



# **Equator : informatieblad over veterinaire aspecten van ontwikkelingssamenwerking**

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# EQUATOR

NEWSLETTER ON SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION IN TROPICAL ANIMAL HEALTH

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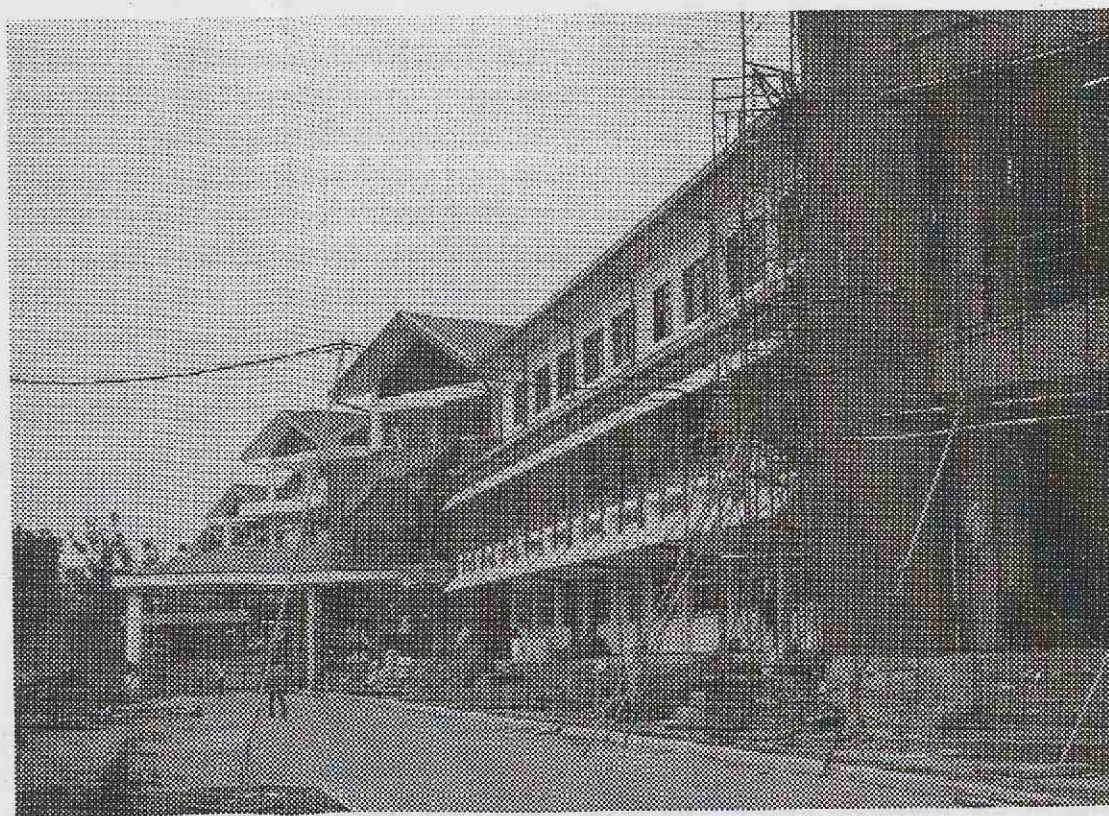
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VOLUME 13, 2001

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BETWEEN INSTITUT PERTANIAN BOGOR (INDONESIA) AND UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

On the occasion of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB) and Utrecht University in June, 2000, the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs Dr. Ir. H. Ahmad Ansori Mattjik highlighted the history, present and future of IPB and the relations with Utrecht.

“The IPB is an agricultural university, agriculture in its largest sense, and as such the only in Indonesia. In 1963 we separated from the University of Indonesia, and from two faculties at that time, the Faculty of Agriculture and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, we have grown into seven faculties including the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and a graduate school. Facilities and the student body have expanded, a major reason to move out to this campus, Darmaga, in 1995. Our total student body is getting close to 20,000 pursuing education and training at 28 Diploma Programmes, 33 undergraduate programmes and

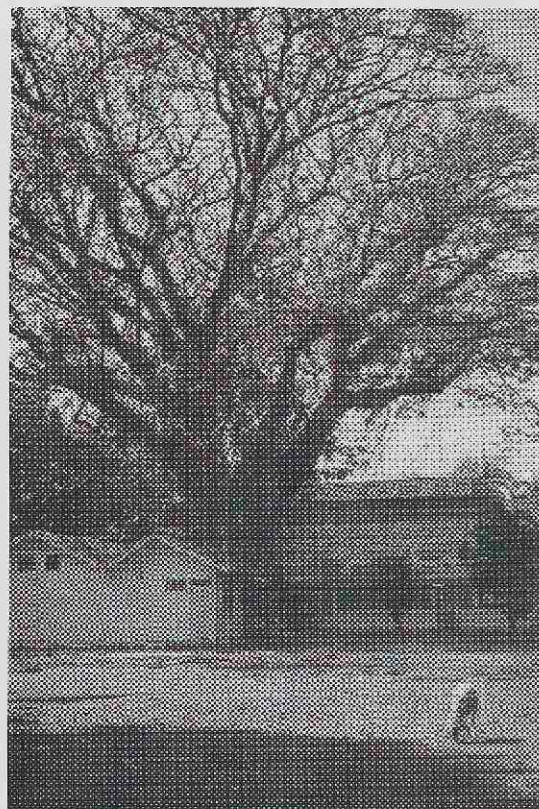


New Faculty in Darmaga (10 km outside Bogor) (Photo: Paling)

32 graduate programmes. The IPB has 1327 faculty members with 75.7% holding masters and doctorate degrees. Academic training is supported by 16 research centers. We trust that sustained and effective international programmes are critical and play an important role in empowering these human resources.”

“Academic co-operation between Indonesia and the Netherlands has a long history reflecting its ups and downs. Our friendship with Utrecht started during the tenure of Prof. Hoekstra and Prof. Numans in Bogor in the fifties. We very much acknowledge their great efforts in assisting the establishment of the *Faculteit der Diergeneeskunde* in Bogor. At this moment I should also mention that the late Prof. Iskandar Titus got his doctorate training at the *Faculteit der Diergeneeskunde* in Utrecht. Relations with Utrecht had been on a non-formal basis, or an individual or personal account. Students from Utrecht visiting the Faculty in Bogor during their vacation to Indonesia, and a very few faculty members from both sides exchanged scientific communication.”

“The co-operation is timely, the Faculty in Bogor will soon be moving out to Darmaga to make use of their new buildings and facilities, including the brand new animal teaching hospital, the one of its kind in South East Asia. The teaching hospital will be adequately equipped with state of the art teaching, clinical and research tools to provide quality training and research.”



Old Faculty in Bogor city  
(Photo: Paling)

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## VETERINARY TRAINEESHIPS IN THE TROPICS

### Experiences of a Dutch veterinary student in Indonesia

*During the 1998 course on Tropical Animal Health and Husbandry, an 8 week elective course in the veterinary curriculum at Utrecht University, Dr. Bambang Purwantara of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Bogor (Institut Pertanian Bogor) presented a guest lecture on small-holder dairy farming in Indonesia. This presentation was very interesting and through the staff members of the ruminant section of the Department of Farm Animal Health I got into contact with Dr. Purwantara. Finally this resulted in a visit to Indonesia for a traineeship at Dr. Purwantara's institute in 2000.*

I stayed in the surroundings of Lembang, a small village very near Bandung, (formerly known as the Paris of the East) in West Java. It is situated in the hills at an altitude of 1200 m above sea level. At this altitude the temperature is generally between 17 and 25 °C, which is very enjoyable, at least for a Dutch student. Most of the time the local Indonesians were shivering in the transport buses. The area

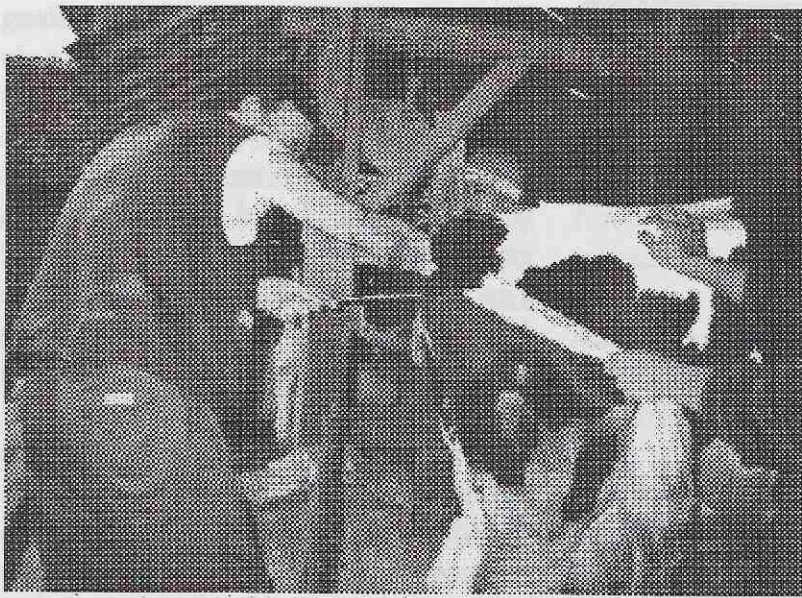
has an average rainfall of 1800-2500 mm per year.

The mild climate was the reason why in the colonial times the Dutch introduced dairy farming in this region. The original “Fries-Hollands” dairy cattle, have recently been transformed into Holstein-Friesian by introducing semen from bulls from Canada and Japan. In general the farmers

have 2-5 milking cows and the adherent stock for replacement. They have on average a few hectares of land, on which they grow crops or elephant grass.

The milk that is produced is collected by the “koperasi” KPSBU (Koperasi Peternak Sapi Bandung Utara) and sold to Indomilk. The cooperation was founded by the farmers in August, 1971, and is nowadays an example in Indonesia for a cooperation which is very well managed. The average daily milk production at the co-operation is 84,000 liters, around 12 liters per lactating cow. The total number of cows is approximately 11,000 heads. The veterinary work is done by 18 inseminators and two veterinarians. The inseminators tasks are artificial insemination (A.I.) and veterinary work. The veterinarians are the managers of the unit and visit the farmers if more specialized advice is needed. These services are free for the farmers, the costs are incorporated in the milk price.

I had a very enjoyable time, visiting the farmers on the backseat of a motorcycle which was driven by an inseminator of the “koperasi”.



Steven Pool was taught AI on cows in Indonesia. (Photo: Pool)



Dr. Purwantara (center) questions veterinary students on rectal exploration (Photo: Pool)

The veterinary students of IPB (Institut Pertanian Bogor) have the opportunity to do their internships in large animals at this cooperation and they spend four weeks of their study in the hills of Lembang. They have the opportunity to learn artificial insemination and pregnancy control. The students are examined for a whole day at the end of the internship.

I took this chance to learn A.I. on cows, because this subject is not taught at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University. Furthermore there were many interesting veterinary cases, of which I will describe some.

Milkfever was a common disease after parturition, probably because of the amount of concentrates the farmers feed their cows during the dry period. To be cost-effective the veterinarians of the cooperation invented a home made Ca-infusion, which proved to be very effective. However, the first time they tried this infusion on a cow, the cow became anaphylactic. Fortunately this happened only once. They are, by the way, the only veterinarians in Indonesia who produce this infusion.

If you want to hear the "ping-ping" of an abomasal displacement you definitely have to go to Lembang. There were many cases, as well on the right as on the left side. The treatment was papaverine I.V. and many cases were cured because of this treatment. The

veterinarians told me there was another treatment, which I unfortunately did not witness. They pump liters of water in the rectum until it is 'full'. This was claimed to be very effective also. Nevertheless there are plans to build a surgery room next year, to be able to treat these cases by performing surgery.

We also attended to many deliveries, which was of course nice to see and do.

During my stay, the "koperasi" started a programme to eradicate Brucellosis. So many days were filled with taking blood samples, which needed to be checked for antibodies.

The study I planned to carry out was as follows. Collect as many data as possible on cows with a poor body condition and on their ovary status. Were they anoestric or cyclic? This was more difficult than I expected. In general the cows were in a better body condition than the dairy cows in The Netherlands. After mentioning this fact to the veterinarians, we visited a farmer with underfed cows and I was able to find here some anoestric cows, but this approach does not produce reliable scientific results. However, it was nice to experience how a plan can develop totally different.

