

# Aerosols

Newsletter of the World  
Veterinary Poultry Association



Editor – Charles Hofacre

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**Visit: [www.wvpa.net](http://www.wvpa.net)**

For more information on the association, membership, grants and awards, publications, meetings and links to related websites

## President's message

Fraternal greetings to all members of WVPA in the more than 40 countries whose national poultry veterinary associations are already part of the WVPA. It is most pleasing to be able to report here that two new Branches have now formally joined our Association, these being the avian veterinary associations of The Philippines and most recently, Korea. Also I can advise as highly likely that at least another two national Branches are going to join into WVPA during the next six months. The interim WVPA Memberships of the avian veterinarians from each of these additional countries will be finalised at the meeting of the WVPA Bureau, which will occur at the Nantes WVPA Congress and at the AGM, their representatives will be presented to the WVPA membership. Thailand's Veterinary Poultry Association has lost no time in making its mark within the WVPA! You will see in this issue a report on the 1st WVPA Asian scientific meeting of 26th October.

Now a core part of our activities in avian health matters worldwide is facilitating communications and the exchange of knowledge, amongst national avian Branches and to the many individuals who are working in this field. Towards achieving this objective, considerable effort is currently being devoted by the Executive of WVPA as well as the Corresponding Secretaries of the Branches. WVPA already publishes *Aerosols* every six months and WVPA Briefings every three months to help keep our members in touch with the world scene in avian health. Can we please see that each member receives copies of these.

An exciting further development will occur soon, in that the WVPA website ([www.wvpa.net](http://www.wvpa.net)) has now been extensively refurbished and new functions added. Reconstruction has been undertaken over the last six months using a shadow website, which is now nearly ready for the transfer of the address to the UK and the closing of the older one in Germany. I particularly thank our WVPA Vice-President Nigel Horrox and production team and the WVPA Secretary-Treasurer Francois-Xavier Le Gros for their great work on this great advance. All members will be advised just as soon as the new site can be opened. Please then, everybody take the opportunity to visit this site!

Now, as you may well know, WVPA recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary (2011). The life of our professional association during that period however remains relatively poorly documented, even though there have been many individuals who have made major contributions to avian health internationally. I felt that it was important therefore that WVPA collectively takes steps to remedy this gap in WVPA's corporate profile. This section can then be consulted by any of our membership or by other visitors to the

Continued overleaf

WVPA website, as to who these important people are and what they have achieved. During October this year, I am pleased to advise that the Executive of WVPA has (unanimously) supported my proposal that we should move to create a WVPA Hall of Honour. After establishment in 2013, the maintenance and periodic updating of this section of the WVPA website will then become part of the ongoing operations by WVPA.

The purpose of this Hall would be to designate those special persons, who by their achievements during their professional careers in the last 50 years, have delivered most distinguished services to avian health internationally. Each of those persons named for admission to the Hall of Honour will be recognised in perpetuity by photograph and with written entry. Admission to WVPA's Hall of Honour should be the highest badge of honour for any avian veterinary scientist past, present or in the future. Further work on this project is now being progressed by the whole Executive of WVPA. Reports on our future progress will be included regularly via WVPA publications, as well as background information on the WVPA Hall of Honour posted on the updated website.

In closing, as this will be the last issue of Aerosols in 2012, may I send to you warm Season's Greetings from myself and the rest of the Executive of WVPA. Please do have a safe and enjoyable Christmas with your loved ones. We will look forward during this coming New Year to meeting in person as many of you as possible at the forthcoming WVPA Congress in France in August 2013.

To good science, good business and to much enjoyment and good fellowship there!

**Trevor Bagust**  
President of WVPA

## Young Veterinarian Award



Kelli Holloway Jones is presented with the first WVPA Young Veterinarian Award in San Diego, USA by Dr Hector Badillo of Pfizer.

The winner of the first WVPA Young Veterinarian of the Year Award, which is sponsored by Pfizer, is Kelli Holloway Jones from the Extension Service, University of Mississippi, USA.

The Award was announced in February in Bangkok and was presented to Kelli at the AAAP meeting in San Diego, USA, in August.

The judges – a panel of five members of WVPA, led by our president Trevor Bagust and including representatives from Australasia,

North America, Africa and two from Europe – were asked to select an ambassador – someone whom they felt was a credit to the

profession and would be seen as a worthy winner by all factions of the poultry industry.

They were seeking a balanced individual with a good working knowledge of the industry who, ideally, was not a specialist within a very narrow band of poultry veterinary science.

Evidence of skills such as communication, motivation and leadership had to be to the fore.

**12th March 2013**  
(the day before VIV Asia)

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# AAAP Annual Meeting

The American Association of Avian Pathologists met at the San Diego Convention Center from 4-7th August this year. The four day event included a symposium on Saturday 4th August, presented by the Enteric Diseases committee.

The title of the symposium was, 'Enteric Diseases in Poultry: Recent Advances in Characterization, Diagnosis, and Control'. The Scientific Program began on Sunday and concluded on Tuesday 7th August. It consisted of 121 oral presentations and 82 poster presentations.

