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**EAAP  
NEWS**



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December 2004

Number 52

**EDITORIAL**

The Editorial is held over to the next issue due to many reports of activities at and following the EAAP Annual Meeting.

**55th EAAP ANNUAL MEETING IN BLED,  
SLOVENIA, SEPTEMBER 2004**

The 55th EAAP Annual Meeting was held in Bled, Slovenia from 5 to 9 September, 2004. It was a remarkable occasion which will live permanently in the minds of all participants. The scientific programme, satellite symposia, workshops, and informal working groups meetings were organized with impec-

cable precision and thoughtfulness in idyllic surroundings by the tranquil lake surrounded by rugged and beautiful mountains in Bled, Slovenia. Our hosts spared no effort to welcome guests from East, Central, and Western Europe. Even the weather, day after day, was magnificent. Slovenian hospitality was outstanding accompanied always by courtesy, music, local and international fare, and a variety of social ambiances.

Slovenia had joined the EU on 1 May 2004. The Conference was a celebration and a statement of historic Slovenian identity with European solidarity after many decades of earlier separation.

All participants wish to thank the organizers from the top scientific direction to students who ensured careful implementation of details. Thank you Slovenia.

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The abstracts of papers presented may be accessed by participants at the EAAP Website.

**THE 56th EAAP ANNUAL MEETING  
SWEDISH UNIVERSITY OF  
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
UPPSALA, SWEDEN, 5–8 JUNE 2005**

### Welcome to Sweden

Sweden is a small nation in a big country—fewer than nine million inhabitants in an area larger than California and nearly as large as France or Spain. Sweden is also a young civilization in an old country. In past centuries, the country was mainly known for its constant wars. In the 17th century, Sweden was a Great Power in Europe, with a territory that extended almost all the way around the Baltic Sea. Since 1814 however, Sweden has lived in peace, which has been the most important prerequisite for the build-up of the modern Swedish welfare state.

During the 20th century, Sweden evolved quickly from a poor agrarian country to one of the world's strongest industrial nations. The point of departure for this "Swedish industrial miracle" was the country's natural wealth of forests and ore, as well as a long series of ingenious inventions and an entrepreneurial tradition.

In Sweden, the fruits of this economic success have been distributed more evenly among the population than in perhaps any other country. Sweden has become known worldwide for its high general standard of living, with publicly financed systems of economic security for all people in all phases of life.

### Welcome to Uppsala

Uppsala is the fourth largest city in Sweden, with a steadily increasing population of around 190,000. The city retains the charm of a small town while offering major urban opportunities and attractions. Anywhere you look, Uppsala is teeming with liveliness.

Here are two universities, Uppsala University and SLU (the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences), and Uppsala is considered to be the religious and historic centre of Sweden. The city has a solid base of knowledge and tradition from which to progress. At the same time, the atmosphere is youthful, and more than 40,000 university students are a significant factor

in this exuberance. Here is also found Sweden's eldest botanical gardens, the Garden of Linnaeus, founded by the great natural scientist himself. Carolus Linnaeus' professorial residence is situated in the garden. Just outside of the city you can visit his summer residence, Linnaeus' Hammarby. Uppsala also boasts the largest cathedral in Scandinavia, one of Sweden's most famous locations of prehistoric artifacts (Old Uppsala), the unique anatomical theatre built in the 1600s by Olof Rudbeck the Elder, the great university library (Carolina Rediviva) with the Silver Bible, Uppsala Castle dating back from the mid-1500s with the Hall of State and many more marvellous sites and attractions.

The city's geographical location with only 30 min to Stockholm-Arlanda international airport and 40 min to Stockholm, the capital, has made Uppsala an attractive place for meetings and to establish new companies. Together with the two universities, Campus Uppsala, with more than 300 companies specializing in biomedicine, IT, environmental studies, energy research, materials science, food provision, and management, offers a modern and expansive environment for development and enterprise.

### Venue

The conference will start with registration, opening ceremonies, and a welcome reception at Uppsala University, in the magnificent Main Hall, situated in the city of Uppsala. All scientific sessions and the poster exhibition will take place at Ultuna Campus of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, situated 6 km south of the city centre. More details will be provided in the confirmation letter.

### Important dates

31 January 2005	Deadline for submission of Abstracts
15 April 2005	Registration deadline, early fee
15 April 2005	Deadline for guaranteed accommodation
May 2005	Mailing of confirmation of individual reservations
5–8 June 2005	EAAP 56th Annual Meeting in Uppsala, Sweden

**Note:** The official working language of the meeting is English. Sessions of commissions, seminars, courses, and workshops will not be translated.

## Uppsala 2005 Programme Final (October 18, 2004)

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
<p>Implications of EU restructuring and free trade on feed quality and safety, disease and food quality and safety followed by Quality assurance systems to ensure compliance, (M*, N, L, P, S, C, OIE), Chair: Noordhuizen (NL)</p>	<p>Adaptation of livestock farming systems to EU reform and restructuring (L), Chair: Gibon (F)</p>	<p>Specialised ruminant products to sustain systems and genetic resources (S*, C, N, L.), Chair: Schneeberger (CH)</p>	<p>Free Communications Sessions followed by meetings on future programme and elections <i>Nutrition</i>, Chair: Crovetto (I) <i>Management and Health</i>, Chair: Metz (NL) <i>Genetics</i>, Chair: Grandinson (SWE) <i>Pigs</i>, Chair: Kovac (SLO) Cattle, Chair: Hocquette (F) Sheep and Goats, Chair: Gabiña (ES) Physiology, Chair: Sejrsen (DK) <i>Livestock Farming Systems</i>, Chair: Hermansen (DK) Equine science education (H), Chair: Habe (SLO)</p>	<p>Alternative low input/organic production methods (C*, S, L, M, P.), Chair: Keane (IRL)</p> <p><b>Breeding programmes for a wide range of systems (G), Chair: Wickham (IRL)</b></p> <p>Coping with new regulation: Alternatives to antibiotic growth promoters and castration (P*, N, Ph), Chair: Torralardona (ES) Performance and health in young horses (H*+M), Chair: Dalin (SWE)</p>	<p>Nutrition and management strategies to improve resource use in livestock systems. (N*, P, L), Chair: Milne (UK)</p> <p>Horse production in Sweden: (H) full day (session+ tour), Chair: Karlander (SWE)</p> <p>Increased understanding of the genetics of quantitative traits-theory and applications (G) Chair: Maki-Tanila (FIN) Progress towards reduction of disease in sheep and goats (S), Chair: Gavner-Widen (SWE) Utilisation of records to manage health (M and ECPLF), Chair: Geers (B) Free Communications in Cattle Production, Chair: Lazzaroni (IT)</p>
<p>Functional genomics of reproduction and disease resistance (G*, Ph), Chair: Wimmers (D)</p>	<p>Functional traits in cattle (C*, G and Interbull), Chair: Crettenand (CH)</p>	<p>Developments in quantitative genetics (G) Chair: Zengting Liu (D)</p>			
<p>Systems of identification in horses (H), Chair: Guibert (F) followed by Free communications-Horses, Chair: Curik (CRO)</p>	<p>Feed evaluation systems for ruminants, horses and pigs (N*, C, S, H, P) Chair: Sauvart (F) followed by Free Communications in Nutrition (N), Chair: Lindberg (SWE) Animal health and welfare: costs and benefits (M), Chair: Stott (UK)</p> <p>Robust Pigs (P), Chairs: Lundeheim and Knap (D)</p> <p>Genetics of variability (G) Chair: San Cristobal (F) followed by Free Communications in Genetics (G), Chair: Eriksson (SWE) Physiology of stress and reproduction (Ph), Chair: Kemp (NL)</p>	<p>Physiology of pregnancy in farm animals (Ph* and H), Chair: Rátky, (Hungary) High health pig systems (P*, M), Chair: Chadd (UK)</p>			

Key—G, genetics; N, nutrition; Ph, physiology; P, pig production; C, cattle production; S, sheep and Goat production; M, management and health; H, horse production; L, livestock farming systems. (\*) Denotes organising commission. **Bold**—sessions contributing to the theme of the meeting 'Impact and challenges of a widening Europe for Animal Production and Research'.

**Main scientific theme: “Impact and Challenges for Animal Production and Research of Widening Europe”**

- Implication of EU Restructuring and Free Trade on Feed Quality and Safety, Disease and Food Quality and Safety
- Quality Assurance Systems to Ensure Compliance
- Adaptation of Livestock Farming Systems to EU-reform and Restructuring
- Specialised Ruminant Products to Sustain Systems and Genetic Resources
- Alternative Low Input/Organic Production Methods
- Breeding Programmes for a Wide Range of Systems
- Nutrition and Management Strategies to Improve Resource Use in Livestock Systems

**The Meeting will include:**

- Professional programme
- Social programme
- Technical tours
- Special programme for accompanying persons Exhibitions

**In partnership with Organisers**

- Workshops
- Satellite symposia
- Interbull Meeting

**Organisers**

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences  
Swedish Dairy Association

**Organising Committee 2005**

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**Scientific Committee**

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The Organising Committee invites you to preregister as soon as possible. Please, therefore, fill in and return the preregistration form available on the website to the Organising Secretariat (by mail, fax, or e-mail).

**Abstracts for EAAP Annual Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden. Deadline for submission: 31 January 2005**

All authors wishing to present papers at the Uppsala Annual Meeting are requested to submit the title and the abstract of their presentations using the abstract form, which can be accessed on the Internet: [www.WageningenAcademic.com/eaap](http://www.WageningenAcademic.com/eaap). Papers will be accepted as oral presentations or as posters. If you encounter problems, the Publisher (Wageningen Academic Publishers) may provide you with the abstract form by e-mail as an attachment. Please send the completed abstract form in digital format as an e-mail attachment by **January 31st, 2005 at the latest**, to [eaap2005@WageningenAcademic.com](mailto:eaap2005@WageningenAcademic.com) mentioning the name of the first author as the subject of your e-mail. Only abstracts submitted using the original abstract form would be considered for publication.

Abstracts are required in English. The abstract should contain the specific objectives, experimental methods, and statistical analyses used, together with a synthesis of the results and conclusions. The title, the authors, and the abstract must not exceed the space provided in the box on the front of the preprinted form (maximum 250 words). Please read the Guidelines very carefully.

The responsible contact person will inform authors during the last week of March, 2005 whether their abstracts have been accepted for presentation during the meeting. Authors who submit abstracts but fail to register for the Conference before 30 April 2005 run the risk of having their abstracts withdrawn from the book. The publishers of the abstract book for EAAP 2005 are EAAP 2005. Wageningen Academic Publishers, P.O. Box 220, NL-6700 AF, Wageningen, The Nether-

lands Phone: +31 317 476 516 Fax: +31317453417  
 e-mail: [eaap2005@WageningenAcademic.com](mailto:eaap2005@WageningenAcademic.com)  
 web: [www.WageningenAcademic.com](http://www.WageningenAcademic.com)

### **Workshops, Satellite Seminars, Courses at EAAP Stockholm, Sweden**

- Theory and practice of international genetic evaluation (Course)
- INTERBULL—annual meeting
- Methods for studying udder function and milk composition (PhD Course)
- European forum of farm animal breeders (Workshop)
- Breeding programmes for conservation of animal genetic resources in different environments (Workshop)
- Writing and presenting scientific papers (Course)
- Animal health and management during loading, transport, and unloading (Workshop)
- Status and perspectives of beef production in Europe (Workshop)
- Bioethics in animal teaching (Workshop)
- **Satellite Seminars, PhD Courses**
- On farm analysis—technology and applications in precision livestock farming (9 June)
- Genes and environment (9–16 June)

*Full details of all the above events are available on:*

[www-conference.slu.se/EAAP2005](http://www-conference.slu.se/EAAP2005). Information about INTERBULL is available on [www.INTERBULL.org](http://www.INTERBULL.org).

### **Scholarships for the EAAP Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, 2005**

All member organizations of EAAP may propose young scientists, of maximum age 30 years, as scholarship candidates for the EAAP Annual Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden in 2005. Previous winners may not apply again for 3 years. A maximum of two scholarships per country can be granted. Prospective applicants should inform their relevant National Organization of their wish to be considered.

*Before 15 December 2004*, the Member Organization should send to the EAAP Secretariat in Rome for each candidate a letter describing the candidate

and giving the following: name, address, telephone and fax numbers, date of birth, official title, short description of the scientific work, and main publications of the applicant. The name and address of each candidate's employing institution are also needed.

This submission should be accompanied by five copies of the full text of the paper, in one of the Associations working languages (English, French, or German), which the candidate wishes to present at a Study Commission. The paper should not exceed five pages including tables and references. The title of the paper should be relevant to the themes of the Study Commissions in Stockholm. In addition, the submission should include a COPY of the original abstract form, properly completed in accordance with instructions. Also the estimated round trip travel costs, to and from Stockholm, should be included (APEX/student/economy class or second-class rail ticket), plus bank account details for the candidate.

*Before 31 January 2005 (deadline)*, the applicant must send the original “camera-ready” abstract form and two copies of the intended paper directly to the publisher of the abstracts ([eaap2005@wageningenpers.nl](mailto:eaap2005@wageningenpers.nl)), Wageningen Pers, Postbus 42, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands. The format for these papers should conform to the instructions found on the EAAP website: [www.eaap.org](http://www.eaap.org).

*By end of February 2005*, EAAP Rome Secretariat will inform the candidate of the result of the examination by the Board of Examiners. Later, in common with the authors of other abstracts, the selected scholars will be told the modalities of presentation by the appropriate Study Commission Presidents.

### **FUTURE EAAP ANNUAL MEETINGS**

**2006: 57th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held from 17 to 20 September in Antalya, Turkey.

**2007: 58th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in Ireland.

**2008: 59th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in Lithuania.

**2009 or 2010: The EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in Greece.

**Antalya, Turkey 2006 Preliminary programme v2 (as at 4 October 2005)**

Plenary	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
<b>New approaches in technology transfer and participatory research (plenary)</b>	<b>Ethics of sustainability (L*, Ethics WG, M)</b>	<b>Relationship between animal and farmer health (M*, L, S, P)</b>	<b>Development opportunities for small scale livestock farming (L*, C, S)</b>	Free Communications followed by future programme and elections meetings	<b>Strategies to cope with feed scarcity in harsh environments (S*, L, N)</b>	<b>Labour efficiency in livestock farming systems (S*, L, M)</b>
	Nutrition and reproduction (N*, Ph, C, P, S, H)	Impact of reproduction technology on horse breeding programs (H)	Genetics of reproduction and maternal traits (G*, P)		Scientific evaluation of behavioural manipulations in pigs and poultry (P*, Ph, M)	Wild boar; risks and opportunities (P*, M)
	Statistical analysis of genetic data (G)	Advances in functional genomics (Ph*, G)	Impact of nutrition on the environment (N)		Improving cattle performance and economics of dairy farming (C)	Metabolic programming in growth and development (Ph)
	Cattle breeding, genetic resources, product quality (C*, ICAR, Ph)	Advances in decision support concepts and tools for managing towards sustainability (L*, C)	Effect of management and housing on horse welfare (H*, M)		Interaction between environment and animal health (M)	Breeding programs and economics (G)
		Micronutrient impact on high producing animals (P*, N)	Awassi sheep (S)		Free Communications in Genetics (G)	Product quality: nutrition and management (N*, P)
		New developments in evaluation of carcass and meat quality in cattle and sheep (C*, S)			Dietetics, feeds and horse feeding (H)	Indoor vs outdoor cattle production systems (M*, C, L)
						Horse production in Turkey (with tour) (H)

Key—G, genetics; N, nutrition; Ph, physiology; P, pig production; C, cattle production; Ethics WG, EAAP Ethics Working Group; S, sheep and goat production; M, management and health; H, horse production; L, livestock farming systems. (\*) Denotes organising commission. **Bold—Sessions contributing to the theme of the meeting ‘Sustaining production systems to improve the livelihoods (health, well-being, wealth) of livestock farmers’.**

**WORLD ASSOCIATION OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION**

**WAAP Book of the year, 2003. A Review on Developments and Research in Livestock Systems. Edited by A. Rosati, A. Tewolde, and C. Mosconi. A new book series by the World Association for Animal Production and Wageningen Academic**

**Publishers. 2004, 336 pages, cloth binding, ISBN 9076998477, 99**

This book is a reference tool for the animal scientific community and for policy makers worldwide. Sixty authors from the six continents contributed with 30 outstanding manuscripts. This volume is the first of a series that will be produced every year. The

objective of this project is to establish a reference volume for livestock system and research development, for the use of international organizations, research institutes, policy makers, and animal industries, worldwide.