In Indonesia it may be difficult to conduct your planned veterinary research, but circumstances are ideal

for a foreign visitor. The language Bahasa Indonesia is easy to learn, because the grammar is probably the most basic in the world. In one month a person is able to talk Bahasa enough to have functional conversations. Public transport is very interesting because you can have basic conversations, and for Dutch people is it even more interesting because you have always the chance of speaking Dutch whenever an older person is traveling with you. Many words are still Dutch, like 'knalpot, boontjes, kantor, democrasi, and many more. It is definitely a good country to spend time as a student.

Steven Pool

# I REALISED THE EUROPEAN DREAM!

On February 20<sup>th</sup> Brighton Dzikiti from Zimbabwe and Vladimir Galindo Zamora from Colombia successfully presented their master theses. They are the first students who obtained the degree of Master in Veterinary Anaesthesiology at Utrecht University. EQUATOR interviewed Vladimir Galindo Zamora, and asked him about his background and experiences during the 18-month period that he worked at both the Clinic for Companion Animals and the Equine Clinic of Utrecht University's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

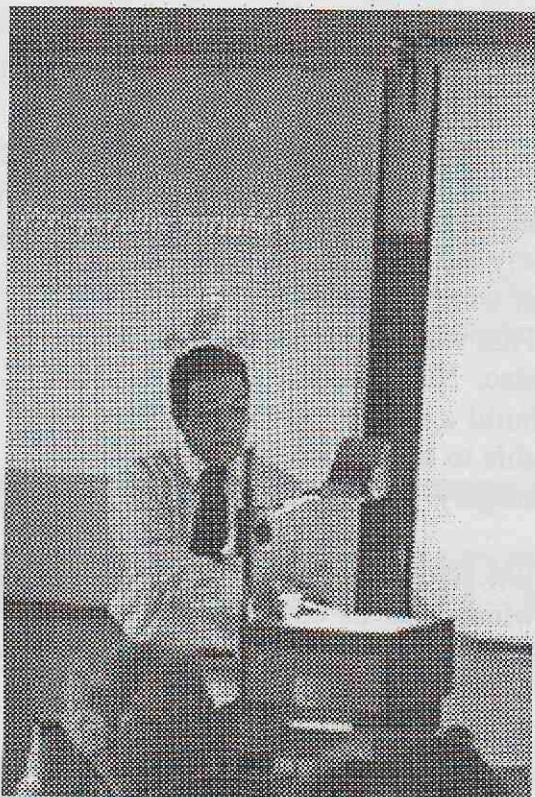
*"Already as a student I wanted to go further into science", Vladimir says with his flamboyant Latin big smile when he is asked why he wanted to do a master's course, "After graduating I started working at the National University of Colombia and the academic environment stimulates a scientific career".*

Why did you opt for Utrecht University? In fact, how did you know we just started this course?

*"I was working in clinics and I wanted to combine research with clinical work. There are many places in the world where you can do a master course, but most of those courses are focussed on research only. Utrecht offered the opportunity to further develop my clinical skills as well. How I found out about this course? Easy, I just picked it from the internet and wrote to Robert Paling for further information".*

Was it difficult to get your course financed? It must be easier to get funding for courses in public health or pathology than in clinical sciences. Most funding agencies will regard clinical work as "luxury"?

*"You are right in that. Indeed, it was difficult. No way of funding through the normal channels for international co-operation. As I am from what you call a middle-class family, that was no source of money either. I could pay for the course and my stay here because the University in Bogotá continued my salary while I was here, and because I got a loan from an*



Vladimir in front of the anaesthesiology equipment in the surgery room of the Department of Equine Sciences (Photo: Gootjes)

*Institution called Colfuturo. They invest in people like me with the aim to bring Colombia forward, giving them loans under so-called "soft" conditions. They will acquit part of your debt when you return to the country and when you work for a couple of years in a public office. However, I have to pay back part of it, so to a certain extent I am really investing in my own future and development".*

Did you have much experience travelling abroad and how did you experience the difference in culture?

(Grinning) *"It is my first time in*

*Europe. Although my family lives under good conditions, Colombia is experiencing one of the worst economic crises since decades and at home there was no money for frequent travelling. So, I did not have much experience.*

*Yes, indeed, arriving in the Netherlands was quite a culture shock. You know, the Latin culture from Colombia is in many respects very different from your culture. There, we are living very closely as families. The family bond is very important whereas in your culture there is much more individualism. In the beginning that was hard. I was not used to living alone and had to adapt to that. On the other hand, social pressure is much higher in the Latin culture. People are used to impose their way of seeing things on others. What I like here very much is the respect people have for the individuality of other persons. If you like to dress in some odd way, or if you are a homosexual, or belong to any other minority group, people will respect that. In my country you are forced to conform to the main stream if you do not want to become a real outcast".*

Don't you think you will have difficulties in adapting again when you go back?

*"Oh, certainly, at least to some extent. I will miss some characteristics of your society like your punctuality. Also, people are much more direct here when talking or negotiating. In Colombia it is sometimes difficult to say things plainly and frankly. I know that my experience abroad will have changed me a little, but that is all right. That happens to everybody who stayed abroad for some time. In fact, it is one of the aims of that institution I told you about, Colfuturo, to slowly change Colombian society in this way".*

Let us go back to your stay here. Did you like it or not, and what are your points of criticism? Please, be frank as is the custom here like you just said. Anyway, you got your degree, so there is no reason to be too polite!

(Grinning) *"It is my first time in* The big smile re-appears easily: *"In*

general I liked it very much. Of course, there were some problems in the beginning. You know, Brighton and I were the first two Anaesthesiology master students. At the start of the period we did not feel comfortable with many people from the clinics like surgeons and radiologists because they did not know us and did not know what we were up to. With the people from Anaesthesiology that was different as they did know and tried to integrate us right from the start. Of course, with the other people things got better with time. A point of criticism might be that some of the courses we had to do did not match very well with our discipline. The course in epidemiology was of course excellent for the master students in veterinary epidemiology, but did not really apply to our situation. On the other hand, there were other courses, such as "Writing and editing for the professional scientist", that were really excellent. In general, I am very satisfied with the course as a whole".

You worked both in the companion and large animals clinic. Did you notice any difference?

"Sure. In the companion animal clinic

the atmosphere was much more relaxed. I also felt better accepted in companion animals than in large animals. By the way, it is often heard among the foreigners working at this Faculty that acceptance in companion animals is much better than in large animals. However, you should take into account that this is a general feeling and does not say anything about individual persons".

What will be your work when you get back?

"I will be working at the small animal clinic in the rank of assistant-professor. That is a rank higher than when I left. It was agreed upon that I would get promoted once I finished this master's course. I will not only be working in anaesthesiology. We are just 3 persons which means that I will have to do other disciplines, such as radiology, surgery and medicine as well. That is also the reason why I did not want to lose contact with the clinical work during my master's course".

What is your overall feeling after the course? Would you do it again?

"Certainly. The course, and the experience I had in a North-American private practice which I visited during my master's training, have changed my mind about veterinary medicine completely. Further, I have been able to realise what the Colombians call "The European Dream": experiencing Europe. I have had the opportunity to travel a bit, although less than I had hoped. I have been in Belgium, France and Germany. And of course I visited the most interesting parts of the Netherlands. The hard part was living separated from your family".

Anything to add?

"What I really wanted to say is how much the two of us, Brighton and I, appreciated it that we were taken to dinner after the presentation of our theses by the entire staff of the anaesthesiology department. There were about 20 people. We felt very much honoured that they had bothered to see us out in this way. We really felt completely accepted and among friends!"

René van Weeren

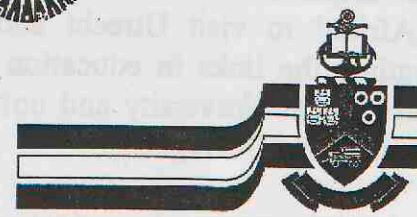
## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE VETERINARY FACULTIES AT ONDERSTEPSPOORT (SOUTH AFRICA) AND UTRECHT (THE NETHERLANDS)

In January, 2000 the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University (UU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Pretoria (see EQUATOR Vol. 12, nr. 1, March 2000). At a meeting held at Onderstepoort in January 2001, the Deans and co-ordinators of the respective faculties together with Professor J.A.W. Coetzer evaluated the progress of implementation of the MOU during the first year.

At the outset of the implementation of the MOU it was agreed that it would be very important for the ultimate success of the MOU for both faculties to familiarise themselves as to their management, departmental organisation, curricula, research programmes and the functioning of their academic hospitals. In this regard exchange of relevant policy documents, reports and regulations has occurred as well as the exchange of personnel.



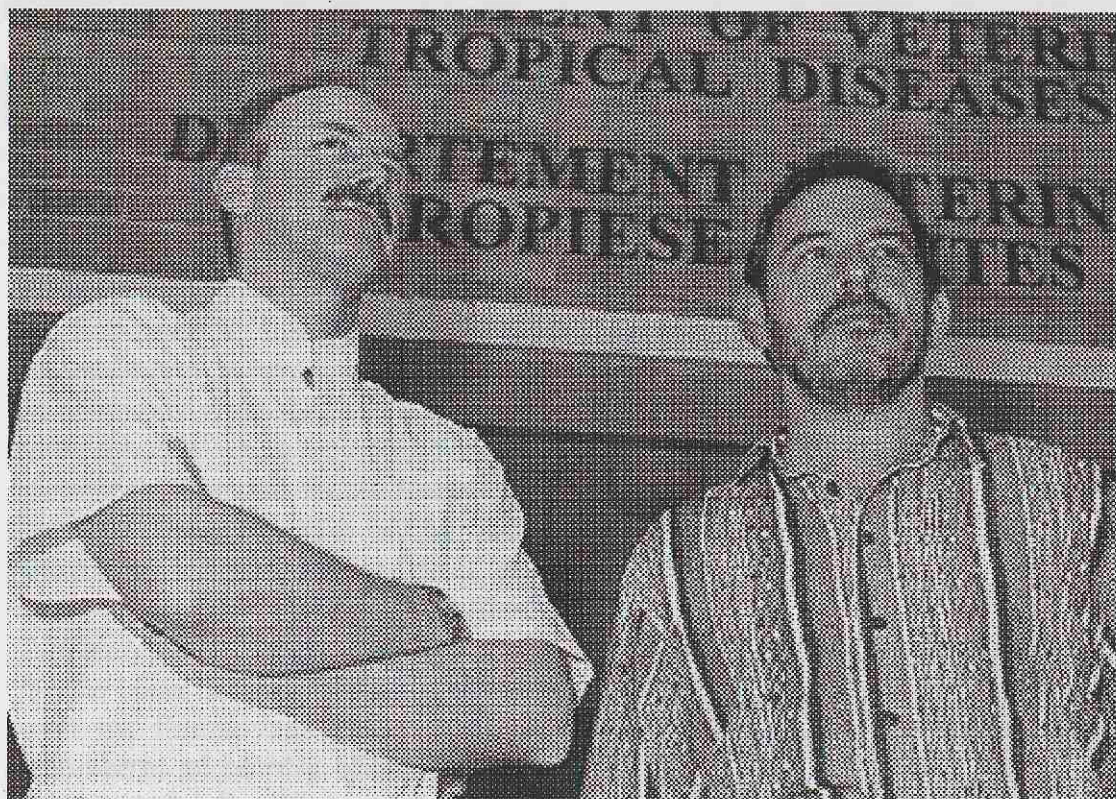
Universiteit Utrecht



University of Pretoria

### Joint appointments of staff members

A first step to strengthen the links between the two faculties was made in January 2000, when Dr. Frans Jongejan of UU, an expert in tick borne diseases, was appointed as an extra ordinary Professor for three years in the Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary Science at Onderstepoort. Dr. Jongejan works closely with the tick borne disease experts at Onderstepoort. This



Professors Jongejan (l) and Coetzer (r) in front of the Department of Tropical Veterinary Diseases in Onderstepoort (Photo: Collection University of Pretoria)

collaboration was recently reinforced by an external grant from SENTER in the Netherlands for the development, implementation and commercialisation of new diagnostic tests using PCR and RLB (Reverse Line Blotting).

