

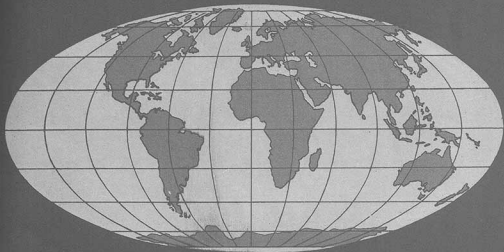
Volume 19

No. 1



January 2003

# COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION



# NEWS

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Published and Printed by

● Mrs. Shireen Rahman ●  
Intervet Publishers  
123, 7th B Main Road  
4<sup>th</sup> Block (West), Jayanagar  
Bangalore 560011 INDIA

● In Association With ●  
Commonwealth Veterinary  
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CVA Web site

<http://www.commonwealthvetassoc.org>



## The President's Message

*2002 was a good year for the Commonwealth Veterinary Association. For the first time in its history the CVA held a Regional conference in Cyprus and for many of us it was a unique experience. Our Cyprus hosts, led by CVA Council member Dr Andreas Emmanuel and the Regional Representative, Dr John Cooper, organized a first class scientific meeting dealing with such important issues as biosecurity, public health, and emerging and re-emerging diseases. Scientific experts from the UK, Australia, Kenya and Cyprus reminded us that the veterinary profession must forever be vigilant in its responsibility for protecting both animals and humans from old as well as new diseases.*

*Following the Scientific meeting the CVA Executive Committee met for 3 days. Our Cyprus hosts found the time to escort CVA delegates on a brief tour of some of the more interesting historical sites on Cyprus and also arranged a visit to a farm where both goats and sheep were raised. The delegates were impressed with the management and quality of the animals.*

*The social events organized and led by the Cyprus Veterinary Association President, Dr Takis Koliandris and his wife Eleni were exceptional. The local outdoor venue was delightful, the food superb, and our hosts could not have been more enjoyable. Also of note is that Dr Charalambos Kakoyiannis will be completing Dr Coopers' term as the Regional Representative for this Region.*

*Prior to the Cyprus meeting the CVA Officers met with the President-Elect of the British Veterinary Association, Dr Peter Jinman and then with officers of the Commonwealth Foundation to discuss items of mutual interest. On returning from Cyprus I had another opportunity to visit BVA and met briefly with the BVA President, Dr Andrew Scott.*

*Preparations for the 3rd PanCommonwealth Veterinary Conference to be held in conjunction with the New Zealand Veterinary Association June 27-30, 2003 in Wellington, are progressing on schedule. In addition to the excellent scientific programme for all delegates there will be a special meeting of Commonwealth Chief Veterinary Officers. Details are available on the new CVA website: [www.commonwealthvetassoc.org](http://www.commonwealthvetassoc.org)*

*A new four year Agreement has been signed between the CVA and Nestle Purina Petcare Company, the successor of Ralston Purina Ltd. In summary, Nestle Purina Petcare Company has agreed to provide financial support for regional professional development meetings, PanCommonwealth veterinary conferences, and other ad hoc services in return for providing professional advice and assistance to Nestle Purina Petcare Company. A special thank you to Dr Avi Deshmukh for his advice and support during the first Agreement.*

2002 also brings to an end the services of Dr John Cooper and Dr "Joe" Jaumally as Regional Representatives for the UK and Mediterranean, and the East, Central and Southern Africa Regions, respectively. Each has provided outstanding service to CVA. As mentioned above Dr Cooper was largely responsible for organizing the first meeting in Cyprus and he has been a very influential contact for CVA in dealings with other organizations within Britain. Dr Jaumally has been a tireless worker within the ECS Africa region. He has dealt with disaster assistance, organized new projects, encouraged greater participation by Council members in CVA activities, and organized a very successful CVA Regional meeting in Stellenbosch.

Finally, I wish to thank the Secretary, Dr Abdul Rahman and the Past-President and Treasurer, Dr Bill Pryor for their tireless efforts on behalf of CVA. In addition to their regular duties they have also worked closely with Dr Bill Manktelow on preparations for PCVC 3 and assisted with on-going business with Nestle Pet Food Products Ltd.

CVA relies entirely on volunteer services and it is only through dedicated veterinarians, and in many cases their spouses and families, such as those identified above, that CVA is able to maintain its quality of work.

May 2003 be a joyous and prosperous year for all CVA members and their families.

January, 2003

Bert Stevenson  
President

## CVA News

### Summary of Minutes of The CVA Executive Committee Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> June 2002, Nicosia, Cyprus

The Meeting was held at Holiday Inn, Nicosia, Cyprus.

#### Present

Dr. RG Stevenson, President - Chairman  
Dr. WJ Pryor, Past President  
Dr. SA Rahman, Secretary and RR, Asia  
Dr. Robin Yarrow, RR, Australasia/Oceania  
Dr. D Fofana, RR, West Africa  
Dr. MR Jaumally, RR, ECS Africa  
Dr. WO Ogara, CVA Councillor, Kenya  
Dr. J Cooper, RR, UK/Mediterranean

The following agenda items were finalised.

#### 1. Programme Director's Report

In the absence of a Programme Director following the resignation of Dr Polly Pereká, the Secretary briefly outlined the activities of the Programme Director, which was the preparation of a draft workplan and compilation of various project proposals submitted by RRs for consideration for the EC. The report was approved.

#### a. Draft Workplan for 2002-2004

The President was of the opinion that the workplan should be realistic and after a detailed discussion the workplan was finalised.

For purpose of convenience and implementation, the workplan was divided into (a) Programme Activity, (b) Non-Programme Activity.

#### b. Projects Submitted

The Projects submitted by various RRs were reviewed.

#### Asian Region

Project 1: Capacity building for Veterinary Undergraduate Education in Chittagong Government Veterinary College, Bangladesh.

With the success of the first training programme undertaken by CVA at the Chittagong Veterinary College, Bangladesh last year, it was decided to continue the support for the current year and the project was approved with a sum of A\$2500 to be allocated for the current year.

### *Australasia/Oceania Region*

**Project 1:** Regional Workshop for the Pacific Islands on Animal Welfare - Urban Dog Control

It was decided to split the budget, one for the workshop and one for the project and Dr Yarrow was asked to prepare a fresh project budget and submit to the Treasurer for funding.

**Project 2:**

It was decided to help a veterinary student of East Timor to complete his education by CVA funding of US\$ 1200.

### *ECS African Region*

**Project 1:** FAMACHA System of Controlling Haemonchosis in Sheep

Dr Jaumally was authorised to discuss with Dr Bath to have a programme for a trainee to visit the country and train the personnel there in the diagnosis of haemonchosis in sheep using the FAMACHA system. A total of A\$4000 was approved for the project.

**Project 2:** National Rabies Campaign in Uganda 2001

This was approved in principle and a sum of A\$5000 was approved.

**Project 3:** Establishment of Goat Production Unit at Women's Group in the Village of Chikwanji in Choma, Zambia

It was approved in principle that a sum of A\$5000 be provided with a possibility of funding further for another A\$5000 next year.

### *West African Region*

**Project 1:** Harmonising Swine Fever Control in West Africa Region

The project had been approved previously.

Subject to negotiation with the sponsors, the project could be taken up in 2002-03 otherwise the project to be hosted post-July 2003. A sum of A\$10000 was approved.

## **2. Amendments to Constitution - RR's term of Office**

The item was discussed in detail and it was unanimously agreed that the Constitution as outlined on Page 54 of the CVA Handbook Third Edition 2001 be modified on Para 3 as follows.

"The RR is elected for one term of FOUR years only. In extraordinary circumstances if the EC acknowledge the unique difficulty in fulfilling the duration of an EC member's term of office this duration may be modified."

The term of office of the RR would begin from 1st January of the year following his election/nomination.

Note: It was also unanimously agreed that the above amendment be applicable to all members of the Executive Committee.

## **3. Themes and venues of Regional Workshops in 2002 (West Africa & Asian Region) and ECS Africa and Australasian Region in 2003 and Canada/Caribbean region in 2004**

### *a. Asian Region*

**Second International Workshop on Animal Welfare and Asian Regional Meeting of the CVA, 14th-16th, February 2003, Bangalore, India.**

After the successful completion of the First International Workshop on Animal Welfare organised by Commonwealth Veterinary Association and World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA) held on 15th and 16th February 2002 at Bangalore, India, various issues of Animal Welfare have still not been attended to.

In order to fulfil this gap, the WSPA has agreed to sponsor the Second Workshop in association with CVA. The contribution of WSPA will be US\$ 5000.

As the Asian Regional Meeting is long over due, it was decided to combine the CVA Asian Regional Meeting with the 2nd International Seminar on Animal Welfare to be held on the above dates. The CVA's contribution would be A\$10000.

The Treasurer informed the Committee that funds were not available for the above workshop in the current financial year. However, the funds would be made available after 1st July 2003 for the above workshop.

It was decided to approve the above meeting and workshop with a deferred payment from CVA to be paid to the RR Asian Region after 1st July 2003.

*b. Australasia/Oceania Region*

It was decided to have the CVA Australasian Region workshop in Papua New Guinea after 1st July 2003.

*c. Canada/Caribbean Region*

To be decided later.

*d. ECS African Region*

To be held in Zambia in 2004.

*e. West African Region*

Workshop on Swine Fever to be held at Banjul, The Gambia, in Nov/Dec 2002 subject to finances otherwise post-July 2003.

*f. UK/Mediterranean Region*

To be held in 2005. Venue to be decided later.

**4. CVA Website**

The CVA website was discussed in detail and it was decided that the Secretary be designated as Website Development Officer and he was asked to coordinate with Wayne Lees in the transfer of website from Canada to Bangalore, India for its maintenance and update.

The Secretary was also asked to prepare a working budget to operate the website and send it to the Treasurer. It was also decided that the CVA website should contain more information in addition to its present format, the CVA News, forth coming events, regional workshops, etc.

It was also decided that the material so collected for the website on CVA be sent to all journals of national veterinary associations regularly every two to three months particularly paragraphs on activities or programmes. In addition, CVA sponsored meetings should be placed in the "Coming Events" sections of these journals.

This work should be entrusted to the Secretary who will function as Communication Officer of the CVA.

A professor was one day walking along a very narrow street when he came face to face with a rival. The street was too narrow for two to pass. The rival, pulling himself up to his full height, said haughtily "I never make way for fools!" Smiling, the professor stepped aside and said, "I always do".

**New RR for Canada/Caribbean**

Dr Veronica E Burnham Corbin, former Council Member, CVA Guyana, has been nominated as interim Regional Representative of the Canada/Caribbean region until the region elects its RR to fill in the vacancy created by the demise of Dr Val Mohabir.

**Pig developed with Spinach Gene**

Japanese researchers said they had combined meat and vegetable on the hoof rather than the plate with the world's first successful implant of a spinach gene into a pig to produce healthier pork. "It is confirmed for the first time in the world that a plant gene is functioning properly in a living mammal, not in a cultured cell", said Akira Iritani, Professor of Developmental Biology at Kinki University near Osaka in Western Japan. Iritani said his team discovered pigs with the spinach gene had about 20 per cent less saturated fat, the excessive intake of which is bad for the health. The experiment used a gene called FAD2, which converts saturated fat into unsaturated linoleic acid. Researchers injected the gene into fertilised pig eggs and implanted them in the womb of a normal pig, which gave birth to the GM pigs, Iritani said, while admitting the success rate for piglets born was only about one per cent.

**Water, Water!**

According to recent studies, it is important to encourage children to increase their concentration. It has been found that children who are dehydrated, do not work as well in the classroom as those who have consumed the recommended eight glasses of water a day. All brain activity is neurological and a chemical, which doesn't function without water.

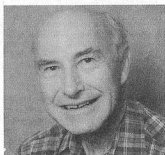
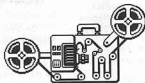
Says Dr Martin Schweiger, "if children don't drink enough water, the delicate enzyme systems their bodies depends on, start to get out of kilter. And long-term problems of infection, kidney disease and high blood pressure are the price many people pay for drinking too little water in their childhood.

- Times Of India

Be nice to people on your way up, because, you'll need them on your way down.

- Wilson Mizner

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## JOURNALS, BOOK AND AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMME

Contact: Dr. J.B. Derbyshire, Coordinator, CVA Book Programme, Department of Pathobiology, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1G 2W1.

### CVA Book Programme

The CVA Book Programme is coordinated from the Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph by Dr. Brian Derbyshire, assisted by Mr. Jim Brett, the College Librarian, Mr. David Hull and Dr. Lloyd Coleman. A depot is also maintained in Australia by Dr. Jeff Cave, District Veterinary Officer, DNRE, 1 McKoy Street, Wodonga, Victoria 3689. The current holdings include 1,127 volumes in Canada and 127 in Australia. Journals are not normally shipped, and few audio visual aids have been donated. Books are available free of charge to graduate veterinarians in CVA member countries in good standing. Requests for books should indicate the required subject areas (see below) and/or preferred titles where possible, and they should include the mailing address to which the books should be sent. The latter should be abbreviated as much as possible in order that it may be accommodated in the limited space provided on the customs declaration. Priority is given to requests from institutional libraries, and requests from individuals are met as funds permit. Shipments are made by surface mail, and may take up to 8 months to reach their destination. In 2002, books were sent to Ghana, The Gambia, Fiji, India, Kenya and Uganda. Five shipments were to institutions, and seven were to individual veterinary clinics. The following is a summary of the books currently available by subject area, as well as the titles of some popular texts of which multiple copies are held. A copy of the complete inventory may be obtained on request.