This book is particularly interesting for those wanting to get a deeper knowledge on the “state-of-the-art” of livestock systems in the six continents. This aspect is illustrated in the first section of the volume, while the second section describes the development of research activities in 19 specific fields of animal science. Furthermore, the readers will certainly be interested by reading the “contemporary issues” manuscripts belonging to the third section. The articles of this section were selected to accomplish the most “urgent” topics in animal industry. The volume is also completed with relevant statistics, furnishing information and data in a homogenous and easy-to-read structure. The changes that have happened in animal industries in the last decades are clearly illustrated in tables and graphics. These data, together with the interpretation of the articles of the previous sections, will render easier the prediction of future scenarios.

For table of contents, see: [www.WageningenAcademic.com/WAAP2003](http://www.WageningenAcademic.com/WAAP2003).

This new book is reviewed in the Book Review section of this EAAP News (page 270).

## RARE BREEDS INTERNATIONAL

### Rare Breeds International International Conference, South Africa, 10 to 14 October 2005

This International Conference was postponed in 2004 and will be held from 10 to 14 October 2005 at Aventura Loskop Dam Resort in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. This resort is in a nature reserve and has good accommodation and conference facilities. It is near the Nguni Breeding/Research Station owned by the ARC Animal Improvement Institute. Additional valuable features are game viewing and a day at the Nguni project. There is also good angling in the Loskop dam for those who are interested.

A key theme will be the FAO State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources with priorities identified

by countries and future possibilities for conservation and development of AnGR.

Cooperative partners in the RBI Conference include FAO, the SADC Livestock Sector, and the Developing Animal Agriculture Interest Group of the South Africa Society of Animal Science. Registration fee will be all-inclusive (accommodation plus registration and we will include membership of RBI).

#### **Further information:**

**Dr. Antionette Kotzé.**

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**Websites: [www.rbi.it](http://www.rbi.it) or [eaap.org](http://eaap.org)**

**The following RBI International Conference** will be held in Vietnam in 2007. For other information on RBI, contact: Cesare Mosconi: [mosconi@eaap.org](mailto:mosconi@eaap.org) or the website: [rbi@rbi.it](http://rbi@rbi.it).

## INTERNATIONAL BULL EVALUATION SERVICE INTERBULL

### Staff changes

**Ulf Emanuelson** left his position as Interbull Centre Director in March 2004 to take a position as Professor in Veterinary Epidemiology with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Ulf was with Interbull for more than 5 years, during which the services were expanded considerably and several new traits were introduced.

**Freddy Fikse** entered his position as Interbull Centre Director in March 2004. He has been at the Interbull Centre since 1996 and completed his PhD in 2002.

**Eva Hjerpe** started at the Interbull Centre in March 2004. Her main activities are to provide support to functions related to the Interbull services. In addition, she will be involved in information and research activities. Eva has an MSc degree from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and has experiences as a project manager and computer administration.

**Proceedings of the 2004 Interbull Meeting, Sousse, Tunisia, 29–31 May 2004.** This publication is now available as Bulletin 32 from the office of the

Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, SLU, SE-750-07, Uppsala, Sweden. Topics covered include the following: alternative methods for across-country comparisons; MACE—developments and validation; methodological developments in national genetic evaluations—sections 1 and 2.

### FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES OF INTEREST TO EAAP

**In date order**

#### THE XX INTERNATIONAL GRASSLAND CONGRESS, Dublin, Ireland; 26 June–1 July 2005

The International Grassland Congress (IGC) is the premier world event for grassland research and development and attracts around 1000 delegates from about 100 countries. Since its beginning in 1927 in Leipzig, Germany, the IGC has been held about every 4 years in different locations around the world. The XX Congress will be held in Dublin, Ireland, from 26 June to 1 July 2005 to be followed by five concurrent satellite workshops of 3–4 days in various locations in the UK and Ireland.

The Congress theme is 'Grasslands—a global resource', and this reflects the concept of grassland as a vital resource in most of the agroclimatic zones of the world from the point of view of food production, income generation, and environmental sustainability and enhancement. The Congress centres on issues of key current importance in view of the major changes that have taken place in the requirements from grassland and in the research agenda. Issues of food quality and approaches to satisfy both agricultural and environmental objectives from grassland will be fully debated. The Congress is organised around a number of plenary papers and simultaneous sessions in the three thematic areas:

- Efficient Production from Grassland
- Grassland and the Environment
- Delivering the Benefits from Grassland

In each session, invited papers will present critical in-depth, up-to-date global appraisal of scientific information. There will then be opportunities for offered oral and poster presentations.

**Satellite Workshops** which follow the main Congress are designed to allow more critical analysis of selected topics. The locations and topics are as follows:

- (1) Aberystwyth: genetic improvement of grasses and other forage crops incorporating the 4th International Symposium on the molecular breeding of forage and turf.
- (2) Belfast: silage production and utilisation incorporating the XIV International Silage Conference.
- (3) Cork: utilisation of grazed grass in temperate animal systems in association with the European Grassland Federation.
- (4) Glasgow: grassland-based systems in marginal environments.
- (5) Oxford: optimisation of nutrient cycling and soil quality for sustainable grasslands. See the web site for full details.

#### Registration

The early registration fee (by 15 March 2005) for the main Congress is €495, and €200 for the satellite workshops if the main Congress is also attended. Please see the website for full details, including details of pre-congress tours, accompanying persons programme, and online registration form.

**Information:** Congress Secretary, Dr. Frank O'Mara, Department of Animal Science, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland, Tel: + 353 1 716 7142. Fax: + 353 1 716 1103. E-mail: [igc2005@ucd.ie](mailto:igc2005@ucd.ie) Website <http://www.igc2005.com>.

#### EAAP LEROY FELLOWSHIP AWARD

##### Professor Dr. Jan Philipsson, Sweden

Jan Philipsson is awarded the prestigious Leroy Fellowship Award for his outstanding contribution to cattle, sheep, and horse breeding. After obtaining an MSc in Animal Science in Uppsala in 1967, Jan became a research assistant at the Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics of the Swedish Agricultural College. In 1976, he completed his PhD thesis entitled "Studies on calving difficulty, stillbirth and associated factors in Swedish cattle breeds". This

topic was to be very representative of all his career: Jan's constant interest in functional traits in cattle—calving, fertility, and health traits—made him one of the strongest and most convincing advocate of more balanced breeding goals in selection programmes. Indeed, more sustainable breeding programmes in dairy cattle have become a Scandinavian trademark. Together with the quality of his Nordic collaborators and students, Jan's research work, his compelling charisma, and his practical involvement in a number of genetic councils of breeders' organisations greatly contributed to transforming an initially overlooked local peculiarity into a state-of-the-art example envied worldwide.

But Jan's contribution to the animal breeding community is far broader: Jan's name is forever attached to the International Bull Evaluation Service (Interbull), which now includes 40 member countries; Jan has been the International Secretary of Interbull since its start in 1983 and head of the Interbull centre in Uppsala for more than 10 years. His remarkable leadership qualities pushed him to organise numerous international seminars and workshops. The Interbull Centre is now a central organisation with tremendous influence on international genetic exchanges and national genetic evaluations of dairy cattle.

Jan Philipsson's expertise extends to other species as well: sheep, beef cattle, and his dearest one—horses. Again, his role extends from high-level research work on horse genetics to active participation in breeding programs; for example, Jan was chairman of the Board of the Swedish Warm Blood Horse Breeders' Association from 1982 to 1994. Not surprisingly, he is now actively promoting international genetic evaluations of horses.

His broad experience in Animal Science led him to become a member of many boards and committees, in Sweden, in other European countries, and also in International NGOs. In particular, he has been an FAO consultant since 1982 and a member of the International Research Institute (ILRI) located in Nairobi and Addis Ababa since 2000. He is now involved in the development of a Capability Building Programme on Animal Genetic Resources for university teachers in developing countries. Unsurprisingly, Jan often participated in EAAP meetings, where he chaired several working groups and scientific sessions. He is a

member of the Organizing Committee of the next EAAP meeting in Uppsala in June 2005.

These numerous activities and responsibilities should not conceal the fact that Jan Philipsson is before anything else a charismatic University leader. Professor since 1983, currently Head of the Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Jan has played and is playing a prominent role at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, enthusiastically teaching, advising, and motivating generations of students. Jan also has an instinctive feeling for which questions to bring up at the right time and in the right place. His former students recognize him as an extremely focused person, outstanding in finding the most important figure in any table ...

In short, given his incomparable influence on the Swedish, Nordic and European animal science community, it is with great pleasure that the EAAP Scientific Advisory Committee recommends Prof. Dr. Jan Philipsson for the award of the Leroy Fellowship in 2004.

*Vincent Ducrocq, France*  
*President, Genetics Commission*

#### EAAP 2004 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

**Professor Dr. Franc Habe, Slovenia**

Franc Habe was born on 16th November 1943 in Martjanci, Slovenia. In 1969, he completed his first degree as an agricultural engineer at the Biotechnical Faculty of the University of Ljubljana. His first employment was as assistant for production control and cattle selection at the Agricultural Institute of Slovenia. For his later scientific orientation and career, a scholarship at the Max-Planck-Institute in Mariensee, Germany, from 1972 to 1974, was of major influence. After preparation of a thesis on "Quantitative changes of immuno globulins in the blood serum of piglets with different rearing methods" and completion of a doctoral course, he took the Dr. agr. degree at the Justus-Liebig-University in Gießen, Germany, in 1974.

Back in Ljubljana, Dr. Habe, with his characteristic determination and energy, emphasized research in animal physiology. In 1976, he was appointed

Head of the Immunological Laboratory of the Biotechnical Faculty at the University of Ljubljana. But on account of his practical and scientific passion for horse breeding and riding, he was appointed Head of the Krumperk laboratory and horse breeding centre and Professor for horse breeding in Ljubljana in 1979.

In 1987, Franc Habe was appointed Director of the Zootechnical Institute of the Biotechnical Faculty of the University of Ljubljana, a post which he has held for many years. In 1988, he took the Chair for Zootechnology and Horse Breeding. He served as Vice Dean and as member of the Senates of the University and Biotechnical Faculty. Under his leadership modern and urgent areas of research were established and developed at the institute including immunology and molecular genetics, animal genetic resources, horse breeding, product quality with outreach into performance recording in the field, and animal ethology as basis for the development of appropriate systems of animal production. The impressive scientific output of Professor Habe and his team is documented in many publications. His excellent international contacts enabled him to arrange for postgraduate training for his junior colleagues in the European Union and the USA.

In the process of overcoming the East–West divide in Europe, animal scientists, practical animal producers, and their organisations in Central and Eastern Europe have benefited enormously from Professor Habe's skills and willingness to take responsibility. As early as in 1973, he began his association with the EAAP mainly in the Horse Commission and later in the Academic Curricula Working Group.

But his great time did not come until the political changes in 1989 and 1991. Originating from a country where the Mediterranean meets Central and Eastern Europe, and gifted with the ability to make contact, to communicate in several languages, to conceptualise and to lead, he was the natural choice to head the "Contact Group on Central and Eastern Europe", which was established by the EAAP in 1996. Not only was he able to integrate animal scientists and the industry in this group and to give it direction, but through his musical talents, he also helped to develop the social relationships in the Contact Group. He also attracted the cooperation of the FAO with emphasis on animal genetic resources and of the European Union (EU)

through the BABROCK project for strengthening cattle breeding organisations in the accession countries.

In the EAAP commissions and working groups, he acted as a member, secretary, vice president, or president. In the EAAP Council, he served as spokesman for the special problems of Central and East European animal scientists and animal producers.

Professor Habe is also a founder member of the annual "Animal Science Days" for Croatian, Hungarian, Italian, and Slovenian animal scientists and the regional Dagene grouping of scientists from all Danubian countries involved in the conservation and sustainable utilisation of local farm animal genetic resources. Furthermore, he helped to organise the biennial ICAR meeting in Bled in 2000, which reaffirmed the EAAP to entrust its 55th Annual Meeting in 2004 to Ljubljana and Bled in Slovenia. As President of the Scientific and Advisory Committee, and in many other ways, Professor Habe focused his efforts to make that meeting a success and to let animal scientists and representatives of the industry from all parts of Europe be assembled here. He has been an excellent ambassador for this young, independent state Slovenia.

In recognition of his great service to the animal production sector of Europe and to the integration of East and West the EAAP council has decided to confer the "Distinguished Services Award" upon Professor Dr. Franc Habe.

**Klaus Meyn, Germany**  
[klaus.meyn@adt.de](mailto:klaus.meyn@adt.de)

#### **Dr. Norbert Ratheiser, Austria**

Dr. Norbert Ratheiser has strongly influenced animal breeding and husbandry in Austria and has put his wide knowledge to the service of different international organisations. He was born in 1942 on a cattle breeding farm in Wieting, a mountain region of Carinthia, in Austria. In 1968, he successfully completed his studies of engineer in agriculture at the University of Vienna. In 1971, he got the title of Dr. nat. techn. with a dissertation on the lactation curves of Simmental Fleckvieh cows. At the University of Hohenheim near Stuttgart in Germany, he participated, in 1972, in a course on population genetics. From 1973 to 2003, he worked as an animal

breeding specialist at the Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water management in Vienna, and from 1993 until his retirement in September 2003, he was the Chief of the Division for animal breeding and husbandry.

On the national level, he collaborated on many projects, like the setup and modernization, as well as the promotion of programmes for cattle and sheep, further development of the breeding value estimation methods, the setup of a service for animal health in Austria and health programmes in the different Austrian provinces. He wrote many articles and presented many papers concerning the setup of alternative systems for husbandry of cattle, sheep, and goats. He organised numerous seminars for breeding organisations of Eastern Europe, and he worked as an adviser in breeding activities and milk quality in these countries.

In 1995, he was very active in the preparation of the breeding organizations in connection with Austria's joining the European Union. Ever since, he has represented his country in the permanent committee for animal breeding and husbandry of the EU in Brussels.

Norbert Ratheiser was very active in international organisations. Within the EAAP, he has been a member of different study commissions and the coordinator in Austria for all the commissions since 1973. In 1973, he contributed much to the success of the EAAP Meeting in Vienna. Twenty-four years later, in 1997, he very successfully chaired the Organising Committee of the Annual Meeting in Vienna again. From 2000 until this Annual Meeting in Bled, he was an active member of the Council of the EAAP. As former President of the International Committee of Animal Recording (ICAR), I had the opportunity to work closely with Norbert Ratheiser during many years, due to the fact that he was an auditor of ICAR from 1992 to 2002. I immensely appreciated his qualities: wide knowledge, exactness, commitment, amiability, friendship, and tolerance.

Horse breeding was important to him, too. From 1999 to 2003, he was the Vice President of the Lipizzan International Federation with seat in Brussels.

In November 2003, he got the grand silver medal of honour from the Federal President Dr. Thomas Klestil for his services to the Republic of Austria, which meant the consecration of his career in Austria.

The Council of the EAAP has the honour of proposing Norbert Ratheiser for the 2004 Distinguished Service Award with the wish that he will continue helping the Association with his vast experience and knowledge. I wish you, dear Norbert, all the best for your future.

***Dr. Joseph Crettenand, Switzerland***  
***Former President of ICAR***

**Professor Dr. Olev Saveli, Estonia**

Professor Olev Saveli is an outstanding and devoted promoter of modern animal breeding in Estonia and in other countries. Furthermore, Olev Saveli has multiple talents not only in this specific scientific area but also in a wide range of domains:

- Colleagues recognize him as a leader of animal breeding in Estonia over many decades;
- Students appreciate him as a straightforward and brilliant lecturer;
- Ladies value him as an excellent dance partner with a steady lead as well as a long tango step;
- His tall and upright bearing and a fine sense of humour attracts everybody's attention;
- Estonian colleagues tell jokingly, that only two kinds of agricultural organisations exist—those with the involvement of Olev Saveli and those without.

