

Newsletter of the World Veterinary Poultry Association



Aerosols



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President's message

The World Veterinary Poultry Association continues to grow in individual memberships and in member countries. As of the end of 2003, we have 1731 members in 53 countries. New national branches have recently been formed in Lithuania, Morocco, Russia, and Mexico. The increase in membership is paralleled by the growing attendance at our world congresses that are now held every other year.

After the VIth congress in Atlanta, Georgia in 1977, the XIIIth Congress took place on July 19-23, 2003 in the American city of Denver, Colorado in conjunction with the American Association of Avian Pathologists' and American Veterinary Medical Association's annual meetings. Both, the
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decision on the congress city and the merger of the three congresses proved to be highly effective for the attendees and for the local organizers. A total of 726 registered participants enjoyed the very interesting scientific program as well as every aspect of the perfectly organized event. Cordial thanks go to the Organizing Committee and their efficient staff members. You will find a more detailed report on the congress in this newsletter

During the General Business Meeting of the WVPA in Denver a number of major decisions were made on the *Constitution and Rules* of the WVPA. The changes were preceded by extended discussions and reflections during the two year interval between the congress in Cairo, Egypt, and the Denver congress. Special thanks for this work go to Dr. L. N. Payne for this input as chair of the revision committee! The main alterations are: (i) there will be no further affiliation of the WVPA with the World Veterinary Association. (ii) Scientific Congresses will be held



Denver, 2003

every two years. The location of the venue will be chosen by the Bureau four years in advance from competitive bids presented by national branches that have a representative on the Bureau. (iii) Formation of national branches is done from an existing national body or a group of individual poultry veterinarians. (iv) Officers of the WVPA are Honorary Life Presidents, one President (tenure of four years), two Vice-Presidents (four year terms), one Secretary/Treasurer (four year term with re-election possible), the Editor of the newsletter *Aerosols* (election period determined by the Bureau, re-election possible), and the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Avian Pathology* (appointed by the Houghton Trust). (v) The bidding procedure for hosting a WVPA congress is included as an appendix to our *Constitution and Rules*. A copy of the revised Constitution and Rules is being sent to each individual member together with this newsletter.

The WVPA has grown to a truly global organization. Although most of its members are still from European countries, the general intention is to place future World Congresses on all continents. After WVPA congresses in Cairo (2002), Budapest (1997), Sydney (1993), Brighton (1989), and Jerusalem (1985) – to name the

most recent congress cities – our next congress will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, 22-26 August 2005. During the Bureau Meeting in Denver, it was decided the XVth WVPA World Congress will be held in 2007 in Beijing, China. But before this, I wish to draw your attention to the International Congress of the World Poultry Science Association to be held in Istanbul in the year 2004 (www.wpc-2004.org) and would like to encourage all WVPA members to attend that congress as well.

Erhard Kaleta

President, WVPA

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Meeting announcements

April, 2004

5th Asia Pacific Poultry Health Conference "Harnessing Science for Poultry Production"

Contact: Dr Pat Blackall

Scientific Program Convenor, APPHC 5

Animal Research Institute

Locked Mail Bag No 4, Moorooka QLD 4105 Australia

Fax +61 7 3362 9429

E-mail pat.blackall@dpi.qld.gov.au

June 2004

XXIIth World's Poultry Congress

Istanbul-Turkey, June 8-12, 2004.

Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Center, Taksim Istanbul.

Contact: Dr. Servet Yalcin

Ege University

Faculty of Agriculture, Dept. of Animal Science

Izmir, Turkey.

Fax: 90 232 388 18 64

E-mail: yalcin@ziraat.ege.edu.tr or

servetyalcin@hotmail.com

5th International Symposium on Turkey Diseases

Berlin, Germany, 16-19 June 2004

Contact: Professor Dr. H. M. Hafez,

Institute for Poultry Disease

Free University, Berlin

Koserstrasse 21,

D-14195 Berlin

Germany

Fax +49 308385 58 24

E-mail: hafez@zedat.fu-berlin.de

July 2004

7th International Marek's Disease Symposium

Oxford, UK, July 11-14, 2004.