#### Anatomy

43 titles, including *Evans & Delahunta*: Miller's Guide to Dissection of the Dog, *Evans & Christensen*: Miller's Anatomy of the Dog, *Habel*: Guide to Dissection of Domestic Ruminants, and *Sack & Habel*: Horse Dissection

#### Anaesthesia

13 titles, including *Soma*: Textbook of Veterinary Anaesthesia

#### Animal Science

32 titles, including *Leahy & Barrow*: Restraint of Animals, and *MacDonald*: Pig Husbandry Technology for Warm Climates

#### Avian, Fish, Laboratory Animal & Wildlife Medicine

28 titles, including *Julian*: Poultry Husbandry, and *Harkness & Wagner*: Biology & Medicine of Rabbits & Rodents

#### Biochemistry & Biology

8 titles

#### Equine Medicine & Surgery

9 titles, including *Adams*: Lameness in Horses

#### Farm Animal Medicine & Surgery

13 titles, including *Radostits et al*: Veterinary Medicine

#### Histology & Hematology

24 titles, including *Banks*: Applied Veterinary Histology, *Delman & Brown*: Textbook of Veterinary Histology, and *Schalm et al*: Veterinary Hematology

#### Immunology

10 titles, including *Tizard*: Veterinary Immunology

#### Microbiology

19 titles, including *Prescott & Baggot*: Antimicrobial Therapy in Veterinary Medicine, and *Fenner*: Veterinary Virology

#### Miscellaneous

13 titles, including *Kirk & Bistner*: Handbook of Veterinary Procedures and Emergency Treatment, and *Merck Veterinary Manual*



**Parasitology**

17 titles, including *Georgi*: Parasitology for Veterinarians

**Pathology**

11 titles, including *Thompson*: General Veterinary Pathology, *Jubb et al*: Pathology of Domestic Animals, Moulton: Tumors in Domestic Animals, and *Slausen & Cooper*: Mechanisms of Disease

**Pathology - Clinical**

8 titles, including *Duncan & Prasse*: Veterinary Laboratory Medicine, and *Sodikoff*: Laboratory Profiles of Small Animal Diseases

**Pharmacology**

9 titles, including *Booth & McDonald*: Veterinary Pharmacology & Therapeutics

**Physiology**

8 titles, including *Guyton*: Textbook of Medical Physiology

**Public Health & Zoonoses**

8 titles, including *Schwabe et al*: Epidemiology in Veterinary Practice

**Radiology**

13 titles, including *Owens*: Radiographic Interpretation for the Small Animal Clinician, and *Kealy*: Diagnostic Radiology of the Dog & Cat

**Small Animal Medicine**

95 titles, including *Kirk et al*: Current Veterinary Therapy, *Povey*: Infectious Diseases of Cats, *Ettinger*: Veterinary Internal Medicine, *Muller et al*: Small Animal Dermatology, and *Lewis & Morris*: Small Animal Clinical Nutrition

**Small Animal Surgery**

35 titles, including *Bojrab*: Current Techniques in Small Animal Surgery, *Emily & Penman*: Small Animal Dentistry, and *Severin*: Veterinary Ophthalmology Notes

**Theriogenology**

29 titles, including *Carlson*: Patten's Foundations of Embryology, *Noden & De Lahunta*: Embryology of Domestic Animals, *Roberts*: Veterinary Obstetrics & Genital Diseases, and *Morrow*: Current Therapy in Theriogenology

**Toxicology**

7 titles, including *Osweller et al*: Clinical & Diagnostic Veterinary Toxicology

Dr. J.B. Derbyshire  
Coordinator, CVA Book Programme

**Why Women Cry**

Why are you crying, a young boy asked his Mom?

"Because I'm a woman," she told him.

"I don't understand," he said.

His Mom just hugged him and said, "And you never will, but that's O.K.".....

Later the little boy asked his father, "Why does Mom seem to cry for no reason?"

"All women cry for no reason," was all his Dad could say.....

The little boy grew up and became a man, still wondering why women cry.

Finally he put in a call to God and when God got back to him, he asked

"God, why do women cry so easily?"

GOD answered.....

"When I made woman, I decided she had to be special. I made her shoulders strong enough to carry the weight of the world, yet, made her arms gentle enough to give comfort.....

I gave her the inner strength to endure childbirth and the rejection that many times will come even from her own children.....

I gave her a hardness that allows her to keep going and take care of her family and friends, even when everyone else gives up, through sickness and fatigue without complaining....

I gave her the sensitivity to love her children under any and all circumstances. Even when her child has hurt her badly....

She has the very special power to make a child's boo-boo feel better and to quell a teenager's anxieties and fears....

I gave her strength to care for her husband, despite faults and I fashioned her from his rib to protect his heart....

I gave her wisdom to know that a good husband never hurts his wife, but sometimes tests her strengths and her resolve to stand beside him unflinchingly....

For all of this hard work, I also gave her a tear to shed. It is hers to use whenever needed and ! It is her only weakness....

When you see her cry, tell her how much you love her, and all she does for everyone, and even though she may still cry, you will have made her heart feel good.

She is special!

Please inform this to women you know, and those with mothers, sisters, and special women in their lives.

But, also inform this to men so they will understand about what a wonderful thing a woman is: Each day is a mountain that must be climbed; with courage each step gets easier.

Love your Mother Always and keep her Smiling.

□

## CVA STUDY FUND

### The Fund

This fund has been established by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA) in conjunction with the Commonwealth Foundation to honour the contributions made by Mr. John Anderson and Dr. L.P.E. Choquette in establishing and promoting the activities of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association.

Financial support to match the funds contributed by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and the several national and local veterinary associations throughout the Commonwealth may be provided by the Commonwealth Foundation.

### 1. Purpose

Its purpose is to provide financial assistance to:

1. Veterinarians who are members in good standing of their respective national associations to undertake short term study visits to schools, institutions or to undertake short term study courses in veterinary medicine, animal production or related areas in other Commonwealth countries.
2. Animal Health Assistants recommended by the appropriate CVA Council Member and Regional Representative, to undergo further short-term training at a school or institution in another Commonwealth country.

It is expected that such visits will promote professional and para-professional contacts and provide grantees with new knowledge and expertise in their respective fields of interest. Study proposals which will directly benefit the rural poor and disadvantaged will receive sympathetic consideration. All proposals will be expected to describe how they will benefit the home institution, veterinary organization and community. The visit is also expected to result in a broadening of cultural experience and horizons and to promote Commonwealth understanding.

### 2. Guidelines

1. Grants will be limited to persons with field experience and not holding senior positions.
2. The awards are not normally available for University academic or research staff.
3. Preference will be given to related regions with 'south-south' movements being encouraged. In exceptional cases, visits to institutions outside the regions qualifying under south-south arrangement will be considered as long as the cost of the visit does not exceed the allocated fund award (Aus \$ 3000). In exceptional circumstances and where approved by the President grantees may receive training in a non-Commonwealth country within that Region.
4. The study period should be preferably between 2-3 weeks.
5. Awards will normally be distributed equally amongst Regions, however, on occasion, the President may authorize additional awards to a particular Region in any one year.
6. The study visits will be financed at a maximum of Aus \$ 3000 including a prepaid air ticket for the least expensive and most direct route.
7. Grants are provided only for periods of concentrated study or training on a particular topic or activity and cannot be made for attendance at conferences,

meetings etc., nor to underwrite a tour of visits to a number of institutions.

8. A report must be submitted to the Secretary CVA within three months of the completion of the study visit. At the completion of the study visit, the participant must receive a letter of release, which should clearly indicate duration of stay, and satisfactory completion of course. The letter should also confirm that at the time of departure, the participants have not left any debts unsettled. This requirement must be conveyed by the Regional Representative or Programme Director to the host institution before arrival of participant.
9. It will be necessary for the host institution to agree to assist in arranging suitable accommodation etc. affordable by the applicant.
10. Grantees will be expected to give one or two lectures at the host institution or veterinary association on aspects of animal health and production activities in their home country. These lectures should emphasize how their studies in the host country will benefit the rural poor and disadvantaged as well as their impact upon the environment.
11. These lectures and the discussions of topics, both professional and social, with the staff of the host institution or veterinary association will serve to further the aims and objectives of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association.

### 3. Applications

- i) There is a set Study Application Form/Application. Forms are available from the CVA Secretary, or through the CVA Website.
- ii) Applications should be submitted to the appropriate Regional Representative for processing, at least 6 months prior to the preposal visit.
- iii) The applicants should provide the following:
  - a) A complete curriculum vitae to the Regional Representative
  - b) Two passport size photographs
  - c) A letter of acceptance from the person who will supervise the study program in the host country
  - d) Evidence that the study has the support of his/her home institution or national association

### 4. Administration

- i) The Study Application Form with supporting documents must be sent to the appropriate Regional Representative
- ii) The Regional Representative will review the application and make a recommendation to the Programme Director.
- iii) The Programme Director will make a recommendation to the CVA President, who will make the final decision.
- iv) The Programme Director will then inform the Regional Representative who will inform the candidate.

Last date of submission of request to Council Members / Reg. Rep. 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2003. RRs to submit their recommendations before 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2003 to the Secretary, CVA.

Asia

India

## Centenary Celebrations - 2003

The Madras Veterinary College instituted in 1903 has blazed its pathway of progress in the field of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. This institution of national and international repute now in its 100th year, is to celebrate the centenary in 2003.

To commemorate this unique event, scientific seminars/symposia/workshop/debates are proposed to be hosted on various themes covering Animal Production, Health and Product Technology.

The professional societies nationally and internationally registered are informed of the centenary celebrations and the societies/associations are requested to hold their annual event for 2003 at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai 600 007, India.

Necessary facilities to conduct the Seminar/Workshop/Symposium will be provided.

Professional societies or associates willing to conduct their annual event may please contact for further details.

### Chairman

Souvenir & Scientific Services Committee and  
Director of Research (i/c)  
(Madras Vety College Centenary Celebrations-03)  
Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences Univ.  
Madhavaram Milk Colony Chennai 600 051  
Email: drtanuvras@rediffmail.com

The concurrence to hold the event will be issued on studying the theme of the scientific meet, reputation of the professional society, patronship, membership background, etc.

– Dr. K.S. Palaniswamy  
Director of Research (i/c)

Sri Lanka

## New CVA Councillor for Sri Lanka

Dr A. Shakthivale has been elected as the new President for Sri Lanka Veterinary Association in its Annual General Meeting this year. He has been working as Additional Director (Livestock Development) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock from January 2002 to date.



Dr Shakthivale

Dr Shakthivale graduated from University of Ceylon in 1967 and completed a PG Diploma in Agricultural Economics from University of Reading, UK in 1981. He started his career in 1968 as a veterinary surgeon in Department of Agriculture/Animal Health, Peradeniya. Later on he became Additional Director (Planning) in 1984, then Director Planning (Livestock) in 1987 under Ministry of Rural Industrial Development, Colombo.

He has vast experience in preparation and analysis of projects and policies and also possesses good skills in Human Resource Development.

His address is:

2H-34, Jayawadanagama  
Battaramulla, Sri Lanka  
Email: shakthi@lanka.ccom.lk

## World Animal Day

The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association organised a function at the Bandarnayake Memorial International Hall in Colombo to mark the "World Animal Day" on 4th October 2002. Hon. S B Dissanayake, Minister for Samurdhi, Agriculture and Livestock was the Chief Guest. Hon. Muthu Sivalingam, the Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Livestock was one of the Guests of Honour. Her Excellency Mrs. Blankhart Berkouwer, the Ambassador of The Netherlands in Sri Lanka was the other Guest of Honour and Hon. Mohan Kumar, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Acting High Commissioner

for India in Sri Lanka also participated in the function which was well attended.

There were more than 250 veterinarians and about 50 other professionals. The main agenda was the release of the "All Island Sri Lanka Veterinarians Guide", which carried the profiles of most of the veterinarians in Sri Lanka with their photographs, statistics and other information about animals, illustrative articles from veterinarians, both from Sri Lanka and India and messages from Her Excellency the President of Sri Lanka, Hon. Prime Minister, Hon. Minister and Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock among others. This was published by "Anand Sikka Veterinarians Foundation", India with the support given by SLVA. The guide was released by the Chief Guest.

The release was followed by a technical seminar. Two speakers from Sri Lanka and three speakers from India addressed the gathering.

## New Office-bearers of Sri Lanka Veterinary Association

The following Office Bearers have been elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 3rd May 2002, for the year 2002/2003.