From January 2001 Professor Koos Coetzer of Onderstepoort was appointed as a part time Professor in Tropical Veterinary Medicine for a five-year period at the Department of Infectious Diseases and Immunology at the Utrecht Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. Prof. Coetzer was awarded an EZA fellowship of Utrecht University's 'Expertisecentrum voor Zuidelijk Afrika' to visit Utrecht and to strengthen the links in education between Utrecht University and universities in the SADC region.

### Collaborative research projects

A number of research areas, in which both faculties are interested, were selected and staff exchanges were initiated to familiarize with the partners and to undertake joint action such as workshops and the preparation of applications for funding the joint research. The main areas are: ticks and tick-borne diseases; immunology/molecular biology; epidemiology, socio-economics and risk assessment; clinical research and veterinary public health.

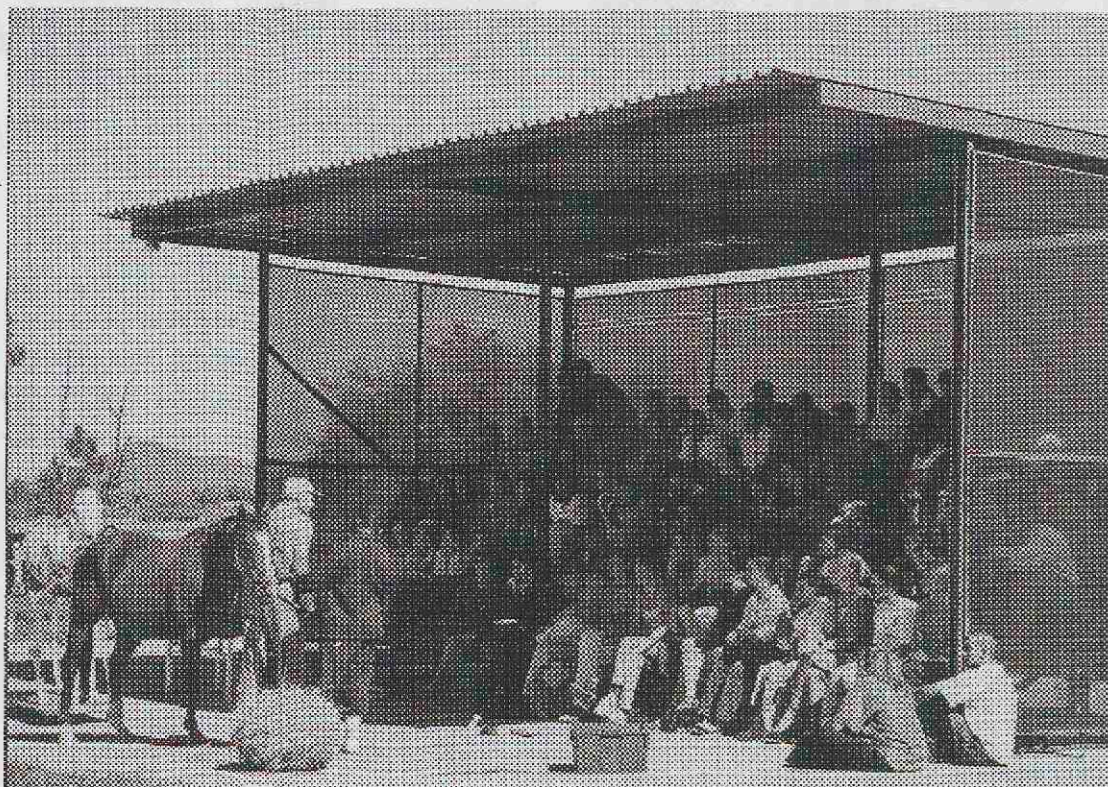
In 2000 exchanges of scientists related to the following main research areas were executed.

- Ticks and Tick-borne diseases. Two workshops linked to the EU-INCO-DEV ICTTD-2 project were held at Onderstepoort and a virtual centre the 'Centre for Tick and Tick-borne Diseases Control' (CTTC) was established.
- Malignant catarrhal fever (MCF) (Partners: Utrecht, Moredun, Harare and Pretoria)
- Isolation of feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) of lions (Partners: Pretoria and Utrecht)
- Population dynamics of helminths in donkeys (Partners: Utrecht and

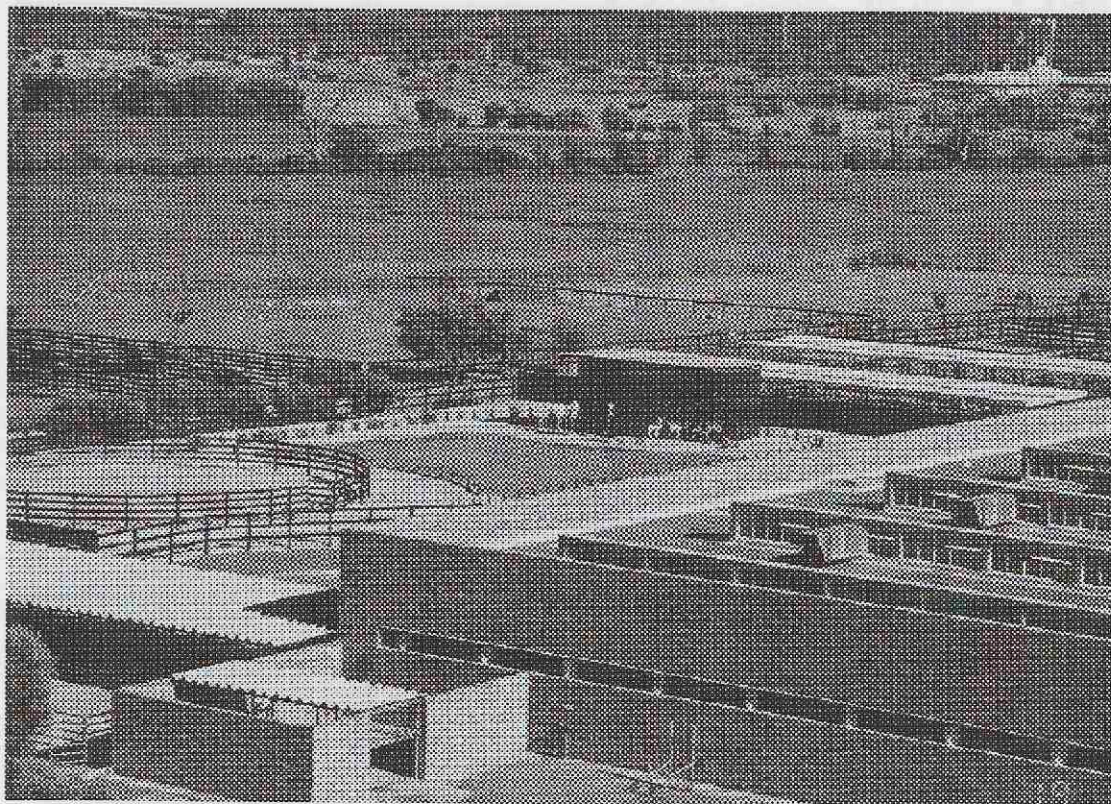
- Pretoria).
- Rift Valley Fever (RVF). (Partners: Utrecht, Maputo, and Pretoria). This project was supported by a 1-year fellowship of UU for a PhD student from Maputo.
- Reproduction in ostriches. (Partners: Pretoria, Harare, Utrecht and Leuven).

### Regional Master of Science Course

It is envisaged that the above-mentioned collaborative research projects, as well as others being developed with partners in the region in the coming years, will form a scientific environment for the research projects of the participants in the Regional SADC Master Programme on Tropical Animal Health and Food Safety'. The development of this postgraduate degree course went on steadily during recent years (see EQUATOR Vol. 11, Nr. 3 May-June, 1999) and it is expected that the first candidates will start with the basic core modules in Zambia this year. The research projects of the participants can be undertaken in either of the SADC countries during the 3rd year of the Regional Master of Science Course.



Open air clinical lectures (Photo: Rutten)



The Faculty of Veterinary Science at Onderstepoort (Photo: Rutten)

South Africa to do a part of their education or research in Utrecht.

#### Joint statement by the Deans of Onderstepoort and Utrecht

In the executive summary of the Annual Report 2000 the Deans of Onderstepoort and Utrecht conclude: 'Given the limited funding that was available for the period under review significant progress was made in meeting the objectives set out in the MOU. With the personnel exchanges that have taken place during the first year of the MOU to familiarise both institutions of the opportunities for collaboration a number of mutually beneficial research proposals have been developed for submission to various funding agencies. It is felt that the initial investment that was made in the implementation of the MOU has most decidedly delivered dividends and it is with confidence that it is recommended that the activities outlined in the MOU and its supporting work plan be continued during 2001. The stage is set for the continued collaboration between two strong and mutually compatible institutions, which will be to the benefit of each, as well as the Southern African sub region'.

#### Joint Symposium on Tropical Animal Health and Production

In September 2000 eleven members of the academic and research personnel from the Faculty of Veterinary Science at Onderstepoort and the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute presented papers at the 11th annual Symposium on Tropical Animal Health and Production held at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Utrecht University. The topic for the Symposium was *Diagnosis and Control of Transboundary Infectious Diseases in Southern Africa*. The proceedings of the Symposium have been published as extended abstracts (see EQUATOR Vol 12, nr. 2/3 of October, 2000).

#### Exchange of undergraduate, MSc and PhD students with recognition of study programmes

Exchanges of undergraduate student from Utrecht to Onderstepoort have started in 2000. These exchanges are organized in such a way that the training and evaluation is mutually acceptable and officially recognized as a component of the degree programmes. Programmes of the clinical rotations will also be made available at both faculties. The students may also choose to participate in research projects in relation to the collaborative projects. These exchanges will be of 3-6 months. In 2001 four students will do such a traineeship in South Africa and two others will participate in courses of the final year at Onderstepoort.

A new fellowship programme of the Netherlands Ministry for Education and Science, called DELTA, creates possibilities for support of undergraduate, MSc and PhD students from

Dr. Robert W. Paling

## 'PARAVETERINARY OR COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICES; DOES IT WORK?'

### *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF) – Europa: Annual meeting 2001 in Utrecht*

The annual meeting of VSF-Europa started February 15, 2001 with a symposium entitled 'Focussing on veterinary development projects'. Four of

the eight European member organisations of VSF-Europa presented one of their projects or highlighted the history, structure and recent develop-

ments in their organization. DIO (the Dutch member of VSF-Europa) was this year's host, responsible for organising the three-day meeting in Utrecht. The dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Prof. Dr. A.W.C.A. Cornelissen, chaired the symposium. One of the speakers this evening was Marina Martin, working for VETAID (VSF-UK). The title of her presentation 'Paraveterinary or Community Animal Health services; does it work?' is also the subject of a review she recently worked on. Because this



is an interesting issue in veterinary development work, a summary of her presentation follows.

### What is a paravet?

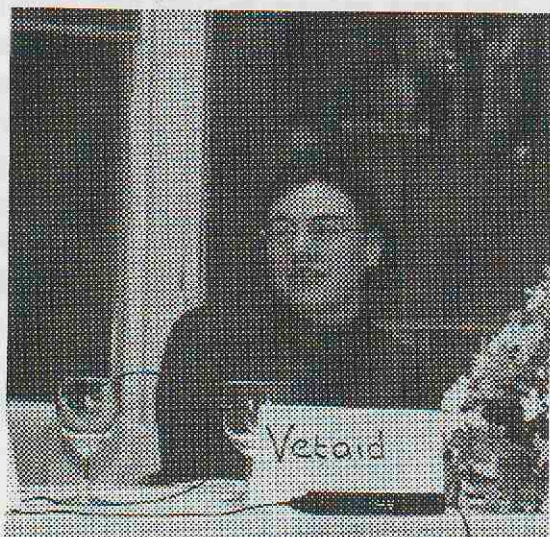
Paravets are farmers with an interest in animal health care, selected by their communities and families to provide basic veterinary care to local livestock. Most of these paravets operate in remote rural areas of developing countries. They provide basic animal health care, deliver vaccines, diagnose diseases, administer anthelmintics, acaricides, etcetera. They are also trained to look at de-horning and castration in a welfare friendly way.

After their training of a few weeks, the paravets receive a start kit of veterinary drugs. They are expected to charge for the drugs and their services so that they can replenish their drug supply. An organization like Vetaid can ensure that drugs are available locally by setting up rural pharmacies and community managed revolving drug funds.