Programme contact: Dr Venugopal Nair

E-mail: venu.gopal@bbsrc.ac.uk

(continued on p. 3)

Registration contact: Dr Margaret Carr
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Institute for Animal Health
Compton Laboratory
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August 2005

XIVth WVPA Congress



Istanbul, Turkey, Aug. 22-26, 2005

Contact: WVPA, Turkish Branch

Ankara University Veterinary Faculty

Dept. of Animal Nutrition
06110 Ankara, Turkey

Fax: +90 312 517 25 65 or +90 212 244 71 81

E-mail: info@wvpc2005.org

Web: www.wvpc2005.org

Information on international meetings that include any aspect of pathogens and diseases of avian species may be sent to: Dr Dave Cavanagh, Editor-in-Chief, *Avian Pathology*, Institute for Animal Health, Compton Laboratory, Compton, Newbury RG20 7NN, UK. E-mail: dave.cavanagh@bbsrc.ac.uk; Fax: +44 1635 577263.

News

Reflections on the XIIIth Congress

The XIII Congress of the World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA), held July 19-23, 2003 in Denver, was an outstanding success. The 877 participants, including 178 spouses, children and guests, represented 51 countries. Participants from countries other than the United States totaled 323.

The scientific program consisted of 403 total papers and posters (146 oral, 12 keynote, 2 special lectures, and 243 posters). The presenters represented 41 countries. Of the presenters from countries other than the United States and Canada, 50 received support from the Congress and 6 others were supported by the Houghton Trust.

The keynote and special lectures were highlights of the Congress. Vladimir Zelnik presented the Houghton Lecture. Peter Biggs presented the Lasher History Lecture. Social events included a welcome reception and gala banquet, both held at the Adams Mark Hotel, and the closing event held at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Informal photos were taken throughout the meeting. The best of these (more than 200) have been assembled on a CD, "Memories of Denver 2003" which is available (\$5 US) from the American Association of Avian

Pathologists (AAAP [<http://www.aaap.info/>]). {Some of the photographs on the CD have been used in this issue of *Aerosols*.--ed.) Extra copies of the Program and Abstracts, which include extended abstracts of the keynote addresses, are also available (\$10).

Special thanks are due to the 27 donor companies and government organizations, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the AAAP, and the WVPA.

Dick Witter

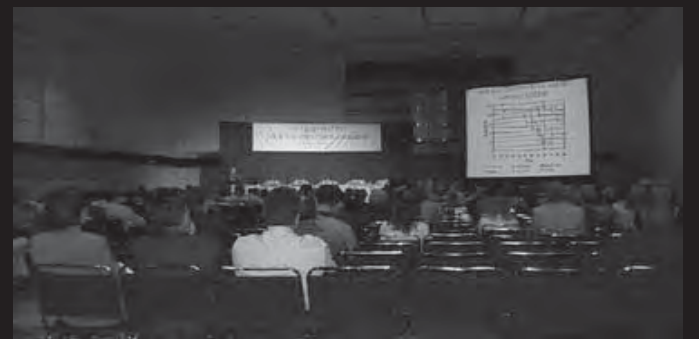
Chair, WVPA Program Committee



Closing ceremony, Denver.



Poster room, Denver.



Scientific session, Denver.

Australia

Newcastle disease in Australia

In 2002 there were 2 outbreaks of virulent Newcastle disease; both arose from mutation of a lentogenic virus
(continued on p. 4)

to virulence through acquiring basic amino acids at the cleavage site of the F0 gene. Australia regained ND freedom on 24 November 2002. As a consequence of these outbreaks, a National Newcastle Disease Management Plan was brokered in December 2002. The plan provides for commercial chicken flocks in States assessed to be at risk (based on surveillance and monitoring data) to be vaccinated according to nationally agreed standard operating procedures. The vaccination program aims to out compete precursor strains of ND virus that have sequences close to the virulence sequence and that might result in the emergence of virulent ND virus. The plan also includes enhanced industry biosecurity, communications and awareness, research and development, and a management and evaluation component. The Plan is overseen by a steering group chaired by Animal Health Australia.