Approximately 350 people from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Jordan, Korea, Mexico, Peru, Scotland, Taiwan, UK, US and Venezuela attended. Featured speakers included keynote speaker, Tom Campi from Elanco Animal Health, Indianapolis, IN whose address was titled, 'Technology and Feeding the World' and Calvin Keeler whose Lasher-Eckroade History Lecture was titled, 'The History of DNA Biotechnology in the Poultry Industry'.

Reed Rumsey Award winners Kyung-il Kang and Julie Kelly presented their paper and poster titled, 'Evidence that a Novel Chicken Astrovirus is Involved in RSS Pathogenesis in Commercial Broilers' and 'Field Treatment and Diagnostic Trials of *Hadjelia truncata* in Pigeons', respectively.

This year's Richard B. Rimler Award winner was Vijay Durairaj whose paper was titled, 'Development of A Novel In Vivo Assay to Differentiate Antigenic Variations Among Infectious Bursal Disease Viruses'.

Also during the AAAP Annual Meeting the AAAP Board of Directors welcomed new members, Mick Fulton, President-Elect, Victoria Bowes, Western Region Director, and Deirdre Johnson, Director at Large. New members were welcomed at the Saturday evening Meet and Greet which was well attended.

The AAAP Board of Directors met with Dr Mark Lutschaunig of the American Veterinary Medical Association Government Relations Division and discussed ways to improve AAAP's outreach and advocacy.

The board approved funding for advocacy training and future visits to Washington, DC engaging AAAP's Legislative Advisory Committee.

The board also met with Sharon Granskog and Kimberly May of the AVMA reviewing the value of media training for designated individuals. Jagdev Sharma, editor of Avian Diseases, announced that he will be stepping down and the AAAP Board of Directors will be conducting a job search for a new editor of Avian Diseases.

The 2012 award winners are:

- A. Gregorio Rosales, AAAP Special Service Award.
- David Ley, Phibro Animal Health Excellence in Poultry Research Award.
- Thomas Gaydos, L. Dwight Schwartz Travel Scholarship.
- Vijay Durairaj, Richard B. Rimler Memorial Paper.
- Julie Kelly, Reed Rumsey Student Award.
- Kyong-il Kang, Reed Rumsey Student Award.
- Patti Miller, Bayer-Snoeyenbos New Investigator Award.
- Daral J. Jackwood, P.P. Levine Award.
- Richard P. Chin, Lasher-Bottorff Award.
- Jack Gelb, Jr., Bruce W. Calnek Applied Poultry Research Achievement Award.
- Robert L. Owen, Outstanding Field Case and/or Diagnostic Report Award.
- Victor A. Palomino, A. S. 'Rosy' Rosenwald Student Poster Award.
- Nasassja Ortega-Heinly, A. S. 'Rosy' Rosenwald Student Poster Award.

**Front row: Chuck Hofacre, Deirdre Johnson, Suzanne Young Dougherty, Francene Van Sambeek. Back row: Eric Gingerich, Patty Dunn, Mark Bland, Daniel Bautista.**



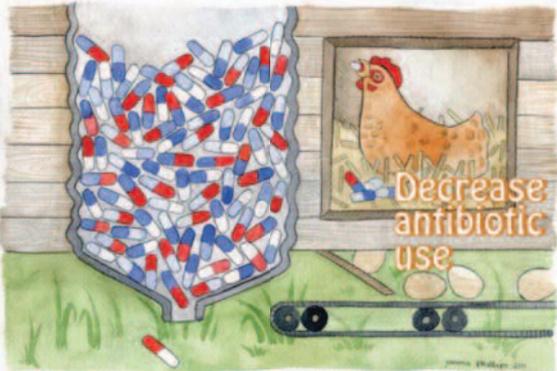
Tom Campi.



Calvin Keeler.



Dr Sharma presented the P.P. Levine Award to Dr Daral J. Jackwood at the Annual AAAP Awards Luncheon held on Sunday 5th August, 2012.



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# Austrian branch of WVPA

The annual meeting of the Austrian Branch of the WVPA took place in March at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna. Organised by Dr Bärbel Mägdefrau-Pollan and Dr Detlef Bibl the meeting concentrated on salmonella infections and was approached from several angles. It was highlighted that the number of salmonella infections in humans decreased continuously by >70% during the last 10 years since the implementation of appropriate control measures, like vaccination programs in combination with biosecurity.

Despite this, continuous efforts are needed to keep the high standard or reach an even lower prevalence. Therefore, vaccination and new vaccines were again one of the discussed subjects. Beside infections in humans salmonella might influence the gut physiology as pointed out in one of the presentations.

In April a newly founded association aiming to promote research in poultry science held a two-day meeting outside Vienna at Lake Neusiedl. Organised by Dr Martina Glatzl and Mag Harald Schliessnig, the public discussion about antibiotic resistance was used to highlight various aspects of this subject.

Veterinary practitioners in combination with people working in research and control institutions guaranteed a successful meeting.

Again, the prudent use of antibiotics in poultry medicine was given highest priority. Precise diagnostics and autogenous vaccines were claimed as helpful instruments to support reduction, which is needed as industry is very reluctant in new drug development and prevention is getting even more important.