President	: Dr. A. Shakthivale
President Elect	: Dr. (Mrs) H.M.S.P. Herath
Vice Presidents	: Dr. V. Loganathan Dr. S.D. Eleperuma
Secretary	: Dr. I.V.P. Dharmawardena
Treasurer	: Dr. A. Sivasothy
Committee	: Dr. M. Kopalasuntharam Dr. Saman Priyantha Dr. C.P. Ihalagedara Dr. A. Jayathilake Dr. A.R. Mohamed Dr. (Mrs) C. Thavathasan
Ex - Officio	: Prof. H. Abeygunawardena Dr. (Mrs) T.G. Wijewardena Dr. A.D.N. Chandrasiri
Editor	: Prof. R. Sivakanesan
CVA Councillor	: Dr. A. Shakthivale

## Pakistan

### Inauguration of University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences

College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore in Pakistan is the oldest institution of Asia. It started as a Veterinary School in 1882 and was given the status of a Veterinary College in 1900. Its present building was completed in 1915. In 1942, the College was affiliated with Punjab University, Lahore. By that time the College had acquired international fame. The graduates of this college are serving at national international levels in different organizations.



*The Hon. Governor of Punjab is delivering the presidential address*

Not only the graduates of this Alma Mater rose to the heights of Major Generals in Pak Army, Ministers, Vice Chancellors, Federal and Provincial Secretaries, but they also entered into Civil Services, Livestock Departments, teaching and the research institutions of the country. At the international level alumni are also serving as experts in various UN Agencies (FAO, UNDP, WHO, Atomic Energy). The College was affiliated to the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad since 1971 to award DVM and Postgraduate Degrees. The transformation of the College of Veterinary Science, Lahore by the Punjab Government is a step in the right direction to train the Livestock Professionals in a better way for the betterment of livestock owners and the entire Livestock sector.

The University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, has been established within a record time. The up-gradation of the college to a status of University is an obvious testimony of the fact that present Government is committed to achieving the objective of institutional arrangement for further research, human resource development and poverty alleviation. The ordinance of the UVAS was approved and signed by the Governor of Punjab



*Governor is praying after unveiling the inaugural Plaque*

on 8.6.2002 and Prof Dr Manzoor Ahmad Qureshi was appointed as the first Vice Chancellor of UVAS on 13.6.2002.

Fifteenth of June 2002 will always be remembered as historical when the Governor of Punjab inaugurated the University. This colourful ceremony started with the arrival of Governor at 10.00 am. Honourable Governor was welcomed by the Vice Chancellor, Secretary L&DD., Secretaries, Ministers, Advisors and a large number of Senior Veterinary Professionals.

A documentary depicting contribution of different sectors of Livestock in the National Development was presented and the need for up-gradation of CVA to UVAS was outlined.

The Vice Chancellor, Dr Manzoor Ahmad Qureshi welcomed the gathering and thanked the Honourable Governor, Secretary L&DD and all other professionals for their dedication and cooperation in the establishment of the University. He also highlighted the future plans of this institution.

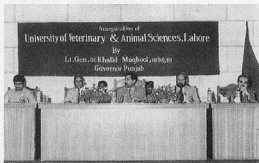
The Vice Chancellor of UAF, also addressed and congratulated the staff and students for the establishment of first University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences in Pakistan. He also said that it would be a great break through in the up lifting and development of the livestock sector.

Adil Aboul-Naga, FAO country representative for Pakistan warmly congratulated the Government of Punjab, Vice Chancellor, Staff of the University and the Veterinary Community.

Mr Ikhtlaq Ahmad Tarar, Secretary, L&DD Punjab also addressed and thanked the Honourable Governor Punjab for his keen interest in the establishment of the new University.

Dr Mohammad Amjad, President PVMA/PPA also congratulated the participants and presented a cheque of Rs.5 millions as a donation to the Governor of Punjab for the provision of research equipment to Poultry Production Department of the new University.

Honourable Governor of Punjab Lt. G.I. (Retd.) Khalid Maqbool in his presidential address formally announced the inauguration of the University of Veterinary & Animal Science, Lahore and urged the animal science experts to expedite and broaden their scope of research in this vital field. He said that the efforts of the scientists should deal with a broad scope ranging from the vaccines for animals to the export of leather jackets. He also highlighted the need of progressive marketing system which was not yielding the



*The Governor and other guests on the stage*

required results. He said the Government would soon launch a Rs.100 million scheme for preservation of milch cattle breeds such as Sahiwal whose population has dwindled over the years due to negligence. He further informed that the milk-processing plant would also be set up at the cost of Rs.30 million in Punjab in collaboration with the Adara-e-Kisan, Pakistan. He said the Government was also planning to rehabilitate the poor and small-scale farmers by providing them loans from Zakat fund for the purchase of milch animals. He was of the view that Pakistan could benefit with exports of more than 6 billion US \$ from Middle East market alone, by developing slaughterhouse facilities and ensuring the eradication of animal diseases. These facilities could also be helpful in persuading multinational companies operating in Pakistan like MacDonald, not to import meat from abroad but utilize locally produced. The Governor urged the students of the newly established University to spend their energies for learning and research instead of indulging in politics. He also said that horse dancing, camel race and exhibition of milk animals in Melas are the real beauty of the Punjab culture. He asked the Scientists of the new university to introduce new techniques for cattle farming for the betterment of rural population.

— Dr AA Ramzee  
CVA Councillor, Pakistan

## Entire Genome of Tuberculosis Bacteria in Cattle Sequenced

Veterinary experts have discovered the genetic make-up of the bacteria which causes TB in cattle - revealed to be 99.9 per cent identical to the kind found in humans. The find will lead to better testing for TB at an earlier state in cattle and for the creation of a vaccine to treat both animals and humans. The scientists, an Anglo-French collaboration, sequenced the entire genome, of the TB organism. Speaking on BBC Radio, Dr Glyn Hewinson, Project Leader, said, "The chance of producing a cure-all vaccine could be just 10 years away". There are three vaccines for human TB which are about to move to clinical trials.

## Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Qureshi appointed Vice Chancellor of University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences

Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Qureshi was appointed as first Vice Chancellor of University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan. Dr Ahmad graduated from Lahore Veterinary College Punjab in 1954 and specialized in Physiology from the same University and obtained his MS from Washington State University, USA in 1961 and a PhD from the same university in 1966. Subsequently he obtained his FRVCS from Royal Veterinary College, Stockholm, Sweden in 1969.



Dr Manzoor Ahmad Qureshi

Dr Ahmad started his career as a Research Assistant in 1955 at the Veterinary College, Lahore and became an Assistant Professor in 1963 and Professor and HOD in 1968. He was the Principal of the Veterinary College, Lahore from 1976-78. He was appointed as the Professor of Animal Reproduction at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda from 1978-80. After his return to Pakistan, he was appointed as National Coordinator of the Buffalo Project for three years 1980-83. He served as a Chief Technical Advisor, FAO/UNDP Project Kampala, Uganda from 1984-90. After his retirement he served as an Advisor to various boards and the Pakistan Veterinary Medical Council. He has many research papers to his credit and has travelled widely all over the world.

The Commonwealth Veterinary Association congratulates Dr Ahmad on his appointment as the Vice Chancellor of the newly formed University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore.

## LAUGH

Overheard in a busy clinic as a receptionist spoke an obviously hard-of-hearing client: "No Mrs. Smith, not the HEARSE, I'm sending the NURSE"

— Probe, Vol. XLI, Jan - Mar, 2002

were asked to participate in individual or group presentations followed by a feed back session of their learning experience of the previous week.



*Chronic mastitis in a goat*

Each group of students had some common exposure to demonstrative surgery on selected routine operation (Table) with opportunity to practice. In addition, the students also enjoyed the opportunity to handle some referral clinical cases which required surgical intervention. It was indeed a great privilege for the students to have a basic exposure to radiographic techniques and its interpretation. The trainees had a range of species exposure during this training on surgical techniques, which varied from domestic pet, small and large ruminants to captive zoo animals.

The species wise summary of surgical techniques used for training during this three week training programme is presented in the following tables:

### Use and practice of different types of Anaesthetic agents and their management

#### Combination anesthesia

- i. Xylazine and Ketamine in goat, dog, calf & cat
- ii. Diazepam and Pentothal in dog
- iii. Pentothal and Halothane in dog and goat

### Regional Anesthesia/Block

- i. Auriculopalpebral nerve block in goat, calf & dog
- ii. Retrobulbar block in goat
- iii. Peterson's block
- iv. 'L' and 'T' Block in goat

### Maintenance of inhalation anaesthetised patient

- i. Intubation in dog, goat & cat

### Chemical Restraining of Zoo animals

- i. Blowpipe gun darting of Deer and Lion for translocation

### Other Specialized Surgical Techniques

- i. Collection of CSF from Cisterna magna and lumbar region
- ii. Preparation and fitting of Thomas splint in dogs and goats

### Pre-operative preparation and aseptic surgical principles

- i. Preparation of general & special surgical packs
- ii. Sterilization of surgical instruments and appliances
- iii. Preparation of patient and surgeons
- iv. Preparation of OT and operative sites



*Intramedullary bone pinning in dog*

### Routine operation/Demonstrative surgery with practice session for the trainees

Name of the Operation Demonstrative Surgery	Species Covered
Oesophagotomy	Goat
Castration	Dog
Rumenotomy	Goat
Gastrotony	Dog
Caponization	Poultry
Dewclaw excision	Dog
Removal of digit	Goat
Laparotomy	Goat, Dog
Caesarean Section	Bitch
Panhysterectomy	Bitch

### Special Surgical Techniques and Clinical/Referral cases required surgical intervention

Name of the Special Surgical Technique	Species Covered
Tarsorrhaphy	Dog, Goat
Third Eyelid Flap	Goat, Calf
Canthotomy	Dog
Extirpation of eyeball	Dog
Splenectomy	Dog
Enterotomy	Dog
Cystotomy	Dog
Intestinal anastomosis	Dog
Intramedullary bone pinning	Dog
Dermoids (Corneal, conjunctival, Scleral, Sclero-corneal)	Calf
Correction of Fracture in Femur	Gibbon

### Techniques of Radiography and Soundness

- i. Procedure of taking radiographs
- ii. Positioning for radiography of various parts in different species of animals
- iii. Radiography of Foot of Horse
- iv. Barium X-ray in Dog
- v. Pneumoperitoneum in dog
- vi. Pneumocystography in Dog
- vii. Interpretation of radiographs
- viii. Procedure of soundness examination in Horse

### Seminars Offered by Dr. S.C. Pathak

- i. Rabies: An increasing concern for the Vet
- ii. A Talk on Elephant
- iii. Care and management of Pet

### Valedictory Function

A formal valedictory function was organized on 4th of November, in the presence of Prof. Dr. Mohammad Shamsuddin, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Chittagong as Chief Guest and Director of Chittagong British Council, Julia Crokerd, National Livestock Specialist, Dr. Nazir Ahmed and Yusuf Chowdhury, President of local Dairy and Poultry Association as Special Guest and Dr. Nitish C Debnath as the Chair. All trainees received Certificates of attendance issued by CVA from the Chief Guest. All the guest welcomed the initiatives and successful organization of such international training on surgical techniques and acknowledged the kind sponsorship and support extended by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association for the capacity building of this new institute (CGVC) and skill development of the future veterinary professionals.

The trainee students expressed their deepest sense of gratitude and thanks to Dr. S.C. Pathak for his excellent capability in imparting the training to them. They also remarked that this three weeks training with Dr. S.C Pathak had contributed a lot in consolidating their confidence in the basic principles of surgery and did significantly help developing skills in operative procedures.

The Training programme was successfully completed on 7th of November 2002.

Dr. N.C. Debnath  
Dean, CGVC



Trainees with Dr SC Pathak and other Guests after receiving their Certificates



## Australasia/Oceania

### New Zealand

#### New National Advisers Join Animal Biosecurity Group

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) recently welcomed two new National Advisers to the International Animal Trade (IAT) section of its Animal Biosecurity Group. IAT develops import health standards that enable importation of animals and animal products, based on safeguard developed through risk analysis. The IAT section also creates trade opportunities for New Zealanders exporting animals and animal products by developing export certification based on the importing country's requirements.

**Gillian Mylrea**, a veterinary graduate from the University of Sydney, has also completed a PhD in Reproductive Physiology of Deer. Relocating to New Zealand in 1992, Gillian worked in a large dairy cattle practice in the Waikato before moving to Livestock Improvement (LIC) in Hamilton. At LIC, she was employed as a Veterinary Technical Manager and was responsible for providing veterinary technical support to dairy farmers and veterinarians in the areas of reproduction and mastitis.



*Dr Gillian Mylrea*

Gillian has varied work portfolio. She will be dealing with trade (import/export) issues involving horses, ruminants and pigs, and ensuring that quality standards are met.

**Helen Beban** has also joined the International Animal Trade section of Animal Biosecurity as a National adviser. Helen graduated BVSc with

distinction from Massey University in 1975 and completed her Masters in Business Administration with distinction in 1997.