### Does it work?

NGO's like the VSF organisations have a hard time monitoring the success of this kind of projects. Monitoring is expensive and time consuming. Beside this it is difficult to select meaningful indicators. There are many different indicators that can be used to measure impact. For instance implementation indicators: number of paravets trained, number of animals treated, amount of drugs sold. You

Marina Martin from VetAid during the symposium (Photo: Collection DIO)



can also look at livestock through mortality and morbidity surveys. But also at poor farmers, such as number of children going to school, family income, expenditure. Or take a look at the wealth status: Does the family own a bicycle, a radio or a lock on the door...

Vetaid has been working on a review

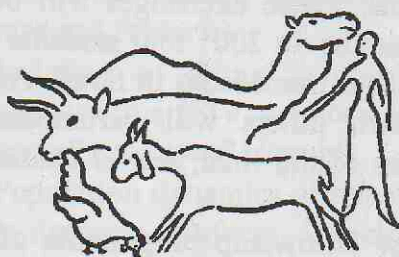
they found was that NGO's and GO's (governmental organisations) have been finding it very difficult to measure impact. The data that they have collected are often incomplete and of poor quality. Conclusions are drawn that are not based on the evidence presented. The good news is that large numbers of paravets are trained in all corners of the world. These paravets are providing essential services, where none existed previously. Farmers are willing to pay for veterinary drugs and for people to administer them correctly. Paravets are able to earn a small income from their services.

### What about impact?

Not every report providing data on livestock mortality and morbidity brings good news. Some reports indicate a significant decrease in mortality rates, like the one from the Dutch Committee for Afghanistan. Others show minor improvements that may or may not be attributed to the paravets work. There are also some studies reporting on the economic efficiency of paravet programmes. Though the studies' calculations of costs and benefits are often estimates and are difficult to verify, they all show very positive cost benefit ratios. This means it is definitely valuable to invest in paravets, because the returns are high.

And then the people...this is the hardest and the most important part. A few

## VETAID



*Healthy Animals – Healthy People*

## VETAID



on the impact of community animal health services (paravet services) for DFID (Department for International Development). Using databases, the internet, journals and personal contacts they collected approximately 300 documents relating to paravet services, their impact and on methods how to analyse the data. First thing

studies show that people are better off, they are drinking more milk (their animals are more productive), they are sending more of their children to school and they feel more secure during the 'winter' or lean season.

As a follow-up on this review, Vetaid would like to design a framework for impact assessment that is replicable, easy to use and cheap. It should include the implementation indicators, the livestock indicators, economic efficiency indicators and of course 'livelihood' indicators.

#### VSF-Europa

The annual meeting was also the start

of the institutionalisation of VSF-Europa as an association with a juridical status. With this status VSF-Europa expects to have a stronger vote in Europe and more political impact. As a European organisation the members learn from each other, share each others publications, share a CV-database, etcetera. If you would like to know more about VSF-Europa or its member organisations, feel free to visit the websites mentioned below. DIO was very pleased to welcome the seven sister organisations and discuss veterinary development work and other topics at this fruitful and memorable meeting.

VSF-F (France) [www.vsf-france.org](http://www.vsf-france.org),  
Vetaid (UK) [www.vetaid.org](http://www.vetaid.org),  
Vetermon (Spain) [www.vetermon.org](http://www.vetermon.org),  
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DIO (The Netherlands) [www.dio.nl](http://www.dio.nl),  
VSF-CH (Switzerland)  
TOG (Germany)

Wendela Wapenaar

## V A C A N C I E S

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT AFGHANISTAN

The Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA-VET), a foundation with its headquarters in Lelystad, The Netherlands, is specialised in veterinary programmes in Afghanistan. Under its responsibility a veterinary training and support programme is being implemented, initially in Peshawar, Pakistan, later in Kabul and Herat, both in Afghanistan. Since its inception, more than 10 years ago, the project has trained over five hundred paravets who are deployed in different field programmes within Afghanistan.

The project is also involved in technical and logistical backstopping of field staff and extension work. Funds for the programme are secured, usually on an annual base, from various donors, more recently mainly from the European Community.

For the overall co-ordination of the programme, the Board of the Foundation is looking for a:

#### PROGRAMME MANAGER CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

with demonstrable managerial qualities (preferably with a background in veterinary medicine or livestock production, but candidates with other technical backgrounds are also invited to reflect)

#### Duties:

The Programme Manager will be in charge of supervising and monitoring the various components of the programme, in close collaboration with Afghan counterpart staff. Duty stations will be both Herat and Peshawar.

#### Qualifications

Good managerial qualifications are essential, and considered more important than experience in development

work. Some seniority is welcome. Fluency in English, both written and verbal, and computer experience are highly appreciated.

#### Offered

A challenging position in a programme that has demonstrated its value for improving the livelihood of the local population. Duty station will be Peshawar, Pakistan, with frequent travel to project areas in Afghanistan. Offered is a contract for one year, with possibility for extension with at least another year. Envisaged starting date: mid-May 2001. Salaries are in line with Public Service remuneration within The Netherlands. In view of the exceptional conditions prevailing in the country, this post is not suitable for female applicants.

#### Applications

containing full CV can be submitted



DUTCH COMMITTEE FOR AFGHANISTAN

کمیته هالند برای افغانستان



within 4 weeks of this publication to:  
St. Dutch Committee for Afghanistan  
(DCA-VET), P.O.Box 65, 8200 AB  
Lelystad, The Netherlands

**Further information**  
may be obtained from:  
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e-mail: [b.e.c.schreuder@id.wag-ur.nl](mailto:b.e.c.schreuder@id.wag-ur.nl)  
or Gerrit Wassink, Treasurer,  
tel: -31-546-573382  
e-mail: [wasnot@worldonline.nl](mailto:wasnot@worldonline.nl)

## C.L. DAVIS DVM FOUNDATION SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AFRICA DIVISION

*5th Veterinary Pathology Symposium, November 20-22, 2001, Nairobi, Kenya*

**DATE:** Tuesday, November 20 through Thursday, November 22, 2001

**VENUE:** Lenana Mount Hotel, P. O. Box 40943, Nairobi, Kenya  
Telephone: (254) (2) 717044/8  
Fax: (254) (2) 719394  
E-mail: [lenanamounthotel@iconnect.co.ke](mailto:lenanamounthotel@iconnect.co.ke)  
Contact staff: Anne Njagi

**THEME:** Reproductive constraints in domestic and wild animals  
(focusing on pathology)

**PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

Professor Mark J. Obwolo, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe: Pathology of the male and female reproductive systems of domestic animals

Professor Nick Kriek, University of Pretoria, South Africa: Reproductive constraints in some species of wild animals

Dr. Stephen M. Njiro, University of Nairobi, Kenya: Rift Valley Fever

Professor Ojok Lonzy, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

Professor T.A. Ngatia, University of Nairobi, Kenya

**SYMPOSIUM DIRECTOR (Contact Person):**

Dr. Stephen M. Njiro  
Department of Veterinary Pathology and Microbiology  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
University of Nairobi  
P. O. Box 29053 Kabete, Kenya  
Tel/Fax/Answering: (254) (2) 600410  
E-mail: [snjiro@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:snjiro@uonbi.ac.ke)

A detailed program is being prepared. Those interested in delivering short presentations and those requiring further information should contact Dr Stephen Njiro. Registration fees for C L Davis Foundation members is \$ 75 and for non-members it is \$ 150. A number of rooms have been booked from November 19 to 22, 2001 in the Lenana Mount Hotel for participants of the Symposium. The daily rate is \$ 40 for bed and breakfast. Participants may make arrangements directly with the Hotel or through Dr Njiro. In any case, applications for Registration should be sent to Dr Njiro.

# 12th SYMPOSIUM

## 'DAIRY DEVELOPMENT IN THE TROPICS'

Utrecht  
The Netherlands

2 November 2001

*(for details see Calendar)*



# 2 C 0 A 0 L 1 E / N 2 D 0 A 0 R 2

### **Sydney, Australia**

2 - 6 July, 2001

Veterinary Conservation Biology: Wildlife health and management in Australasia. Jointly organised by: AAVCB, WAWW, WSNZVA and WDA. Programme: Conservation biology in Australasia; Wildlife utilisation; Marine wildlife and birds; Wildlife recovery and reintroduction programmes and vertebrate pests; Wildlife health in Australasia. Information: L. Vogelnest, Taronga Zoo and Quarantine Centre, P.O. Box 20, Mosman NSW 2088, Australia (Fax: +61.2. 99784516, e-mail: [lvogelnest@zoo.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lvogelnest@zoo.nsw.gov.au))

### **San Francisco, USA**

12 - 14 July, 2001

Conference higher education and research for agriculture and food systems in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Organised by: Global Consortium of Higher Education and Research for Agriculture (GCHERA). Information: GCHERA Secretariat (E-mail: [gchera@iasate.edu](mailto:gchera@iasate.edu), [www.gchera.iasate.edu/](http://www.gchera.iasate.edu/)).

### **Pilansberg, South Africa**

22 - 27 July, 2001

6<sup>th</sup> Biennial meeting of the Society for Tropical Veterinary Medicine (STVM). Jointly organised with

### **Wildlife Disease Association**

(WDA). Theme: Wildlife and livestock disease and sustainability. Information: Mrs. S. Collier and Mrs. M. Pietersen (Tel.: +27.11.7065010, fax: +27.11.4637195, e-mail: [millissa@eventdynamics.co.za](mailto:millissa@eventdynamics.co.za), [www.eventdynamics.co.za/stvm](http://www.eventdynamics.co.za/stvm)).

### **Copenhagen (Denmark)**

20 - 24 August, 2001

10<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Association of Institutions for Tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM). Theme: 'Livestock, Community and Environment'. Subjects: (1) Livestock-environment interactions; (2)

# 2 C 0 A 0 L 1 E / N 2 D 0 A 0 R 2

Delivery of veterinary services; (3) New approaches to veterinary education; (4) Control of transboundary diseases; (5) Smallholder poultry; (6) Peri-urban animal production systems; (7) Veterinary public health.

Scholarships: The Organising Committee has approached relevant national and international organisations and secure funding of a number of participants from developing countries. Location: Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL). Information: Dr. Niels Chr. Kyvsgaard, KVL, Danish Center for Experimental Parasitology, 13 Bülowsvej, DK-1870 Frederiksberg C., Copenhagen (Fax: + 45.35.282774, e-mail: [nck@kvl.dk](mailto:nck@kvl.dk), [www.aitvm.org](http://www.aitvm.org), [www.aitvm.kvl.dk/](http://www.aitvm.kvl.dk/)).

## Barneveld, The Netherlands

24 August, 2001 – 1 March, 2002

International course on poultry husbandry and International course on pig husbandry. Organized by: IPC Livestock International, Barneveld College. These courses will run at the same time. Following these courses participation is possible in the International animal feed training programme (AFTP), which runs from 4 March to 31 May, 2002. Direct entry in this last course is also possible. Fees including board and lodging: Poultry course: NLG 25,500; Pig course: NLG 25,500, Feed course; NLG 13,000 or 15,500 (direct entry). Closing date: 1 May, 2001. Information: IPC Livestock Barneveld College, Dep. of International Studies and Co-operation Programmes, P.O. Box 64, 3770 AB Barneveld (Tel.: +31.342.414881, fax: +31. 342.4-92813, e-mail: [io@ipcudier.hacom.nl](mailto:io@ipcudier.hacom.nl)).

## Stresa, Italy

26 - 30 August, 2001

18th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP). Information: New Team, Via C. Ghiretti, 2, I-43100 Parma (Tel.: +39.521.293913, fax: +39.521.294036, e-mail: [newteam.parma@iol.it](mailto:newteam.parma@iol.it)).

## Selangor, Malaysia

27 - 30 August, 2001

13th Veterinary Association Malaysia & 2nd International Congress and Commonwealth Veterinary Association Australasia/Oceania Regional Meeting. Location: The Mines Exhibition Centre, Sungei Besi, Selangor. Information: Dr. Siti Zubaidah Ramanoon, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University Putra Malaysia, 4300 Serdang, Selangor Darul Ehsan (Tel: +603.8948.6101 ext 1883, Fax: +603.8943.0626, e-mail: [siti@vet.upm.edu.my](mailto:siti@vet.upm.edu.my), [www.vet.upm.edu.my/](http://www.vet.upm.edu.my/)).