AVPA Conferences Feb., May and Nov. 2003

AVPA sponsored conferences in Sydney on 12 and 13 February, in Cairns at the Australian Veterinary Association Conference on 29 and 30 May, and in Melbourne on 12 and 13 May. All were well attended and the response demonstrated that workers want to partake in continuing education as provided through presentations and discussions on recent research and topics of recent interest. The November conference had papers on Marek's disease and avian leucosis viruses; case reports on infectious bronchitis and Newcastle disease investigations; papers on food safety and antibiotics ranging from food standards regulation, epidemiology of campylobacter infections, poultry water disinfection with chlorine dioxide and the use of antibiotics in the poultry industry; import risk analyses associated with the import of SPF eggs and uncooked chicken meat and eggs; papers on current poultry industry issues includ-

ing the recently established Poultry Cooperative Research Centre, managing poultry farm odours and unravelling respiratory colibacillosis in chickens; and finally a session on vaccines including papers on exclusion of ALV from vaccines, virulence determinants of *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, safety and efficacy of another ND V4 vaccine and diagnosis of coccidial species and efficacy of coccidiosis vaccine trials. There were over 80 attendees at the November Conference.

Fifth Asia Pacific Poultry Health Conference (AP5)

AVPA is sponsoring AP5 that is being held on the Gold Coast Queensland Australia on Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 April 2004. The Conference follows on from PIX (Poultry Information Exchange Conference run

biennially by the Queensland Dept of Primary Industries. The AGM for AVPA precedes the Conference late on the Tuesday afternoon and there is a Conference Dinner on the Wednesday evening. The Conference has major themes with key note, invited and proffered papers and posters.

The theme for the conference is "**Harnessing Science for Poultry Production**". The theme emphasises the thrust of the conference to showcase how Asia-Pacific poultry health scientists are harnessing the power of modern veterinary science to provide practical advances for poultry production. The major themes in the Conference sessions include: Newcastle disease, avian influenza, control of sal-

monella and campylobacter, new concepts in disease control, Salmonella enteritidis, vv infectious bursal disease, the Australian approach to poultry research, viral and mycoplasmal respiratory diseases, antibiotics – poultry production and human health, village chickens, immunosuppressive viral diseases and bacterial and parasitic diseases. The program will be full on for two days in a very nice environment. Further detail of the Conference and a registration form are contained at the

(continued on p. 5)

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Australian Veterinary Poultry Association

AVPA is a special interest group of the Australian Veterinary Association that holds two scientific conferences for members and interested parties each year. These are frequently held in conjunction with other meetings of the poultry industry. AVPA has about 80 members and 10 sponsoring bodies. Members of organisations affiliated with WPVA are welcome to come to our conferences. Notices of the conferences are set out on the AVPA website.

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Egypt

Emerging variant infectious bursal disease viruses in broiler flocks

Infectious bursal disease (IBD) was first reported in Egyptian chicken flocks in the 1970's (El-Sergany *et al.*, 1974; Ayoub and Malek, 1976). A control policy was initially based on vaccination with various imported serotype 1 classic IBD live vaccines of the mild and intermediate classes.

Starting in the mid 1980's, inactivated oil-based vaccines were also used. In 1989, severe outbreaks of very virulent IBD (vvIBD), similar to those reported in Europe, occurred in vaccinated and unvaccinated flocks and spread rapidly through the country causing heavy losses of up to 70% in replacement pullets and 30% in broilers (El-Batrawi, 1990; Khafagy *et al.*, 1990, 1991). The Egyptian field isolates were antigenically characterized, basically as the classical type with few exceptions, which were reported between 1994 and 2003. El-Sanousi *et al.* (1994), using antigen capture (AC) ELISA with monoclonal antibodies obtained from Dr. D.B. Snyder, found that only one of 48 bursal homogenates collected from different farms in Fayoum province could be antigenically characterized as Del/E variants, based on detection of the BK9 reactive epitope. Sultan (1995), using cross-neutralization tests, found minor to major differences within eight tested field IBD isolates and between some isolates and four classic commercial vaccines based on calculated relatedness values. Using commercial AC-ELISA plates coated with four monoclonal antibodies to epitopes in VP2 (Synbiotics Europe, Lyon, France), Metwally *et al.*, (2003) reported that 73.6% of 277 bursal samples from 13 broiler flocks

ranging in age between 6 and 35 days, the majority of which were vaccinated and originated from vaccinated parent flocks, were IBDV-antigen positive. Of the positives, 41.7% were classical and 58.3% were variants. Del/E predominated (53%) among the total variants, while 47% of the variants were untypeable.

