
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Fax : (00233) 21 668245/
(00233) 21 224672 |
| CANADA
CARIBBEAN | Dr. Keith Amiel
Jamica Veterinary Association
P.O. Box 309,
Kingston 6 Jamica,
West Indies
Fax : (001) 809 9262434 | U.K.
MEDITERRANEAN | Dr. Laura J. Bowen
C/o. British Veterinary Association,
7, Mansfield Street,
London W1M 0AT, England
Tel : (0044) 1628 829880 (W)
(0044)1628 38581 (H)
Fax : (0044) 71 637 0620 (BVA)
(0044) 1628 829789 (W) |

Dr. S. Abdul Rahman
Editor

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123, 7th 'B' Main Road, IV Block (West), Jayanagar, Bangalore 560 011 INDIA.
Tel : (0091) 80 6635210/ 646857 Fax : (0091) 80 6635210 Email : rahman.cva@sm4.sprintrpg.sprint.com