Olev Saveli has provided leadership in a vast number of undertakings in his country, and one may pose a question: how can he manage to do all that? The answer can be found in his "pedigree certificate", which shows that he is gifted by nature.

Olev Saveli was born on 26 November 1938 in Rapla County in the northwestern part of Estonia as the eldest child of his parents, who were engaged in model farming at that time. Both his parents father, Rudolf, an Estonian Black-and-White cattle breeder, and mother, Lydia, a Tori Horse breeder, were very strong personalities. During World War II, his father served in the army for 5 years, while mother Lydia had to cope with her 3-year-old son along with managing two holdings.

After finishing technical school in 1957, Olev Saveli entered the Estonian Agricultural Academy

to study animal husbandry. He was the course leader who also actively participated in different amateur activities in particular in dance training and volleyball.

Just 2 weeks before *cum laude* graduation from the Academy, he married his charming fellow student Miina. We are happy to acknowledge her presence here today. Miina and Olev have been married for 42 years and have a daughter Sigrid (born 1962) and a son Tarmo (born 1969) and five grandchildren.

After graduation from the Academy, Olev Saveli started his working career as a Director of the Tori Farm Animal AI Station. At that time, he decided to continue his postgraduate studies in Animal Breeding at the Estonian Agricultural Academy. Olev Saveli defended his PhD under the supervision of Academician Aarne Pung, in 1968. Olev Saveli considers the 3 years of postgraduate study the most creative period of his life.

The next 11 years of life, he dedicated to leading the Central Laboratory of Reproduction Biology of the Estonian Research Institute of Animal Breeding and Veterinary Science. In 1979, he took up the position with the Estonian Agricultural Academy, becoming Head of the Breeding Chair. In 1986, a year after defending his doctoral thesis, Olev Saveli was elected Professor. The same year he moved to Tallinn to take up the post of the Vice Minister of Agriculture responsible for research and foreign relations. Meanwhile, he also continued working as a part-time tutor at the Academy.

In the summer of 1988, prior to Estonia's "Singing Revolution", Olev Saveli was elected Rector of the Estonian Agricultural Academy, which later became the Estonian Agricultural University. From September 1994 to September 2004, Professor Olev Saveli led the Breeding Department of the Institute of Animal Science of the Estonian Agricultural University.

In addition, Professor Saveli is a member of the Estonian Society for Geneticists and Breeders, as well as the Estonian Naturalists' Society. He used to be a member of the Association of the Black-and-White Cattle Breeders, a member and President of the Breeding Council of the Estonian Red Cattle and Estonian Black-and-White Cattle and a member of the Board of the Innovation Fund.

Since 1991, Professor Saveli has been the Chairman of the Council for Defence of Doctoral students and a

member of the Master Thesis Council of the Agricultural University. Since 1994, he has been the member of the scientific council of the Institute of Animal Science of the Estonian Agricultural University.

Professor Saveli is also renowned for his activities outside the Agricultural University. From 1989 to 2001, he was President, and later Vice President of the recently reestablished Estonian Academic Agricultural Society. From 1989 to 1992, he was even involved in political affairs being one of the three senior members of a political party Maaliit. During the years 1995 to 1997, he was a member of the Board of the Estonian Cooperative Association, and since 1996, the Vice chairman of the Council of the Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce.

The list of publications by Olev Saveli is impressive. Following his motto, expressed in German as "Wer schreibt, der bleibt", he has been very fruitful in writing ca. 250 scientific and about 500 popular scientific articles. From 1994 to 1997, he edited the Estonian Newsletter Breed Information; since 1998, he has been the Editor-in-Chief of the Estonian Journal Animal Breeding, and since 1990, a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal Agrarian Science. Farmers know Olev Saveli from TV and radio as he is often interviewed. Moreover, he also has the reputation for being an excellent organiser and convenor of agricultural exhibitions and shows. Olev Saveli is outstanding for his incredible versatility. Besides being a good grandfather to his five grandchildren, he finds time for hobbies like volleyball and dancing. Practising volleyball three times per week he has achieved a striking level of performance. Olev's volleyball team ranked the third at the 2004 veteran class Volleyball World Championship in Finland. Professor Saveli has also been an active participator in dance competitions for couples with his wife Miina. They have won the Estonian senior-class championship, and moreover, Olev Saveli was President of the Estonian Sport Dance Association from 1991 to 1994.

Many colleagues at EAAP may remember Prof. Saveli representing Estonia at times, when Estonia was not yet known as an independent country. Estonian breeders remember Prof. Saveli promoting international collaboration long before the iron curtain was broken down. Through his efforts, Estonia became a member of European Holstein Federation years before

the country regained independence. As a matter of fact, Prof. Saveli first introduced EAAP to many of us, his colleagues and students. We all acknowledge the esteemed services of Professor Saveli to his country, society, and to the international community.

**Heldur Peterson,**  
*President of the Estonian Academic Agricultural Society*  
*Associate Professor, Estonian Agricultural University*

### **EAAP Scholarship Holders at the EAAP Annual Meeting in Bled Slovenia**

*(The gender and sponsor are indicated after each name)*

Denmark:	Hansen Morten (M)-Schaumann Stiftung
Egypt:	Elsaid R.(F)-Sutherland
France:	Oury Marie Pierre (F)-EAAP
Germany:	Stock Kathrin (F)-EAAP
Hungary:	Fodor Judit (F)-EAAP
Iran:	S. Zerehdaran Sutherland
Lithuania:	Dalinkevicius V. (M)-EAAP
Poland:	Bernatowicz Elzbieta (F)-Wageningen Academic
Romania:	Habeanu Mihaela(F)-EAAP
Slovakia:	Peskovicová Dana (F)-EAAP
Switzerland:	Reist-Marti Sabine (F)-EAAP
Tunisia:	Aloulou Rafik-Sutherland
Tunisia:	Othmane Mohamed (M)-Sutherland
Turkey:	Takma Cigdem (F)-Sutherland
Turkey:	Aliz Deniz (F)-Sutherland
UK:	Davies Gail (F)-EAAP

### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### **Professor Eric Lamming, UK (1927–2004)**

*Reflections on his life given at the Memorial Service by Professor Sir Brian Heap*

The death of Professor Eric Lamming on 2 June 2004 came as a great shock to us all. The obituary in *The Independent* quite correctly described him as a man of powerful intellect and strong personality who made important contributions to animal fertility and reproduction and to the application of that research to veterinary and farming practice. It was this rare combination that attracted so many of us into his orbit, and today we give thanks to God for his life.

Arriving at the University of Nottingham's School of Agriculture in 1953 as Lecturer in Animal Physiology, he had trained as an agriculturalist with a bachelor's degree from Nottingham, awarded in those days by the University of London, and a National Diploma in Agriculture with honours, essential in those days for anyone who wished to progress as an agriculturalist. Then, he went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to take a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics and a PhD in Animal Physiology.

Fortunately, for many of us, Professor Lamming returned to the UK where he worked at the Animal Research Centre in Cambridge under its distinguished director, Sir John Hammond. He became fascinated by the research of Tim Rowson, another pioneer of large animal reproductive physiology, and studied how to transfer embryos in farm animals, how female fertility is regulated by hormones, and how these hormones could be used to in the successful transfer of embryos in cattle using non-surgical techniques. It was here that he met Professor Chris Polge, who recalls that when they first met he could not decide whether Eric was American or British, such had been the impact of the North American experience.

Life at the University of Nottingham's School of Agriculture in the early 1950s was characterised by the friendly environment of a couple of hundred undergraduates and a smaller band of graduate students. There was an energy that derived from a real sense that agricultural science could make a difference to food security both in the UK, where shortages were not uncommon but also globally. The School was enriched by a group of young dynamic academics, but to me, at least, it was Eric who was the most exciting. Starting a PhD in 1957, I was one of a batch of four. We had mostly completed our work in 3 years motivated by Eric's commitment to give his young students ample space and independence to do good research and to learn both from their successes and mistakes.

As mentioned in my appreciation of Professor Lamming just over a decade ago, he steered us towards understanding the factors that affected fertility in sheep, how to produce two crops of lambs a year rather than one (still elusive), and how hormones could help to improve meat production.

He introduced us to Sir John Hammond to discuss our research, he dined unsuspecting members of animal health companies in suitable hostelrys and enticed them to part with some new reagents they were developing, and he took us on tours of laboratories at Burroughs Wellcome (as it was then), the Institute of Physiology at Babraham and the Animal Research Station at Cambridge. From time to time we were called upon to baby-sit while Eric and Jean enjoyed some well-earned relaxation. However, when they arrived back, we were told the next group of experimental animals were waiting to be collected from uncle's farm in Lincolnshire about 80 miles away. At least the selection of animals was highly randomised as it was impossible to see them clearly in the dark!

Promoted to the position of Professor of Animal Science in 1964, Eric held all the senior appointments in the School and eventually became Director of the Research Group on Hormones and Farm Animal Reproduction funded by one of the Agricultural and Food Research Council, now the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council. Eric's research, and that of his group, brought him widespread renown and at his funeral Professor Twink Allen spoke. However, such was the success of agricultural research that food surpluses at home became a feature instead of a rarity and changes threatened. In the late 1980s and 1990s, we lived through a period of intense soul searching about the purpose and future of UK agriculture. Eric helped to shape the pattern of research that would prepare us for the 21st century.

Professor Lamming revelled in being at the epicentre of action and Professor Twink Allen spoke of the many occasions when Eric presented his work to international audiences yet at the same time took such an active role in his local community. He was close to the veterinary profession and became a longstanding member of the Government's Veterinary Products Committee and the EC's Standing Veterinary Committee. He became an Honorary Graduate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, which was a rare privilege. He chaired the committee setup by the EC to investigate the pros and cons of the use of anabolic steroids in animal production. The Commission pressed ahead with a total ban on the use of steroids in meat production because the Council of

Ministers wished not to be confused by science when making policy decisions—echoes of the infamous GM crop debate. Understandably, Eric was mortified by this decision but pressed ahead with his important report.

Of even graver significance was the failure of the government of the day to impose constraints on the animal feed industry as recommended in 1993 by the government-appointed group of experts, a group that was chaired by Professor Lamming (the Lamming Report). Failure to act by the Ministry of Agriculture, which ignored the misgivings of the Department of Health about the feeding of cattle with meat and bone meal, was the source of a tragedy that became known worldwide as the mad cow disease. From this disaster has emerged a new era where the role of science at the centre of policies is identified as crucially important; scientists, policy makers, ethicists, and the public are all involved from the early stage of new developments.

After his retirement in 1992, Professor Lamming seemed to become even more research-active, if that was possible. He and his colleagues studied how the mother recognises and responds to the earliest stages of pregnancy, why many embryos die in early pregnancy, and why infertility has increased in cattle. This work drew him closer to one of his long-standing interests, namely, medical science. In fact, his close friend Professor Amoroso had persuaded him in back in 1966 to do an external London BSc in physiology, for which he received a first-class honours degree.

A Lamming Prize was established by former students in 1992, awarded annually for the best dissertation on a research project in Animal Physiology. He had recognised at an early stage of his career the immense value of a research project and dissertation as part of the honours training in animal physiology. His office was lined with shelves honours, Masters, and doctoral theses. Cambridge people were astonished to hear about the content of the Nottingham honours degree when I first went in 1960. Such was the impact of his Department that there are agricultural and biological scientists across the world, probably on every continent. Even Dolly, the sheep whose birth stunned the world in 1997, owed much to Eric because her creator was one of Eric's graduates. Jean has received many letters from

former students, many of whom are Professors in Universities throughout the world and all speak affectionately of Eric.

As we reflect today on Professor Lamming's contributions, his record typifies for us a person of total dedication, whether it was to his University, his family, or his hobbies. The University has been justly proud of Professor Lamming's contributions and achievements. He was involved in many important decisions at the heart of the University. Professor David Greenfield, the Foundation Dean of the Medical School, recalls Eric's contribution to the early discussions about its formation and his dynamic approach that was a great strength to the whole University, as well as to the School of Agriculture. Eric played a major part in building the reputation of the School over the past half century, and it has been assessed repeatedly as the premier centre in the UK in its field through its outstanding contributions to knowledge and practice. For this reason, the School attracts people worldwide, and the small village of Sutton Bonnington has a remarkably high profile internationally!

Professor Lamming relished the opportunity to ensure that new knowledge was translated into application, and he practised the art of technology transfer long before it had become a subject in its own right. On television and other avenues of the media, his down to earth approach and experience earned him great respect and many friends. His many contributions and endeavours both in the scientific arena and beyond were recognised by the award of the OBE.

Yet there were other areas which illustrated Eric's deep sense of commitment and loyalty. I want to return to Professor Allen's words when he spoke of Eric's devotion to his farm, his loyalty to his roots and his many friends throughout the world, his enjoyment of the chase, but above all to his enduring love for his family. I want to make a special reference to his talented family, because their successes brought immense joy to him as he told me on the many occasions when we met. But most of all to his wife, Jean, who was always so wonderfully supportive, and a great help to the many of us who studied with Eric, and in some cases had the additional delight of finding their partner for life in his department.

Jean, the fact that you enjoyed a delightful weekend together in your garden and on the farm before he left us will be but one of your many lovely and abiding memories. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

*Brian Heap, Master, St. Edmunds College,  
Cambridge University  
rbh22@cam.ac.uk*

#### **Professor John Clark OBE, FRSE (UK)**

The sudden death of Professor John Clark at the age of 52 has robbed Britain not only of a world leader in animal science and biotechnology, but also an individual whose commitment to science was based on a genuine concern for others. As a visionary leader who was energetic and resolute, he had made outstanding contributions not only in research, but also in translating basic research to the commercial environment.

John Clark was Director of the Roslin Institute, near Edinburgh, which is one of the world's leading centres for research on farm and other animals. He pioneered the development of techniques for the genetic modification of livestock, and this led to the cloning techniques and the birth of Dolly the sheep, the first animal to be cloned from an adult cell. Her birth created entirely new opportunities in research and regenerative medicine.

John Clark was born in Blackpool, but the family moved to Lincolnshire where he was educated at Barton Grammar School. After graduating in Natural Sciences at Christ's College, Cambridge in 1973, John Clark and his wife Helen began what he later called their 'world tour'. First, they went to the University of Western Ontario in Canada where Clark obtained an MSc for studies on the regulation of development in a mudsnail. They then travelled for a year through the USA and South America. This experience had a lasting impact on Clark and he could always amaze with anecdotes of their many adventures, such as horseback journeys through the rainforest to visit remote archaeological sites in the Columbian rainforest. His pioneering spirit survives in their two sons, Charlie (15) and Laurie (13), who similarly thrived on a recent holiday deep in the African outback with few creature comforts and more than a few creatures.

Once back in the United Kingdom, Clark began research in what were still the very early days of molecular biology. Working in Edinburgh, he completed a pioneering study on human satellite DNA for which he was awarded a PhD in 1982 before working on genes that function in the liver of mice with John Bishop of the Institute of Genetics in the University of Edinburgh.

This varied experience provided an ideal training for the next stage of his career. Appointed to the then Animal Breeding Research Organization in 1985, Clark assumed leadership of a project to produce human proteins in the milk of sheep. Success in this project required an understanding of the mechanisms that regulate the functioning of genes, the technical ability to manipulate DNA sequences, and methods for the introduction of gene sequences into sheep embryos. While these are now common place, this was not the case at the time, and the project was technically very challenging. The birth in 1990 of Tracy, the first sheep to produce very large quantities of human protein in her milk—alpha-I-antitrypsin for treatment of cystic fibrosis—was a very significant milestone in the field and a success which laid the foundation for Roslin Institute's continuing reputation as pioneers in transgenic technology.

The development of cloning techniques at Roslin in the mid-1990s provided the first opportunity to introduce precise genetic changes in animals other than mice, and John Clark and his colleagues were the first to produce a large animal from which a specific gene had been removed (a prion protein gene from a sheep). Characteristically quick to recognize new scientific opportunities, Clark responded to the news in 1997 of the isolation of the first human embryonic stem cells by rapidly establishing his own research projects using those lines. Research is in progress in his laboratory to derive liver cells and neurones from human embryonic stem cells for potential use in testing of new drugs and in treatment of Parkinson's disease, stroke, and spinal cord injury.