A recent IBDV variant (designated V1) was detected by commercial AC-ELISA in the bursae of vaccinated broilers suffering from bursal atrophy, immunosuppression and poor performance. This variant was antigenically similar to the Del/E variant (Aly and



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Hassan, 2003). The virus induced marked bursal inflammation and atrophy at 7 days post experimental infection of 4-week-old broiler chickens and hence appeared to differ in pathogenicity from the Del/E variant. Experimental protection studies in 4-week-old broiler chickens vaccinated with four classic live vaccines (two intermediate and two intermediate plus) did not prevent bursal atrophy following challenge exposure with the V1 variant virus 2-weeks post vaccination. They concluded that antigenic variation in field IBDVs could explain the

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appearance of disease in vaccinated flocks. In a further study, Aly *et al.* (personal communication, 2003) examined 12 bursal samples from IBD outbreaks. Using commercial AC-ELISA for antigen detection revealed three antigenically distinct groups; viz, two samples reacted as classic, four were similar to Del/E variants and the six remaining samples were untypeable. Molecularly, restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) showed that the 12 isolates could be placed in the following molecular groups: six samples in group 6, one sample in group 3, and the other three samples did not generate a reliable profile. Of those with unusual profiles, one sample had a profile that did not match the known molecular groups and one sample showed a mixed infection. It was also shown that commercial classic intermediate and hot live IBD vaccines induced partial protection in SPF and commercial layer chickens challenged with a classical wild IBDV isolate. Finally, Hussein *et al.* (2003) reported on transmissible viral proventriculitis and stunting syndrome in broilers associated with the Del/E variant of IBDV in broiler chickens. References given can be provided upon request.

**The 6th Scientific
Conference of the Egyptian
Veterinary Poultry Association**

The Conference will be held in the International Agriculture Conference Center, Dokki, Cairo on March 8-10, 2004. Participants from neighboring and other countries are welcomed. Abstract of papers for oral/poster presentations on poultry diseases, nutrition, management, therapeutics, vaccines and other biological products for diagnosis, public health and poultry products, quality control of poultry products can be sent not later than January 15, 2004 by fax or post at the underlying addresses. Some internationally reputable keynote speakers will be invited. Registration fees for Egyptians

LE 100, for foreigners \$100. The Social program will be free of charge.

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India

Poultry farming in India today plays an important and viable role in the national economy of the country. Food security is a very important issue for poultry farming and a boon for generating social and economic improvement for the rural population besides combating malnutrition. Along with the livestock sector industry contributes to about 8% of the total national income. It is sizable to the tune of around 20,000 crores and is growing at the rate of 7-8% in number of birds and 15-20% in terms of added value.

The existing broiler and layer industries in India are success stories initiated through the dedicated efforts of important industry leaders. But as in any intensive effort, major obstacles need to be detected rapidly and dealt with promptly. Poultry diseases are a major threat

for economic poultry farming. Preventive medicine is the key to the economical control of emerging and re-emerging diseases. Other measures include biosecurity, quarantine, eradication, controlled exposure, and preventive feed medication including mass vaccination. Thus, poultry health monitoring and disease surveillance need to be strengthened at national level. The future of the Indian poultry industry depends, to a large extent, on improving efforts in biosecurity, vaccination, sanitation, hygiene and isolation, stress prevention, production of clean feed and water, profilactic medication, mortality

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disposal methods, farm management, record keeping and close co-operation between institutes, industry and government.

There is an urgent need to re-organize this sector, especially in the field of disease prevention, which was, in the past, the sole domain of government agencies. Due to the globalization of the poultry industry and international standards most of the diseases have been brought under control or have been totally eliminated. Various industries are emerging as excellence centers for poultry industry like PDRC of the VH group, Pune. The Indian poultry industry has to concentrate now on the Herculean task of creating export-oriented quality poultry products so that the question of rejection on the basis of quality will be eliminated. The collapse of the Cancun summit makes us wonder about what will come next, a boon or bane for this industry in India? The World Trade Organization's (WTO) 146 member states must now try to rescue something, which had been intended to inject new momentum into stalled global free trade negotiations. In this regard, India has demanded the liberalization of agriculture trade through the reduction of subsidies in developed countries, a stand which carries an obvious moral legitimacy.

The poultry industry in India now needs to seriously think over safe food production not only to safeguard the nation's food supply but also to maintain quality export standards. In this regard, the implementation of HACCP in the food producing industry should be the "MUST" for international trade under the WTO.