Helen is the current President of the Companion Animal Society of NZVA and an NZVA Board member. She is also the Convenor of the NZVA Veterinary Practice Standards Scheme and was recently appointed the NZVA representative to the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, as its Council Member.



*Dr Helen Beban*

Helen enjoys the intellectual challenge and people contact that comes with working for Animal Biosecurity.

VetScript, July 2002

#### New NZVA Board Member

Northland veterinarian **Ross Woods** was appointed to NZVA Board in April to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Susan Morris.

Born in Whangarei and still living there, Ross gained his veterinary degree from Massey University, graduating in 1983. He began his veterinary career in Pahiatua, but soon returned to Northland, establishing what is now the Animal Health Centre in Whangarei in 1985. The practice is accredited to NZVA Veterinary Clinic Standards and has a branch clinic in Onerahi. He recently took over operation of the Northern Wairoa Veterinary Club in Dargaville.



*Dr Ross Woods*

He has been on the local Regional Animal Health Advisory Committee, and is Past President and Secretary of the Northland Branch of NZVA, and President and Secretary of the local rugby club.

Ross is looking forward to meeting more members of NZVA and representing their interests on the board.

In the recent election for NZVA Board Members, Dr Alan Hunter was successful and now takes a place on the Board.

Alan graduated from Sydney University in 1964 and, until retiring from practice in 2002, has been in general practice in the South Island, first in Ashburton then Queenstown. He has developed particular expertise and an ongoing interest in radiology, which he still pursues, along with assisting new graduates into practice, sharing his 36 years of experience in general practice, and advancing the welfare of the veterinary profession. Alan is based in Christchurch but spends time in the Marlborough Sounds.



Dr Alan Hunter

Returned to the Board by the election were sitting Board members Jenny Weston and Chris Hutchings.

Mandy Nutting has been appointed to fill the remaining term of Kevin Crews, who has resigned from the Board.

Lewis Griffiths continues as President for a second term.

VetScript, June/July 2002

## New Zealand Veterinarian Receives International Honour In Animal Health

New Zealand veterinarian **Stuart MacDiarmid** became the first New Zealander to receive the international honour of a Médaille du Mérite by OIE, the world organisation for animal health.

Dr MacDiarmid is the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's national Manager Risk Analysis and Massey University Adjunct Professor in Veterinary Biosecurity.

He was given the award in recognition of his work in developing risk analysis as a basis for ensuring the safe trade in animals and animal



Dr Stuart MacDiarmid

products, and for developing standards to reduce the risk of spreading BSE through trade in animal products.

The Médaille du Mérite is awarded annually to individuals in recognition, internationally, of their outstanding technical, scientific and administrative contributions to the field of veterinary public health and/or animal disease control.

VetScript, July 2002

## Australia

### New CVA Councillor for Australia

Dr Jeff Cave has been appointed the CVA councillor for Australia to replace long standing representative Dr David Banks.

Jeff graduated BVMS (Hons) from Murdoch University, Perth in 1988.

Immediately after graduation he worked for two years in mixed practice in the Adelaide Hills before travelling extensively throughout Eastern and Southern Africa.



Dr Jeff Cave

Following this, Jeff completed a course work MSc in Tropical Veterinary Science at James Cook University of North Queensland.

Jeff then worked for two years in Vanimo, Papua New Guinea with the Department of Agriculture and Livestock as part of the Australian Volunteers Abroad Program.

Following this, Jeff worked for three years in the Cook Islands with the Ministry of Agriculture once again as part of the Australian Volunteers Abroad program. During his time in the Cook Islands, Jeff was CVA councillor for the Cook Islands.

For the past three and a half years Jeff has been District Veterinary Officer in Wodonga, Victoria with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Jeff recently became a member of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists epidemiology chapter.

His address is:

P.O Box 59, Wodonga  
Vic, 3689, Australia  
Email: jeff.cave@nre.vic.gov.au

## AVA Annual Conference

The Australian Veterinary Association Annual Conference will be held in Cairns, Australia from 25th - 30th to May 2003. There will be 10 concurrent scientific veterinary streams including: small animals, cattle, equine, sheep and a range of specialists topics. A display exhibiting the latest in veterinary technology and equipment from the largest gathering of veterinary industry in Australia.

For more information:

Access website: [www.ava.com.au](http://www.ava.com.au)  
Contact AVACOS: [avacos@ava.com.au](mailto:avacos@ava.com.au)  
Ph. (02) 6273 8855  
Fax. (02) 6273 8899  
PO Box 4257, Kingston  
ACT 2604, Australia

## LAUGH

The patient awakened after the operation to find herself in a room with all the blinds drawn.

"Why are all the blinds closed?" she asked her doctor.

"Well", the surgeon responded, "They're fighting a huge fire across the street, and we didn't want you to wake up and think the operation had failed".

- Probe, Vol. XLI, Jan - Mar, 2002

## Investigation Reveals Horrific Death Of Hunting Dogs

An investigation by WSPA has exposed the way in which thousands of greyhounds, known as galgos, are hanged following the end of the hare-coursing season at the start of each year.

The results of the investigation, carried out in the Castilla y Leon and Castilla la Mancha regions of Spain in March this year with the assistance of Spanish organization Scooby (Sociedad Protectora de Animales Scooby), reveal widespread evidence that the age-old tradition of hanging dogs continues to this day. WSPA estimates that tens of thousands of galgos are being bred and killed annually in rural areas.

WSPA discovered dead dogs with nooses around their necks dumped in shallow graves or lying under trees where they had been hung. On a rubbish tip outside the village of Rueda near Tordesillas, investigators witnessed the gruesome sight of a dead galgo hanging from a willow tree. The skeletal remains of galgos were commonplace as was evidence of hung dogs being set on fire, with melted nooses hanging above fresh bones and ash on the ground below.

WSPA also learnt how dogs that have raced badly are typically hung low in a slow death known as 'the piano player' due to the frantic scrabbling of their legs in a vain attempt to touch the ground. Those who have raced well are hung high, resulting in a quicker death.

Unwanted galgos may also be stoned, tied up and left to starve, staked in a pond to drown or thrown into the wells and set on fire.

Alistair Findlay, WSPA investigator, said: "It is scandalous that Spain, a country currently holding presidency of the European Union, is allowing man's best friend to be so cruelly and callously abused. This is a graphic example of why a national animal welfare law is so desperately needed in Spain".

At present, it is not illegal to kill a dog by hanging in Andalucia and Extremadura, where there are no animal protection laws. In Castilla y Leon, a law threatening a fine of 15,000 Euros to anyone hanging a dog has yet to be enforced.


On the outskirts of Medina del Campo in northern Spain, Scooby has set up a refuge for abandoned galgos and immediately after the main hunting season in February the influx of unwanted dogs can become overwhelming. This year alone, several hundred galgos have been brought to the shelter instead of facing a slow death by hanging.

WSPA has written to the Spanish authorities, calling on this EU member state to finally adopt a national animal welfare law that would outlaw such cruelty.


Animals International, June 2002

Golf	<b>Thurs 26 June</b> CVA / NZVA Golf Tournament Paraparaumu Golf Club			
	<b>Main Auditorium</b>			
Friday 27 June	7.30	Registration & Refreshments - Reception Foyer	<b>Scientific Programme of 3rd Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference &amp; NZVA Conference 2003</b>	
	8.30	Welcome Address Lewis Griffiths, President NZVA		
	8.35	Maori Welcome ~ <i>Mihi</i>		
	8.45	Official Opening Bert Stevenson, President CVA		
	9.00	Animal Welfare & Trade Hon. Jim Sutton, Minister of Agriculture & Minister of Trade Negotiations		
	9.30	Animal Welfare & the EU Judy MacArthur (UK) ~ Video Link		
	10.00	Animal Welfare & the OIE David Bayvel, MAF, NZ		
	10.30	Morning Refreshments - Foyer		Harbour View Lounge A
	11.00	Common errors in the diagnosis and therapy of GIT disorders Mike Matz (Massey)	Welfare perspectives of large scale animal welfare disasters Speaker TBA	Deer
	11.40	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break
	11.50	Update on canine and feline pancreatitis Mike Matz (Massey)	Animal Welfare at meat slaughter plants Kathy Lloyd / Campbell Heath MAF VA, NZ	Deer
	12.30	Lunch Break - Foyer	Lunch Break - Foyer	Lunch Break - Foyer
	1.30	Intractable IBD / Colitis Grant Guilford (Massey)	Welfare Issues for the Poultry Industry Joanne Silince	Deer
	2.10	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break
2.20	GIT motility disorders Grant Guilford (Massey)	Food Safety Systems - the New Zealand Model Andrew MacKenzie/Tony Zohrab	Deer	
3.00	Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer	Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer	Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer	
3.30	Symptomatic management of acute gastroenteritis Grant Guilford (Massey)	Risk based meat inspection initiatives in Europe Bill Jolly	Deer	
4.10	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break	
4.20	What's new in liver disease Mike Matz (Massey)	Electronic Certification Systems P.Ward	Deer	
4.40		International trends in food safety & verification of regulatory programmes Chris Mawson		
5.00	AGM - Companion Animal Society	AGM - Food Safety & Biosec	AGM - Deer Branch	
6.00	Welcome Drinks - Foyer	Welcome Drinks - Foyer	Welcome Drinks - Foyer	
7.00	CAS Dinner "Tugboat", Oriental Bay	FSB Branch Dinner	Deer Branch Dinner	

Colour Codes	CVA Plenary Sessions	Companion Animal Society	Deer
	CVA Nutritional	Equine	Holistic Society
	CVA / FSB	Industry Branch	Vet Biz Group
		Vet Nurses	

Friday 27 June				
	<b>Air NZ Suite A</b>	<b>Air NZ Suite B</b>	<b>Ilott Theatre</b>	
	11.00	Equine	Holistic Society	Vet Nurses
		<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	11.40	Equine	Holistic Society	Vet Nurses
	12.30	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>
	1.30	Equine	Holistic Society	Vet Nurses
	2.10	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	2.20	Equine	Holistic Society	Vet Nurses
	3.00	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>
	3.30	Equine	Holistic Society	Vet Nurses
	4.10	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	4.20	Equine	Holistic Society	Vet Nurses
	5.00	<i>AGM - Equine Branch</i>	<i>AGM - Holistic Society</i>	<i>AGM - Vet Nurses Assn</i>
	6.00	<i>Welcome Drinks - Foyer</i>	<i>Welcome Drinks - Foyer</i>	<i>Welcome Drinks - Foyer</i>
	6.00	<i>Equine Branch Dinner</i>	<i>Holistic Society Dinner</i>	<i>Vet Nurse Dinner</i>



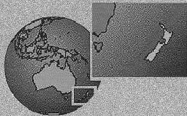
 Nestlé PURINA

## Third Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference

27th to 30th June 2003  
Wellington, New Zealand

*Theme:*

*Animal Welfare, Island Nations & Biosecurity*



**Organised by**

**New Zealand Veterinary Association  
&  
Commonwealth Veterinary Association**

## Third Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference

### Invitation

It gives us great pleasure to invite you to the Third Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference on "**Animal Welfare, Island Nations & Biosecurity**", which will be held in Wellington, New Zealand from June 27th to 30th, 2003.

The two highly successful First and Second Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conferences held in Harare, Zimbabwe in September 1990 and Bangalore, India in February 1998, had as their themes the use of animals to improve quality of life at village level in the less privileged areas of the Commonwealth and the role of women in rural production respectively, and later implementation of their major recommendations followed. The logical sequel was to continue to pursue the discussion on ways of improving quality of life paying particular attention to Animal Welfare, Island Nations & Biosecurity. The theme of this conference therefore encompasses to a great extent the role of animal health and production in Island Nations in improving the status of farmers and the part women play in animal husbandry activities. Animal Welfare and Biosecurity are the two major issue facing the developed countries. A combination of the above thus encompasses the theme of the conference which could benefit participants from all Commonwealth countries. The organising committee warmly urges you to participate in this conference.

**Bert Stevenson**  
President, CVA

**Warren Webber**  
Director, FCE-NZVA

### New Zealand

#### *Land Of The Long White Cloud*

New Zealand lies deep in the South Pacific Ocean approximately 1600 km southeast of Australia, its nearest neighbour. Comprised of three main islands, North, South and Stewart, it is similar in size to the United Kingdom or Japan.

Being in the temperate zone the climate is coastal maritime to alpine, mild and equable with abundant sunshine, high rainfall and few extremes of heat and cold. Geographically, it is a land of extremes; fertile coastal plains, glaciated high mountain ranges, deep sinuous fiords surrounded by ancient forests, and volcanic plateaux complete with geysers, boiling mud pools and thermal springs.

A small slice of ancient Gondwanaland, New Zealand has been isolated for so long its forests and many of its birds have become unique. Because of the absence of predators in the early period of isolation, the colourful native birds contain a high number of flightless species; notable among these are the kiwi, kakapo and the extinct moa. The tuatara, a lizard-like reptile peculiar to the land, is a prehistoric relic pre-dating the dinosaur. Today New Zealand is primarily an agricultural country, with over 7 million dairy and beef cattle and an impressive 45 million sheep.