## Utrecht, The Netherlands

1 September, 2001 - 31 August, 2003

International MSc programme of the Graduate School of Animal Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Utrecht University and ID-DLO Institute for Animal Science and Health, Lelystad. Programme: MSc Course 'Animal Pathology', duration 2 years (fee: NLG 35,000); MSc course 'Veterinary Anaesthesiology', duration 18 months (fee: NLG 35,000). Registration before 1 August, 2001. Information: Office for International Co-operation, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. P.O. Box 80.163, 3508 TD Utrecht (Fax: +31.30.2531815, e-mail: [bic@vet.uu.nl](mailto:bic@vet.uu.nl), [www.vet.uu.nl](http://www.vet.uu.nl)).

## Wageningen, The Netherlands

29 October – 10 November, 2001

International Course on Farm Animal Diversity: Dynamics, Utilisation and Preservation. Topics: Introduction and problem identification; The dynamics and driving forces of farm animal diversity; Animal breeding and farm animal diversity; Policy principles in biodiversity and how to manage for biodiversity; Methodologies for problem analysis and preparation of an action plan. Organised by: International Agricultural Centre (IAC) and Wageningen University and Research Centre. Information: IAC, P.O. Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen (Tel.: + 31.317.495495; fax: +31.317.495395; e-mail: [training@iac.agro.nl](mailto:training@iac.agro.nl)).

## Utrecht, The Netherlands

2 November, 2001

12<sup>th</sup> International symposium: Tropical Animal Health and Production. Theme: Dairy development in the tropics. Organised by: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University and Wageningen University and Research Center. Information: Office for International Co-operation, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, NL 3508 TD Utrecht. (Fax: +31.30.2531815, e-mail: [bic@vet.uu.nl](mailto:bic@vet.uu.nl)).

## Wageningen, The Netherlands

25 November - 8 December, 2001

International Course on Livestock and Environment Interactions. Organised by: International Agricultural Centre and Wageningen Agricultural University. Closing date for application: 15 September, 2001. Fees: NLG 5,500. Information: Director of the IAC, P.O. Box 88, NL 6700 AB Wageningen (Tel.: +31.317. 490111, fax: +31. 317418552, e-mail: [a.j.nell@iac.agro.nl](mailto:a.j.nell@iac.agro.nl); [www.iac-agro.nl/frame training.htm](http://www.iac-agro.nl/frame training.htm)).

## Banff, Alberta, Canada

20 – 27 July, 2002

4th International Conference on Ticks and Tick-borne Pathogens (TTP 4). Themes: Tick biology; Tick-pathogen interaction; Tick-host interface; Biological control of ticks. Organised by: Prof. R. Kaufman, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Canada T6G2E9 (Fax: +1.780.4929234, tel.: +1.780.4923308, e-mail: [ttp4@biology.ualberta.ca](mailto:ttp4@biology.ualberta.ca), [www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses.hp/ttp4.hp/home.htm](http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses.hp/ttp4.hp/home.htm)).

# EQUATOR

NEWSLETTER ON SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION IN TROPICAL ANIMAL HEALTH

ISSN 0923-3334



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October 2001



2

VOLUME 13, 2001

## RESEARCHERS WELCOMED IN "TROPICAL" COPENHAGEN

### Report from the 10th AITVM Conference on "Livestock Community and Environment"

The 10th Conference of the Association of Institutes for Tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM) took place in Copenhagen from 20-23 August under tropical temperatures of around 30°C, creating an appropriate atmosphere for the 170 participants coming from 44 countries. The Local Organising Committee, which was composed of a group of scientists from the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL) and representatives of DANIDA, Norway and Sweden, had been working with great enthusiasm during the last year to complete all the arrangements for the Conference, which took place in one of the KVL buildings in Frederiksberg.

The theme of the 10th AITVM Conference "Livestock, Community and Environment" turned to be a challenging subject, leading to interesting presentations and constructive discussions; resulting sometimes in eye-opening conclusions and balanced, up to date recommendations on policies and actions for livestock development in rural and peri-urban areas of developing countries.

#### About the AITVM

The AITVM is a Foundation composed of member institutions. The target institutes for membership are institutes of higher education and research institutes in the tropics and subtropics, as well as institutes in other parts of the world with a department specializing in tropical animal health and/or production. The AITVM has as its objective: to improve human health and quality of life by means of increased and safe food produc-

tion in tropical regions through enhancement of research, training and education in veterinary medicine and livestock production within the framework of sustainable development (see for more information <http://www.aitvm.org>)

#### AITVM International Conferences

Every 3 years the AITVM organises an International Conference on an up-to-date theme in the field of animal health and production, with emphasis on technical and development aspects,

including socio-economic and policy matters. Venues of previous AITVM Conferences were Zimbabwe (Harare, 1998), Germany (Berlin, 1995) and Ivory Coast (Yamoussoukro, 1992). Over the years the AITVM has been the driving force to bring together young scientists, well known experts and policy makers to discuss new developments in animal health and animal production in tropical regions. Special efforts are made by the organisers to obtain fellowships from donor organisations to support young scientists from developing countries to come to the Conference and present their research outcome during a workshop or as poster presentation.

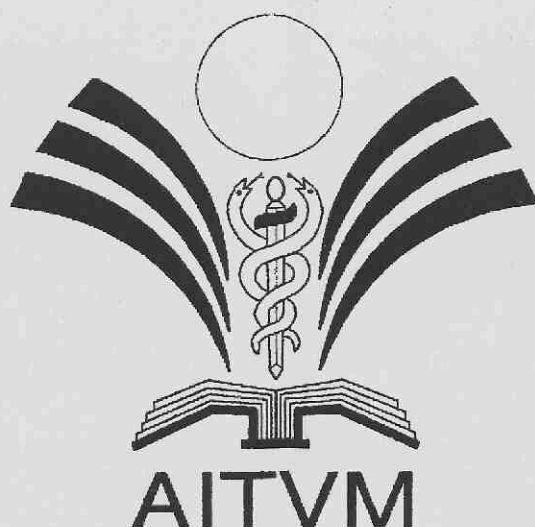
### Participants in Copenhagen

Also in Copenhagen the "South" was well represented as more than one hundred of the 170 participants came from 24 African, 7 Asian and 2 Latin American countries. Most of these participants could be supported by a fellowship. The development agencies from Denmark (DANIDA), Sweden (Sida), Norway (NORAD) and France (MAE) and the Centre for Technical Co-operation in Rural Agriculture (CTA) had generously contributed funds to provide fellowships for these participants. About 65 participants came from 10 European countries, of course Denmark was well represented (35 participants).

### Opening and plenary papers

At the start of the Conference the participants reflected that the initiative to host the 10th AITVM Conference in Copenhagen had

From left to right: Dr. Herik Lehn-Jensen (Member of the KVL Organising Committee), Prof. Mark Obwolo (Zimbabwe, AITVM President 1995-1998) and Prof. Luis Alfaro Cardoso (Portugal, AITVM President 1998-2001)  
(Photo: Paling)

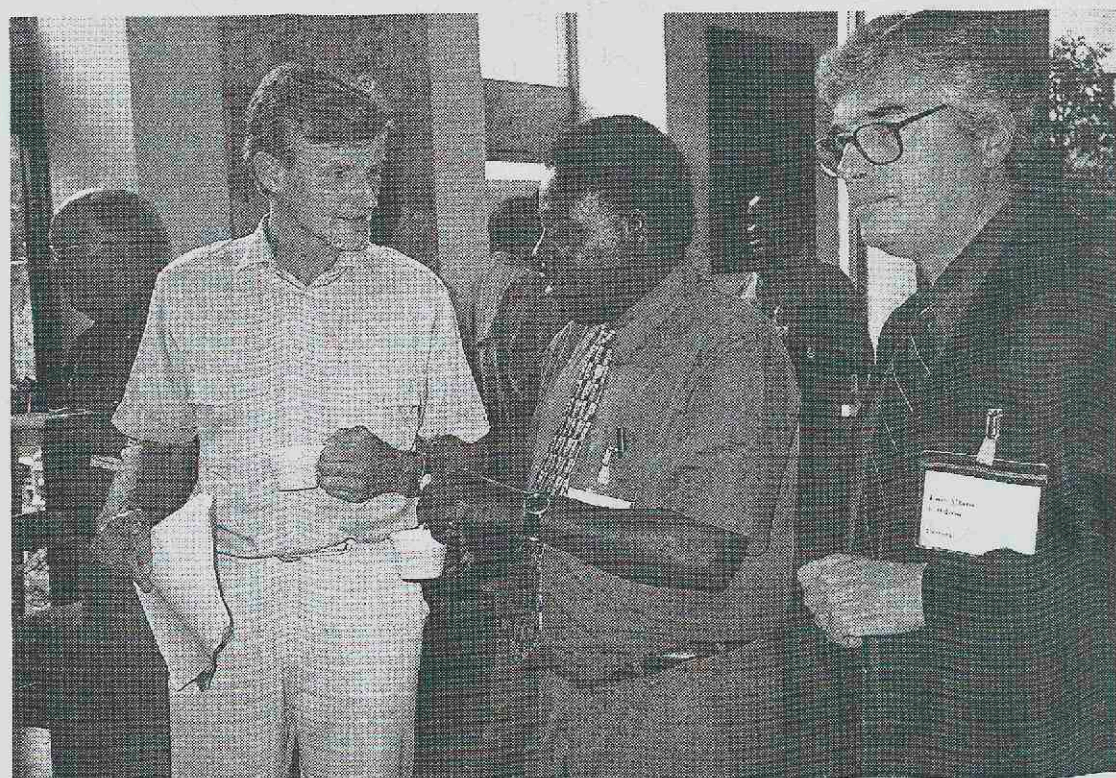


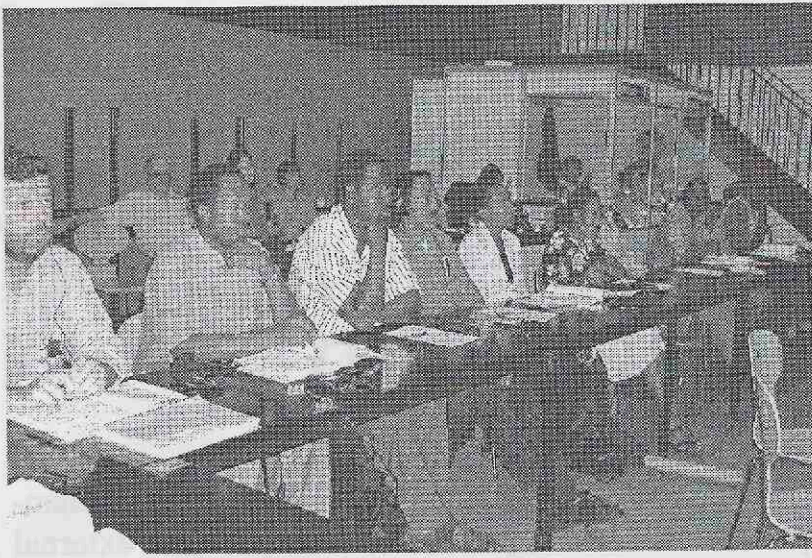
come from the late Prof. Peter Nansen. The chairman of the Local Organising Committee, Prof. Torben Greve, stated that they had tried to complete what Peter had started. Following the official opening, three key notes were presented by invited speakers addressing the main issues for livestock production in the future: veterinary public health by Francois Meslin (WHO, see also [www.who.int/](http://www.who.int/)), environmental and social implications by Ir. Cees de Haan (Worldbank, see also: [www.fao.org/lead/](http://www.fao.org/lead/)) and surveillance and control of transboundary diseases by Dr. Ray Webb (FAO, see also: [www.fao.org/empres/](http://www.fao.org/empres/)). The representative of the European Commission, Dr. Phillip Vialatte, presented the views of the European Commission on livestock devel-

opment policies. Poverty eradication remains the central objective. Food security and sustainable rural development are to be achieved through equitable rural societies, effective rural institutions, rural growth, enhanced individual assets and sustainable natural resource management, while ensuring coherence with other European policies (see also: [www.europa.eu.int](http://www.europa.eu.int)).