The WVPA, India branch is committed to sincere efforts towards creating awareness about the HACCP concept for future avenues for global marketing, for higher profitability, and for sustainable poultry farming in India.



Dr. M. Joshi

At the recent XXth meeting of the Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists (IAVP) and National Symposium on "Basic Pathology and Animal Diseases - A need for a fresh approach to the Indian scenario", Dr. Madan Joshi received the *Veterinary Care Award* for excellence in avian pathology and also the *Varsha Award 2003* for outstanding work in other animal species. The conference was held at the College of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur from November 12-14, 2003.

Madan Joshi

Corresponding secretary, India
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Italy

The activities of the Società Italiana Patologia Aviaria (SIPA) during 2003

During the last year the SIPA (the Italian branch of WVPA), organised for its members the following activities:

- At the end of May a one-day round table in collaboration with SIVAR (the Italian Society of Veterinarians for Animals of Economic Impact) on the topic: "*Production of birds and environmental impact: the controlled discharging of litters*". The different systems already approved by national laws and the future perspectives linked to the approval of new EU regulations were treated and discussed.

- On September 18th at Bologna, in collaboration with Intervet, a Round Table on "*Good vaccination practices as the basis for an optimal immune response in poultry practice*". More than 200 participants attended the meeting and animated the final discussion. A practical manual, which also includes the first emergency measures to adopt in case of self injection, was prepared and distributed to all participants.

- The 42th SIPA Annual Meeting was held in Forlì, on 2-3 October 2003, at the same time as the International Exhibition. As usual, the first session of the meeting was entirely dedicated to the "*Annual Report on Main Pathological Disorders and Infectious Diseases in Italy*". Five presentations were scheduled: Dr. C. Terregino (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie) reported the situation on the recent outbreaks of avian influenza, Dr. A. Moreno Martin (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna) described the Italian situation regarding the presence and distribution of outbreaks of infectious Bursal Disease; Dr. P. Gaspari (AUSL Cesena) reported on the main causes of meat discharging at slaughtering during the last year; Dr. M. Delogu (Università di Bologna) talked about the health status of wild birds in Italy with particular reference to the ecology and epidemiology of avian influenza; Dr. A. Ricci (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie) presented data developed by the National Veterinary Reference Centre for Salmonellosis.

This session was followed by the description of some clinical cases in a very informal way. After lunch, we had the Annual Assembly, during which the members of the Society elected the Board for the period 2004-2007. Prof. Gallazzi (University of Milan), after two consecutive terms as President (the maximum according to SIPA rules) was replaced by Dr. A. Lavazza (the former Secretary). The others members are: G. Grilli (secretary),

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L. Montella (confirmed), A. Fioretti (vice-president), M. Stonfer, G. Tosi, M. Delogu, L. Gavazzi, G. Ortali. In all, 30 communications were presented during the two day congress.

The second morning was entirely dedicated to the main topic of the meeting, "*Infectious and metabolic diseases of turkeys during the first month of life*". Three authors coming from abroad and two Italian researchers were invited to present their lectures: Professor Mo Saif (Ohio State University, USA) treated the item "Viral enteritis of turkey poults", H.L. Shivaprasad (University of California, USA) illustrated the "An Overview of Bacterial, Fungal and Parasitic diseases of young turkeys"; Dr. Nixey C. (British United Turkeys Ltd., UK) talked about "Nutrition and Management of the Young Turkey"

- Finally, Dr. G. Tosi and Dr. A. Lavazza (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia ed Emilia Romagna – Italy) presented two separate lectures on epidemiology, diagnostics and control of diseases of young turkeys in Italy. An animated and lively discussion concluded the morning session, which was attended by more than 200 people. The Proceedings of the 42nd Congress of SIPA are going to be published (in Italian with abstracts in English) in issue 6 (December 2003) of Large Animals Review, of which some copies will be available and could be requested from the Secretary of SIPA (segreteria@patologiaviare.org)

- During Spring and Autumn 2003 (from May to June and from September to November) we conducted a Training Course in Avian Pathology for Vets (108 hrs), directly organised by the Fondazione Iniziative Zooprofilattiche e Zootecniche, a private foundation which operates Brescia and is linked to the local Public Institute (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale). The course was divided into five parts (general aspects of poultry production, broilers, hens, turkeys, other species and zoonotic diseases) and it has been approved by the National Continuous Educational Program.