The story of settlement in New Zealand begins in the great voyages of early Maori. On reaching these shores they named it Aotearoa, "Land of the Long White Cloud". The first European discovery by Abel Tasman in the 17th century was followed by Captain James Cook who circumnavigated the land in 1769 and outlined the new shape on the maps of the Pacific, inspiring progressive European settlement.

## Third Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference

### *Scientific Programme*

- Incorporating the Annual Conference of the New Zealand Veterinary Association
- Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA) Plenary Sessions – Animal Welfare Issues, Emerging Diseases, Island States & Biosecurity. In addition to the CVA Plenary Sessions, a CVA stream will continue throughout the programme, integrated within other concurrent technical programmes.
- Concurrent technical streams by Special Interest Branches of NZVA – Companion Animal (Infectious Diseases & Gastroenterology), Deer, Equine, Food Safety & Biosecurity, Holistic, Veterinary Nursing
- Social programme – Welcome Function, Gala Dinner (National Dress encouraged), Partners programme, Pre/post conference tours

### The main topics of the Scientific Programme include

- Animal Welfare & Trade – **Hon. Jim Sutton**, Minister of Agriculture & Minister of Trade Negotiations (NZ)
- Welfare perspectives of large scale animal welfare disasters – **Mike Rickard** (Australia)
- Food Safety Systems - the New Zealand Model – **Andrew MacKenzie/Tony Zohrab** (NZ)
- International trends in food safety & verification of regulatory programmes – **Chris Mawson** (NZ)
- Companion Animal Nutrition – **Avi Deshmukh** (USA)
- Emerging Diseases - West Nile Virus – **Lofsted** (Canada)
- Agribase & its potential for use in NZ traceability & verification – **Robert Sanson** (NZ)
- Tracing systems for "animal products" – **Robert Houston** (Nthrn Ireland)
- Risk analysis – **Toni Tana** (NZ)
- HACCP & Food safety – **Veronica Burnham** (Guyana)
- Veterinary curricula & veterinary public health – **Peter Davies** (NZ)
- Women's issues in "veterinary education" – **Lofsted** (Canada)
- Biosecurity & Island States



## Third Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference

### Accommodation

The following hotels have been identified in close proximity to the conference centre.

Novotel Capital	\$NZ165 single (\$NZ176 double/twin) incl. breakfast.
James Cook	\$NZ130 single Fri-Sun (Thurs \$NZ192)
Copthorne Towers	\$NZ130 single (or \$NZ155 incl. breakfast)
Ibis Hotel	\$NZ110 single Fri/Sat (\$NZ140 Thurs)
Duxton Hotel	\$NZ276 single

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Tear Here

### Registration NZ\$ 750

*Cheques to be drawn in favour of "Foundation for Continuing Education NZVA"*

### REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

The official Conference Registration Form will be sent to all those registering interest.

Name Prof./Dr./Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail. \_\_\_\_\_

Registration of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Accompanying Person: (Mr./Mrs./Ms.) \_\_\_\_\_

*For further details contact:*

**Dr Warren Webber**

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Phone. + 64 6 350 5227, Mobile. + 64 27 478 7758, Fax. + 64 6 350 5659

Email. [w.webber@massey.ac.nz](mailto:w.webber@massey.ac.nz)

Venue Website: <http://www.wellingtonconventioncentre.com>

New Zealand Tourism Website: <http://www.newzealandnz.co.nz>

		Main Auditorium	Harbour View Lounge A	Harbour View Lounge B		
Saturday 28 June	8.30	Registration – Reception Foyer,	Registration – Reception Foyer	Registration – Reception Foyer		
	9.00	Companion Animal Nutrition Avi Deshmukh (USA) Speaker sponsored by Nestles	Agribase & its potential for use in NZ traceability & verification Robert Sanson	Deer		
	9.40	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break		
	9.50	Companion Animal Nutrition Karen Johnson (Aust) Speaker sponsored by Nestles	New techniques & technology applications for verification Susan Morris	Deer		
	10.10		Progress with on-farm verification systems in NZ John Stothart/Jeremy Lind			
	10.30	Morning Refreshments – Foyer	Morning Refreshments – Foyer	Morning Refreshments – Foyer		
	11.00	Dietary management of GIT disorders Grant Guilford (NZ)	Tracing systems for animal products Robert Houston (Nthrn Ireland)	Deer		
	11.40	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break		
	11.50	Babesiosis ~ update on B.gibsoni Patrick Kelly (NZ)	Animal identification & traceability in Australia Tony Britt TBC	Deer		
	12.10	Ticks and tick-borne pathogens Speaker TBA				
	12.30	Lunch Break – Foyer	Lunch Break – Foyer	Lunch Break – Foyer		
	1.30	SciQuest Publishing ~ Official Launch (10 mins)	CVA Plenary – Main auditorium	CVA Plenary – Main auditorium		
	1.40	New Veterinary Clinic Standards (5 mins)				
	1.45	5 min break				
	1.50	Emerging Diseases ~ West Nile Virus Dr Lofsted (Guyana)				
	2.20	5 min break				
	2.25	CVA – Emerging Diseases (30 mins)				
	2.55	5 min break				
	3.00	CVA – Emerging Diseases (30 mins)				
	3.30	Afternoon Refreshments – Foyer			Afternoon Refreshments – Foyer	Afternoon Refreshments – Foyer
	4.00	NZVA AGM			CVA Council Meeting (Venue)	
	5.00	FCE AGM				
	5.30	VPIS AGM				
	6.30	NZVA Publications Function venue (by invitation only)				
	7.30	Gala Pre-Dinner Cocktails (Town Hall Foyer)				
	8.00	Gala Dinner (Wellington Town Hall) - semi-formal or National Dress				

		Air NZ Suite A	Air NZ Suite B	Ilott Theatre
Saturday 28 June	8.30	<i>Registration - Reception Foyer</i>	<i>Registration - Reception Foyer</i>	<i>Registration - Reception Foyer</i>
	9.00	Equine	Industry Branch	Vet Nurses
	9.40	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	9.50	Equine	Industry Branch	Vet Nurses
	10.30	<i>Morning Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Morning Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Morning Refreshments - Foyer</i>
	11.00	Equine	Industry Branch	Vet Nurses
	11.40	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	11.50	Equine	Industry Branch	Vet Nurses
	12.30	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>
	1.30			1.30 Vet Nurses (25 mins)
	1.55			1.55 <i>5 min break</i>
	2.00			2.00 Vet Nurses (25 mins)
	2.25			<i>5 min break</i>
	2.30	CVA Plenary - Main auditorium	CVA Plenary - Main auditorium	2.30 Vet Nurses (25 mins)
	2.55			2.55 <i>5 min break</i>
	3.00			3.00 Vet Nurses (30 mins)
	3.30	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>
	4.00			4.00 Vet Nurses (30 mins)
	4.30			4.30 Vet Nurses (30 mins)
	5.00			5.00 <i>Technical sessions conclude</i>
7.30	<i>Gala PreDinner Cocktails (Town Hall Foyer)</i>			
8.00	<b>Gala Dinner</b> (Wellington Town Hall) <i>- semi-formal or National Dress</i>			

		Main Auditorium	Harbour View Lounge A	Harbour View Lounge B
Sunday 29 June	8.30	Registration – Reception Foyer	Registration – Reception Foyer	Registration – Reception Foyer
	9.00	Update on cryptococcus in cats, dogs, ferrets, birds, koalas Richard Malik (Aust)	Risk analysis Toni Tana	Deer
	9.40	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break
	9.50	Mycobacterial disease in cats, dogs and ferrets Richard Malik (Aust)	Determining an acceptable level of risk Howard Pharo	Deer
	10.30	Morning Refreshments – Foyer	Morning Refreshments – Foyer	Morning Refreshments – Foyer
	11.00	Infectious causes of LRT disease Richard Malik (Aust)	BSE – an update Stuart MacDiarmid	Deer
	11.40	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break
	11.50	FIP Richard Malik (Aust)	HAACP & Food safety Veronica Burnham (from?)	Deer
	12.30	Lunch Break – Foyer	Lunch Break – Foyer	Lunch Break – Foyer
	1.30	FeLV / FIV Pru Galloway (NZ)	Veterinary curricula & veterinary public health Peter Davies (Massey)	Deer
	2.10	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break
	2.20	Systemic mycoses Mike Matz (Massey)	Women's issues in veterinary education Dr Lofsted (Guyana)	Deer
	3.00	Afternoon Refreshments – Foyer	Afternoon Refreshments – Foyer	Afternoon Refreshments – Foyer
	3.30	Molecular biology for companion animal practitioners Richard Squires (Massey)	Biosecurity & Island States a. NZ perspective (Derek Bolton) b. Australian perspective	Deer
	4.10	10 min break	10 min break	10 min break
	4.20	Current thoughts on vaccination protocols Richard Squires (Massey)	Biosecurity & Island States c. Pacific Island perspective d. Other Island perspective	Deer
5.00	Technical sessions conclude	Technical sessions conclude	Technical sessions conclude	

		Air NZ Suite A	Air NZ Suite B	Ilott Theatre
Sunday 29 June	8.30	<i>Registration - Reception Foyer</i>	<i>Registration - Reception Foyer</i>	<i>Registration - Reception Foyer</i>
	9.00	Equine	Vet Biz	Vet Nurses
	9.40	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	9.50	Equine	Vet Biz	Vet Nurses
	10.30	<i>Morning Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Morning Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Morning Refreshments - Foyer</i>
	11.00	Equine	Vet Biz	Vet Nurses
	11.40	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	11.50	Equine	Vet Biz	Vet Nurses
	12.30	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>	<i>Lunch Break - Foyer</i>
	1.30	Equine		Vet Nurses
	2.10	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	2.20	Equine		Vet Nurses
	3.00	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>	<i>Afternoon Refreshments - Foyer</i>
	3.30	Equine		Vet Nurses
	4.10	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>	<i>10 min break</i>
	4.20	Equine		Vet Nurses
	5.00	<i>Technical sessions conclude</i>	<i>Technical sessions conclude</i>	<i>Technical sessions conclude</i>

## Canada Caribbean

### Executive Director of AAVMC

Dr Lawrence Heider has been named Executive Director of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), effective from May 1st, 2002. Dr Heider is the former Dean of the Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), where he served from 1991 to 1998. After his tenure as Dean, Dr Heider became the acting President of UPEI for one year. Before joining UPEI, Dr Heider was in various positions on the faculty of The Ohio State University (OSU) for 25 years.



*Dr Lawrence Heider*

The AAVMC coordinates the affairs of the 27 veterinary medical colleges in the United States, the 4 colleges of veterinary medicine in Canada, departments of veterinary science and comparative medicine, animal medical centres, and the University of Glasgow Veterinary School. In his position as Executive Director, Dr Heider will manage and coordinate the affairs of the Association as they relate to teaching, research,

and service missions of the academic veterinary medical community. In addition, he will serve as the AAVMC representative to allied educational and research groups, headquartered primarily in the Washington, DC area.

Can Vet J Vol. 43, August 2002

### Dr Alexander Livingston retires as Dean of WCVM

On June 30th, 2002, Dr Alexander Livingston finished his second and final term as dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM). He worked very hard at building relationships with the practising arm of the veterinary profession and its constituents. He fostered some good friendships with veterinarians, politicians, and government representatives - all beneficial relationship to the WCVM.



*Dr Alexander Livingston*

Dr Livingston completed a veterinary degree and a Bachelor of Science in physiology in London, England, and then attended the University of Bristol to obtain a PhD in pharmacology. He worked as reproductive physiologist at first, but gradually moved over to central nervous system pharmacology. His research focused on animal pain management, specifically on drugs or synergistic combination of drugs that manipulate pain messages to the brain. In August 2001, Meril awarded him its Control of Pain Award, an award that recognized his groundbreaking research on animal pain and pain control.

Can Vet J Vol. 43, August 2002

## New MRI Machine Arrives Through The Roof of the WCVM

The world's first magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine specifically developed for companion animals made a dramatic entrance at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) on May 29th, 2002. A crane lowered the MRI unit's 10,000-kilograms magnet through a hatch in the roof of WCVM's new MRI and Radiation Therapy Centre. This new addition will make the ECVM the first Canadian veterinary teaching hospital to operate an MRI unit that is entirely dedicated to companion animal health imaging. "This opens up new learning opportunities for our students and faculty. It also gives our clients and their pets access to the most advanced diagnostic and therapeutic services in veterinary medicine", says Dr Alexander Livingston, past dean of the WCVM.

This new technology is the best diagnostic tool that is available for examining soft tissues in the brain or in the central nervous system. Veterinary medical imaging specialist, like Dr John Pharr, will use the device to diagnose neurologic, spinal, and intracranial diseases in cats, dogs, and other small animals.

Can Vet J Vol. 43, August 2002

## New President of CVMA – Dr Jeanne Lofstedt

At the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's Annual Convention in Halifax in July, Dr Jeanne Lofstedt, President-elect, accepted the presidential gavel from Dr Michael Baar. She is the second female president in the Association's history.