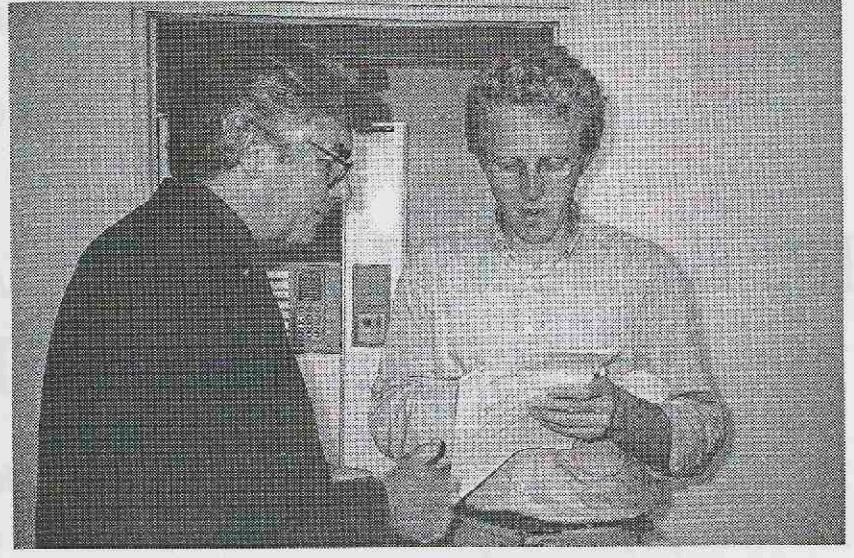
### Workshops

During the following 3 days, six workshops were organised (each day two parallel sessions). The abstracts of the presentations were provided in the conference book as well as on the internet (for abstracts and soon the full text papers will be available on: [www.aitvm.kvl.dk](http://www.aitvm.kvl.dk)). The topics were: Livestock environment interactions; Small-holder poultry production; Delivery of veterinary services and new approaches in veterinary education; Peri-urban animal production systems; Control of transboundary diseases and Veterinary public health. The workshops started with a keynote address, which was followed by a number of presentations. Ample time was made available for the participants to see the posters and question the presenters. At the end





The workshop on 'Small-holder poultry' was jointly organised by AITVM and the 'Poultry Network' (Photo: Mogens Rimm)

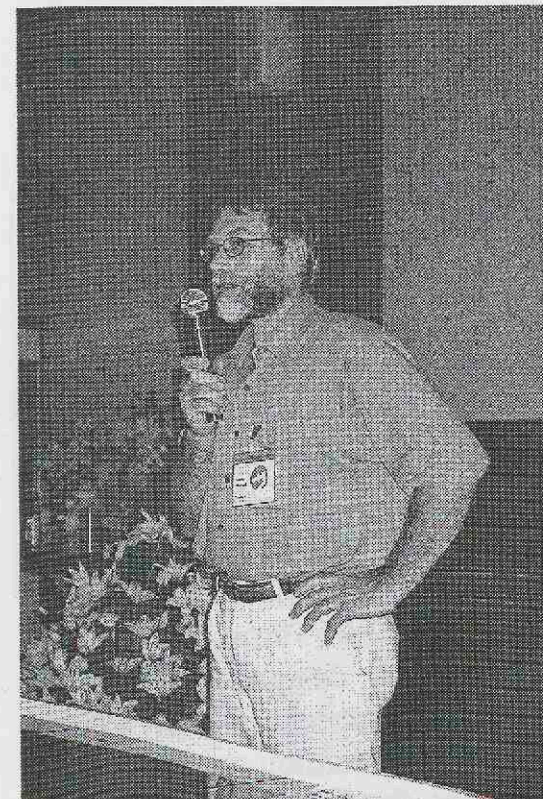


Prof. Luis Alfaro Cardoso (left) and Dr. Niels Kyvsgaard (Vice-Chairperson of the KVL Organising Committee) discussing last minute changes of the programme (Photo: Paling)

of each workshop there was a lively general discussion and recommendations were formulated.

#### Social activities

The conference was characterised by a very relaxed, open and often joyful atmosphere. The organisers had created good opportunities to meet at leisure with other participants during the welcome reception at KVL, the reception hosted by the municipality of Frederiksberg and the conference dinner. One afternoon was reserved for



excursions and a choice could be made to see the Danish Meat Research Institute, the Viking Ship Museum and the Danish National History Museum at the Frederiksborg Castle.

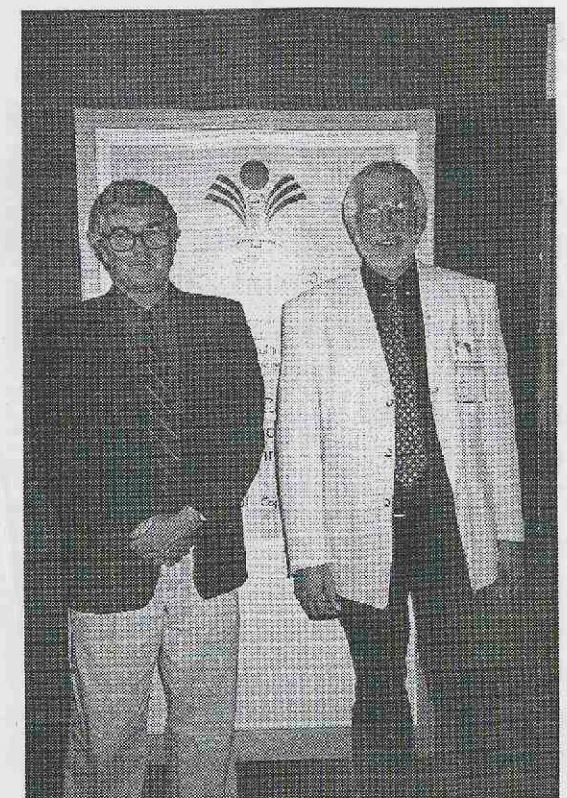
#### Plenary discussion and closing remarks

During the final afternoon the rapporteurs of the six workshops presented their resume to the general audience and the recommendations were fine-tuned and completed. The AITVM president Prof. Luis Alfaro Cardoso (Lisbon, Portugal), congratulated and thanked the organisers for the excellent job they had done and called on the participants to join forces with AITVM by presenting their institutes as new members to the AITVM. Prof. Cardoso could also announce the decisions of the AITVM General Assembly which was held on 21 August. The General Assembly had elected Prof. Karl Zessin (Berlin, Germany) as the new AITVM President and Prof. Sheik Omar

Dr. Jesper Monrad (Member of the KVL Organising Committee) was a key-person in the organisation of the Conference (Photo: Paling)

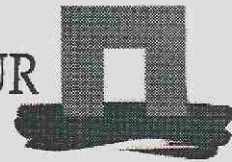
bin Abdul Rahman (Serdang Selangor, Malaysia) as the new Vice President. The final announcement came from Dr. Bashir Ahmad who invited everybody to come to Malaysia when the University Putra Malaysia will host the next AITVM Conference in Malaysia in 2004.

Dr. Robert Paling, General Secretary AITVM



On the last day of the Conference Prof. Luis Alfaro Cardoso of Portugal (left) handed over the Presidency of the AITVM to Prof. Karl Zessin of Germany (Photo: Paling)





# TRAINING COURSE ON 'DAIRY FARMING IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT' RESTRUCTURED

## Focus of the programme

Livestock plays an important but often controversial role in rural areas world-wide. Dairy production is a typical case where difficult choices have to be made to ensure sustainable development of farm families and regions. Many countries report rapid increase of demand for milk in urban areas, associated with declining resource bases in rural areas. Some farmers choose for high yields per animal through specialised production, others stick to mixed farms with crossbred cows. Some farmers prefer buffaloes; others shift to goats or "regular" dairy cattle. New developments in breeding, feeding, health and reproduction are promoted, (bio-) technologies are around the corner, open markets and deregulation threaten traditionally strong producers, and socio-economic aspects such as gender issues and poverty alleviation are likely to be the next priority in dairy development. Such variation of functions and forms of dairy systems poses a challenge for policy, research, extension and farmers as no standard practices can be recommended. But the variation also offers opportunities since people can learn from another.

This course aims to provide insights in new developments regarding technical and socio-economic aspects of dairy production in rural development, as well as methodologies to cope with the rapid change and large variation in dairy systems.

## Training methods

The educational approach of the course is interactive and methods used are self-study, preparation of a personal project, group discussions, formal lectures, field visits, excursions and practical handling of animals. The training method requires maximum active participation. Participants are therefore encouraged to actively share and discuss their own experiences, views and opinions during all course components. Participants will develop working papers on future priorities for their work.

## Outline of the programme

The training programme on dairy farming consists of 4 courses, organised within a period of 7 weeks. This set-up allows for individual packages, tailored to the specific requirements of the participant.

All courses can be followed as stand alone, but the training programme is designed to provide a comprehensive insight by facilitating a choice of combinations to build skills within a specific interest area.

The IAC also organises courses on livestock-environment interactions, farm animal diversity and organic farming in October-November. If you are interested in these courses, please ask for more information.

## Programme of courses

### *Input related aspects of dairy production for rural development*

Dairy production depends very

much on the availability and management of internal and external resources such as feed, genes, disease occurrence and prevention, climate, etc. Course participants are expected to have a basic knowledge on animal nutrition, breeding, fodder production etc.; they receive an update on new technologies in this area, as well as their practical applications. Participants will be asked (in groups of three) to take a technology of their choice on which they have to prepare a brief report regarding suitability and drawbacks for their respective situation.

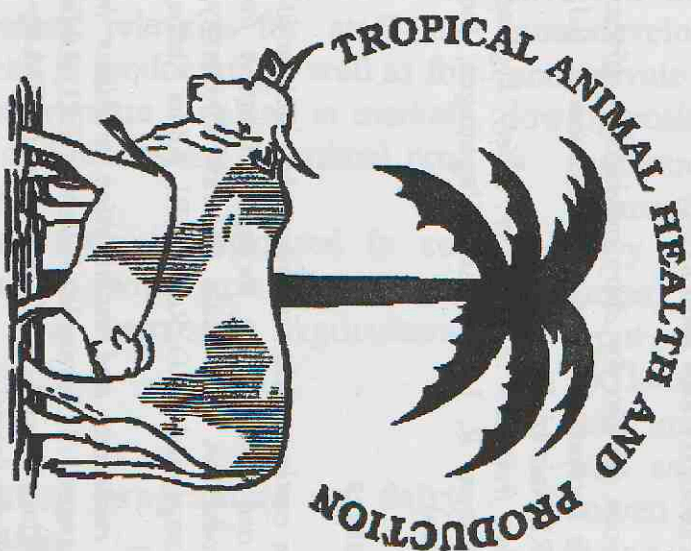
This course is organised in cooperation with a.o. Larenstein Agricultural College, the Department of Animal Sciences of Wageningen University and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University.

### *System analysis and design in agricultural development*

This course combines issues of input, farm design and management with issues of output. For participants who work at farm level the farm will be taken as a unit that operates in a local or national market. For those in regional or national level of dairy development the village or region will be considered as a unit of analysis. Similar methods and concepts will be used for each level of analysis, on issues like farm economics, whole-farm design, impact assessment, nutrient flows, system dynamics, technology and management for sustainability, multi-

2 NOVEMBER, 2001

## 12<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM ON



### Dairy development in the tropics

Time: 09.00 - 17.00 hours  
Location: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
Yalelaan 1, De Uithof, Utrecht  
The Netherlands

**Tropical animal health and production and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Utrecht**

Utrecht University, one of the 14 universities in the Netherlands, includes 14 faculties. Its Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is the only veterinary faculty in the Netherlands and, as a result of its scientific and educational standards, it has been accredited by the American and Canadian Veterinary Medical Associations since 1973. Within the Faculty there are 9 departments. Research on tropical animal health is mainly conducted in collaborative research projects in the tropics. In 1987 the Faculty's Office for International Cooperation (BIC) started with the coordination and extension of the international activities. In 1989 the Committee for the Advancement of Tropical Veterinary Science (CATS) was established at the Faculty. The main objective of CATS is the perpetuation and promotion of research and education relevant to the tropics. The organization of the Symposium on Tropical Animal Health and Production is an activity of BIC and CATS. This year's Symposium is jointly organised with Wageningen University and Research Centre and ID-Lelystad.

From 1990 a yearly symposium has been organised.