UK scientists are often criticized for failing to convert scientific advances into practical benefit. Clark was an exception in that he had a clear commitment to commercialising research and the entrepreneurial flair to achieve this. The successful project to produce human proteins in sheep milk was

carried out in Roslin Institute, but provided the intellectual basis for the establishment of PPL Therapeutics. His experience with the creation of that company was invaluable when Dolly followed.

The establishment of Roslin BioMed and its subsequent acquisition in 1999 by the US company Geron Corporation delivered a 6-year commitment to fund human stem cell research at the Institute, which has underpinned its status as a leader in this exciting new field. Most of Clark's career was set in a strategic framework with possible applications providing the rationale and justification for the research. Thus, he was ideally suited to provide the scientific leadership and direction when he became Director of Roslin Institute on August 1, 2003. Irrespective of the level at which he was operating, from team leader to Director, he always ensured he had time for his own staff and especially the many students he personally supervised. He was awarded the OBE in 1997 and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1999 in recognition of his contribution to science and was a valuable and valued contributor to numerous scientific committees and working groups.

He and his family travelled widely together, but returned repeatedly to the tranquillity of Colonsay, where he might be found on the sand at Kiloran Bay with his family or chatting to the locals on the pier or in the hotel bar. Clark was as equally well-read as well-travelled, a man who enjoyed music, dancing, and the good company of a wide circle of friends. He is sorely missed.

*Adapted from the In Memoriam notice issued by Roslin Institute, Edinburgh*

### **Bertrand Vissac, France**

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the unexpected passing away of our colleague Bertrand Vissac on 1 September 2004, at the age of 74. He died in Langeac (Haute-Loire, France), the village where he was born. Bertrand Vissac was trained as *ingénieur agronome* at the *Institut National Agronomique* of Paris, where he started his research career, in the Animal Husbandry Department, then chaired by Professor André-Max Leroy. There he also initiated a long-lasting, very fruitful and friendly collaboration with Jacques Poly, who subsequently founded the

Department of Animal Genetics of INRA and eventually became its Director General. Bertrand Vissac was in particular very instrumental in the creation of the *Département de Génétique Animale* in 1965 at Jouy-en-Josas. He devoted all his energy to the establishment of the necessary laboratory and experimental farm facilities. His personal interest was in beef cattle breeding.

France owes him its rather unique implementation of recording systems and breeding plans for beef cattle production. He was at the same time always very careful to properly promote and emphasize the exceptional genetic diversity of French livestock. Born and raised on a farm, he showed strong affinity for rural France and attachment to cattle breeding and husbandry. Bertrand Vissac became Head of the Animal Genetics Department of INRA in 1970, and he occupied this position until 1979 when he moved to an entirely new field of research by creating the Department of Agricultural Systems and Development of INRA. In this area, he fully displayed his creative imagination and his broad vision of how animal breeding should be integrated into wider agricultural development strategies.

When he retired, he decided to express on paper his experience and the problems he encountered during his work on cattle breeding at INRA. The result was a widely acclaimed book, significantly entitled “*Les vaches de la République* (the cows of the Republic)”, since it emphasized the impact of the French law on animal breeding (of 1966), on breeding concepts and practices, a law still effectively impacting today on many aspects of French animal farming. This book can indeed now be seen as a kind of “testament” (perhaps we should refer to it as “*Les vaches de Bertrand Vissac*” as someone suggested), highlighting concepts such as rural environment, product quality, long-term consequences of selection, and maintenance of biodiversity, nowadays universally acknowledged as essential ingredients in modern agricultural policies.

Bertrand Vissac was known as a very energetic man, endowed with an enormous working ability, broad-minded, and always ebullient with new ideas that he was ready to share and discuss with other people. His departure will create a void difficult to fill for his family and friends. The persons who have had the chance of working with him very closely will

always remember his brilliant intellect, his human qualities, and his devotion to humanistic ideas and goals. He is survived by his wife Simone and three sons, whose sorrow we would like to share in this tribute to his memory.

*Louis Ollivier,*  
*INRA Jouy-en-Josas, France*

#### **Francis Crick, UK and USA**

Francis Crick, whose name is permanently linked with the couplet, Watson and Crick, died on 28 July 2004 aged 88. In the early 1950s, Francis Crick was working at the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University and there found himself playing a scientific duet with James Watson, the young American PhD biology student. Francis Crick was an English physicist without a doctorate already in his early 30s. Francis Crick’s education had been interrupted by the Second World War and when he returned to studies he decided to move into biology rather than to continue in physics—a fortunate choice.

Together, they managed to elucidate the double helix structure of DNA without typical scientific experimentation using the power of intellect aided by data, which was at that time becoming available from elsewhere. Their discovery, quickly followed by a publication in *Nature* in 1953, was acclaimed as a world-shaking breakthrough in biological knowledge and was followed by a Nobel Prize for each in 1962.

Watson and Crick were driven in their quest not only by the search for new knowledge but also by competition, especially from Linus Pauling, an American scientist who had already used X-ray crystallography to open the structure of protein molecules. Hence, they proceeded by thinking their way through the problem. But data still proved to be the key. A leading X-ray crystallographer at London University, Rosalind Franklin, had original photographs of DNA but was reluctant to publish until she had fully explored and interpreted these new sets of data—and she took her time. One of her colleagues, Maurice Wilkins, showed these to James Watson, thus providing Watson and Crick with enough insight to enable them to build models providing

an exact fit of the nucleotides in precise pairs and thus finding the only compatible form—the double-stranded helix. It was a brilliant piece of analysis and construction, but one which remained controversial to many people because of the source of the data. The brilliance of their contribution, however, was their further insight that double strand DNA can be rebuilt from a single strand and thus can duplicate itself at cell division.

Francis Crick stayed in research hoping to achieve the second objective of identifying the mechanism by which DNA is translated into proteins. He defined the “central dogma” of molecular biology, namely, that information flows from the DNA in the nucleus to the body of the cell, where it guides the formation of proteins. Crick also speculated about the molecules needed to carry this information, and these were later found and called transfer RNA.

Francis Crick was greatly honoured together with James Watson for “cracking the genetic code”. But he remained a researcher challenged by the difficult problems of biology and life. In particular, he focused upon human consciousness, later working in the Salk Institute in California. He did not succeed in “cracking human consciousness”. Throughout his life, Francis Crick remained vocal and often provocative, typified by his statement in a Cambridge pub when he and Watson had unravelled the structure of DNA, by announcing “We have discovered the secret of life.”

*John Hodges*  
*Editor of EAAP News*

#### PERSONAL NEWS

##### **Dr. C. Devendra, Malaysia**

In March 2004 Dr. C. Devendra was awarded the Lincoln University Alumni International Medal from Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand for “his outstanding contribution to agricultural science.”

In September 2004, Dr. Devendra also received the 5th AAAP Animal Science Award from the Han Animal Life Sciences Foundation and AAAP “in recognition of outstanding contribution to animal production of international significance.”

#### EAAP NOTICES

##### EAAP CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Secretariat of EAAP has moved, and the new address in Rome, Italy is:

**EAAP**  
**Via G. Tomassetti 3**  
**00161 Rome**  
**Italy**  
**New telephone number: +39 06 44 20 26 39**  
**Unchanged fax number: +39 06 863 29263**  
**Unchanged E-mail [eaap@eaap.org](mailto:eaap@eaap.org)**

The changes of address also apply to the Secretariats for World Association for Animal Production, International Commission for Animal Recording and Rare Breeds International.

##### **Items of interest arising from the meetings of EAAP Council held in Bled and the 48th General Assembly both held in Bled on September 2004 (reported by the President, Professor A. Aumaitre)**

1. EAAP membership consists of national organizations and associations from 37 countries with no individual membership.
2. Termination of membership of the Russian Federation, Belarus, Algeria and Bulgaria in view of their failure to meet their financial obligations towards the Association for more than 5 years.
3. New membership of the Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia in 2004.
4. New fields of activity include a new study commission on Livestock Farming Systems and the related research; a new Working Group “Cattle Network” to support cooperation between national cattle producers in Europe. The Group organized two workshops (Rome and Paris) and two business meetings (Sousse and Bled).
5. Since two-thirds of the members of EAAP are from the European Union, a new Working Group has been established to monitor policy developments in the EU affecting animal production and research and to improve cooperation with the European Commission and its bodies.

6. The Working Group for Central and Eastern European Countries after the accession of eight Central European Countries on 1 May 2004 now focuses on strengthening cooperation with countries from the former USSR, which have not yet renewed their membership in the Association. In this respect, the Council approved the procedure for the renewal of membership with a special membership fee for these countries.

**Actions aimed at improvement in the *modus operandi* of the Association include:**

1. Updating of EAAP by-laws to provide a more precise distinction of duties and responsibilities of the various EAAP bodies and to ensure full transparency and accountability of its operations.
2. Guidelines for the organization of Commission Sessions.
3. Frame agreement between EAAP and local organizers was projected and finalized. The objective was to render easier the organization of the meeting by using standard procedures and to guarantee high scientific level of the sessions.
4. The final report of the **BABROC** Project has been approved by the competent bodies of the European Commission.
5. The European Commission approved the **EFA-BIS** project on farm animal genetic resources; project activities started in 2003.
6. **WAAP** entrusted the Secretariat of EAAP with the management of the project on the global state of the farm animal genetic resources (**SoW**).
7. Improved management of the EAAP web site (over 10,500 visits since September 2003).
8. Researchers Data Base with list of animal researchers, their fields of expertise and interest and their addresses—over 2400 visits in 1 year.
9. Abstracts of the EAAP Annual Sessions available on the EAAP Website.

**New EAAP Council Members, 2004**

Dr. Dunixi Gabiña Iturriaga, Spain  
 Professor Dr. Ernst Kalm, Germany  
 Professor D. Sauvart, France  
 Dr. Elsayed Salah-Eldin Galal, Egypt

**EAAP STRATEGIC PLAN 2004–2008**

**A. Introduction**

EAAP was established over 50 years ago and is concerned with all key elements in the development of animal production in Europe and the Mediterranean region. EAAP is very aware of the need for keeping the content and forms of activities of the Association in line with changing needs of Member Organisations and with developments in social and economic environments affecting animal farming and animal research in the EAAP Member Countries.

This Strategic Plan has been prepared at the request of the EAAP General Assembly held in August 2003 in Rome, Italy, and based on replies to the questionnaire received from representatives of Member Organisations, as well as from Council Members and Presidents and Secretaries of Study Commissions and Working Groups.

Bearing in mind the Association's objectives "promoting ever better economic and organisational conditions for animal production, *inter alia* through the active collaboration among national organisations that are Members of the Association, in the fields of scientific research, experimentation, animal husbandry and technical assistance" (Article 1 of the EAAP Constitution), the document presents priorities and adjustments in EAAP activities as indicated by Member Organisations and office holders of the Association.

The vast majority of replies favoured the continuation and improvement in quality and professional relevance of traditional EAAP activities (annual meetings, publications, symposia, working groups).

At the same time, they strongly supported proposals for improved benefits for Member Organisations through a strengthened representative role of the Association and the establishment of new services.

**B. Strategic Directions and Priorities 2004–2008**

**Role of EAAP**

The Association should play a more active role in promoting the interests of European animal production and animal science and its Member Organisations

and in presenting their views to European and international governmental and nongovernmental organisations and associations.

In addition to its representative role as a member society of the World Association of Animal Production, EAAP should further improve cooperation and promote joint actions with other global associations and sister associations from other regions. Cooperation with European and sister organisations could include the joint organisation and cost sharing of secretarial and other support services.

Bearing in mind that over two-thirds of its Member Organisations come from EU member countries, EAAP should endeavour to strengthen its working relations with relevant bodies of the European Commission.

EAAP will develop various forms of cooperation with industry, including up- and downstream sectors and encourage more active participation of researchers from the private sector in EAAP activities.

EAAP will investigate the possibility to establish individual membership.

## **EAAP activities**

### ***Annual meetings***

The Association will continue to improve the scientific quality and relevance of Annual Meetings. The basic responsibility for this rests with Study Commissions. They will pay particular attention to selection of invited speakers and ensure quality of papers for theatre presentation. Poster sessions will be further developed as points of discussion on current research and specific issues of particular interest.

Annual Meetings should improve their present structure and duration. Improvements in the structure of meetings could include promoting of interdisciplinary themes in joint sessions and giving more time for specialised thematic sessions.

Every effort will be made to reduce costs of meetings and to keep registration fees at the level acceptable to majority of participants. Study Commissions and organisers of annual meetings will strive to mobilise additional financial resources from potential sponsors. Sponsorship of meetings and sessions could include provision of funds or services

without direct influence on the content and themes of these events.

The importance of enlarging the level of participation of researchers from private industries must be well analyzed.

EAAP Council and Member Organisations hosting EAAP Annual Meetings will further improve logistic and organisation of meetings.

Participation of young scientists will be supported by the EAAP funds and contributions from individuals, private sector, governments, and intergovernmental organisations. Special seminars and training courses will be organised for young scientists, including postdoctoral courses.

Annual Meetings must be more widely advertised through general and specialised media.

### **Satellite symposia**

Themes of satellite symposia and meetings of working groups organised in the EAAP Annual Meetings could be complementary or independent of main themes of Annual Meetings.

### **Presentation of EAAP activities to public**

Conclusions and recommendations of annual meetings, symposia, workshops and other activities having particular public interest will be presented to general and specialised media.

There is the need to better identify and to defend the image of EAAP. The image of the name and the logo of EAAP must be standardized.

### **Council's working groups**

Working groups should continue to study issues not covered by Study Commissions. Reports on their work will be presented to the Council and published on the EAAP website and in the EAAP News.

Regional working bodies (Mediterranean and East European Working Groups), in addition to carrying out programmes of specific interest to the participating Member Organisations, will be in charge of bringing specific regional problems to the attention of the Council and Study Commissions, and also of facilitating scientific and economic cooperation among all countries belonging to the EAAP system.

Council's working groups will be encouraged to initiate research and discussion on specific themes and issues by Study Commissions concerned.

Based on the experience of WG "Cattle Network" and subject to the interest of national producers' associations, the Council will facilitate the establishment of other specialised business support networks.

### EAAP publications

The present form of the "*Book of Abstract*" will be retained. The Council will examine technical and other possibilities for reducing production costs of publication.

Publication of the EAAP scientific series "*EAAP Publication*" will be continued. The series will maintain and further improve its scientific quality and relevance.

EAAP will continue to publish its official scientific journal "*Livestock Production Science*." Every effort will be made to develop further its role as a leading animal science periodical in the world.

The "*EAAP Technical Series*" will publish technical and research papers on issues having an immediate or short-term impact or being of particular interest for specific groups of professionals or countries.

The content of the "*EAAP News*" will be expanded to include more information of specific interest to the scientific community and professionals. Costs of publication and distribution will be reduced.

The "*EAAP Home Page*" will be further developed with a view to provide for fast dissemination of information and access to EAAP publications, as appropriate.

### New initiatives and services

In developing and strengthening its role as the representative European association in the field of animal production and science and in improving benefits to its Member Organisations, the EAAP will:

- (a) Strengthen the cooperation with relevant services of the European Commission so as to ensure the EAAP participation in the development of science-based norms and sustainable animal production practices and promoting the implementation of such;

- (b) Improve its cooperation with European producers' representative organisations, and, in particular, with lobbying organisations working with the European Commission. This could include the exchange of information, initiatives for action and provision of science based proposals for policy and technical measures related to animal farming;
- (c) Strengthen the coordination of European researchers to engage in projects and strategies appointed by European Union;
- (d) Develop and update the European animal researchers database.

Taking into account that over two-thirds of the EAAP Member Organisations come from the European Union, the EAAP Council will establish a special working group to monitor developments in EU policies in fields of animal production and animal science, to develop proposals for EAAP/EU cooperation and to initiate programmes and activities of specific interest for Member Organisations concerned.

EAAP will explore the possibility to find donors/sponsors to sustain EAAP activities and young scientists participation to EAAP meetings.

As one of the oldest European scientific associations, EAAP will initiate the establishment of a European interdisciplinary system for exchange of experiences and information among European representative scientific societies. Other functions of the system, such as advisory services to European inter-governmental bodies, could be developed in agreement with interested associations.

Communication with Member Organisations and dissemination of information will be further improved. Profile and content of "*EAAP NEWS*" and the *EAAP Home Page* will be adjusted accordingly.