From human medicine it was pointed out that the interaction with veterinary medicine is crucial despite the fact that not all problems can be traced back to animal production.

A wine tasting completed the first day and it was the only session which went over time, at least for some of the participants.

The University of Veterinary Medicine hosted the 1st International Symposium of the European College of Poultry Veterinary Science (ECPVS) on 5th July. Presentations were given on a great variety of topics, reflecting a broad range of themes. The Saharan climate forced the decision for the evening event to take place outside in a typical Viennese restaurant.

Early in July, for a second time, the Clinic for Avian, Reptile and Fish Medicine together with Dr Fiona Tomely from the Royal Veterinary College in London organised an 'International Symposium on Protozoal Infections

in Poultry' at the University in Vienna. One day was dedicated to Eimeria, whereas the second day dealt with Histomonas meleagridis. The various aspects of these pathogens were targeted in different talks and a poster session. With participants from numerous countries an excellent overview of the ongoing research activities was guaranteed.

Molecular investigations, epidemiology and the options for prevention and treatment were focused on in the presentations, independent of the pathogen. The actual knowledge about Eimeria obtained by extensive research in the last decades is very much ahead of the one on the flagellate, even though both pathogens have been known for more than a century.

However, the ban of specific treatment options for histomonosis with severe consequences, not only for turkey farmers, has intensified research activities during the last decade and the groups active in this field presented their results.

The gala dinner was held at the Kunsthistorisches Museum, harbouring one of the most important picture galleries in the world. Strolling around a collection of paintings from Rubens, van Dyck, Dürer and Cranach late in the evening was an unforgettable event for all participants.

Finally, in October a project meeting of the CEPO project ([www.cepo.eu](http://www.cepo.eu)), took place at the Campus of the University. This project is a joint action between the Vetmeduni Vienna and the Georgikon Faculty of the Pannonian University in Hungary, supposed to strengthen the Austrian/Hungarian poultry industry. Consequently, most participants came from these two countries listening to talks, focusing on nutrition and gut health.

Invited speakers covered subjects like GMO regulation, mycotoxins, gut physiology, influence of nutrition on the immune system and pathogens targeting gut health. The scientific part was completed with reports from specific work packages of the project. The social part was dominated by a football match, lost by Austria despite an intensive training program and enthusiastic cheerleaders!

**Prof. Dr Michael Hess, DVM, Dipl ECPVS**



The gala dinner for the International Symposium on Protozoal infections in Poultry was held in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, which houses one of the most important picture galleries in the world.



After a meeting of the CEPO project, a football match took place. This was unfortunately lost by Austria despite an intensive training program!

## Chinese celebration

The 30th Anniversary Celebration and 16th Scientific Conference of the Chinese Association of Avian Pathologists (CAAP) was held in Beijing from 26th-28th October, 2012. More than 400 participants from universities, insti-



The 30th Anniversary Celebration and 16th Scientific Conference of the Chinese Association of Avian Pathologists.

tutes, poultry farms and vaccine companies attended the meeting. The conference received 150 manuscripts or abstracts on avian diseases, 50 speakers made presentations on avian influenza, Newcastle disease, infec-

tious bursal disease, infectious bronchitis, avian leukosis and other viral or bacterial diseases of chickens and water fowls. WVPA vice-president Dr Hafez of Free University of Berlin was also invited to give a lecture entitled 'Avian Influenza in Egypt: Current and future challenges'. During the meeting, honours were presented to 22 distinguished avian pathologists of three generations (with ages ranging from 40 to 88) to recognise their contributions in studies and control of poultry diseases in China during the last 30 years.

**Zhizhong Cui**

**WVPA Corresponding Secretary  
of China Branch**

## French conferences

The French Branch of WVPA organised its annual conference 'actualités en pathologie aviaire' (current topics in avian pathology) on the 12th September.

This annual meeting takes place each year during SPACE, one of the major European agricultural fairs held in Rennes, Brittany.

It is recognised by all French poultry professionals (veterinarians, technicians, poultry farmers and technical press) as a real opportunity to meet and discuss current topics in

avian pathology. This year, four conferences were presented by poultry scientists and veterinarians in a well attended conference room:

- Current knowledge on cephalosporin resistance in poultry by Dr I. Kempf (Anses).
- Organisation of the French National Reference Laboratory on avian botulism by Drs R. Souillard, C. Le Marechal and C. Woudstra (Anses).
- Current clinical forms and epidemiological situation of reoviral arthritis in *Gallus gallus* by Dr T. Mauvisseau (Labovet laboratory).
- Identification of the virus of the fulminating disease of Guinea fowl by Dr J. L. Guerin (INRA-ENVV).

As every year, the conference was co-organised by the French branch of WVPA in partnership with 'Filières Avicoles', one of the major French technical journals dealing with every aspect of poultry production. As usual, Filières Avicoles sponsored an ever appreciated buffet to conclude the session and the journal will publish the summaries of the conferences in its forthcoming issues.

**Corresponding Secretary,**

**Sophie Le Bouquin**

**Secrétaire-trésorière de l'AMVA**

## Derszy Days in Hungary

The Hungarian Branch celebrated the XXth Annual Derszy Days on 21-22nd June in Siófok the capital of Lake Balaton.