- SIPA has a brand new website at: <http://www.patologiaviare.org>. In the continuously updated section "News" it is possible to find all recent data regarding recent outbreaks of avian diseases (e.g avian influenza) worldwide.

Antonio Lavazza
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Japan

For two days between 5th and 6th November, the Autumn Meeting of the Japanese Society on Poultry

Diseases was held in Hiroshima. The main topics of this meeting were West Nile fever and highly pathogenic avian influenza. First, two speakers introduced both diseases from the perspective of a panzootic. Additional speakers explained how the Japanese government is establishing measures to prevent incursion of the causative agents of these diseases and emphasized the necessity of wide and long term surveillance for these agents although neither has been detected in Japan. One speaker discussed a possible easy method for flock euthanasia and how these killed chickens can be managed without hygienic problems should these causative agents be brought into this country and cause a disaster for the poultry industry. The last speaker spoke on the Japanese attitude towards life. About 300 attendants were very interested in these papers and there were many questions and comments. I believe the attendees gathered important information from this conference.

Currently, we are sincerely concerned about the possible invasion of H5 and/or H7 influenza viruses and exotic Newcastle disease viruses from China or the United States of America. Since 1924 no outbreaks of fowl plague have occurred in this country. As far as we have investigated, no chicken flocks raised in Japan have any antibodies to H5 or H7 influenza viruses. We do not have a turkey industry and very fortunately there are no live bird markets in this country.

Koichi Otsuki

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Turkey

The members of the Turkish Veterinary Poultry Association (Turkish Branch of the WVPA) herewith invite you to attend the XIVth Congress of World Veterinary Poultry Association and Exhibition which will be held in Istanbul between 22-26 August 2005. It is an honour for us to welcome all world poultry veterinarians, scientists and poultry professionals to Turkey.

The Turkish Veterinary Poultry Association (TVPA) was founded in 1996. The following year, TVPA was accepted as the Turkish Branch of the WVPA. During this very short period, the TVPA has grown rapidly in membership, organized scientific meetings, the publication of a poultry journal and participation in national and international congresses and fairs. As a result of the TVPA's successful activities, the number of members is now over 250. This number demonstrates the interest of people in the poultry sector in our Association.

Turkey is a fascinating mixture of the past and present, old and new, modern and traditional. Istanbul is

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the only city in the world which embraces two continents, one arm reaching out into Asia, the other into Europe. The museum, mosques, churches, palaces, and bazaars, and the sights of natural beauty seem inexhaustible. While participating in the activities of the congress, there will also be time to enjoy this marvellous city of memories and expectations.

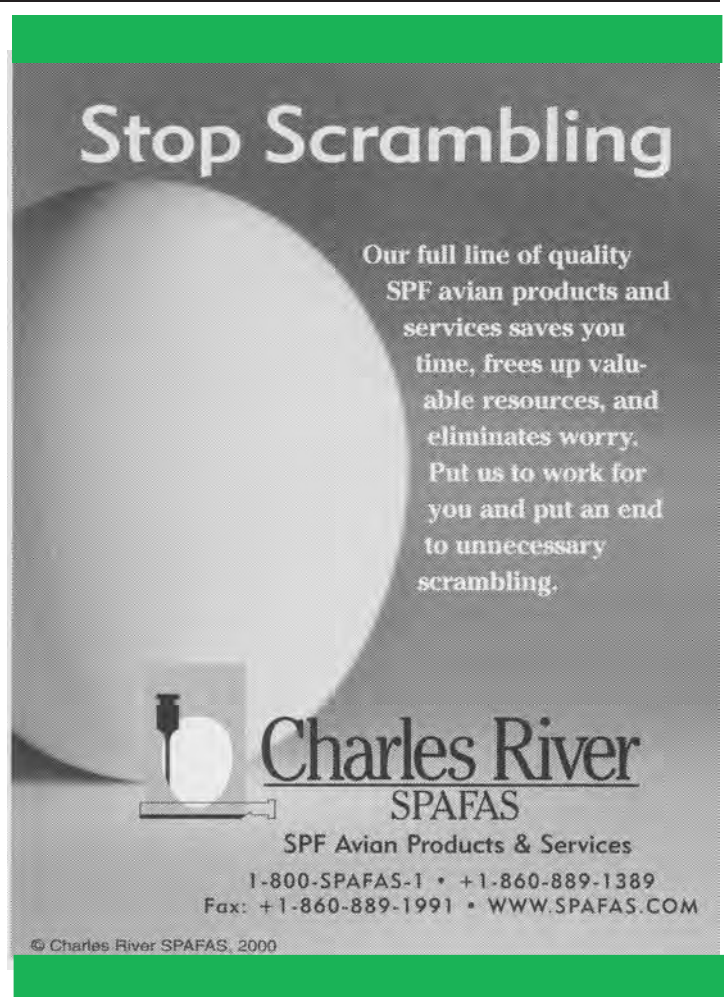
The WVPA congress in 2005 will take place between August 22-26, 2005 at Istanbul Lütfi Kırdar Convention & Exhibition Centre (ICEC), ideally located in the heart of the city's business, cultural and commercial districts. The Exhibition will be held in an ideal setting for trade fairs, seminars with 10,000 square meters. The scientific programme of the congress will consist of keynote lectures and short presentations in selected topics about poultry diseases, nutrition and recent developments in the poultry field. Social and cultural programs will be organized to provide a venue for participants to meet their friends and colleagues in Istanbul in addition to the scientific program.