In addition to information on activities of the Association, electronic and printed issues of the "*EAAP News*" will contain:

- Summaries and reviews of books and of research papers from scientific periodicals;
- Information on research funding;
- Calls for project proposals;
- Requests for and offers of jobs and scholarships;

Websites of relevant specialised periodicals;  
Personal announcements.

The *EAAP Home Page*, in addition to its present content, will include:

Expanded abstracts of papers for presentation at Annual Meetings;  
Electronic form of “*Livestock Production Science*”; “*EAAP Technical Series*”; “*EAAP News*”;  
Information on new research, including the EU calls for project proposals;  
Links with Member Organisations;  
Links with cooperating international organisations;  
Links with relevant scientific periodicals.

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### **New Executive Director, American Society of Animal Science**

Dr. Jerome F. Baker has been appointed Executive Director of the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS)—a sister society of EAAP. We congratulate Dr. Baker on his new appointment. He was present, together with the President of ASAS, Dr. James Males, at the EAAP Meeting in Bled, Slovenia in September 2004.

Dr. Baker took his first degree at Morningside College and subsequently Masters and Doctorate degrees in animal breeding at Texas A & M University. He subsequently held appointments at the University of Nebraska, Texas A & M and the University of Georgia, from where he comes to join ASAS. He is a prolific publisher of papers, articles, and books on cattle.

The Executive Director serves as the sole paid executive officer for the American Society of Animal Science. The Executive Director provides:

- Leadership and direction to ASAS, its sections, and the ASAS Foundation, including fiscal management.
- Leadership and communication within, among, and through the interrelationships of the Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS) Founding Member Societies (ASAS, American Dairy Science Association, Poultry Science Association) and FASS.

- Overall programmatic oversight for all ASAS activities.

#### **Dr. Baker's address:**

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***Website: [www.asas.org](http://www.asas.org)***

EAAP hopes to see Dr. Baker regularly at our Annual Meetings and in regular liaison on common issues.

### REPORTS OF EAAP WORKSHOPS AND WORKING GROUPS

#### **Report from EAAP Ethics Working Group on Session ML5 at the Bled Annual Meeting “Ethics in Animal Agriculture”**

This Session was organised by the Management and Health Commission with the support of the Livestock Farming Systems Commission and of the EAAP Ethics Working Group. It contributed to the main theme of the EAAP Annual Meeting: “Sustainability of Livestock Systems”. Ethical dimensions are constitutive of the sustainability of a production system in terms of acceptability by society and by producers themselves. The conventional breeding methods, in their diversity (from industrial to alternative ones), as well as introduction of new biotechnologies in animal agriculture, raise questions about their consequences on animal welfare, but also on respect for life or animal integrity. Moral aspects, such as the responsibility of the actors of the animal production chain, or the relations between science, production, and society, are questions of growing interest, in which EAAP has to be actively involved.

The first two contributions introduced the ethical issues arising in animal production, from examples taken in intensive farming and in use of new biotechnologies. The philosophical bases of the human–animal relationship were explored, as well as the ways to facilitate an ethical dialogue between the stakeholders. Then, case studies from practical in-farm situations (how to conciliate productivity and welfare, what are the breeders' views of the animals,

what can be the breeders–animals relations in different parts of the world), analyses of the general public, and of scientists ethical perceptions and conceptions gave a matter for reflection. The following contributions tackled the way forward to normative ethics and the setting up of ethical rules and good practices at different levels: farmers, professional bodies, society, and considered regulations, either in particular countries, in Europe, or at the global level.

One hundred and forty persons attended the session. An illustrated digest of this session can be accessed at: <http://www.ensaia.inpl-nancy.fr/bioethics/Bled.html>. The text of the presentations will be published in a special issue of Livestock Production Science in 2005.

*M. Marie, Chairman of the EAAP Ethics Working Group*  
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#### **Report on Workshop on Farm Management and Extension Needs in Central and Eastern Europe under the EU Milk Quota System**

On Saturday, 4th of September, this Workshop on farm management, extension needs, and milk quota was held in Bled at the EAAP Annual Meeting. A total of 107 people registered for this workshop from 32 countries. Participants came from ministries, research institutes, universities, extension services, farmers' organisations, cattle improvement and business organisations, consultancy, etc. This mixture of participants from various disciplines including from practice was very special. The EAAP always hopes to increase the number of participants from industry and practice. This workshop succeeded in doing so.

All eight new EU member States and six Eastern European and Balkan countries (Romania, Bulgaria, Belarus, Turkey, Croatia, and Albania) had prepared country reports. Representatives of 12 of these countries presented the report in public at the meeting in the afternoon session. One contribution summarised farm management efforts in the time to come under quota conditions. In the morning, specialists and a farmer from countries with long histories of quotas spoke about the developments in the dairy sector and market and their experiences with this system.

All contributions were very well prepared. Everybody was present, so there was not one no-show! Two presentations were duo presentations. For instance, the presentation from Slovakia was from the Director of the Slovak Association of Milk Producers together with a researcher from the Animal Production Institute. A 1-day workshop with so many participants appeared to be too short. Discussion is also a very important part of a workshop. This requires more time. Next time, 1 1/2 day should be recommended. The expert papers and country reports will be published.

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#### **Report of the Higher Academic Education Working Group**

Thirteen colleagues from 10 countries took part in the meeting of the Working Group in Rome in September 2003. They noted with pleasure that the two meetings organised in Rome were successful. The workshop on teaching Animal Breeding and genetics organised by Dr. AG. Groen from Wageningen University with 25 colleagues has two main objectives: first, to exchange ideas and experiences in teaching animal breeding and genetics to make study more attractive; and second, to promote teacher and student exchange. The traditional Elsevier/EAAP workshop Writing and Presentations Scientific Papers were very well appreciated by young scientific from nine countries.

At Bled in 2004, we had two workshops, unfortunately the same day, Saturday September 4 "Writing and Presenting Scientific Papers". Thank you very much to B. Malmfors, P.C. Garnworthy and M. Grossman (see report on page 252).

The aim of the meeting on "Animal Nutrition Teaching" was an improved presentation of programmes ideas and experiences on Animal Nutrition Teaching with participants from EAAP countries. It was a good opportunity to exchange ideas on the curricula development and the new strategy on how to make the subject on animal nutrition more interesting for students and to promote the joint development of courses or module, as well at the exchange of teachers and students between EAAP countries organised by

Professor Jan-Erik Ludberg from Sweden (see report on page 252).

For the Annual Meeting in Uppsala in 2005, the Working Group will have two workshops: “Writing and Presenting Scientific Papers” and “Teaching Animal Ethics Objective and Methods”, the latter is an AFANET/EAAP meeting proposed by Michel Marie, France, Chairman of the EAAP Ethics Working Group.

After a large discussion for Antalya in Turkey 2006, we will have two workshops. The Elsevier/EAAP writing and presenting scientific papers and a workshop: cooperation between Europe and Africa university for teaching specific topic of Animal Science in the south part of the Mediterranean area with the help of D. Gabina from CIHEAM and C. Wollny from Germany.

The members of the Working Group regret that only a small part of EAAP countries took part in the activities of the group. They consider that the evolution of training in animal science is a good method to improve European Animal breeding. In the future, it is decided to inform colleagues of the date, time, and place of the meeting of the working group before the EAAP meeting.

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#### **Report from the Elsevier/EAAP Workshop on Writing and Presenting Scientific Papers Bled, Slovenia, 2004**

The Elsevier/EAAP Workshop on “Writing and Presenting Scientific Papers” was presented for the seventh time at the 55th EAAP Annual Meeting in Bled, Slovenia, in 2004. The instructors were the same as in the previous workshops: Michael Grossman (USA), Birgitta Malmfors (Sweden), and Phil Garnsworthy (UK).

The full-day workshop attracted 22 students and scientists from 12 countries. The programme started with an introduction on the importance of communicating science and was followed in the morning by two sessions, “Techniques for Scientific Writing” and “Using Visuals in Scientific Papers”, and in the afternoon by two sessions, “Oral Presentation and Visual Displays” and “Poster Presentation”. A general discussion and evaluation ended the programme.

The workshop uses the technique of “active learning” with group work. For each session, there was first a short introductory lecture, after which groups of participants performed a task; finally, each group presented results of the task. Tasks in the morning included improving titles and abstracts and improving tables and figures. Tasks in the afternoon included preparing and giving oral presentations and critically evaluating posters.

The workshop was extremely well received by the participants. Their average score for “overall impression of the workshop” was 4.9 on a scale from 1 to 5 (5=very good). Participants found the workshop useful and the content informative. They thought the atmosphere of the workshop was open and friendly. Participants agreed that the workshop was an excellent opportunity for discussion of ideas. They especially liked the format with short lectures, group activities, and group presentations. The workshop provides motivation and builds confidence for young scientists in their future writing and presentations. With the workshop just before the congress, there is an opportunity to reinforce learning by viewing and reviewing papers and presentations during the congress.

Each participant was given a copy of *Writing and Presenting Scientific Papers* by Malmfors, Garnsworthy and Grossman (second edition, Nottingham University Press, 2004). The book is useful for students and young scientists, as well as for senior scientists and university teachers; a recent review is in the EAAP News of Livestock Production Science 87: 78–79 (2004). The Elsevier/EAAP Workshop will be presented again at the EAAP meetings in Uppsala, Sweden, in 2005 and in Antalya, Turkey, in 2006.

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**Michael Grossman, USA**  
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#### **Report from Workshop on Animal Nutrition Teaching**

The workshop in Bled was attended by 20 participants, representing Europe, Africa, and South

America. The aim with the workshop was to share information about the current curricula used in Animal Nutrition Teaching in member countries of the EAAP. This was made through invited presentations from different parts of Europe (North, Central, South and East) followed by discussions of current programmes, and exchange of ideas and experiences of Animal Nutrition teaching. The major topics discussed were the teaching forms, exercises used, examination forms, and course evaluations.

The presentations revealed that there were large differences between countries with respect to a compliance with the Bologna agreement. The general opinion was that it should be possible to adapt to the agreement for the Animal Science programmes, while this was not judged as possible in programmes for veterinary doctors due to the certification required. Furthermore, there were large differences in the curricula for Animal Nutrition teaching between countries, but also within countries with several universities offering these subjects (i.e., France, Italy, Hungary, and Greece). The general opinion was that it would be desirable to harmonize the curricula for Animal Nutrition teaching at the BSc level within Europe with respect to subjects/courses, literature, and course credits. Currently, the ECTS credits (as defined by the European Credit Transfer System) are used differently in particular with respect to teaching hours per credit for lectures as compared with exercises. A better harmonization with respect to the value of an ECTS credit would facilitate student exchange between countries and the transfer of course credits obtained in another country.

It was not considered necessary or even desirable to harmonize the curricula for Animal Nutrition teaching at the MSc level between countries. The general view was that it should be possible to develop specific profiles for the MSc programmes depending on the competence and needs. Several suggestions were put forward, aiming at making Nutrition teaching more attractive. It may be necessary to find new ways to attract the interest of the students, as they may have a different background and different experiences as compared with earlier students.

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### **Joint Report of the Alternative Production Working Group**

At the Budapest meeting in 2001, the Working Group had decided to create small groups specializing on a given species not study by official commissions. I work on the creation of group on rabbit, bee, camel, and game. They are important for many colleagues. For pet nutrition, I had prepared last year a list of colleagues interested by the topic.

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### **EAAP Publications: Report of the Coordinator**

The contract that was established between EAAP and Wageningen Academic Publishers is now in its third year. This contract regulates all respects of editing and publishing the Book of Abstracts of the EAAP Annual Meetings, the EAAP scientific series, and EAAP Technical Brochures.

In this report, I restrict myself to giving an account of publishing the EAAP scientific series and the EAAP technical Brochures, because the editorial and other businesses related to publishing the Book of Abstract will be reported Professor Ynze Van der Honig.

I think Mike Jacobs, the managing director of the Wageningen Academic Publishers, and his staff have concluded good year since our last meeting in Rome. In this period, the following volumes have been published and circulated in the *EAAP scientific series*:

- (1) EAAP 109: Progress in Research on Energy and Protein Metabolism Edited by W.B. Souffrant and C.C. Metges; ISBN 9076998248; 840 pages, paperback.
- (2) EAAP 110: Recent advances of research in antinutritional factors in legume seeds and oil-seeds; Edited by M. Muzquiz, G.D. Hill, C. Burbano, C. Cuadrado and M.M. Pedrosa; ISBN 9076998396; 384 pages, hardcover.
- (3) EAAP 111: Nutrition of the Performance Horse. Which system in Europe for evaluating the nutritional requirements? Edited by V. Juliard and W. Martin-Rosset; ISBN 907699837X; about 160 pages, paperback.

### Expected volumes in the near future:

- (1) EAAP 112?: Indicators of dairy products and beef quality. Edited by Jean-Francois Hocquette;
- (2) Mediterranean symposium in Greece;
- (3) ICAR meeting in Tunisia;
- (4) Livestock Farming Systems symposium in Italy.

### Technical series

- (1) EAAP TS 4 Image of the cattle sector and its products (Babroc meeting).
- (2) EAAP TS 05: Foot-and-Mouth Disease: new values, distinct routes. A.J. van der Zijpp, M.J.E. Braker, C.H.A.M. Eilers, H. Kieft, T.A. Vogelzang and S.J. Oosting; ISBN 9076998272; 80 pages, paperback.
- (3) EAAP TS 06 Working animals in Agriculture and transport. A collection of some current research and development observations. Edited by R.A. Pearson, P. Lhoste, M. Saastamoinen and W. Martin-Rosset; ISBN 9076998256; 210 pages, paperback.
- (4) EAAP TS 07: Interaction between climate and animal production. Edited by N. Lacetera, U. Bernabucci, H.H. Khalifa, B. Ronchi and A. Nardone; ISBN 9076998264; 124 pages, paperback.

As coordinator of EAAP publications my pleasant duty is to express my sincere thanks for those all, who actively participated in the successful publication activity of EAAP in the past year.

*Pal Rafai, Hungary*

*Coordinator of EAAP Publications*

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### Report on the EAAP Book of Abstracts 2004

The production of the book of abstracts has been managed by Wageningen Academic Publishers. Their professional approach has not changed, and it was all organised including the time-consuming coordination with all people involved. The production of the book of abstracts has always been a complicated process due to the many persons involved and the tight schedule of preparing and printing. The Book of Abstracts no. 10 has been produced according to expectations.

**Some statistics:** The Book of Abstracts contains abstracts of the invited papers and contributed presentations including posters. In total, 784 abstracts were received, although a few of these have been withdrawn by the author or were rejected based on scientific quality; 2850 authors are involved.

The book of abstracts contains 725 abstracts of the sessions of the scientific program for the 55th Annual meeting in Bled (Rome: 851, Cairo: 542, Budapest: 705, The Hague: 748, Zurich: 719, Warsaw: 660). Unfortunately, some 40 papers and posters have been withdrawn already due to insufficient finances after the printing of the Book. Local organisers have been informed.

As can be seen, a good Book of Abstracts is available, which will serve as a valuable guide during as well as after this meeting. The production of the Book of Abstracts has only been possible through the involvement of a large number of people, the contact persons of the EAAP Study Commissions and Wageningen Academic Publishers in particular, but also the Organising Committee of the Bled meeting and the EAAP-secretariat in Rome. I like to thank all people for their contribution, which is highly appreciated.

**Program:** The scientific program was presented on the website of Wageningen Academic Publishers in the end of June. Also, after the meeting in Bled, the e-mail addresses of the authors of abstracts will be available on the Internet site to enable correspondence with the authors about their full paper. All authors have been invited to submit a pdf file of their presentation or poster to be published on the EAAP website.

**Book of Abstracts 2005:** Based on the very positive experiences of recent years, the procedure for submitting abstracts for the next meeting will be kept the same. Abstract forms can be downloaded from the website [www.wageningenacademic.com/eaap](http://www.wageningenacademic.com/eaap) and have to be returned to Wageningen Academic Publishers **before January 31, 2005**.