On the first morning professor János Mészáros, a Member of the Hungarian Academy of Science, gave a lecture about successful vaccine production in Hungary, which started 100 years ago at Phylaxia.

The winner of the Derszy Award for 2012, Dr Csaba Drén, presented a lecture on the latest results in Marek's disease research.

The first afternoon program started with a round table discussion about the 'Use of antibiotics and bacterium resistance'.

The program began with a presentation by Dr Béla Nagy, a Member of the Hungarian Academy of Science, entitled 'Data to estimate antibiotic-resistance in zoonotic diseases'.

Doctors of human medicine also gave lectures about the international and home situation of antibiotic resistance based on monitoring and surveillance results.

A team from the Hungarian Veterinary Di-

One of the four conferences that took place in France.



# Branch reports

agnostic Laboratory presented a lecture about the domestic situation of antibiotic resistance in the last 10 years of routine diagnostic activity of poultry health.

The final closing presentation was given by the invited speaker, Stephen Lister, on 'Antibiotic use in Poultry: Balancing risks, hazards and needs'.



**Dr Stephen Lister giving his lecture on the use of antibiotics in poultry.**

Two presentations were given about adenovirus infection. The first was about gizzard erosion in broiler chickens and commercial layers, the second on tracheal-bronchitis in turkeys. The scientific program was closed by a presentation on observations of diseases caused by mycoplasmas and water fowl.

At the meeting more than 200 veterinarians participated. On the first evening everybody enjoyed a very good atmosphere at a dinner and dancing party sponsored by Ceva-Phylaxia.

**Dr László Kőrösi**  
Corresponding secretary  
of Hungarian Branch of WVPA

## Jordan update

The Jordanian Veterinary Poultry Association (JVPA) are in the process of selecting their monogram for the JVPA. Several monograms have been designed and they will be presented, and one selected, at the next annual meeting for all JVPA members.

Currently, JVPA are using the Jordanian Veterinary Medical Association site because they do not have their own site (due to the cost).

They are also using the Jordanian Veterinary Medical Association facilities for meetings and discussions as they do not have their own place.

The JVPA board has agreed to design train-

ing workshops (local and international) for poultry veterinarians. This idea has been encouraged by the WVPA President and other colleagues.

Colleagues in Jordan have been encouraged to attend the upcoming WVPA congress in Nantes, France, 2013.

Budget limitations did not allow JVPA to be launched in a special ceremony for decision makers (government and private), poultry industry and international organisations; FAO, WHO in Jordan.

JVPA board members have sent a letter to the President of the Jordanian Veterinary Medical Association, in order to be sent to the Ministry of Agriculture and other related Jordanian officials about the JVPA Branch; so they can contact the JVPA for committee assignments or any related issues regarding poultry health or any disease situations.

**Mohammad Q. Al-Natour, JVPA- Jordan.**

## Renaming of the Houghton Lecture

At the recent annual meeting of the Houghton Trust it was agreed to rename the Houghton Lecture 'The Avian Pathology Lecture, sponsored by the Houghton Trust'. This reflects the fact that the Lecture is funded as part of the Trust's commitment to use Royalties accrued from sales of the journal Avian Pathology to promote the extension of knowledge in the field of avian pathology.

The next Lecture will be presented at the WVPA Congress in Nantes in August 2013 by Professor Filip van Immerseel of the Department of Pathology, Bacteriology and Avian Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium.

The Lecture is presented at each Congress of the WVPA and the process of selecting the Lecturer for the 2015 Congress in Cape Town is about to begin. Details of who may apply and how applications may be made will shortly be posted on the Houghton Trust and WVPA websites, together with an application form.

**Jane K. A. Cook,**  
Secretary, Houghton Trust



**Dr Trevor Bagust, WVPA president (left) and Dr Al-Natour, JVPA branch president (right), in Cancun, Mexico.**

Your officers would greatly appreciate any feedback on WVPA and its activities.

Please send your feedback to any of the four officers highlighted on page 16 using the emails cited there.

# 1st WVPA Asian Meeting



Above, all set up and ready to go for Asia's first ever regional WVPA conference and, right, an attentive audience.

The 1st WVPA Asian Poultry Health Meeting was recently held in Bangkok, Thailand and took as its theme 'Poultry Vaccination'.

The meeting was co-hosted by WVPA and TPVA (Thai Poultry Veterinary Association) and was held in the prestigious Imperial Queen's Park Hotel.

The meeting was supported by Bioproperties Inc, Ceva, Lohmann Animal Health and Pfizer Animal Health, each of whom committed some financial support to this pioneering event and filled two slots on the programme.

The meeting was opened by WVPA's vice president, Nigel Horrox, who welcomed some 145 delegates from 15 countries.

He explained how it was WVPA's wish to create an Asian meeting that would be held in years that there was not a global WVPA Congress and that the meeting's aim would be the

furtherance of knowledge on poultry health matters in Asia.

The programme's first speaker was Branko Alva of Ceva who spoke on new opportunities for IBD and ND vaccination in the hatchery and he was followed by Bioproperties Inc's Chris Morrow who spoke on Asian mycoplasma problems.