Dr Lofstedt is the associated Dean of Academic Affairs at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), University of Prince Edward Island. Dr Lofstedt was named Woman Veterinarian of the Year in 2001 by the Association for Women Veterinarians. In nominating Dr Lofstedt for this award, Dr Timothy Ogilvie, Dean of the AVC, noted that even with her extremely complex set of obligations as associated dean of Academic Affairs, which also comprises student affairs and continuing education, Dr Lofstedt has kept her hand in teaching and has managed to maintain her research and publishing activities.

Dr Lofstedt graduated from University of Pretoria's Veterinary School of Onderstepoort, South Africa. Dr Lofstedt moved to North America with her husband, Robert, also a veterinarian. She went to the University of Saskatchewan's Western College of Veterinary

Medicine, to Iowa State University and to Tufts University, where she taught a wide variety of courses in large animal medicine, including clinical sciences. While at Tufts, she won a Norden Distinguished Teaching Award.

The Lofstedts left the United States for Prince Edward Island accepting the position as the first Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in 1987. She has published many papers. Commonwealth Veterinary Association congratulates Dr Lofstedt on her achievement.



Dr Jeanne Lofstedt

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## Jamaica

## Executive of Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association

The following have been elected as office-bearers of Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association (JVMA) for 2002-03.

President	: Dr. Cedric Lazarus
Vice-President	: Dr. Sophia Ramlall
Secretary	: Dr. Graham Brown
Assist. Secretary	: Dr. Osbil Watson
Treasurer	: Dr. Trudi Stewart-Gaynor
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>	
Public Relations	: Dr. Michael Whittingham
Education	: Dr. Sarah Wilkinson-Eytle
Judicial and Parliamentary	: Dr. Winston Schloss
Disciplinary and Ethics	: Dr. Grace McDonnough Lyon
Membership	: Dr. Headley Edwards
Commonwealth Councillor	: Dr. Dingle Foote

## International Veterinary Officers Council

Four years ago BVA was invited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) to join two other like-minded bodies (the Australian and Canadian Veterinary Medical Associations) under the banner of the International Veterinary Officers Council (IVOC). The group meets annually and its main purpose is to promote dialogues and collaboration between the chief elected and executive officers of the four associations with a view to harmonizing policies and optimising resources by:

Ongoing exchange of information on policies and programmes;

- \* Complementing and sharing resources on cross-border issues; and
- \* When appropriate, taking common positions or action on international matters

The IVOC members meet each year in a different host country and this year was the AVA's turn in Sydney. The two day intensive meeting covered issues as wide ranging as strategic planning and benchmarking for the associations, trends in education and working practices, food safety, animal welfare, disaster relief, animals in society, lobbying and PR. A working party on antimicrobial resistance reported some of the progress being made and highlighted future plans to establish a system of veterinary surveillance in this area.

This year the inevitable updates on FMD and BSE were given by the BVA President and prompted wider discussion on preparedness for dealing with exotic diseases, both nationally and internationally. The AVA calculated that an outbreak of FMD could cost Australia \$15 billion and, because of the vast expanses and herd sizes, could all but wipe out the industry in large parts of the country. In view of this, the Australian Productivity Commission has been directed by the government inquire into the impacts of an FMD outbreak in Australia. It was recognized that the



Three New Zealand veterinarians were observers at a meeting of the International Veterinary Officers Council (IVOC) in Sydney.

L-R: Michael Barr (CVMA), Bruce Wynn (AVA), Lyn Osman (AVA), Murray Gibb (NZVA), Suzanne Lavictoire (CVMA), Robert Baker (AVA), Alisa Edwards (BVA), Jim Brandt (AVMA), Andrew Scott (BVA), Bruce Little (AVA), Lewis Griffiths (NZVA) and Jim Edwards (BVA)

resources needed in both manpower and facilities were substantial and that the veterinary profession has a pivotal role to play in such circumstances.

BVA Annual Report 2001-2002

## New Assistant Editor of CVJ

The editorial staff of The Canadian Veterinary Journal and the CVMA Editorial Committee extended a welcome to Dr Chris Riley as the new assistant editor from the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC). Dr Riley is taking the reins from Dr Art Ortenburger, who was assistant editor of the Journal for almost 6 years. Dr Riley is an associate professor and the chief of large animal surgery at AVC. The purpose of the assistant editor is to help coordinate the peer review process by distributing manuscripts to the appropriate experts for review.

Can Vet J Vol. 43, August 2002



# East, Central and Southern Africa

## Tanzania

### Country Report - Tanzania Veterinary Association

The Tanzania Veterinary Association (TVA) has been a very active Association since 1983. The Association holds regularly without fail, Annual Scientific Conferences and the Annual General Meetings. These are held at the Arusha International Conference Centre in Arusha, Northern Tanzania. The Executive Committee of TVA holds regularly at least four meetings per year. The usual items of the Agenda are the Welfare of Veterinarian, the Veterinary profession and preparations for the AGM and the Scientific Conference.

The current TVA leadership took office in December, 1999. According to the TVA constitution, the tenure of office for the Executive Committee is three years renewable for a further term of three years when leadership must change. Therefore, the current office bearers were elected in December, 1999 and elections will be held in December, this year. It has been the practice however that the Executive Committee serves two consecutive terms of three years. It is expected therefore that the current one will be re-elected for another term of three years.

The current Executive Committee of TVA is as follows:

Prof D.M. Kamarage	Chairman
Dr (Mrs) A.J. Kondela-Mroso	Vice Chairman
Dr P. Njau	Hon. Secretary
Dr L.J.M. Kusiluka	Asst. Secretary
Dr (Mrs) N.A. Mtui-Malamsha	Treasurer
Prof U.M. Minga	Immediate Past Chairman
Dr H.E. Mbwillie	Member
Prof P.M. Msolla	Member
Dr L.M.G. Mbanda	Member

Ex-officio (members by virtue of their positions):

- Prof U.M. Minga  
*Councillor, Commonwealth Veterinary Assoc.*
- Dr B. Kimaryo  
*Chairman, Tanzania Veterinary Board*
- Dr (Mrs) T. Ponela Mlelwa  
*Registrar, Tanzania Veterinary Board*
- Prof R.R. Kazwala  
*Editor, Tanzania Veterinary Journal*
- Dr S.I. Kimera  
*Asst. Editor, Tanzania Veterinary Journal*
- Prof R.M. Maselle  
*Circulation Manager, Tanzania Vety Journal*
- Others  
*Seven TVA Zonal Representative*

#### Some of the notable achievements of the Association are

- After over five years of dialogue and appeals, at long last, TVA has this year managed to convince the Government to raise the starting salaries for the state (Government employed) Veterinarians from salaries similar to general degree holders to one which is similar to Medical doctors, differing by only two increments.
- Regularly holding Annual Scientific Conferences and Annual General Meetings which are held first week of December of each year. For the past two years, Conferences and AGM's were held on 5th -7th December in 1999 and on 4th - 6th December in 2001. This year the Conference and AGM will be held on 3rd - 5th December.

- iii. The TVA has convinced the Government not to register the lowly educated ill-trained community based animal health workers. (COBAHWS or CAHWS). These were supposed to be trained for only short periods, as short as 2 weeks, and be permitted to carry out veterinary work at village level.

They were supposed to handle medicines and drugs including antibiotics and treat animals in their community. TVA argued that this group of animal health workers could be allowed to work but in marginal areas with close supervision of a registered veterinarian. That this was a stop gap measure, which did not justify changing any legislation.

- iv. Regular annual publication of the Tanzania Veterinary Journal and Conference Proceedings.

- v. Improved livestock management for rural livelihood.
- vi. The role of livestock research on the improvement of rural livelihood.

It is expected that the conference will attract a lot more participants than the usual ones who attend the TVA conferences the usual number has been 160 to 200 participants. Already a number of scientists from outside Tanzania, from Europe and from elsewhere in Africa have submitted papers to be presented at the conference. Continuation or not of the joint conference like this one, will depend on the success of this years' Annual Conference.

In order to facilitate the preparation of the Conference, the following Committees have been formed:

- i. Conference Organising Committee
- ii. Scientific Committee
- iii. Fund raising Committee
- iv. Registration Committee
- v. Entertainment (Dinner-Dance) Committee
- vi. Exhibitions and Advertisement Committee
- vii. Conference Halls, Transport and Accommodation Committee
- viii. Recommendations Committee

**Notable events**

The Government has formed a new ministry responsible for animal health and production separate from Agriculture. The ministry is called "Ministry of Water and Livestock Development". As a result new Directorates have been formed and new appointments have been made. TVA is happy with the change with the hope that Livestock will be given due attention and given better funding so that the performance of the Livestock Sector would be expected to improve.

**Coming Events**

This year, the Annual Scientific Conference will be held on 3rd to 5th December, 2002. This year's Conference is going to be different and special. It is going to be a joint conference co-organized by TVA and the Tanzania Society for Animal Production (TSAP).

The Theme of the Conference is "Improving the quality of Rural Livelihood through Livestock Development".

The following are the subthemes.

- i. Impact of globalised economy on the livestock industry in Tanzania.
- ii. Processing and marketing of livestock products and by-products.
- iii. Wildlife/livestock interface and its impact on the rural livelihood.
- iv. Impact of livestock extension services on rural livelihood.

The Annual General Meetings of the two Associations will be held simultaneously but separately on 4th December, 2002.

**Contact Addresses**

**Chairman of TVA**

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**CVA Councillor**

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– Prepared by Professor Uswege M. Minga  
CVA Councillor, Tanzania

## Zambia

### Country Report - Zambia

The Veterinary Association of Zambia held an Annual General Meeting on 7th August 2001 after some two years or so of dormancy. The following were elected into office:

President	Dr King Nalubamba
Vice President	Dr Alisheke Mutemwa
Secretary	Dr Mukatimui Kalima-Munalula
Treasurer	Dr Gregory Mululuma
Vice Secretary	Dr Kenneth Bwakya
Public Relations Officer	Dr Renford Gombwa
Committee Members	Dr Mable Mwaba Dr Joseph Banda Dr Evelyn Nguleka

#### Region/Provincial Representatives

Southern	Dr Paul Fandamu
Eastern	Dr Clement Lubinga
Northern	Dr Francis Mulenga
Western	Dr Frederick Banda

#### Commonwealth Veterinary Association Councillor

Dr. Dominic Minyoi

The VAZ celebrated the World Veterinary Day on the 27th April 2002. Prior to this, members carried out free examinations and treatments of animals as part of sensitization of the public. The association also donated rabies vaccine to a district for free vaccination of dogs by the official Veterinary Authority. On the 27th of April 2002 members marched for nearly eight kilometres to celebrate the event which was well attended. Special T-shirts were printed to mark this important event.

An Annual General Meeting and Scientific Session was held on 11th October 2002. Members were satisfied with the performance of the outgoing Executive, as such only a few positions were changed.

Vice Secretary	Dr A. Phiri
Public Relations Officer	Dr M. Simuunza
Committee Members	Dr C. Mundia Dr M. Z. Syachaba Dr Hamasuki

The rest retained their posts.

On the disease front, the country experienced an outbreak of African Swine Fever in Lusaka West and parts of the Southern province among pigs belonging to Commercial and backyard piggeries in mid 2001. Stamping out policy was applied in Lusaka but elsewhere the disease burnt itself out.

African Swine fever brokeout again this year around August 2002 in Lusaka East. It was traced back to Southern province from some chronically affected village pigs. Stamping out policy was applied leading to the destruction of 1,200 pigs, all pork products and others in contact were destroyed. Quarantine measures were instituted under Veterinary supervision and a total ban on movement of pigs was enforced covering a 10 kilometre radius centered around the primary focus.

Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia broke out in the Western province of Zambia (Lukulu District) and in the Northwestern province in Zambezi, Chavuma and Mwinilunga districts. Vaccinations against CBPP were instituted in the two provinces and active surveillance and follow up of reactors is being done.

Rabies was reported in Namwala district of the Southern province following reports of several dog bite cases among humans and later cattle. Dog vaccinations have been instituted with destruction of stray dogs. Human contacts are being attended to by the local Health Authorities.

Dr Dominic Minyoi  
CVA Councillor, Zambia

### The World Veterinary Association (WVA) Elects New President

Dr. Herbert Schneider was elected President of the World Veterinary Association (WVA).

He has been elected by the Presidents' Assembly of the WVA on 28th September 2002 in Tunis/Tunisia as the new President for the next three years (2002-2005).

Dr. Schneider previously served the WVA as Vice-President (1999-2002) and Vice-President for Africa (1995-1999). He was also the Council Member of Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA) for Namibia.



## Combining Expertise for the Benefit of the Poor

Few markets of economic significance may be as under-appreciated as the informal dairy sector. A high proportion of the total dairy production in many countries is derived from the smallholder dairy sector. In Brazil, half of all traded milk is marketed in the informal sector, in Costa Rica one-third, in Uganda and Tanzania over 90%, to give a few examples.