We believe that, the congress of WVPA 2005 will be golden opportunity for the poultry sector and the academic area.

We will see you in Istanbul!

Ahmet Ergün

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Members of the Turkish Branch of the WVPA in Denver inviting all WVPA members to come to Istanbul in 2005.

USA

Welcome from the U.S. Branch of the WVPA and the new AAAP offices!

For everyone who has not already heard, Dr. Bob Eckroade has retired as the Secretary-Treasurer of the American Association of Avian Pathologists. Bob served the AAAP for 20 years and has successfully guided the organization through many changes. After the recent WVPA-AAAP meeting in July, the torch was passed from Bob and The University of Pennsylvania to me, Chuck Hofacre, and The University of Georgia. The new home for the AAAP is now at the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center (PDRC) in Athens, Georgia.

As you can imagine, 20 years of journals, books, slides, records, files, etc. filled a large truck. We were very fortunate that Dr. Bob Owen, Hubbard Farms, donated the use of one of their egg trucks and 2 drivers to bring the office from Pennsylvania to Georgia.

I would like to welcome any WVPA members visiting the Athens, Georgia area to stop in and visit Sue Clanton or myself at the AAAP office.

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contact information is phone: (706) 542-5645; fax: (706) 542-0249 or 542-5630; and email: aaap@uga.edu.

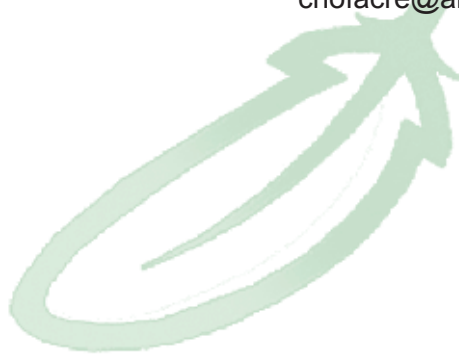
The health status of the U.S. poultry industry has been very good in general. The sluggish poultry markets for the past several years resulted in reductions in the number of broiler breeder and layer placements. This resulted in longer down time between flocks and excellent bird health. The Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) outbreak in California has been brought under control.

Exotic Newcastle disease in California, USA

In October, 2002 exotic Newcastle disease was diagnosed in non-commercial chickens in Southern California. It was soon clear that there were large numbers of non-commercial poultry infected in widely dispersed regions when the first case was discovered. All infected premises were quarantined and the birds destroyed. Many of the premises housing infected birds were very close to commercial poultry facilities and in December, 2002, the first commercial flocks were infected. Between December, 2002 and March, 2003, 21 commercial farms had flocks which became infected and were depopulated. In all, more than 3 million commercial chickens were destroyed. Between October, 2002 and May, 2003 more than 150,000 non-commercial poultry were destroyed.

In California, the outbreak was confined to Southern California (south of the Tehachapi mountains). A single case occurred in southern Arizona and one in Texas. The quarantine was lifted from Southern California on September 16, 2003 after extensive surveillance detected no new cases. More than 180 million US dollars were spent on the eradication effort. The dollars lost by poultry producers or egg processors, the profits lost by allied industry and the money lost nationally because of the trade disruptions have not been tallied. All in all, we're very glad its over!