The first session was rounded off by Pfizer's Taylor Barbosa who highlighted the importance of injection site accuracy in in-ovo vaccination. Following the break, Prof. Richard Jones from Liverpool University in the UK discussed European experiences with IB vaccination and Lohmann's Ioannis Mavromatis focused on the importance of good practices for water vaccination.

After an excellent Thai buffet lunch the first Avian Pathology Asian Lecture, which was sponsored by the Houghton Trust, was pre-

Below, Assoc. Prof. Dr Thaweesak Songserm presents the first Avian Pathology Asian Lecture on duck vaccination. Right, Professor Richard Jones, Chairman of the Houghton Trust receives his award and certificate.



# Meeting – a great event



sented by Prof. Songserm from Thailand on the subject of the vaccination of ducks. It was great to listen to him enthuse about his subject and to hear such an eminent speaker place so much importance on 'beautiful pathology'. He received his award and certificate from the Houghton Trust's Chairman, Prof. Jones amidst much acclaim from the audience.

The afternoon concluded with presentations on key control points in hatchery vaccination, avian hepesvirus in Asia, the use of vaccines and anticoccidials in effective rotation programmes and good practices for the spray application of live vaccines.

Then a former president of TPVA, Dr Damnern Sohsuebngarm presented his conclusions on the papers presented and left delegates with some very useful and practical take home messages.

As previously mentioned, this was the first Asian meeting of WVPA and it proved to be very successful with many positive comments received. It was also pleasing to note the number of non-Thai delegates who attended this first Asian meeting.

The next Asian WVPA meeting will be held in 2014 in Thailand and at next year's WVPA Congress in Nantes a meeting of the Asian branches of WVPA will be convened to agree the way forward.

This will include deciding the duration of the meeting, the structure of its programme and future venue(s).

The WVPA would like to thank TPVA for their support as co-hosts of the event, the four commercial companies who supported the event and all those veterinarians from Asia who came from near and far for this inaugural meeting.

Above left, delegates in a reflective mood and, above right, breaks in proceedings provided an ideal opportunity for networking.

Centre, delegates enjoying Thai cuisine. Left, the speakers and the Thai chairperson had a getting to know you dinner on the night before the conference. Below, Koreans were well represented.



## Activities of the

In 2012 SIPA organised two main events in Italy: a Roundtable entitled 'Antimicrobial Resistance in the Avian Sector' and the '51st Annual Meeting of SIPA'.

The Roundtable on resistance to antimicrobials (AMR) was held at the Veterinary Medicine Faculty of the University of Padua on 6th July. The objectives of the event were to give an overview of the issues related to the use of antimicrobials in poultry production and the possible links with human health.

Topics were presented by nine national and international speakers from several universities, research institutes and public veterinary services.

Dr Alessandra Piccirillo (University of Padua) introduced the event focusing on mechanisms involved in AMR of bacteria and on strategies to prevent it. Dr Valeria Bortolaia (University of Copenhagen) gave a lecture on emerging problems of AMR in the avian sector in Europe, particularly when mass treatments are applied by drinking water.

The activities of Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (IZSVe) in the surveillance plan of AMR in poultry production in Italy was described in detail by Dr Antonia Ricci (IZSVe) who stressed the importance of an efficient system of collection and evaluation of data to understand the current trend in the field. Dr Stefano Ferrarini (Public Veterinary Services) highlighted the role of public health services in AMR surveillance, focusing on poultry slaughterhouses as key points for monitoring programmes.

Dr Ettore De Canale (University of Padua – Human Health) presented a disappointing picture of what is happening in human health, and he drew attention to the current risks, particularly in surgery and hospital environments.

Dr Antonio Battisti (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale Lazio e Toscana) gave an overview of roles and activities of the National Reference Centre for AMR, drawing attention to multi-resistant strains of campylobacter isolated from chickens and turkeys.



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# The Italian branch of WVPA (SIPA)

The last lecture was a presentation jointly given by Dr Giorgia Dotto, Dr Martina Giacomelli and Dr Elisa Russo (University of Padua) reporting the results of field investigations on AMR.

Overall the key message was that antimicrobials cannot be just banned from the poultry industry because they are necessary for the sustainable production of high quality food animal proteins; however production systems have to pursue a responsible use of antimicrobials by decreasing the total quantity administered as well as the use of certain classes of molecules (penicillins, cephalosporins, macrolides). Treatments with antimicrobials should be applied following sensitivity tests to choose the most efficacious products whose mass administration by drinking water should be limited as much as possible.

## The 51st Annual Meeting

The first day started on the afternoon of 11th October with a conference dedicated to reports on the health status of the Italian poultry production sector.

Four speakers (Dr L. Gavazzi, Dr D. Da Ros, Prof. A. Camarda and Dr L. Dipineto) presented reports on the epidemiological situation concerning the main diseases of broilers, meat-type turkeys and commercial layers in Italy during the last year. The conference was followed by a session of oral communications given by SIPA members on topics such as infectious bronchitis, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* and *Mycoplasma synoviae*.