### Deadlines:

**January 1, 2005:** Contact persons deliver a list with invited speakers to Wageningen Academic Publishers.

**January 31, 2005:** Deadline for submission of abstracts for the EAAP meeting in Uppsala, June 2005.

**Ynze van der Honing, Wageningen, The Netherlands**  
*Editor-in-Chief of Book of Abstracts*

**EAAP Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources (EAAP-WG-AGR) Report on activities September 2003 to August 2004**

**1. The EFABIS programme**

The EAAP research programme, EC funded, “*A European Farm Animal Biodiversity Information System-EFABIS*” aims to transform the historical database of the European Association for Animal Production [EAAP Animal Genetic Data Bank (AGDB), operated by the Veterinary University (TiHo) of Hanover] into a Europe-wide information system that supports the management of farm animal genetic resources at all levels with an easy exchange of information between them, in close collaboration with FAO. The structure has three levels: (i) Efabis database (regional level); (ii) FAO database (global level); (iii) National databases (local level). Mr. E. Groeneveld, member of the WG, is the scientific coordinator. The EAAP-WG-AGR is a member of the Steering Committee, acts as scientific advisor and in coordination. Three coordination and research meetings were held in the period reported here: Rome—November 2003, Rome—April 2004, Mariensee—April 2004.

**2. Liaison with ERFPA activities**

In 2002, the European Regional Focal Point (ERFP), which is a member of the EAAP WG-AGR, launched and sponsored two research projects. The WG-AGR actively took part to both projects. The first, coordinated by Mr. S. Hiemstra, “*Development of guidelines for cryo-conservation of AnGR in Europe and exchange of state of the art knowledge and experiences with cryoconservation*” published in March 2004, practical Guidelines for countries wishing to develop their gene banks for animal genetic resources conservation (soon available at [www.rfp-europe.org](http://www.rfp-europe.org)). The second project, “*A study on optimising the implementation of databases on AnGR and the utilisation of their content*”, coordinated by Mr. A. Georgoudis, still ongoing, aims to define the countries’ needs and to produce a strategic plan for the

National Coordinators to implement and administrate the data base for AnGR, in accordance with the EFABIS programme.

**3. EU Council Regulation 870/2004**

We recall that in April 2003, the WG-AGR participated to an experts group meeting, held in Brussels, to discuss a proposal for a “*Council Regulation Establishing a Community Programme on the Conservation, Characterisation, Collection and Utilisation of Genetic Resources in Agriculture and Repealing Regulation (EC) n. 1467/94.*” A written proposal for the AnGR sector was made by the WG-AGR to the European Commission. The work was developed together with the ERFPA. The new Regulation accepted many indications from the WG-AGR proposal (more emphasis to animal genetic resources). A first call for proposals is expected early 2005.

**4. Liaison with FAO activities**

The WG-AGR continued to support the ongoing process of implementation of the State of the World’s Animal Genetic Resources (SoW-AnGR) by FAO.

**5. Composition of the WG-AGR**

During the Rome EAAP-WG-AGR meeting 2003, in accordance with the EAAP Commission on Animal Genetics, the renewed composition of the EAAP-WG-AGR was defined. There are now eight members and two Institution members: Mr. Ottmar Distl (as representative of the EAAP Data Bank), Mr. M’naouer Djemali, Mr. Vincent Ducrocq (President of the EAAP Commission on Animal Genetics), Mr. Gustavo Gandini (Chairman), Mr. Andreas Georgoudis, Mr. Eildert Groeneveld, Mr. Juha Kantanen, Mrs. Elzbieta Martyniuk, Mr. Dominique Planchenault (as representative of the FAO European Regional Focal Point), Mr. Miguel Toro. Particular thanks are addressed to Mr. Louis Ollivier, Mr. John Woolliams, and Mrs. Birgitta Danell for their leadership and contribution in the past years to the WG. The WG asked them to continue to act as “external advisors/contact persons” for this WG.

Finally, the WG finished an investigation on the “Degree of endangerment of livestock breeds in Europe” (a manuscript is in press in LPS).

**Gustavo Gandini**

**Chairman of the EAAP Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources**

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### **Report on Meeting and Activities of the European National Coordinators on Animal Genetic Resources**

The 10th annual workshop of the European National Coordinators (NCs) for the management of farm animal genetic resources was held in Bled on September 4, 2004. Dr Mike Roper, president of the ERFPP Steering Committee, chaired the meeting. The 55 named participants represented 28 countries (Albania, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom) and different international organizations (FAO, EAAP). The chairman welcomed the NCs and the new invited countries (Georgia, Belarus). He thanked Drago Kompan and Frank Habe (Slovenia) and EAAP for hosting this 10th Workshop.

Jean Boyazoglu and Ricardo Cardellino (FAO) opened the workshop and wished a merry 10th anniversary with the ERFPP. They spoke highly of the ERFPP, stating that Europe was the only functioning ERFPP, and that Europe can act as a model for other regions, mainly in the frame of FAO Global Strategy. An overview of the State of the World was made.

Dr. D. Planchenault reported on the activities of the European Regional Focal Point (ERFP) in the past year. The second ERFPP Call for Action was launched in November 2003. Now, the ERFPP funds five projects. These projects show the countries will work together. EFABIS program “A European Farm Animal Biodiversity Information System” is operational. The main objective is to develop the national databases and to establish a permanent link between European countries. The ERFPP website will open at the end of 2004 and will be an important show room for the various countries.

Dr. D. Planchenault reported the ERFPP budget for 2004. It takes into account the third first year contributions and the expenses since January 2000. This new presentation is approved by the NCs workshop. This annual budget (112 000 Euros) is voted and approved.

Dr. S. Hiemstra (The Netherlands) gave an overview of developments on the ERFPP project on “cryopreservation”. At the beginning of 2004, guidelines for cryopreservation of AnGR in Europe were edited and are available from ERFPP and very soon on the ERFPP website. Dr. A. Georgoudis (Greece) gave the results of the two questionnaires on National databases in Europe circulated and completed by NCs. The project will provide guidelines for the NCs on the implementation and administration of a database for AnGR. This work is done jointly with EFABIS programme.

Mr. F. Begemann (Germany) presents the new ERFPP website. Before the opening, the last corrections will be proposed by the NCs. Several links will be established with National Focal Points, if possible. By country, the national documents will be downloadable. New developments for the next year were proposed.

Dr. E. Groeneveld (Germany) gave a presentation of the EFABIS program. The aim of the EFABIS is to create an integrated infrastructure of different databases to monitor animal biodiversity in Europe. He commented that the team is now in the second phase establishing data flow between countries. A meeting is planned before the end of 2004 to define EFABIS development at local level.

Dr. R. Cardellino from FAO gave a brief synopsis on progress with the first report on the State of World’s Animal Genetic Resources. In total, 165 countries agreed officially to participate in SoW process. One hundred and three final country reports and 36 drafts were submitted. By the 39 European countries, only 3 are still expected. Now, the draft report on Strategic Priorities for Action is being prepared. The first draft of the first Report on the State of the World on Animal Genetic Resources will be proposed before the end of 2005.

Dr. R. Cardellino continued giving some details on the 3rd Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on AnGR (ITWG-AnGR) held in March 2004. The Commission on Genetic Resources

for Food and Agriculture will meet in September 2004.

Mr. A. Svitojus provided further details on the subregional workshop for central and eastern European where Balkan, Caucasian, and Central Asian countries agreed to form a new RFP, within the initial coordination of Turkey. In that case, Turkey would serve as a transmission between West and Central Europe and their subregional group. NCS from Belarus and Georgia was invited to the 10th workshop.

Mr. M. Roper provided delegates with a brief synopsis on the new European Genetic Resources regulation 870/04. The call for proposal could be launched at the end of 2004. The ERFPP will inform the NCs about the new developments. Dr. S. Hiemstra and S. Jones gave a presentation on the possible project proposals.

Following the rotational system started in 2003, Dr H Shulte-Coerne was elected as a new ERFPP-SC member, instead of Mrs. E. Martyniuk. France continues hosting the ERFPP Secretariat until 2006. The 2004 Call for Action would include the same themes as last year. The next NCs workshop will be held in Uppsala in June. Mr. Roper and Dr. Planchenault conclude the 10th workshop by thanking delegates, with special thanks to Ela for her work in ERFPP-SC during 4 years.

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*Rapporteurs*

## REPORTS OF EAAP STUDY COMMISSIONS

### Report of Commission on Animal Genetics

The Bled meeting was definitely outstanding for the genetic commission. It started with a remarkable joint session with the commission on Animal Physiology entitled “Genomics of lactation” and chaired by Peter Dovc (Slovenia). The two invited speakers gave a stimulating overview of the topic. First, Michele Ollivier-Bousquet (France) described how the new tools available in molecular genetics can help to better disentangle the mechanisms of growth, differentiation,

and functioning of the mammary gland. Then Hermann Geldermann (Germany) presented a comprehensive review on the genetic aspects of milk production, from the genes involved to the association of their variants to trait values, from QTL mapping to analyses in transgenic cells or animals. Seven contributed papers completed the session.

The second joint session was organised together with the Commission on Management and Health and was chaired by Steve Bishop (UK). The first guest speaker was Marie-Hélène Pinard-van der Laan (France), who introduced the European Animal Disease Genomics Network of Excellence for Animal Health and Food Safety (EADGENE) that she is coordinating by illustrating the need for sharing expertise and resources in one particular case (search and validation of QTLs for resistance to coccidiosis in the chicken). The second invited speaker, Mark Henryon (Denmark), demonstrated that selective breeding for resistance provides a method to control clinical and subclinical diseases in pigs. Contributed papers included new research on mastitis resistance in dairy cattle and on scrapie and gastrointestinal parasitism in sheep. A very successful free communication session was held in parallel with this joint session. Chaired by Norbert Reinsch (Germany), it focussed on breeding programs, mainly in cattle.

The next session was on “Management of genetic variation”. It was organised by the chairman of the working group on Animal Genetic Resources, Gustavo Gandini (Italy). The first keynote speaker, Jean-Jacques Colleau (France) described practical tools developed to control or minimise inbreeding or coancestry while maintaining genetic gains in current breeding programmes in dairy cattle and pigs. Then, Miguel Angel Toro (Spain) presented a thorough review of approaches proposed to measure genetic diversity and determination of conservation priorities. Other oral contributions and posters dealt with the design of simple to complex breeding programmes for conservation, as well as the actual characterisation of the genetic variability of a number of local populations in various species.

The second free communications session (chairperson: Erling Strandberg, Sweden) was particularly stimulating, despite its extreme diversity, with papers on goats, salmon, mice, dogs, llamas, and pigs! Then, two half sessions were well attended: first, a

joint session with the Horse commission chaired by Erwin Koenen (The Netherlands) gave examples of international genetic evaluations in three species: in dairy cattle, Freddy Fikse (Sweden) presented the activities of INTERBULL. In horses, Erich Bruns (Germany) listed the challenges ahead of INTERSTALLION, while Thorvaldur Arnason (Sweden) described the rather unique situation of the international genetic evaluation of the Icelandic horse. Finally, Laurence Maignel (Canada) illustrated the need for international comparisons in swine. The other half session, entitled “Genetics of disorders”, was chaired by André Eggen (France). Eموke Bendixen (Denmark) told the fascinating story leading to the identification of the gene causing the complex vertebral malformation (CVM) in cattle. Other papers covered other diseases (mulefoot in cattle, greying, melanoma, and vitiligo prevalence in Lipizzan horses), as well as the problem of data collection of genetic disorders.

The last day of the meeting included two parallel sessions, the first one was a joint session organised by the Pig commission on longitudinal data in genetics (chairperson: Pieter Knap, Germany), and the other, chaired by Per Madsen (Denmark), focussed on “Developments in biometrical methods”. The two keynote speakers of the latter were Rohan Fernando (USA), who gave a detailed description on the incorporation of molecular marker information into genetic evaluations. The second one was Jorgen Odegard (Norway), who summarised the underlying theory and the benefits of the use of mixture models, using somatic cells counts in the presence of mastitis as an example.

As usual, the Commission received a large number of abstracts (128) that had to be presented as posters, due to time constraints. But no-shows were again a problem: 13 abstracts were withdrawn by their authors before the meeting, and 22 posters were not presented. Despite our efforts, more than a quarter of the abstracts printed in the Book of Abstracts were not displayed! Therefore we will repeat what we implemented this year: abstracts for the Uppsala meeting from authors who were “no-shows” in 2004 will be rejected unless full registration has been paid before the final programme is completed. Posters did not receive the attention we would have liked, primarily because of a lack of

space but also because most posters included far too much material to read.

The success in getting sponsors to contribute to the “EAAP foundation” [CR-Delta (the Netherlands) last year, Labogena (France) this year] allowed the Commission to award the first author of the best poster (as well as the author of the best oral presentation) with a free registration for the Uppsala meeting. This year, the winners were Elise Norberg (Denmark) for the best poster and Ben Hayes (Norway) for the best oral presentation. Furthermore, the prize for the best poster over all commissions went to a poster from our commission, by Said Zerehdaran (The Netherlands). We are also proud that the prestigious Leroy Fellowship award was given this year to Jan Philipsson (Sweden).

The term of the commission’s managing secretary, Andreas Hofer (Switzerland), is coming to an end, and I express my sincere thanks for his 6 years of hard work. He will be replaced by Erling Strandberg (Sweden). At the business meeting, we elected a new vice president (Gustavo Gandini, Italy) and a new secretary (Joanna Szyda, Poland) who will, respectively, replace Asko Maki-Tanila (Finland) and Elzbieta Martyniuk (Poland) next year after the Uppsala meeting. The last member of the commission bureau is Henner Simianer (Germany). During the business meeting, Gustavo Gandini, chairman of the working group on Animal Genetic Resources, gave a brief report on the activities of this EAAP working group.

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### **Report of the Commission on Animal Nutrition**

More than a hundred papers were submitted to our commission, confirming the interest of many researchers on this field. Most of these contributions were addressed to the free communication session. This led us to change the programme at the last moment, postponing a session on the “Harmonization of Feeding Standards” to the next annual meeting in Uppsala (June 2005) and substituting it with a second “Free Communication” session.

As usual for an interdisciplinary commission as ours, many topics dealt with nutrition and feeding.

A particular interest was attributed to the nutritive value of animal feeds, particularly forages: field trials and laboratory research experiments were performed to assess the best ways to produce forages, to optimize silage fermentations, to enhance animal performance through different feed treatments. Some works focused on the use of natural, bioactive feed additives, others on new chemical procedures to predict the nutritive value of feeds.

One session was dedicated to the use of alternative protein sources. Several papers were presented on the subject on both pigs and ruminants. Forage was demonstrated to be effective in sustaining noticeable animal performance in terms of protein supply. Proteaginous and oleaginous grains were investigated and their potential as nitrogen and amino acids suppliers were evaluated.

The interactions between genotype, feeds, and physiology were analyzed in the session on the feed intake, with papers on different animal species. Finally, a relevant interest was registered for the papers dealing with antinutritional factors and mycotoxins in pigs. In general, as expected and confirming the trend already seen in the last years, an increasing interest in the feeding/nutritional factors dealing with animal welfare and environmental impact was registered. Another aspect which deserved a strong consideration was the quality of feeds and the influence of nutrition and feeding on animal production quality.

The business meeting of our commission was successful, and 40–50 people had a good discussion on the strengths and weaknesses of the Meeting and to make proposals for the 2006 Annual Meeting which will be held in Antalya (Turkey).

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### **Report of the Commission on Animal Management and Health**

The Management and Health Commission had a very successful programme at the 55th Annual Meeting in Bled. Our commission organised three sessions with a total attendance of 250 people and participated in four other sessions that were also well attended. Christine Fourichon from Nantes, France, chaired the first session on “Animal health and welfare in intensive and extensive systems”. The session contained a good

mixture of papers from cows, pigs, and lambs on disease incidences, performance, and behaviour in relation to housing and management intensity. The commission decided to select the oral contribution on “Investigation of claw health of dairy cows in Switzerland”, presented by Jan Bielfeldt from Kiel in Germany as the best young scientist paper.

Session 4 was devoted to animal health and was chaired by Jan Tind Sorensen from Foulum in Denmark. The papers covered simulation models for disease spreading, lameness, and adaptation to climatic conditions in cows and provided epidemiological survey data on porcine influenza distribution in France and a case study on risk management decisions for Salmonella eradication in Denmark. The poster on “Genetic and environmental effects on claw disorders in large-scale dairy farms”, presented by S. König from Göttingen in Germany, was selected as the best poster.