**The themes were:**

- 1990 Contributions and perspectives from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University
- 1991 Research for development: policies, priorities and options
- 1992 Bovine theileriosis
- 1993 Recent developments in veterinary epidemiology
- 1994 Application of biotechnology
- 1995 Helminth diseases of ruminants: diagnosis, epidemiology, and control
- 1996 Urbanisation: veterinary public health consequences
- 1997 Aquaculture and disease control
- 1998 Ruminant nutrition in disease resistance and reproduction
- 1999 Outcome and perspectives of collaborative research
- 2000 Diagnosis and control of transboundary infectious diseases in southern Africa

**Information:**

Office for International Cooperation  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
P.O. Box 80.163, 3508 TD Utrecht, The Netherlands.  
Tel.: +31.30.2532116, Telefax: +31.30.2531815  
E-mail: [bic@vet.uu.nl](mailto:bic@vet.uu.nl), <http://www.vet.uu.nl>



Faculteit der Diergeneeskunde

## TROPICAL ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION

### DAIRY DEVELOPMENT IN THE TROPICS

In 2001 Utrecht University's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine organises the 12<sup>th</sup> international symposium on Tropical Animal Health and Production. This year the Symposium is organised in collaboration with Wageningen University and Research Centre and ID-Lelystad. The majority of rural households in developing countries depend at least in part on livestock for their living. Livestock and crops are usually complementary in these farming systems. Livestock provide more than just food, they support crop production and act as capital asset. In response to increasing demands from urban areas the intensification of livestock production is generally done through small-holder dairying. Dairy development requires a good infrastructure, appropriate support services and proper functioning institutions. In developing countries these conditions are often not met. Furthermore, world market developments are not in line with local dairy development. Leading experts will discuss these and other aspects during this one-day symposium.

#### Symposium Organizing Committee

Ir. C. van der Does  
J.H.A. de Gooijer (treasurer)  
Ir. S.J. Hiemstra  
Prof. Dr. J. Noordhuizen  
Dr. R.W. Paling (secretary),  
Dr. Ir. H.M.J. Udo  
Prof. Dr. Ir. A. van der Zijpp (chairperson)

#### PROGRAMME 2 NOVEMBER, 2001

##### 08.30 – 09.00 h. Registration

Opening and introduction of the programme. A. van der Zijpp (Wageningen-UR, the Netherlands)

### 1. Economic context of dairy production

- \* *Pulverising powder. The impact of incoherent European policies on dairy farmers in Tanzania and Jamaica.* S. Verwer (NOVIB, the Netherlands)
- \* *From meat to milk: smallholders' livelihoods and markets.* H.A.J. Moll (Wageningen-UR, the Netherlands) and S.J. Staal (ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya)

### 2. Food security and food safety

- \* *Indigenous markets for dairy products in Africa: Trade-offs between food safety and economics.* S.J. Staal (ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya) et al.
- \* *Milk flow from cow to consumer: Safety, hygiene and sanitation.* R. Merx (IAC, Wageningen, the Netherlands)

### 3. Resources

- \* *African cattle genetic resources: their unique attributes and conservation through utilisation for dairy production.* A.K. Kahi (Egerton University, Njoro, Kenya) and J.E.O. Rege (ILRI, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
- \* *Feed resources and malnutrition problems in mixed systems.* S. Fernandez-Rivera (ILRI, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) and A.M. van Vuuren (ID-Lelystad, the Netherlands),
- \* *Dairy development and the environment: Winners and losers.* C. de Haan (Worldbank, Washington, USA)

### 4. Support services and institutions

- \* *Roles of the government sector in supporting the development of the Thai dairy industry.* W. Kalpravidh (DLD, Bangkok, Thailand)
- \* *Livestock health and breeding services: Efficiency and equity implications of privatization.* V. Ahuja (Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, India)

### Epilogue and closing

### Reception

## REGISTRATION FORM

I wish to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> Symposium "Tropical Animal Health and Production. Dairy development in the tropics, on 2 November, 2001 at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Registration is free

Please check box for lunch reservation.

I wish to reserve lunch (NLG. 17,50 to be paid at the registration desk)

I do not wish to reserve

Title: Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs

Name: .....

Institute: .....

Address: .....

Postal code: ..... City: .....

Country: .....

Tel.: ..... Telefax: .....

E-mail: .....

Date: .....

Signature: .....

Please forward to:

Office for International Cooperation  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
P.O. Box 80.163  
3508 TD Utrecht  
The Netherlands  
Telefax: +31.30.2531815, E-mail: bic@vet.uu.nl

ple criteria analysis, participatory techniques, gender issues, poverty alleviation, aspects of organic farming and basics of policy design. Groups of participants will prepare a report regarding the relevance of these approaches for their own conditions.

The course is particularly relevant for students and graduates from other disciplines that wish to be updated on new approaches in system analysis and design for agricultural development.

This course is organised in cooperation with a.o. Wageningen UR and Larenstein Agricultural College.

#### ***Practical dairy farm management***

This course is organised for professionals who are directly involved in practical aspects of dairy farm management together with the Dairy Training Centre. The course provides hands-on experience with handling of animals and puts into practice the theoretical aspects of both input and output management, as well as the design of the farm as a processing unit. Typical examples of issues which could form part of the course - based on participants' choice - are the design of feeding calendars, fodder production, rationing systems, replacement policies, calf rearing, product processing, chain control, basic animal health care, aspects of shed design, nutrient management and hygiene.

This course is organised in cooperation with the Dairy Training Centre in Oenkerk, Friesland and will be executed at their premises.

#### ***Output related aspects of animal production for rural development***

Local demand and/or (inter) national markets determine the technical and socio-economic role of livestock farming in rural development. Basically this applies to small-scale and large-scale farms as well as for mixed or specialised

farms, although each of these categories respond differently to challenges such as changing market conditions. This course covers aspects of collection, processing, handling, storage and marketing of livestock products, on farm and regional scale, in relation to the primary product as well as to the waste products and other side effects such as nutrient surplus or local resource degradation. It addresses issues of consumer and producer organisations, new rules and regulations, threats and opportunities due to globalisation and consumer concerns, niche markets, special products and possibilities to reduce "post-harvest" losses in animal production. The course is therefore relevant for staff involved in production as well as for those who are involved in marketing and processing of animal produce.

This course is organised in cooperation with a.o. Wageningen UR and Larenstein Agricultural College.

#### **Training programme on dairy farming**

Duration: 7 weeks

Period: 11 March - 26 April 2002

Closing date for application: 15 December 2001

Fee € 4500

#### ***Input related aspects of dairy production for rural development***

Duration: 3 weeks

Period: 11 March - 29 March 2002

Closing date for application: 1 Februari 2002

Fee € 2700

#### ***System analysis and design in agricultural development***

Duration: 2 weeks

Period: 1 April -12 April 2002

Closing date for application: 15 February 2002

Fee € 1600,--

#### ***Practical dairy farm management***

Duration: 2 weeks

Period: 1 April -12 April 2002

Closing date for application: 15 February 2002

Fee € 1600,--

#### ***Output related aspects of animal production for rural development***

Duration: 2 weeks

Period: 15 April - 26 April 2002

Closing date for application: 1 March 2002

Fee € 1600,--

#### **Who can participate**

This course is designed for staff involved in dairy production for rural development in public sectors and private enterprises in the following positions:

- professionals working at management/co-ordination level in dairy co-operatives, dairy farms, companies involved in input supply and processing and banks;
- staff involved in production as well as to those who are involved in marketing and processing of animal produce;
- policy and planning staff at the national and sub-national level with responsibility for development of extension programmes; and
- lecturers or researchers at intermediate and higher level in training or research and students and graduates who wish to be updated on new approaches in system analysis and design for agricultural development.

#### **Aims and objectives**

This course aims to update participants' knowledge and skills on recent methodologies and insights in their area of work. It will enable participants to:

- analyse and design dairy farming systems through

participatory approaches

- assess dairy systems in terms of quantity and quality
- retrieve information from modern databases and internet

The new insights presented in the course will include:

- developments in breeding, feeding, health, housing, product processing etc.
- quality assessment, quality control and marketing strategies
- aspects as livestock and soil fertility, poverty alleviation, gender issues, mixed farming, organic farming and environmental impact.

Programme co-ordinator Hans Schiere has worked in research, teaching and development for livestock production in South America, Africa and Asia. His special fields of interest are nutrition and general system related topics.

Arend Jan Nell is a livestock production specialist with over 25 years of experience in rural development activities in third world countries. He has been involved in various dairy development and livestock planning projects.

### Requirements for admission

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

- B.Sc. (as a minimum) in veterinary medicine or agriculture;
- at least three years of professional experience in dairy cattle husbandry, general animal production, agricultural development or closely related subjects;
- competence in the English language.

### Fees

The tuition fees include administration fees, lecture materials and, if these are part of the programme, excursions. A combination of courses will not exceed a fee of € 4500

### Accommodation

Participants will be accommodated in the Wageningen International Conference Centre (WICC), on the basis of full board and lodging at approximately € 400,-- per week. This is not included in the tuition fee.

### Fellowships

Fellowships are available from the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) for nationals of a

number of developing countries. Applicants for a fellowship should submit their application to the Netherlands Diplomatic Representative (Embassy/Consulate) in their home country. Details about the procedure may be obtained from the Netherlands Diplomatic Representative. It is advisable to make a request for a fellowship as early as possible.

As a rule these fellowships do NOT include international travel expenses. However, an exception may be made for a combination of courses with a minimum duration of 6 weeks. Please note that competition is strong and preference will be given to candidates who have secured sponsorship for travel expenses elsewhere. The IAC has no other funds for financing participants and regrets it is unable to assist applicants in obtaining sponsorship.

### Applications

Application forms can be obtained from:

IAC, P.O. Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands

Telephone: + 31 317 495 495, Telefax: + 31 317 495 395,

E-mail: [Training@iac.agro.nl](mailto:Training@iac.agro.nl),

Home page: [www.iac.wageningen-ur.nl](http://www.iac.wageningen-ur.nl)

## V A C A N C I E S

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

This section contains vacancy announcements which the editorial board considers to be of possible interest to Dutch veterinarians. Besides vacancies that will be taken from *Vacatureblad Internationale Samenwerking*, *Tijdschrift voor Diergeneeskunde*, *Veterinary Record*, *Intro vacatures (RPDAdvies/Ministry of Internal Affairs)* etc., there will be room for personnel advertisements. For further information about the vacancies please contact the institution or company directly.

### FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Has a vacancy for a:

### ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH OFFICER

At the Subregional Office for Southern and East Africa

### Vacancy announcement

No.: 562-SAFR

### Duties and responsibilities

Under the overall managerial and administrative leadership of the Sub-Regional Representative for Southern and Eastern Africa, and the direct technical supervision of the Director, AGA, the incumbent will: participate in the implementation of FAO technical programmes

for the development of the livestock sector with particular emphasis on animal production and health issues; advise FAO Members and sub-regional organizations on the formulation and establishment of programmes and structures aiming at the control/eradication of animal diseases, as well as at animal production programmes; carry out studies of selected regional animal production and health problems; plan, organize and participate in technical meetings, expert consultations, seminars and training courses in the field of animal production and health;

collect data on the problems and the current position of animal production and health in the sub-region, liaise with Intergovernmental Organizations, National Organizations and Non-governmental Organizations on the subject, as well as with international research centres and National Agricultural Research Institutes;

provide technical backstopping to FAO projects in the field of competence;

perform other related duties as required.

#### **Qualifications and experience - Essential**

University degree in animal husbandry or veterinary medicine,

with post graduate specialization, preferably in animal health.

Seven years of progressively responsible professional experience in animal science or veterinary medicine

Working knowledge (level C) of English and limited knowledge (level B) of French

Ability to express ideas clearly and concisely both orally and in writing. Ability to formulate, plan, coordinate and evaluate programmes and activities as well as draft technical reports. Ability to operate effectively at policy level with government officials and to maintain effective working relationships with people of different national and cultural backgrounds. Computer literacy and willingness to use word processing equipment.

#### **Qualifications and experience - Desirable**

Experience in developing countries in the region. Knowledge of FAO operations and international cooperation.

#### **Employment conditions**

A net salary per year (inclusive of a variable element for post adjustment) from US\$ 56339 to US\$ 70663 (without dependents) and from US\$ 60499 to US\$ 76261 (with dependents).

*Type of appointment*

Fixed Term: Three years

#### **Additional information**

Application from qualified women candidates are encouraged.