**Dr Dik Mevius from the Central Institute for Animal Disease Control in Holland spoke about antimicrobial use in poultry.**



On the same afternoon the annual assembly of the members of SIPA was held, followed by elections for the renewal of the President and the Management Board of SIPA, to be in charge for a three year period from 2013 to 2015. The results fully confirmed Dr G. Grilli as President, Prof. A. Fioretti as Vice President, Dr A. Piccirillo as Secretary, as well as Prof. E. Catelli, Dr R. Ceruti, Dr E. Morandini, Dr F. Prandini, Dr C. Terregino and Dr L. J. Vinco as members of the Board.

During the morning of the second day, a conference entitled 'Responsible use of antimicrobials in poultry production' took place.

Dr Dik Mevius (Central Institute for Animal Disease Control –

Lelystad, The Netherlands) spoke about antimicrobial use in poultry and possible consequences for human health.

Prof. Roberto Villa and Dr Petra Cagnardi (University of Milan) gave a joint presentation on the administration of 'continuous' or 'pulsed' antimicrobial therapy, describing the effects on pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of antibiotics.

Prof. Clara Montesissa (University of Padua) focused her lecture on eco-toxicity of antimicrobials.

Dr Magda Ardizio (Public Veterinary Services – Vercelli) and Carlo Castellina (Consultant Veterinarian) made a speech dealing with issues encountered in antimicrobial treatments in avian species.

The last presentation of the conference was given by Dr Alessandra Perrella (Ministry of Health) who elucidated the matter of pharmaco-vigilance from the Italian Ministry of Health's point of view.

In the afternoon, a session of oral communications given by SIPA members presenting the results of their studies on topics like avian influenza, avian rhinotracheitis, *Chlamydia psittaci* and *Listeria monocytogenes*, closed the two-day Annual Congress of SIPA.



Dr L. Gavazzi, Dr D. Da Ros, Prof. A. Camarda and Dr L. Dipineto presented reports on the epidemiological situation concerning the main diseases of broilers, meat-type turkeys and commercial layers in Italy.

**Dr Alessandra Piccirillo,  
Secretary of SIPA**

**Dr Francesco Prandini,  
Bureau Member of SIPA**



Dr Victor Mireles

## Dr Victor Mireles

In his home in Acapulco, Mexico, Dr Victor Mireles was murdered on 7th March, 2012. Victor graduated as a veterinarian with outstanding honours from Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM).

Dr Mireles was a veterinarian by profession and was one of the best professional translators in poultry science.

He was a veteran animal health executive, veterinarian and translator who lent his 40-plus years' experience, technical expertise and command of five different languages to many editorial projects and special events targeting global markets.

Based on this skill, he founded his own company for simultaneous translation work, Victor Mireles Communications. As such, he participated in many conferences and meetings, particularly in the Americas. Also in other parts of the world he was well respected. His aim always was to be sure that the participants understood the speaker's

# Obituaries

message. During translations, Victor often pretended as if he were the speaker himself, making the real speaker and audience smile.

## John Brian McFerran (1931-2012)

Professor Brian McFerran, renowned veterinary virologist died on 21st June 2012 at the age of 80, as a result of a heart attack. Following his secondary education at Campbell College Belfast, Brian graduated with a veterinary degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1956. From 1957 until 1960, he was a Research Fellow in the Faculty of Medicine at Queen's University Belfast and a Senior Research Fellow from 1960-1962. He was awarded a PhD degree in 1960 for his work on bovine enteric viruses.

His career in veterinary virology began in earnest when he took up a post as Senior Research Officer at the Veterinary Research Laboratories of the Department of Agriculture in

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1 Data on file. Study Report Nos. PPH-0001, PPH-0003 and PPH-0004, Pfizer Inc. 2 Data on file. Study Report No. PPH-0006, Pfizer Inc.

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Northern Ireland (DANI). He founded and headed the virology department there from 1962 to 1987. From 1968 to 1987, he was also Deputy Chief Veterinary Research Officer in DANI, a post in which he acted as deputy director of DANI's veterinary laboratories at Stormont and Omagh. In 1987, he was jointly appointed Chief Veterinary Research Officer (CVRO) in DANI and Professor of Veterinary Science in Queen's University Belfast (QUB). He served as Vice-Chairman of the Animal Health Section of the Scientific Veterinary Committee of the European Economic Community from 1981-1992.

When he retired as CVRO in 1992, he had published approximately 120 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals. He had co-edited three books, contributed numerous chapters to standard textbooks and had attended dozens of scientific conferences all around the world as an invited speaker. He was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by QUB in 1982, and his overall contribution to veterinary science was recognised when he was awarded a CBE in 1992.

On meeting Brian McFerran, two things were immediately apparent. One was his sheer physical presence; the second was how much he enjoyed a good laugh. Another characteristic that became obvious very quickly was his incisive and sharp intellect. He never had difficulty in distinguishing 'the wood from the trees'. He was very focused, practical and pragmatic.

## Dr Hiram N. Lasher (1920-2012)

Dr Hiram N. Lasher, 92, a pioneer in avian vaccine development, passed away on Sunday 7th October after a short illness. To the end Hiram was intellectually active corresponding with colleagues and actively participating in professional activities.

Dr Lasher was raised on his family's farm (Sunrise Farms) in the Catskill, New York during The Depression. After graduating high school he worked his way through college graduating from Cornell University in 1942 with his DVM.