Michel Marie from Nancy in France, who is also the chair of the EAAP Working Group on Animal Bioethics, organised a very successful session on “Ethical issues in animal agriculture”. Ethics has now become an integrative part of the EAAP programme with a wide interest from different disciplines. A crowd of 140 people listened to prominent speakers with a wide range of papers from “Why happy pigs are dirty” to “Cultural values in relation to ethics in animal agriculture”. The audience learned something on the central moral issues in the treatment of animals (presented by the ASAS invited speaker Assya Pascalev from Florida), as well as on public welfare perceptions and welfare policies in different European regions. The full papers of the session will be published soon within a special issue of Livestock Production Science. The EAAP Ethics Working group will organise a workshop on “Bioethics in animal teaching” at the next EAAP Meeting in Uppsala 2005.

On our business meeting, the commission president (E. von Borell, D) and vice president (J.T. Sorensen, DK) became reelected for another term, and Sandra Edwards from Newcastle, UK, was elected as a new commission secretary starting her term in 2005.

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## Report on Commission of Animal Physiology

As previous years we had successful joint sessions with the several other commissions. As an example, I would like to mention a very valuable session with the genetics commission organized by Peter Dovc, SLO. The use of post genomics techniques in relation to biological and genetic aspects of lactation was discussed on the basis of very valuable invited contributions. The papers will be published in the special issue of *Livestock Production Science* together with the papers presented at the EAAP/ASAS workshop on *Biology of lactation in Farm Animals*. We continue with these joint sessions also in 2005 and 2006. In another sessions with the commission of nutrition organised by Nic Friggens, DK there was a very interesting discussion on the biological basis for models predicting of feed intake. Finally, I would also like to mention a very interesting session organised by Faverdin, F focussing on the limitations in animal biology related to different low-input systems. In these and the other sessions, the underlying theme was to increase the understanding of the biological basis for the different input factors. I find that organising meetings that address this theme is central to the activities of the physiology commission and I invite all annual meeting participants to submit suggestions on this theme. Yves Chilliard, F was in charge of organising the meeting in Bled.

Two new members, Melissa Royal, UK and Mogens Vestergaard, DK, were elected and the mandates of Jozsef Ratky, H and myself were renewed for another period. A special issue from the commission sessions in rome on endocrine regulation of growth is just published in domestic *Animal Endocrinology*.

*Kris Sejrsen, President  
Animal Physiology Commission*

## Report of Commission on Cattle Production

The Commission activity can be summarised as follows:

**1. EAAP 2004 in Bled.** The President, Sergio Gigli, and the Wageningen Academic Contact Person, Carla Lazzaroni, as well as the Chairpersons, worked

together in preparation for the three Sessions of the Cattle Commission, thus raising the level of interest of the participants. All the sessions were well attended, and in each of the projection and acoustic facilities were problem-free throughout.

The session C3 on “Implementation of new management practices+excursion” was chaired by Abele Kuipers (NL) and by Joe Osterc (SI). Four main papers and one short paper were presented and three posters were also present. All authors came to the meeting, and about 70 people visited the session. It is planned that the papers from this session, combined with the papers of a similar session in Rome about knowledge transfer, will be published in the EAAP scientific series of Wageningen Academic Publishers. The title will be “Knowledge transfer in cattle husbandry-farmers’ attitude, knowledge exchange and adaptation”. The session was completed with an excursion to two farms. One hundred participants went in two busses to one high-producing Holstein-Friesian dairy farm in the valley near Bled and to one farm with Simmental cows and recreation as second profession in the hills. This excursion with lunch and music on the farm was a great success. It may be repeated, if possible in years to come.

The session C4 was the Free Communications Session and was chaired by M. Gerry Keane (IRL). As usual, this session attracted a large number of papers, and 53 abstracts—11 of them as theatre presentation—were allocated here. This year, the session was titled “Reproduction, Production and Lactation in Cattle and Buffaloes”, and the papers were arranged in two clusters: (i) Reproduction in Cattle and Buffaloes, and (ii) Growth and Carcass Assessment in Cattle. Other than one paper, which had been signalled in advance, all the scheduled contributors turned up, and a total of 10 papers were presented. The scientific content of the papers was very high, and all presentations were excellent in terms of visuals and illustrations and competency in English. There were some questions and discussion after all papers. Clustering of the papers resulted in some delegates leaving and others joining at the end of the first cluster. Overall, the Session was excellent. Again, it should be pointed out that too many posters (10) did not show, and about the same number (7) was withdrawn by the authors.

The session C6 on “Indicators of milk and beef quality” was chaired by Jean-François Hocquette (F). This topic has been chosen as the farming and agrifood sectors are faced with an increasing demand by consumers for high-quality products. In detail, the current major questions are thus how to define quality and how to increase the quality of animal products to satisfy these new requirements. The session dealt with the manipulation and evaluation of bovine milk and meat composition and quality with various indicators (commercial, physical, biochemical, molecular, or other). These indicators are any method, biological trait, or physical property which may be useful to predict a quality trait. Quality includes sensory traits, nutritional properties of products, their ability to be processed, and also any consideration about traceability (genetic, geographic or nutritional traceability). Thus, the full spectrum of quality attributes was discussed. Indicators may also be useful for consumers when they buy meat or milk as part of official or commercial signs of quality.

A first review paper described how to improve the health value of ruminant products (milk, meat) by manipulating their fatty acid composition with different dietary strategies. The second review paper presented the characteristics of raw milk to make Protected Denomination of Origin (PDO) cheese. The third review paper discusses the management of meat tenderness in Australia using a carcass grading scheme and its potential utility in Europe. It then discussed the role of nutritional and genetic factors and their interaction on glycogen and fat muscle metabolism. The last paper described the potential applications of proteomics in understanding the biology of meat quality. In addition, 4 oral communications and 14 poster presentations presented original results related to the different indicators of quality traits for dairy products or beef. The general discussion dealt with the relative contribution of genetic, rearing, and technological factors to the final quality of dairy products and beef.

All the review papers and the short communications, which were presented in this session, will be published in an EAAP scientific series of Wageningen Academic Publishers entitled “Indicators of milk and beef quality” (editors: J.F. Hocquette and S. Gigli). Additional papers from invited authors will be added

to complete the publication, which will be published in January 2005.

During the Business Meeting, chaired by the Commission President Sergio Gigli (I), some details have been defined for the Meeting 2005 in Uppsala (Sweden), and some proposals presented for the Meeting 2006 in Antalya (Turkey). Also, the possibility to take part to the issues coming from the seventh framework programs of the European Community was discussed, so as the possibility to have a coordination inside and among the EAAP Study Commissions to work with and for aims. Some research topics were presented to the EAAP Secretary General. Concerning the changes in the Commission Officers, Carla Lazzaroni (I) was confirmed as secretary of the Commission.

Bernadette O’Brien, from the Teagasc Moorepark Research Centre of Fermoy (Ireland), with the paper “Labour efficiency and multifunctionality on Irish dairy farms” presented in session C3.5, was selected for the award for the best presentation, while the award for the best poster was assigned to the poster C4.9 “Comparison of rearing systems at low environmental impact: quality meat of beef cattle in central Italy” by Miriam Iacurto, from the Animal Production Research Institute of Monterotondo (Italy).

**2. EAAP 2005 in Uppsala.** The Commission have revised the programme and details are found in the Programme on page 276.

**3. EAAP 2006 in Antalya.** The Commission discussed the proposal of the Turkish Scientific Committee and of the EAAP Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) according the topics of Sessions of the Cattle Commission in Antalya may be found in the Preliminary Programme on page 277.

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*Carla Lazzaroni, Italy, Secretary*

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### **Report of Commission on Sheep and Goat Production**

**Session 1** on “Economics and profitability of sheep and goat production under new support regimes and market conditions” was chaired by D. Gabiña from Spain. There were four guest papers on “Sustainability of sheep and goat production in North European countries—from the Arctic to the Alps” by

Ó.R. Dýrmondsson. “Economics and profitability of sheep and goat production under new support regimes and market conditions in Central and Eastern Europe” by R. Niznikowski, Mediterranean sheep and goats: an uncertain future by M. De Rancourt and “Economics and profitability of sheep and goat production in Turkey under new support regimes and market conditions” by O. Gürsoy. These presentations were followed by three short oral communications and a general discussion of theatre presentations and posters.

The sustainability of representative sheep and goat production systems from EU, Eastern European Countries, and Southern and East Mediterranean countries was analysed in terms of economic profit for farmers, natural resources utilisation and impact to the environment, development of local high added value products, contribution to rural development and fixation of human population in rural areas. The possible impact of a change in the EU subsidies and of the international trade regulations was also specifically discussed.

**Session 3** addressed “Use of hormones for reproduction in sheep and goat. Impact and alternatives” and was chaired by B. Leboeuf from France. This session was sponsored by Intervet. Three guest papers on “Pattern and manipulation of ovarian follicle development in sheep and goats” by A.C.O. Evans, “Control of sexual activity in goats using photoperiod and male effect” by J.A. Delgado, and “Economic and technical consequences on French breeding schemes of a possible ban of hormones for sheep and goat reproduction” by A. Piacere *et al.* were presented, followed by two short oral communications. In the Session, the importance and impact in different countries of the hormonal treatments to synchronize oestrus and to increase prolificacy in sheep and goats were presented, both as a tool for artificial insemination in breeding programmes and as a reproduction technique in intensive reproduction systems. Alternatives for nonuse were presented and discussed with some examples of breeding programmes in some Nordic countries that use Artificial Insemination without using hormones for oestrus synchronization.

**Session 6** dealt with “Sheep and Goat behaviour. Relevance to welfare and management”, organized with the Management and Health Commission, and

chaired by A. Waterhouse from the United Kingdom. The session was organized with three guest presentations on “Extensive or easy-care management systems for sheep flocks—a contradiction in terms?” by P.J. Goddard *et al.*, “Economics and animal welfare in extensively managed sheep production systems” by A.W. Stott and C.M. Milne, “Vigour and maternal behaviour of sheep in two different husbandry systems” by E. Moors and R. Wassmuth, followed by three short oral presentations. The objective of this session was to review and discuss the existing results and research on animal behaviour as an important factor in developing appropriate sheep and goat systems within a context of the adoption of extensive management practices linked to the agrienvironmental EU measures, organic production systems, and decoupling. The implications of behaviour for management of control of neonatal losses, disease control, and welfare were discussed.

**Elections.** During the business session, *Markus Scheneberger* from Switzerland and *Gert Nieuwhof* from The Netherlands were elected as new President and Secretary of the Commission, respectively, in substitution of *Dunixi Gabiña* and *Loys Bodin*.

**Best “young” presentation.** *Andrés Legarra* from Spain for his presentation “A rationale to introduce more traits in the Latxa breeding programme” in Session 4 of Free Communications.

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### Report of the Commission on Pig Production

At the 55th Annual Meeting of EAAP in Bled the Commission on Pig Production contributed at six sessions, of which all were in collaboration with other commissions. The only exception was the business meeting. The general theme of the Bled meeting “Sustainable large scale animal production” was covered in several sessions, in which the Pig Commission took a leading role. The main topics in this respect were genetics, herd modelling for improved management, and optimal farming systems, as well as ecological aspects.

At the business meeting, we noticed with satisfaction that the concept of joint sessions improved the

scientific value significantly. The first step for manuscripts to be located on the web page of EAAP was highly appreciated, but further improvements will attract notice of future meetings even more. After 8 years of active collaboration, Milena Kovac will leave the board of the pig commission in 2005. We thank her for the contributions mainly in the field of genetics and pig farming systems over all the years. We hope she will also in future participate with her wide knowledge. We are happy that we could find an excellent successor in the person of Dana **Peskovicova from Nitra. She agreed to get involved in the Pig Commission as the new secretary already engaged in the preparation of the annual meeting in Uppsala 2005.** As usual, we discussed also the preparations of the future EAAP annual meetings in Uppsala (2005) and Antalya (2006). Also, relevant matters concerning the successful realization of future meetings that were discussed in the SAC like a better recognition of poster presentations in the program were presented. Finally, the existence of the database on almost 1000 scientists in the different fields of animal production was noted with great satisfaction, and it is hoped that this resource will be useful in the function of our Commission.

At the Symposium on Energy Metabolism in Rostock, Warnemünde 2003, a working group on the harmonization of energy evaluation systems in Europe was created under the head of Caspar Wenk with the collaboration of Markus Rodehutschord, Halle and Jaap van Milgen, Rennes. Caspar Wenk reported at the business meeting about the activities and subsequent work required.

At the various opportunities at the Annual Meeting of EAAP in Slovenia, we enjoyed the outstanding scientific and social program and had the chance to taste excellent Slovenian pork (and other meat) products.

**Session I:** David Torrallardona organised a session on “mycotoxins and antinutritional factors”, jointly with the Commissions on Animal Nutrition and on Horse Production. The session started with an oral contribution by R. Mantovani, (Italy) describing the degree of fumonisin contamination of horse feeds in northern Italy. This was followed by the first invited contribution by Stephen Chadd (UK), who gave a comprehensive overview on the challenges of mycotoxins to European animal production. In the second invited paper, Trevor Smith (Canada) reviewed his

comparative work on the metabolic and behavioural response of pigs, poultry, and horses to *Fusarium* mycotoxins. The session was completed with another three oral communications. B. Ronchi (Italy) presented the results of an *in vitro* study on the oxidative stress of mycotoxins on bovine peripheral blood mononuclear cells. M. Kovács (Hungary) presented results on the risk assessment of fumonisin B<sub>1</sub> residues in the tissues of pigs fed highly contaminated diets. Finally, Fernando Escribano (Spain) described the use of magnesium bentonite to adsorb aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub> from the ration of dairy cows and reduce its concentration in milk. The audience participated actively in the discussions that followed each presentation contributing to a very interesting and profitable session.

**Session II:** This session on “Large-scale pig farming systems” was chaired by Milena Kovac and Sandra Edwards. In the first invited paper, Sandra Edwards discussed opportunities and challenges in large units, while the second paper of Jodi Sterle described experiences with large pig units in USA. They both agreed that the advantages of the large operations are shown in the improved economic efficiency due to marketing, spreading overhead costs between many animals, as well as more efficient housing systems. However, large operations must have strict biosecurity regulations to prevent disease outbreak. Besides health concerns, disadvantages might be shown in environmental issues and governmental regulations. In addition, large pig operations need specialized and well-trained labour. Their views were supported by case studies from Croatia and Slovenia. Deficiencies showed up mainly in worse animal welfare conditions and environmental protection. They still reported low productivity at man (labour) and pig (animal) level. Their advantages of having many pigs under well-controlled system did not get expressed. These large units may become more successful by improving management, paying more attention to animal welfare, and reducing environmental pollution. Nevertheless, larger operations can take over leading positions in the pig industry by integrating small holders, establishing advisory service, providing breeding stock, etc. Research studies from Netherlands and Denmark showed some possibilities for reducing costs in finishing, as well as reproduction units.

**Session III:** Under the chair of Hermansen, the session “Indicators of environmental impact in live-

stock systems” was organized by the livestock commission.

**Session IV:** Stephen Chadd chaired the Free Communications sessions which had as its title theme ‘Pig Metabolism, Growth and Development’. This occasion was held jointly with the Commission on Animal Physiology. Nine papers in total were delivered, and the quality of presentations and response to questioning were of a high standard. The research work presented reflected the scientific activity ongoing in a range of European countries. The first two papers related to studies in Slovenia and Germany associated with improved carcass classification and evaluation. The aim of the former, to assess the repeatability and reproducibility of meat percentage linked to operator and equipment use. The second study evaluated the accuracy of regression formulae and grading systems used in current station performance using extensive carcass dissection data. The third and fourth papers dealt with the topical issue of traceability in pig production. The German study investigated the use of DNA markers in the identity of sow and progeny together with farm of origin using 4600 experimental subjects. Project work was reported on in Italy which looked at the intraperitoneal electronic identification of piglets. The transponders used showed 100% readability during the experimental period and were easily recovered in the slaughter line. Two behavioural papers were then given, the first evaluating feed intake patterns in Austrian pigs on performance test using electronic feeding stations and observation made of any breed differences manifest. The second focused on studying the aggressive and sexual behaviour associated with the keeping and mixing of entire male animals. The final three talks were linked to nutrition topics, the research from which dealt with relationships between experimental treatment and impact on pig performance and physiological measurements. A trial in Ireland investigated the optimal ratio of methionine to lysine in pigs from 11 to 23 kg. The penultimate paper reported on work in the USA, which explored the relationship and interaction between dietary P and phytase on nutrient digestibility, and the final talk, based on research work in Spain, looked at the impact that zinc oxide in phytase-low P diets might have on the performance of weanling pigs. It was concluded that pharmacological doses of ZnO in low P diets are dangerous.