*Farmer with her cow*

In India, whose dairy market recently surpassed the USA's to become the world's biggest, 85% of the milk is traded in the informal and traditional sector. This milk is mainly produced by smallholder

with one or two cows or buffaloes.

For these smallholders, a dairy is more than a milk source. It often represents the household's largest single savings mechanisms. What's more, it helps to improve the soil through its manure. As pressure on land increases, farmers recognize the benefit of organic matter and nutrients from manure in sustaining the productivity of their fields. Since the animal is often fed with fodder collected off the farm, from

communal land or even the roadside, the manure constitutes a net input to the nutrient balance of the farm.

ILRI Annual Report, 2001

## Veterinary Problems And The Veterinary Profession In Malawi

### Introduction

Livestock constitute a relatively small sub-sector within Malawi agriculture, officially contributing 7% of total GDP and below 20% of value of total agriculture production. The estimated cattle to human population ratio is low - around 1 to 17 - and cattle ownership in the smallholder sector is confined to under 10% of farming families. Among this minority, an average of around 7 Malawi Zebu animals are kept in each herd. Typical smallholder dairy farmers keep 2 - 4 crossbred cows, which are stall-fed.

In general, livestock play only a minor role in estate farming. Although they account for over 55,000 of the total pig population, there are fewer than 28,000 cattle and less than 20,000 goats and sheep kept on estates. About two million poultry are kept within estate sector mostly confined within specialised production units.

In the predominant traditional sector, smallholders with free-range poultry account for 55% of the households with an average flock size of seven. About 15% households keep an average of five goats, 1% keep the same average number of sheep, and 5% keep an average of four pigs.

Commercial livestock farmers account for only 1% of Malawi's small ruminants and a mere 5% of national cattle herd, but keep more than 12% of the total pig population. The proportion of poultry kept under commercial conditions is of the order of 15% (estate plus intensive smallholder poultry) of the total population.

In summary, it is estimated that Malawi has 749,000 cattle, 1,670,000 goats, 115,200 sheep, 456,300 pigs and 12,000,000 chickens.

The above profile of livestock owners indicates that the vast majority of owners are extremely small-scale. The pattern of livestock farming has important implications for the effective delivery of advisory and animal health services as it reflects a typical low input - low out system. For all classes of livestock, levels of animal health and husbandry are very low resulting in low productivity from this sub-sector.

Like in many countries in Africa, the state veterinary services in Malawi were established in the early colonial days. The services were largely aimed at protecting settler herds and flocks from epidemics of a range of infectious diseases capable of causing serious losses in the newly introduced and highly susceptible animals. The activities were largely

regulatory in nature aimed at movement control, sanitation and research. However, the state veterinary services gradually expanded their activities into other areas such as provision of clinical services and artificial insemination programmes. For the most part, state services were provided free of charge. Consequently, private veterinary services for livestock were unable to complete in that environment and were virtually nonexistent.

The current structure (a combination of the animal health and animal production branches) and core functions of the veterinary services in the country derive from the gradual expansion into areas other than regulatory functions, as highlighted above, to such an extent that it is now not clear as to which activities belong to the public good category or private good category. Yet fiscal pressures have severely affected the ability of the Malawi Veterinary Services Department to carry out its traditional range of functions. The result has been a general public outcry that the veterinary services are "dead". The veterinary profession is apparently fighting a losing battle to regain the lost glory as a result of this deviation from its regulatory core-functions as the available resources are too thinly spread.

### The Current Reality Of Veterinary Services In Malawi

The current reality of the veterinary services in the country is such that the available human, financial and material resources cannot cope with the expected traditional range of functions. Currently Malawi has 10 state veterinarians and 3 private practitioners. The estimated national demand for state veterinarians is about 43. There are 492 established posts for field and laboratory veterinary assistants (para-veterinarians) out of which 447 are filled, leaving 45 vacancies. The quality of veterinary services in Malawi is also severely compromised by a lack of a functional regulatory authority like the Board of Veterinary Surgery, up to now not being funded by Parliament, to regulate the profession despite the existence of a legal provision for its creation. As a result, personnel who are not competent in veterinary medicine offer the service to the general public. This is a dangerous scenario for the country.

Material resources in form of communication (e-mail and internet, telephones etc.) and transport (vehicles and motor cycles) systems for state veterinarians and para-veterinarians are still far from satisfying the field demands. Despite recent attempts aimed at structural adjustments, rationalization, reform and privatization of the veterinary services, progress still seems to range from very slow to perhaps too fast in certain instances.

In areas where divestment has made substantial gains such as provision of clinical services and veterinary drugs delivery to the field, the private sector

has proved to have inadequate capacity to takeover the activities. In areas where divestment is slow, the slow pace has been largely attributed to political unwillingness to let go activities which are politically and socially sensitive.

In the areas of organizational structure and policy changes, the current Department of veterinary services has yet to define and agree on policies, objectives and commitment to quality systems and standards. It is perhaps pertinent to mention that in Malawi, there is no clear Department of Veterinary Services which would handle pure veterinary issues as a competent authority. This inevitably creates big professional leadership problems in the current setup on veterinary matters. The current Department of Veterinary Services is circulating for comments a draft policy document, which attempts to clearly define what are public and private goods and then proposes what to retain and what to divest. Finalisation of this document is delayed because there still lacks a common shared vision amongst the ranks of the veterinary services Department. While it has been fairly easy to agree on which animal health activities to divest and which ones to retain, it does appear that most animal production activities that the department is currently carrying out are perfect candidates for divestment to the private sector or at least basic commercialisation. The real fear here is loss of functional positions or perhaps jobs in the State sector, and for this reason the proposed policy reform may take a long time to come to fruition.

### Conclusion

It is evident that the processes of structural adjustments, rationalization, reform and privatization of non-core veterinary services are irreversible. This calls for a systematic approach for delineating the proper functions of the veterinary services Department and the private sector by:

- a. Examining each activity in turn for public and private good content;
- b. Allocating responsibilities for each activity to the public or private sector;
- c. Exploring avenues for funding and opportunities for cost recovery; and,
- d. Deciding on which sector is best suited to deal with each activity.

This, to a certain extent was examined by the Malawi National Livestock Development Master Plan Study that was finalized in 1998. The sound recommendations that came from this plan are slowly and painfully being ignored in Malawi.

**Dr Gift Wanda  
Veterinarian, Malawi**

## West Africa

### Improving Crop-Livestock Systems in the Dry Savannah of West Africa

In West Africa, integrated crop-livestock systems, promise the highest potential for sustainable productivity increases and are predicted to become the dominant farming systems, on which well over 50% of West Africa's vast population will depend during the next five decades. ILRI, IITA (the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture), ICRISAT (the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics), national research partners and other institutions have combined their complementary expertise in livestock feeding, manure management, improved crop varieties and agronomic management as it relates to the region's farming systems.



Villagers in West Africa discussing livestock feeding options

In an integrated participatory approach used in Mali, Niger and Nigeria, each of the three institutes contributes their best-bet technologies for combined

on-farm evaluation. IITA's improved cowpea varieties, ICRISAT's improved sorghum, and ILRI's expertise on livestock feeding and management in general, and nutrient cycling in particular, come together as one integrated set of options. Assessing the economic benefit of the options in this form follows what farmers do all the time: evaluate

benefits and trade-offs when faced with choices of investments.

ILRI Annual Report, 2001

### A new public-private partnership project focusing on poverty alleviation

The Nigerian Agip Oil Company, through its Green River Project, awarded a grant of US\$ 325,097 to ILRI for implementation of a project on "Integrated of small ruminants into the smallholder farming systems of the oil-producing areas of south-eastern Nigeria". The aim of the project is to promote improved small-ruminant

management practices as a means of increasing the supply of animal protein and alleviating poverty through the generation of employment and additional

income while protecting the environment. The project is being implemented in the lowland state of Bayelsa and the upland states of Rivers, Delta and Imo.



A villager with her animal

ILRI Annual Report, 2001

## U.K. Mediterranean

### Veterinary Assistance In Disasters

"Natural" disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes and flooding, have long been a cause of concern to the veterinary profession. Not only may such events cause death and injury to humans but they also can have disastrous effects on animals. Recent heightened concerns about attacks by "terrorists" have added a new dimension. Whatever the cause of a disaster, there is very often a need for prompt veterinary attention - both to assist the animals themselves and to aid their owners or the community.

The CVA has already played a significant role in helping with the alleviation of the effects of disasters in a number of countries of the world. The aim now is to formalise the CVA's approach and to see how it can best provide relief. At the recent meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of the CVA in Cyprus, I was asked to serve as a focal point for such discussion and planning.

I should be very pleased to hear from colleagues as to how they think the question of providing assistance in disasters might best be approached. I should stress that we are already in close contact with other organisations, who are involved in such work, amongst them the World Veterinary

Association (WVA) and the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). Collaboration with other organisations, at a national or international level, would be welcome.

I should also mention that, as part of the CVA's response, I am collating literature that is relevant to the subject and which might be used by those who face the aftermath of a disaster. These include the book by Sebastian E. Heath, (1999), "Animal Management in Disasters", published by Mosby, and a number of scientific and "popular" articles on the subject. Again, input and suggestions from colleagues would be helpful.

I look forward to hearing from colleagues within the CVA and elsewhere. In the meantime, specific requests for assistance should, as always, be relayed through the Honorary Secretary of the CVA, Dr Abdul Rahman.

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### West Africa Continued .....

#### Participatory Research

In West Africa, Participatory Research fulfils two important functions. It is hugely important for researchers to continuously check that their work is still on track. The input of farmer-partners helps evaluate tools and technologies and gives directions for future research.

ILRI Annual Report, 2001



*A villager with his animals*

## Abstracts

### Body cavity lipomas in six dogs

Six dogs had lipomas removed surgically from their thoracic or abdominal cavities. Three of them each had a large intra-abdominal mass which severely distended their abdomen; two had a mass which extended into the pelvic canal, compressing the colon, and causing constipation; and one dog, with a history of coughing and intermittent cyanosis, had an intrathoracic mass. The fatty masses were removed surgically and shown histologically to have been lipomas. In each of the dogs, the clinical signs resolved completely after the masses had been removed. One of the abdominal lipomas recurred two years after the initial surgery, but the growth was removed and the dog survived for two years without a further recurrence.

MAYHEW, P.D. AND BROCKMAN, D.J. (2002). Body cavity lipomas in six dogs. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 43: 177-181.

### Retrospective study of 50 dogs with status epilepticus

The medical records of 50 dogs with generalised convulsive tonic-clonic status epilepticus were compared with those of 50 dogs with different types of seizures. There were no significant differences between the mean ages and body weights, or the genders of the two groups. The dogs in the non-status epilepticus group were twice as likely to be idiopathically epileptic, whereas the dogs with status epilepticus were 1.57 times more likely to have secondary or reactive epilepsy. The dogs in the status epilepticus group were more likely to have high cell counts and/or protein concentrations in their cerebrospinal fluid, but they were no more likely than the non-status epilepticus group to have abnormalities detected by computed tomography. It is suggested that dogs with status epilepticus should be thoroughly investigated for secondary causes.

PLATT, S.R. AND HAAG, M. (2002). Canine status epilepticus: A retrospective study of 50 cases. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 43: 151-153.

### Treatment of canine lymphoma by veterinarians in England

Questionnaires were sent to 1000 first opinion small animal veterinary practices in England to find out what methods were being used to treat canine lymphoma. Completed replies were received from 382 veterinarians. During the previous 12 months, 95 per cent of them had diagnosed the condition and 87 per cent had treated at least 50 per cent of the cases. Much of the most common treatment was the multidrug combination of vincristine, cyclophosphamide and prednisolone, and only 2 per cent used a doxorubicin-based method, in spite of there having been several reports of longer survival times in dogs treated with this drug.

MELLANBY, R.J., HERRTAGE, M.E. AND DOBSON, J.M. (2002). Treatment of canine lymphoma by veterinarians in first opinion practices in England. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 43: 198-202.

### Injuries to three cats impaled on metal railings

Three cats became impaled on metal railings after falling from second-storey windows. Two of them had penetrating thoracic wounds and extensive traumatic damage to the lungs; the other had a penetrating abdominal wound and a ruptured spleen. After they had been stabilised they were examined surgically and a good outcome was achieved in one of the cats with thoracic wounds and in the cat with the abdominal wound. Such impalement wounds are a previously unreported variation on 'high rise syndrome' in cats.

FRATSCHE, K.M. AND KIRBY, B.M. (2002). High rise syndrome with impalement in three cats. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 43: 261-264.

### Atrial septal defect in five dogs

Five dogs with atrial septal defects were examined by electrocardiography, radiography and two-dimensional M-mode and Doppler echocardiography. In two of them the atrial septal anomaly was associated with other congenital cardiac abnormalities: a ventricular septal defect in one and tricuspid dysplasia in the other. In one geriatric dog the atrial septal defect was associated with dilated cardiomyopathy and suspected atrial thrombosis, but in the other two it was the only cardiac abnormality detected. In all five dogs, the diagnosis of the condition was facilitated by colour Doppler imaging.