Chuck Hofacre
Corresponding secretary, USA
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Publications

***Avian Pathology* A successful year**

In 2002 we had a record number (151) of manuscripts submitted to AVP. This was equalled in 2003. The impact factor (IF) of a journal is a measure of the number of times during a recent two-year period that papers published in a journal are cited by authors of papers published in any journal covered by the Science Citation Index. The IF released in 2003 (based on data collected in 2002) was 1.515 for AVP. This made AVP 12th of the 129 journals in the Veterinary Sciences category. This is a tribute to those who submitted manuscripts to AVP, and to the diligence and judgement of the referees and editors.

Progress by our Publisher

Our Publisher, Taylor and Francis, has instigated a number of procedures to improve the service to authors and readers of the Journal. Proofs are now sent quickly to authors as pdfs by E-mail, as are offprints of their published papers. Taylor and Francis have also reduced the time it takes for them to publish a manuscript. The median time between receipt of a manuscript by the Editor-in-Chief and its publication is expected to fall to 6.3 months during 2004.

Taylor and Francis have recently contracted with a web-based system for the submission of manuscripts, and for access to them by editors, referees, our journal administrator, and the publisher. We hope to introduce this system for AVP in the second half of 2004.

If you would like to receive advance information of the contents of each issue of AVP, you can subscribe free to the publisher's Scholarly Articles Research Alerting system (SARA; a link to this is on the journal's homepage <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/tf/03079457.html>). The information will be delivered to you by email and can be requested by specific keywords.

WVPA members can subscribe to AVP at a discounted rate of £60 (US\$96).

AVP Style Guide on the web

The journal's website can be reached at <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/tf/03079457.html>. A recent addition is a Style Guide, which authors are encouraged to read before writing a manuscript for AVP. The link for the Style Guide, and one for our Instructions for Authors, is on the home page.

AVP abstracts available by PubMed

Starting with the first issue of volume 31 (2002), abstracts of papers in AVP are available by PubMed, in
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addition to many other abstracting services. Access to abstracts of papers published after volume 27 i.e. from the start of 1998, are available free of charge at the AVP website, <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/tf/03079457.html>. Institutional subscribers have free access to complete journal articles, whilst others can purchase articles on the web from the AVP website.

International travel grants

The AVP website has links to WVPA, and to The Houghton Trust, which owns *Avian Pathology*. The Trust obtains royalties from the sale of AVP that are used to support an international travel fund for young scientists to attend overseas conferences and training. The website of the Trust has guidance and an application form.

Scope of AVP

Aspects of the scope of AVP have been clarified in the last year or so. It cannot be overemphasized that manuscripts should report novel findings that are of interest at an international level. First and subsequent reports of occurrence within a country of diseases well-recognized elsewhere will not be accepted unless they also include significant new information about the disease or pathogen.

Papers that may be of zoonotic/food-borne importance are within the scope of the journal, although papers about food-borne microorganisms acquired during or after processing are not appropriate for AVP. Manuscripts describing the occurrence or morphology of unicellular eukaryotes and multicellular organisms are unlikely to be considered for publication unless they have a clear relationship to disease. Physiological and biochemical data is within the scope of AVP provided that it relates to changes that are in response to disease.

Dave Cavanagh

Editor-in-Chief *Avian Pathology*

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WVPA Buisness

WVPA website

The WVPA homepage on the internet can be accessed at <http://www.wvpa.net>. The home page contains this edition of the *Aerosols* newsletter, information on the association (constitution and rules, officers, national branches, minutes of meetings, membership), its journal *Avian Pathology*, future congresses, proceedings, awards and grants.

Joining WVPA

Membership dues are EURO 5 per year and should be paid to the Corresponding Secretary or directly to the Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. U. Heffels-Redmann. Payments can be made by cheque or bank transfer in EURO to the WVPA account at the Sparkasse Giessen, Germany (Int. Bank Account Number: DE28 5135 0025 0222 0163 29, SWIFT-BIC: HELADEF1GIE).

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Aerosols

This edition of the newsletter will be mailed to more than 1700 specialists in poultry health throughout the world. We thank all those who have contributed news articles and the companies that have advertised in this issue. Companies that are interested in advertising in the year 2004 issue of the newsletter should contact the editor.

C.J. Cardona, Editor, *Aerosols*

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