Please note that FAO staff members are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Director-General and may be assigned to any activities, offices or duty stations of the Organization.

#### **Location**

Harare, Zimbabwe

#### **Grade**

P4

#### **Applications**

(in all cases quote the vacancy announcement number) to: Chief : Animal Health Service (AGAH) - FAO Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 Rome ITALY - Fax No. +39 06 57053023

**Staff members:** Complete 10 copies of form ADM 75.

**Other Candidates:** Please complete two copies of Personal History Form or send detailed *Curriculum Vitae* if form not available. Applicants will be contacted only if they are short-listed. In this connection please note that the selection process may take up to six months for completion.

*Note:* FAO is a non-smoking environment.

## PARATUBERCULOSIS: CURRENT STATUS AND FUTURE CHALLENGE

### **Introduction**

Paratuberculosis, Johne's disease, is a chronic, debilitating, progressive and ultimately fatal disease. It

affects a wide spectrum of species from the most commonly affected domestic ruminants (cattle, sheep, and goats) to some other members

of the order artiodactyla, rodents, carnivores and primates. The disease is caused by the facultative intracellular, acid fast bacillus, *Mycobacterium avium ssp. paratuberculosis*. Infection occurs early in life (first few months) mainly through ingestion of contaminated food and water. Although intramammary and intra-uterine infections are possible, suckling on con-

taminated teats is the primary route of infection for young animals. Generally animals get tolerance to new infection as they grow old, but the immunity is never complete as witnessed from the experimental infection of adult animals. Although animals are infected at early age, clinical disease does not usually develop until 2-5 years of age.

Following ingestion *M. a. paratuberculosis* crosses the intestinal mucosal barrier via the microfold epithelial cells (M-cells) that are found in the follicle-associated epithelium overlying the Peyer's patches and are taken up by mononuclear phagocytes in the intestinal mucosa and gut associated lymphoid organs (GALT). Macrophages are, however, the target cells of mycobacterial infections

where the pathogens survive and multiply until they eventually kill the infected cell and spread to other nearby cells. In response, monocytes and lymphocytes are recruited to the site of infection. Infiltration of the infected tissue with a large number of inflammatory cells leads to the thickening and corrugation of the intestinal mucosa particularly of the ileum. This results in the typical lesion of Johne's disease.

Clinically, the disease is characterized by reduced fertility and milk production followed by chronic, progressive loss of body condition, intermittent or persistent diarrhea with fecal shedding of the organisms. Despite remaining alert with normal and even sometimes increased appetite, clinically ill ani-

mals continue to waste and eventually die. However, such clinically detectable disease is not a common finding, as a large proportion (higher than 95%) of the infected population remains subclinical. More than 70% of the carrier states can not be detected with any of the currently available diagnostic tests.

Paratuberculosis is now considered as a cosmopolitan disease emerging from the shadow of other more dramatic and costly animal pathogens. The development of new diagnostic tests with a relatively higher sensitivity revealed the wider distribution of the disease both in terms of species spectrum and geographic location. Although lack of appropriate diagnostic tools to detect early subclinical infections is still a limiting factor in estimating the true prevalence and distribution of the disease, recent epidemiological studies in several countries indicated increasing prevalence rates.

Diagnosis of paratuberculosis can be made by either detecting the mycobacteria or measuring the host responses. The organisms can be detected from feces using fecal smear, fecal culture or DNA probes. As they are not normally found in the gut, detection of the organisms in the feces is generally considered as infection. Host responses to paratuberculosis vary according to the stage of the disease from mainly cell mediated type in early subclinical stage to mainly humoral type in the clinical stage. Interferon gamma assay and intradermal skin tests are two of the diagnostic tools to measure the cell mediated immune response. The commonly used tests to measure antibodies raised against *M. a. paratuberculosis* are Complement fixation test (CFT), agar-gel immuno-diffusion (AGID) and Enzyme linked immuno-sorbant as-

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## PATHOLOGY SCIENCE CLUB PUBLICATION

In December 1999 the students of the Master of Science Course on Animal Pathology of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University established a scientific group named Pathology Science Club (PSC). EQUATOR will provide space for publications by the PSC under the responsibility of the editorial board.

### The major objectives are:

- Sharing scientific knowledge in Pathology,
- Promoting exchange of knowledge between members,
- Presentation and discussion of research results and,
- Publication of club activities.

The board of directors consists of the first year students of the MSc Course on Animal Pathology, while the advisers of the club are the MSc course director, the MSc course co-ordinator and the chairman of the Department of Pathology.

Students and graduates of the MSc Course on Animal Pathology are full members, while scientists with an interest in animal pathology can become affiliated members. Membership is free of charge.

For further information and registration, please contact:

B.P. Singh, C/o Dept. of Pathology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, P.O. box 80.158, 3508 TD Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Tel: +31.30.2534146, Fax: +31.30.2516863,

E-mail: b.p.singh@vet.uu.nl

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say (ELISA). Both the antigen detection and the immunodiagnosics suffer from variable degree of unreliability. Although most of the tests acquire maximum sensitivity as the disease progress to clinical stage, none of them are accurate enough to detect early infection before shedding of the organism.

Economic losses from paratuberculosis vary according to the region, the farm unit, and the species involved. Direct economic losses arise from premature culling, reduced milk yield and body weight losses. On average, the cost of the disease is estimated to be approximately US\$ 100 to over 200 per cow in moderately and heavily infected herds, respectively. Losses can be so great that profitable farming can not be continued in the affected herd. So far, there is no major international trade restriction due to paratuberculosis. Expanding control, eradication and market assurance programmes in certain countries, however, indicate a possible market restriction in the future. Many countries are now becoming increasingly interested in the control of paratuberculosis for economic, public health and marketing reasons. Paratuberculosis is also gaining more and more attention in relation to Crohn's disease, a chronic granulomatous inflammatory bowel disease in human with unknown eti-

ology. Detection of *M. a. paratuberculosis* in milk originated from clinically infected or asymptomatic carrier cows together with the capacity of the organism to survive pasteurization conditions warns its access into the food chain. Some markets have already demanded more stringent pasteurization of milk.

Control of paratuberculosis has been a difficult task due to lack of reliable diagnostic, curative, or prophylactic technique. The knowledge about the epidemiology and pathogenesis of the disease is also inadequate. The importance of vaccination in the control of the disease is controversial. It reduces the incidence of clinical disease in cattle by more than 90% and thus reduces the direct economic loss at farm level. However, vaccination prevents neither infection nor shedding of the organisms. In addition, vaccination precludes serodiagnosis of paratuberculosis and due to the presence of cross-reacting antigens it interferes with diagnosis of tuberculosis. Being shaded in an intracellular environment and in a very thick waxy cell envelope, *M. a. paratuberculosis* is not an easy target to antibacterial therapy either. No single drug is capable of curing the disease. Clinical improvements, reduction in bacillary load, and fecal shed-

ding are possible with a combination of antimycobacterial drugs. However, in addition to being expensive, the drugs can not eradicate the disease and relapses are common after treatment. Therefore, treatment of infected animals is not an option in case of paratuberculosis control. Currently paratuberculosis control strategies are aiming at maintaining a clean farm through prevention of new infection and culling of infected animals.

**Mathewos Z. Tessema**

(For references contact the author at:

Department of Pathology  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
Addis Ababa University  
Debre Zeit, Ethiopia)

## 2 C 0 A 0 L 1 E / N 2 D 0 A 0 R 2

Wageningen, The Netherlands  
29 October – 10 November, 2001  
International Course on Farm  
Animal Diversity: Dynamics,  
Utilisation and Preservation. Top-  
ics: Introduction and problem

identification; The dynamics and  
driving forces of farm animal di-  
versity; Animal breeding and  
farm animal diversity; Policy  
principles in biodiversity and how  
to manage for biodiversity; Meth-

odologies for problem analysis  
and preparation of an action plan.  
Organised by: International Agri-  
cultural Centre (IAC) and Wagen-  
ingen University and Research  
Centre. Information: IAC, P.O.



# 2 C 0 A 0 L 1 E / N 2 D 0 A 0 R 2

Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen.  
Tel.: +31.317.495495,  
fax: +31.317.495395,  
e-mail: [training@iac.agro.nl](mailto:training@iac.agro.nl).

## Utrecht, The Netherlands

2 November, 2001

12<sup>th</sup> International symposium: Tropical Animal Health and Production. Theme: Dairy development in the tropics. Organised by: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University and Wageningen University and Research Center. Information: Office for International Cooperation, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, NL 3508 TD Utrecht. Fax: +31.30.2531815, e-mail: [bic@vet.uu.nl](mailto:bic@vet.uu.nl).

## Nairobi, Kenya

20-22 November, 2001

5<sup>th</sup> Veterinary Pathology Symposium. Theme: Reproductive constraints in domestic and wild animals (focusing on pathology). Organised by: C.L. Davis DVM Foundation, Southern and Eastern Africa Division. Registration fees: for C L Davis Foundation members US \$ 75. Non-members US \$ 150. Information: Dr. Stephen M. Njiro, Department of Veterinary Pathology and Microbiology Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nairobi, P. O. Box 29053 Kabete, Tel. and fax: +254.2.600410, e-mail: [snjiro@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:snjiro@uonbi.ac.ke)

## Wageningen, The Netherlands

25 November - 9 December, 2001  
International Course on Livestock and Environment Interactions. Organised by: International Agricultural Centre and Wageningen Agricultural University. Fees: NLG 5,500. Information: Director of the IAC, P.O. Box 88, NL 6700 AB Wageningen,

tel.: +31.317. 490111,  
fax: +31. 317418552,  
e-mail: [a.j.nell@iac.agro.nl](mailto:a.j.nell@iac.agro.nl)  
[www.iac-agro.nl/](http://www.iac-agro.nl/).

## Pantnager, India

14-15 December, 2001

National Symposium on Immunodulation in Health and Disease and Second Convention of the Society for Immunology and Immunopathology. Programme: Basic concepts in Immunodulation; Immunomodulatory molecules; Immunopathology; Immunity in mycobacterial infections; Immunodiagnosics; Immunobiotechnology in agriculture. Organised by: G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology. Registration fee: Members: Rs 700, Foreign delegates: US\$ 100. Information: Dr. R.S. Chauhan, Department of Pathology, College of Veterinary Sciences, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnager- 263145 (Uttaranchal), fax: +91.5944.33473, e-mail: [rs\\_chauhan123@rediffmail.com](mailto:rs_chauhan123@rediffmail.com).

## Wageningen, The Netherlands

11 March - 26 April, 2002

International course on dairy farming in rural development. Course programme: Input related aspects of dairy production for rural development, System analysis and design in agricultural development, Practical dairy farm management, Output related aspects of animal production for rural development. Course fee: €4500. Closing date for registration: 15 December, 2001. Information and registration: IAC, P.O. Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31.317.495495, fax: +31. 317. 495395,

e-mail: [training@iac.agro.nl](mailto:training@iac.agro.nl)  
[www.iac.wageningen-ur.nl](http://www.iac.wageningen-ur.nl).

## Banff, Alberta, Canada

20 - 27 July, 2002

4th International Conference on Ticks and Tick-borne Pathogens (TTP 4). Themes: Tick biology; Tick-pathogen interaction; Tick-host interface; Biological control of ticks. Organised by: Prof. R. Kaufman, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Canada T6G2E9. fax: +1.780.4929234, tel.: +1.780.4923308, e-mail: [ttp4@biology.ualberta.ca](mailto:ttp4@biology.ualberta.ca), [www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses](http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses).

## Montpellier, France

16-18 August 2002

Second International Symposium on Candidate Genes for Animal Health. Organised by: CIRAD and INRA.. Information: Jean-Charles Maillard, CIRAD-EMVT, TA30/G, Campus de Baillarguet, 34398 Montpellier Cedex 5, fax +33.467593798, e-mail [maillard@cirad.fr](mailto:maillard@cirad.fr). <http://cgah.cirad.fr>

## Montpellier, France

19-23 August 2002

7<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Genetics applied to Livestock Production. Organised by: INRA and CIRAD. Programme: a.o. scientific sessions on disease resistance. Information: Département de Génétique Animale, INRA, BP 27, 31326 Castanet-Tolosan, e-mail: [secretariat@wcalp.toulouse.inra.fr](mailto:secretariat@wcalp.toulouse.inra.fr), <http://www.wcalp.org>