His early professional years were spent in expanding poultry health in Delaware where he settled with his wife Bertha and started their family. He later established a succession of two poultry vaccine manufacturing concerns in Millsboro, DE, which were acquired by multinational biopharmaceutical concerns.

He went on to found Lasher Consulting Inc in 1982 and until recently served as President providing technical advice and support to

vaccine producers in the US and the international arena.

Dr Lasher lived his life to the full doing the things he most loved while impacting those whom he met, worked with and cared for. His love for his community, profession and his family will continue despite his passing.

Lasher's business partner and close friend Dr Vergil Davis writes about Dr Lasher.

"When the task appears too large or the time too short, one need search for an implementer no further than Hiram, a hero in his own right with very few peers. He reminds us all that the secret to fruitful longevity is activity, and not just any activity, but one that we love."

Hiram was instrumental in developing and commercialising a number of significant vaccines through his own efforts and through cooperation with colleagues in industry and academia.

## Dr Alex Jose Bermudez (1957-2012)

Dr Alex Jose Bermudez, 55, of Columbia, Missouri, USA, passed away to eternal life suddenly on Monday 8th October, 2012.

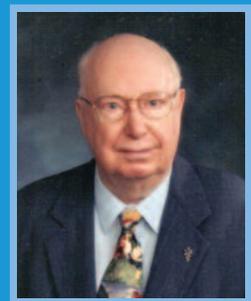
Alex was born in 1957 in St Croix, US Virgin Islands. He earned a BS from Bates College in Maine, and an MS in Nuclear Medicine and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1986 from the University of Illinois. During this time he married the love of his life, Lisa Lundelius of Pennsylvania in 1980. Following an Avian Medicine internship at North Carolina State University, and positions at the University at Connecticut and The Ohio State University, he became a faculty member and Avian Pathologist at the University of Missouri Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory in 1991. Since 2005 he has served as the director of the laboratory. He was a member of the American Association of Avian Pathologists, and the American College of Poultry Veterinarians of which he was elected president in July. He has faithfully served the University and professional groups in many capacities.

From childhood he had an abiding love of nature. An avid bird-watcher, enthusiastic fisherman, and persistent (if rarely successful) hunter, his great joys were spending time in the countryside and at the beach. A kind, generous, faithful, and wise man, Alex will be sorely missed by so many.

He is survived by his wife and children, Alexa, Steven (Carla), and Peter all of Columbia, his father, José Bermudez of Puerto Rico, and half-brother, Jan Henle (Dee) of New York City. He was preceded in death by his mother Atti Vandenberg Bermudez.



Dr Brian McFerran

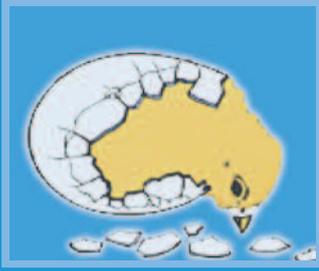


Dr Hiram N. Lasher



Dr Alex Jose Bermudez

# News from Australia



Here we go again. Last time we were together in Aerosols mid-year, Australia was half under water with floods. Now we are entering another El Nino dry period. As I sit here writing in late October, there are over 100 bushfires burning in our State of New South Wales. These drought conditions are disappointing for our farmers, the grain growers of Australia, who after two good wet seasons planted huge acreages hoping to take advantage of high world grain prices. Now, sadly, there is insufficient moisture for a good finish. In some areas they have given up hope of a crop and put the cattle and sheep in to graze what little foliage has grown, to get some value from the loss.

This is not good news for poultry producers. Feed prices will jump 30% in the final half of this year. Can we get the markets to give us a compensating price rise? Not easy but we have to try. But we know we are not alone. Feed prices are rising all over the world and producers are feeling the pain.

So we veterinarians have to help the industry try to improve efficiency, using our skills to keep the birds healthy and to optimise performance. But sometimes events conspire against us and unexpected diseases give us an unpleasant surprise. Such it has been here with ILT.

Early this year a research team at Melbourne University sequenced a virulent ILT virus that has been causing us all a great deal of trouble in both broilers and layers. To everyone's surprise it turned out to be a reassorted virus made entirely of the two commercial CEO vaccines we use. One was an international vaccine and the other the indigenous Australian vaccine.

An interesting story indeed. The two vaccines were used simultaneously on two layer replacement farms so close together they could be considered one farm. Somehow some birds must have become infected with both viruses in sufficient quantity to allow reassortment.

About two weeks later your correspondent had the honour of diagnosing the first outbreak of the new pathogen on a broiler farm just over one kilometre away. The new virus promptly became established and is now endemic in some areas. It really does seem a little unfair that two relatively benign vaccine viruses managed to find a virulence gene amongst the array of genes they each decided to contribute into the new virus.

That has been the only new disease develop-

ment for the veterinarians to grapple with. Other than that we are seeing old diseases which were thought to have disappeared decades ago.

Australia has a very active and well organised animal rights movement which is focusing the attention of the consumer on the welfare of the animal providing the food they buy.

As a result Australian egg production is now >35% free range and barn with only 65% being produced from cage layers. Cage production has now started falling. This change in market preference by the consumer ensures a long and busy career for our young poultry veterinarians here.