GUGLIELMINI, C., DIANA, A., PIETRA, M. AND CIPONE, M. (2002). Atrial septal defect in five dogs. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 43: 317-322.



## General Articles

### The Changing Roles of Dogs and Cats in Our Community

Dr Linda Fleeman

Nestlé Purina PetCare Lecturer in Small Animal Nutrition  
School of Veterinary Science  
The University of Queensland  
Australia

*"But if you tame me, then we shall need each other.  
To me, you will be unique in all the world.  
To you, I shall be unique in all the world... --  
You become responsible, forever, for what you have tamed."*

*'The Little Prince' (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)*

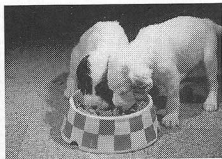
Domestication of dogs first occurred 12,000 to 14,000 years ago [1]. The ancestors of dogs and the ancestors of human beings came together to form mixed-species communities, which had an evolutionary advantage over both wolf-only and human-only communities [2]. Since that time, dogs have played a variety of roles in human communities. They have acted as scavengers of wastes, detection and alarm systems against intruders, crucial members of hunting parties, herders of livestock, and companions or pets. Domestication of cats occurred some time later, with the earliest evidence dating 4,000 years ago [3]. Cats were likely welcomed as predators of the rodents that infested human grain stores, yet their role did not remain confined to that of an opportunistic predator. Unlike their non-feline predatory contemporaries, cats became pets as well [2].

All over the world, there has been a population shift from rural to urban communities and the majority of people now live in cities. This has resulted in a corresponding shift in the roles that dogs and cats play within the community. There has been a change from a peripheral role as scavengers of wastes and hunters of vermin to a much more central role as companions and valued 'family members'. More than ever, the relationship between people and their pets is one of inter-dependence [4]. Pet ownership is recognised as a non-human form of social support that helps to reduce stress [5] and improve health [6, 7]. This is associated with an increased responsibility of dog and cat owners for the health care and nutrition of their pets.

Pet dogs and cats have become almost exclusively dependent on their owners for food. It is now much less acceptable for dogs to supplement their nutrition

by scavenging and for cats to supplement by hunting. Owners have the responsibility of providing all of the nutrients for their pet over its entire life span. Consequently, pet dogs and cats have become more vulnerable to diseases of nutritional origin and great care must be taken to provide them with complete and balanced nutrition during all stages of their lives.

A **complete** food for dogs or cats is one that contains all of the required nutrients in adequate quantities. A **balanced** diet requires that all of the nutrients are present in the correct proportions. There is only one really reliable way to ensure that dog or cat food is complete and balanced, and that is with lengthy feeding trials [8]. The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) awards an internationally recognised standard for pet foods that have



successfully completed rigorous feeding trials. The AAFCO trials last for 6 months, during which time the dogs or cats are given only the test food and water, and their health and progress are monitored for signs of nutrition-related disease. Owners of dogs and cats can be assured that food is complete and balanced if the product carries a label claim that states: "Animal feeding tests using AAFCO procedures substantiate that this [pet food] provides complete and balanced

nutrition for [all] life stages of [dogs/cats]." If care is taken to ensure that pet dogs and cats are fed a complete and balanced diet throughout their lives, performance and longevity will be optimised. This will enable these valued members of our community to live long, healthy lives and continue to provide unselfish companionship, stress reduction and improved health for their human companions.

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## Women In The Veterinary Profession

Until very recently, veterinary medicine was a male dominated profession. In 1930, there were only 30 women veterinary graduates in the US. In 1986, there were approximately 7,000, 16% of the total active veterinary work force. In 1987, 48% US veterinary medical graduates of that year, 55% of all US veterinary students and 57% of the students admitted to US veterinary medical colleges, were women. If this trend continues, veterinary medicine soon will become a female dominated profession. The proportion of female graduates of veterinary medical colleges exceeds that of other health professions with the exception of pharmacy and nursing.

Surveys of working women veterinarians reveal that there is a tendency for more women to work part time than men, they are paid lower salaries, and that they have more difficulty integrating their professional and personal lives than do male veterinarians. Work force data suggests that women veterinary practitioners participate in professional activities at two-thirds the level of participation of men. AVMA data shows that women veterinarians constituted 21% of the small animal practice and 22% of the college and university veterinary work forces, but only 6% to 7% of the large animal practice and 8% of the state and federal government work forces in 1986. The proportion of women in the national veterinary work force will expand rapidly if the present dominance of women among veterinary graduates is maintained. It should be noted that in the USSR for many years there have been more women than men veterinarians.

Women also are thought to be less entrepreneurial than graduation, which may constrain or slow men and willing to work with less autonomy. This thesis is true; the presence of more women in the practising

profession would likely modify the strong tendency of veterinarians for independence and to work for themselves in small groups. This might have a very positive effect on improving the efficiency of the veterinary delivery system. In other profession, women have tended to be less inclined to enter research careers or in highly technological aspects of the profession as contrasted to those activities that are more people oriented.

It generally is believed that the professions have already felt the major impact of the women's movement and that the proportion of men to women entering the health professions will stabilise at near the current level. It also is believed that generational changes in expectations of both men and women soon will eliminate inequalities in salary, working conditions and professional advancement which currently exist between men and women professionals. The change in the gender of the veterinary profession has been rapid and marked, and is one of the most important internal changes confronting the profession. The veterinary medical profession should give high priority to funding high quality social science research designed to determine what impact the gender change will have on the ability of the veterinary profession to fulfil society's needs. It has the potential for having too great an impact on the profession and its ability to serve society to be left undone.

From Future Directions for Veterinary Medicine, by the Pew National Veterinary Education Program. Institute of Policy Sciences and Public Affairs, Duke University, 2016 Campus Drive, Durham, NC 27706

The Daily News, Worldvet Tunisia  
25th September 2002

## Diary Of A Volunteer In India

I arrived at the end of November last year to take up a VSO (The British-based organisation Voluntary Services Overseas) posting in Dehra Dun, North India. It was a relief to finally be here after 6-months of waiting for a visa and various associated postponements. My first month was spent with 9 other new volunteers in Delhi undertaking an introductory Hindi language course and cultural training. We were all from various skill backgrounds including human health, teaching, fund raising and myself veterinary, and to be scattered throughout India from Tamil Nadu in the South, Calcutta in the East and Dehra Dun in the North.

My job began in January and is based in Dehra Dun, a city of half a million people in the Himalayan foothills. I am working on an animal health programme for the Van Gujar people who are indigenous semi-nomadic pastoralists. They are almost entirely dependent for their livelihood on the milk and milk produced by their buffalo. This constitutes a major part of forests surrounding Dehra Dun in the winter months feeding their buffalo on lopped tree fodder and migrate on foot to the higher Himalayan pastures after the snow melts for the winter to 8000-12000 feet during summer covering distances of 200 to 300 kms.

Each family group owns an average 20 to 30 buffaloes and a small number of goats, cows and horses. The cows and horses are used as pack animals during their migration and the goats are sold to

villagers when they require a larger sum of money. They also keep dogs to guard their animals and dera's (the mudbrick huts in which they live in the forests). Their buffalo are virtually brought up as part of the family each with names and the young calves are kept in the dera's at night-time to protect them from

tigers and other hazards. Living within the forests there are no containing fences - a day typically consists of rising before sunrise and going into the forest to where their buffalo camped overnight. The buffaloes are gathered and brought to the morning's lopping site. The gujars are expert at climbing and lopping in such a way that the tree regenerates for future years and also in the recognition of tree species and their nutritive values. Once the morning's lopping is finished the buffalo are left to finish eating and to return to the dera in their own time. Upon their return the morning's milking



is done and usually it is just the lactating animals that are given additional hard feed in the form of oilcake and choker (wheat flour husk). The buffalo spend the day resting around the dera and/or wallowing in any available water. Late afternoon the milking is again done and then back to the forest for the afternoon lopping where the buffalo are left to camp for the night.

The buffalo milk yields are anywhere between 3 and 9 litres day. The milk fat content is on average between five and seven per cent and the SNF (solid-non-fat) percentage averages 8%. In recent years both the yields and milk fat percentage has been reducing. Perhaps the major contributing factor to this is the increased pressure on the forest natural resources and a declining plane of nutrition.

The many challenges faced by the Van Gujars are common to other indigenous population both in India and around the world. Their traditional way of life is heavily dependent on their access to natural resources and forests. In a developing country such as India, the pressure on these resources is ever increasing with increasing population both of the gujars and surrounding village population. There has in recent years also been increased poaching (trees and animals), a shift away from the propagation of fodder trees to cash crop trees by the forestry department and pressure for the formation of national park area's at the exclusion of indigenous population.

The Van Gujars due to their nomadic and isolated lifestyle are marginalised from mainstream access to basic rights such as education, human and veterinary health. They face major disease problems with FMD, HS (Haemorrhagic septicaemia) and BQ (Black Quarter). There are vaccines available for all of these diseases in India however the gujars are largely unable to access a reliable and cost-effective source. Other major diseases include gastro-intestinal parasitism, liver fluke, tick borne diseases (trypanosoma, theileria and babesia) and the usual bacterial and viral infection causing mastitis, pneumonia and calf scour. The common occurrence of zoonoses if of significance from a personal risk perspective but also of major relevance to the gujars themselves who live in such close proximity of their animals. Diseases such as rabies, tuberculosis, brucellosis, scabies, ringworm and hydatid tapeworm are all prevalent.

My job in helping to establish an animal health programme inclusive of the above but working with very limited resources and with very basic Hindi language skills is certainly a challenge. The first months have been spent settling in and adjusting to the cultural changes, which in itself is not a small task. The work style during the winter months was to accompany the health team on daily trips to the forest areas and after assisting with the human vaccination programme (Crying children not being my forte) checking any buffalo or other stock that there were concerns about. This meant vast amounts of time spent on the vehicle and the noise and pollution of the chaotic traffic on pot-holed roads. Not to mention the gross inefficiencies and costs of working.

Many times were spent in the early months wondering why nothing was happening in terms of co-ordinated animal health programme. The fact that their proposal for veterinary funding hadn't come through and that there was no money available to implement a programme at this stage was obviously an irrelevance I didn't need to know. Living and working in a caste based and extremely hierarchical, male dominated society adds to the challenge and frustration level. In a work context, I have found 'charisma' and 'social grace' to be most important in that they will tell you what they think you want to hear no matter whether it is true or not. Hence a 'yes' means you are sat wondering whether it truly is a yes or whether it really means no.

In addition to the above I have attended a workshop in Rajasthan on the documentation and preservation of indigenous breeds of livestock. The gujar buffalo adapted to the migratory lifestyle and forest and mountain terrain are a breed in their own right. Again I am waiting for the opportunity and human resources to be able to begin documentation and discussions on breed preservation with the community. In response to a foot and mouth disease outbreak and media attention my employing organisation decided vaccination was a priority. Hence, over the last 6-week period pre migration we have spent some time vaccinating against FMD, HS & BQ. This has been done at vaccine cost price to the gujars and without adequate planning and education so the uptake has been variable. Price has largely been the deciding factors hence ironically the demand for FMD at 8 rupees per dose (approximately 15 pence) has been very low comparative to HS and BQ vaccine at a quarter of the price. Vaccinating buffalo held by their owner usually by their horns or with a neck rope, with a needle and syringe necessitates speed and hasty reflexes at times! Quite in contrast to working in a race and/or crush system with a vaccination gun at home.

I have recently helped in the development of a veterinary funding proposal for a sister organisation. I am waiting with bated breath for the outcome of this hoping it will give me the opportunity to be involved in a more coordinated grass roots approach! The fundamental process needs to involve the community in the planning stages and to focus on education of the gujars in the prevention, recognition and treatment of the common disease problems. It also needs to address linkages with local private and government veterinary sources for long-term sustainability. At this stage despite the many frustrations and difficulties it feels a privilege to be able to work with the Van Gujar community. Being early days in the two year project cycle there is much work ahead!

Dr Erica Ayers  
Voluntary Services Overseas

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS****2003**

CVA Asian Regional Meeting and 2nd International Seminar on Animal Welfare, Bangalore, India. February 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>.

Third Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference, Wellington, New Zealand. June 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>.

BVA Congress 2003, Sheraton Grand Hotel, Edinburgh, England. September 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>.

CVA Regional Meeting of Australasia/Oceania Region, Papua New Guinea. (Date and Venue to be announced)

CVA Regional Meeting of West African Region, Banjul, The Gambia. (Date and Venue to be announced)

**2004**

CVA Regional Meeting of ECS African Region, Lusaka, Zambia. (Date and Venue to be announced)

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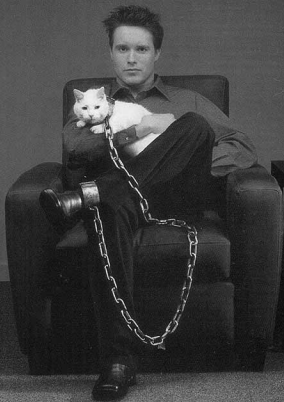
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