We grapple with cholera, spotty liver, cholera, cannibalism, cholera and sometimes erysipelas. Oh! And did I mention cholera? We find cholera a most vexatious disease. It is sometimes difficult to persuade producers to vaccinate, because after decades of cage production there is no longer much memory of fowl cholera. All too frequently the veterinarian becomes involved only when mortality is rampant and production is poor.

Then another particularly vexing problem we currently have for the clinician is the propensity for layers, correctly vaccinated twice, to sporadically shed the new virulent ILT virus, causing outbreaks!

Since we communicated in the last issue of Aerosols the AVPA now has a scientific meeting planned for 20-21st February 2013. It will be in Sydney, and we do look forward to seeing some of you folks come on down under.

It follows the Australian Poultry Science Symposium, so making a great week of science and socialising. Do consider combining it with a holiday so you can see for yourself what a great place our country is!

Incidentally, later in 2013 we are planning a scientific meeting in South Australia. We will run it in the Barossa Valley among the wineries. The Barossa makes the best Shiraz wine in the outer spiral arm of the universe. That should be another meeting not to be missed.

And finally, we proudly note that one of our number in AVPA, the worthy Trevor Bagust, is now President of WVPA. We congratulate him and know he will bring wisdom to WVPA and honour to Australia.

With best wishes to all,

**Ben Wells**  
President AVPA  
[ben@benjaminwells.com.au](mailto:ben@benjaminwells.com.au)



# Nantes 2013

The XVIIIth Congress of the World Veterinary Poultry Association will take place from the 19th-23rd August 2013 in Nantes, France.

The French organisers of the congress continue to work hard in close connection with Zoopole Development (their Partner and Professional Congress Organiser), WVPA officials and the future congress sponsors, to organise this event so that everyone involved in poultry health will hopefully want to attend.

The organisers have put a lot of effort into producing a great scientific programme including conferences, workshops and technical visits, as well as a varied and attractive supporting social programme.

Internationally renowned keynote speakers have now been invited and the website ([www.wvpac2013.org](http://www.wvpac2013.org)) is opened and updated regularly.

Please note that the call for abstracts is now

open. The instructions for authors to submit their abstracts online are available on the website ([www.wvpac2013.org](http://www.wvpac2013.org)) and the deadline for abstract submission is 20th December 2012.

We thank all secretaries of the national branches of WVPA for kindly helping us to further disseminate this information to all their branch members. We shall be delighted to meet as many of you as possible in Nantes in August 2013!

For further information, please contact the congress secretariat on the email below:  
[wvpac2013@zoopole.asso.fr](mailto:wvpac2013@zoopole.asso.fr)

**Nicolas Eterradossi & Sophie Le Bouquin**  
on behalf of the Organising Committee and French Branch of WVPA



19-23rd August 2013



## Diary of meetings 2013

### January

28-29 – **Southern Conference on Avian Diseases (SCAD)**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Website: [www.aaap.info](http://www.aaap.info)

29-31 – **International Production & Processing (IPPE)**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Website: [www.ipe13.org](http://www.ipe13.org)

30 – **Antibiotics Conference – current issues for the poultry and egg industry**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Website: [www.uspoultry.org](http://www.uspoultry.org)

### March

5-6 – **International Technology, Education and Development Conference**, Valencia, Spain  
Website: [www.inted2013.org](http://www.inted2013.org)

12 – **Incubation2013**, Bangkok, Thailand  
Contact: [palmpositive@yahoo.com](mailto:palmpositive@yahoo.com)

13-15 – **VIV Asia**, Bangkok, Thailand  
Website: [www.viv.net](http://www.viv.net)

25-27 – **62nd Western Poultry Disease Conference (WPDC)**, Sacramento, California, USA  
Website: [www.cevs.ucdavis.edu](http://www.cevs.ucdavis.edu)

26-28 – **French Days for Poultry Research Conference**, La Rochelle, France  
Contact: [nicolas.eterradossi@anses.fr](mailto:nicolas.eterradossi@anses.fr)

### July

19-23 – **American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP)/AVMA Annual Meeting**, Chicago, Illinois, USA  
Website: [www.aaap.info](http://www.aaap.info)

22-25 – **Poultry Science Association Annual Meeting (PSA)**, San Diego, California, USA  
Website: [www.poultryscience.org](http://www.poultryscience.org)

### August

19-23 – **XVIIIth Congress of World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA)**, Nantes, France  
Website: [www.wvpac2013.org](http://www.wvpac2013.org)

### September

17-23 – **31st World Veterinary Congress (WVC)**, Prague, Czech Republic  
Website: [www.wvc2013.com](http://www.wvc2013.com)

### 2017 Congress

The 2017 WVPA Congress will be held in Europe. European national branches of WVPA interested in bidding to host this congress are asked to note the following deadlines:

- Preliminary notification **31st January 2013.**
- Submission of bid document **31st May 2013.**

The successful bid will be announced at WVPAC 2013.

Both notifications should be made to the Secretary at: [francois-xavier.le-gros@merial.com](mailto:francois-xavier.le-gros@merial.com)

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