**Session V:** Pieter Knap organized a session on “herd modelling for improved management”, jointly with the Commission on Livestock Production Systems, with three invited papers. Monica Commandeur (France) gave an overview of the sociological approach towards different styles of farming (with metaphors such as ‘entrepreneur’, ‘craftsman’, ‘stockman’, ‘steward’, etc.), their different management objectives (maximise profit, maximise performance, etc.) and their different requirements for management information and analysis. Joachim Krieter (Germany) presented techniques for ‘weak point analysis’ of individual sow herd performance, tracing deviations between farm performance and a standard, weighting the deviations by calculating the statistic and economic relevance, and finding the causes for the performance shifts. Decision tree algorithms give insight in the critical points of production. Finally, Hans Jubbega (Netherlands) presented the state of the art of current herd management software and options for application in commercial systems. Contributed presentations were by Eliana Barros (Portugal), who studied a large number of very small-scaled cow-calf farms by principle components analysis, and by Sylvie Cournut (France), who presented sheep herd dynamics simulation techniques and their application to optimization of herd management. This was a good session, with lively and in-depth discussion among an actively participating audience.

**Session VI:** Pieter Knap organised a session on “longitudinal data in genetics”, jointly with the Commission on Animal Genetics, with two invited papers. Luis Varona (Spain) discussed frequentist and Bayesian techniques to analyse longitudinal (serial) data and provided criteria to support a choice between the two methods. Bjarne Nielsen (Denmark) described an analysis of serial feed intake and body weight data in pigs and illustrated how the information can be used for performance test design (optimum start and end weight for the recording period). Six contributed papers (Malovrh, Mirzaei, Lukovic, Roehe, Vuori, and Buitenhuis) dealt with the analyses of specific data sets (growth and carcass traits and litter size in pigs), presenting evidence for the amount of total variation that is due to animal-intrinsic effects and to changes of performance over time. Ignacy Misztal (USA) illustrated the use of spline functions as opposed to polynomials in

longitudinal traits analysis with random regression. Finally, Geoffrey Pollott (UK) presented results of an analysis of 17 traits in sheep for environmental sensitivity, with heritabilities being dependent on the phenotypic level of the trait. Because two papers had fallen out, this session had ample time for discussion, which turned out very useful. Spela Malovrh (Slovenia) was awarded the Pig Commission's award for young scientists.

### Forthcoming international meetings:

The 10th Symposium on Digestive Physiology in Pigs, which is held every 3 years under the auspices of the European Association of Animal Production (Commission on Pig Production), will be held in Denmark in May 2006. J.A. Fernández will be the chairman of the organizing committee. Additional information will be found in the web site [www.dpp2006.dk](http://www.dpp2006.dk).

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### Report of the Horse Commission

The scientific activities of the commission have been focused during the sessions carried out in Bled in 2004 around three main keywords: biodiversity, health, and harmonisation.

The total genetic history of an animal or a population are of high concern in the equines either to clarify the nature of domestication process in horses, to identify breeds in view of preservation of rare breeds, or to improve the management of pedigree information of horses bred by horse industry. Recent advances in molecular methods have provided promising new tools (genes markers. . .) which allow describing, to estimate the genetic distance, to trace and to manage **genetic**

**diversity and variability** in horse populations for the different purpose previously mentioned. All the papers presented in this area will be published in 2005 in a special issue of the scientific series of EAAP in cooperation with RBI organisation (coeditors J. Bodo, B. Langlois for EAAP, and L. Alderson for RBI).

**Health** of equine is increasingly of high concern.

**Bone disorders** in young horses devoted to race and sport are highly rising due to early intensive training and heavier competing program whereas the horse are still growing on. On average, 30 p.100 young trotters or sport horses would be subjected to osteochondrosis (OCD) according to different survey conducted in Europe. It arises clearly that the background of OCD is multifunctional. On average, 25–30 p.100 and 70–75 p.100 would result of genetic and environmental effects, respectively. Environmental factors involved are nutrition, husbandry management, and exercise. A new session will be devoted to this topic at the 56th EAAP meeting in Uppsala, due to the economical concern for the horse industry and intensive research conducted subsequently in different European countries.

**Contamination of feedstuffs** is getting to be a merging area in equines due to the increase in using compound feeds prepared with ingredients purchased in the world. Preliminary study indicates the need of a continuous and careful control of the ingredients used in the feed industry to reduce the risk of adverse effects on horse health.

The horse commission is involved in the **harmonisation of methods and tools** implemented for genetic or nutritional evaluation in the scope of the two working groups: Interstallion and Nutrition, respectively. Sessions are increasingly conducted during EAAP meetings and satellite workshops since those last years. In Bled, Interstallion working group has presented a synthesis of the process implemented to perform a promising consensus for **genetic evaluation of sport horses**. Breeding objectives, testing and evaluation methods used in Europe have been reviewed and published in Livestock Production Science. The ongoing studies investigate the similarities in genetic proofs of stallions used in various European countries and their genetic connectedness. For comparing the genetic proofs across breeding organisations, genetic correlations between similar traits recorded in different countries are to be

estimated, and the availability and usage of data on internationally performing horses are to be tested. One major problem which is arising is the identification of horses in the different countries. This question will be discussed in Uppsala in a session devoted to this question.

The discussion on the harmonisation of *feed evaluation systems* has been opened by the Nutrition working group in the scope of the 1st European workshop on Equine Nutrition held in 2002 in Dijon (France). The proceeding has been published in 2004 as a special issue of the scientific series of EAAP (EAAP publication no. 111). Such a discussion has been conducted too in the scope of the meeting entitled Emerging equine sciences and organised by BSAS on September 2003 in Cirencester, UK (publication of the proceedings is in progress). It is planned that the discussion will carry on in 2005 at Uppsala, in the scope of a workshop devoted to horses, ruminants, pigs (separate discussion) as decided by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of EAAP. Oriented discussion for horse will be carried out by W. Martin-Rosset at the request of SAC. The main conclusions will be presented during a session of the 58th EAAP meeting for horses as for other animals species.

**Horse industry in Slovenia.** A very well-detailed presentation of organisation of horse industry has been given. It arises clearly that Slovenia is actively reorganising its horse industry. Preservation of typical breeds, such as Lippizan, is very successful, thanks to European support and EAAP contribution. Slovenia is involved in discussion with different European countries to develop some breeds and activities (sport, races) using new technologies as well.

**Business meeting. The young scientific prize winner** has been given to **Inno Curik** (University of Zagreb) from Croatia who gave an oral presentation entitled “*Quantitative inheritance of the coat greying process in horse*”, which illustrates very well the contribution of molecular biology in horse breeding.

**Interstallion working group (IWG):** The aim is to improve the international transparency and availability of sport horse breeding information. There are eight representatives from WBFSH, ICAR, and EAAP members in IWG (J. Philipsson-S—Chairman; E. Koenen-NL—Secretary; E. Bruns-G and Anne Ricard-F—members, for EAAP).

Two projects are conducted by Interstallion WG to explore the possibilities for international genetic evaluations: Pilot project 1, carried out by Emma Thoren (S), and Pilot project 2, carried out by Anne Ricard (F), studies the interest of young horses test results or competition results, respectively, for genetic evaluation of sport horses across the European countries. Four and seven European countries are involved in the two projects, respectively. In the same time, a project is conducted on the availability of international sport data by Van Tartwijk (NL) to match sport results (FEI/BCM) and pedigree data (WBFSH studbooks) for increasing the completeness and reliability of data. Three meetings have been held to carry out such activities in Dublin (Ireland) on December 2003, in Paris (France) on May 2004, and in Verden (Germany) on July 2004.

**Nutrition working group (NWG):** This working group is chaired by D. Austbo (N), W. Martin-Rosset (F), and Nicoletta Miraglia (I). The group on Horse Nutrition normally has meetings during the Annual Meeting of the EAAP. In addition, the group is using e-mail for communication during the rest of the year. The major activities include planning of topics for the coming sessions of the horse commission and also planning of a workshop on Horse Nutrition that is being arranged every second year. In Bled, the NWG has had two meetings, on Saturday 4th and on Monday 6th. Topics to be addressed at the EAAP meetings in Turkey and Ireland were discussed. For the meeting in Turkey, the proposal is to have one session on the use of Dietetics in Horse Nutrition and one session on Energy Substrates and Ration Formulations. For the meeting in Ireland, it was proposed that we should have one session on Roughage production and utilisation (with focus also on the role of pastures in horse production). The NWG has almost finalised the plans for the third European workshop on Equine Nutrition that will take place in Campobasso, Italy in June 2006. Responsible for the organising of the workshop is Professor Nicoletta Miraglia at Molise University (miraglia@unimol.it). The provisional title for the workshop is “Nutrition of the Broodmare”. There will be 2 days of scientific program and 1 day technical tour. To better attract delegates from non-university sectors, it is emphasised that the scientific reviews should be combined with practical applications. The organisation of the third workshop is taking

advantage of the main conclusions drawn from the two previous workshop held in Dijon, France, and which have been presented in Bled by Carole Drogoul, member of the local organising committee in Dijon(ENESAD). The publication of papers from the two previous workshops has been discussed too. The papers from the first workshop 2002 are now published in EAAP publication No. 111, 2004 with the title “Nutrition of the Performance Horse”. The publication of the second workshop 2004 is in progress to be published at the end of 2004. The proceeding of the third workshop will be available for the meeting. There will also be two special issues in Livestock Production Science, entitled “Adaptability of sport horses to stressful conditions”, corresponding to the session of the meeting in Cairo 2002 and “Nutritive value of concentrates and their utilisation by horses”, corresponding to the session of the meeting in Rome 2003. For information and to help and prevent overlap in topics and dates, the working group is communicating information and dates of other meetings of potential interest Horse health and nutrition on march 2004 in the Netherlands; CESMAS on September 2004 in Norway; ENUCO on March in 2005 in Germany; ENPS on May–June 2005 in USA; ICEEP on August 2006 in France.

#### **Behaviour and welfare working group (BWWG):**

This group is chaired by Eva Sondergaard (DK), Mc Kennedy (UK), and Martine Hausberger (F). The main activities and ideas for future work which arise from the meeting held in Bled are the following:

- The session on Equine Welfare and Behaviour from the 54th Meeting is being published as a special EAAP issue with Martine Hausberger as Editor-in-chief “Horse connexion”, a website about the practical applications of scientific equine research is being established by the initiative of Mari Zetterqvist Blokhuis and is expected to run from this autumn. It is hoped that this website will be an important aid between researches and horse managers.
- Two master students supervised by Eva Sondergaard have been running a web-based questionnaire concerning the relationship between housing, use, and injuries/diseases. Their results include approximately 5000 horses and will later be published. This may be an important contribution to identify the research questions which need to be

addressed and to provide a reference point for researchers and funding organisations.

- By the initiative of Martine Hausberger, there is an attempt to run a summer course on equine behaviour in 2005 in France. The course will be open to students from bachelor to PhD level from all Europe.
- The BWWG should aim at defining “functional traits” for horses, i.e., traits that are not related to performance but, e.g., health, temperament, etc. When defined, it will be relevant to have a catalogue for these traits from different countries in order to disseminate information between the breeding organisations.

**Dissemination of new knowledge:** The Horse commission is going on its policy to improve the dissemination of new figures obtained in the European research groups using scientific reviews or/and special issues (see activities of working groups) sometimes popular papers in Equine magazines. The last initiative is a horse connection. It is an international website about the practical applications of scientific equine research: [www.horseconnexion.org](http://www.horseconnexion.org). The website is an initiative of Mari Zetterqvist-Blokhuis from Sweden linked to Horse commission as the connection aims to be a platform for horse scientists to disseminate their results. This website will be presented in 2005 at Uppsala in the scope of the session entitled “Equine Science education”. Then, it will work, and further details will be provided.

**Election.** Two reelections for a new mandate 2005–2008. M. Kennedy (UK)—Vice President and W. Martin-Rosset (F)—President.

*W. Martin-Rosset*

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#### **Report of Livestock Farming Systems Commission**

The 55th Annual Meeting of the EAAP is an important event in the life of the newborn Livestock Farming Systems Study Commission of EAAP. The Commission was created in 2003, and thus, 2004 is the first year the Commission offered a full programme at the EAAP Annual Meeting Programme. The scientific scope of our Commission is the development of integrated approaches, models,

and tools addressing both the socioeconomics and the biotechnical aspects of livestock systems, in the view to support the sustainable development of livestock production.

Our Commission organised three sessions in the 2004 Annual Meeting programme, two of them being joint sessions organised with other Commissions. It also contributed to joint sessions organised by other Commissions. We are pleased to acknowledge fruitful cooperation on topics of common interest with the concerned Commissions. From the book of abstracts, our Commission appears to have organised a fourth session. The topics addressed in this “L4” session were not, however, regarded as falling in the area of our Commission. The “L4” poster session was a response to the EAAP Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) request to present some free communications on animal issues and species not explicitly covered by any EAAP Commission. Despite a few high-quality posters, 15 were withdrawn and as no-shows will be considered by the SAC.

The three sessions organised by our Commission were attended by 90 to 110 participants.

**In the session L1 “Effect of globalisation on livestock systems”** chaired by Prof. Kurt Peters (D), three invited papers gave an overview of the current situation in Europe and were followed by five contributed papers and three posters. The first main paper by Prof. William Dunne from Teagasc (IRL) addressed the economic consequences of market globalisation. He explained the EU common agricultural policies and identified the consequences of the previous subsidy policy within the EU. The second main paper, prepared by authors from five countries coordinated by Prof. Matthias Gauly, University of Gottingen (D), addressed the production and consumption trends for livestock commodities in EU Western European countries. The authors highlighted the consequences of EU quality and ethical standards on the production sector, called for harmonized policies in EU member states and for import policies to maintain a “level playing field” for livestock producers. They stressed the effect of consumer preferences on the scope for adapting production systems or for new production alternatives. The third main paper by authors from eight countries in the EU Central European countries was coordinated by

Prof. Stefan Mihina and analysed the livestock sector. The authors addressed the effects of the application of EU standards on the structure of the livestock sector and its further development in the various countries. They stressed the future of small farms as a major regional issue and pointed out their limited sustainable alternatives given the new market forces, the underdeveloped organisational support infrastructure, and the limited scope for off-farm employment alternatives. Insufficient sector institutions are a problem for countering falling prices, meeting increasing demands for quality, and facing information/technology needs. To date, it appears difficult to identify comparative advantages for the Central European livestock sector regarding export markets. The contributed papers and posters presented reporting on specific country cases. All speakers and the discussion clearly emphasised the importance of a continued and carefully monitoring and analysis of livestock farming system changes. This task requires an interdisciplinary scientific approach in close cooperation and participation of stakeholders with the additional objective to consider viable alternative perspectives for different livestock systems in different regional settings in Europe.

**Session LNCS2 “Management of grasslands for production, environment, and landscape benefit”** organised with inputs from Commissions N, C, and S was chaired by our Commission vice president Prof. George Zervas. The first invited paper was given by Dr. Annick Gibon from INRA Toulouse (F). It addressed society and policy pressures for the preservation of the grassland area in Europe and its management for multifunctionality. She stressed the variety in seminatural grasslands and offered an insight into the current understanding of the relationships between their biodiversity and their production yields and patterns. She emphasised the challenges raised at farm level by grassland management in an agrienvironmental perspective, in reference to the grassland spatial arrangement within the farm area and the landscape. The second invited speaker, Dr. Troels Kristensen (DK), together with coauthors from the Danish Institute of Agricultural Science focused on grassland management in European intensive dairy cattle farming, where the importance and the role of grasslands currently vary from marginal to major according to farming systems

(intensive grazing versus zero grazing, or conventional versus organic farming). He addressed the environment impacts of grassland management (nutrient load, emission, and methane). He pointed out the numerous aspects of management that impact on within-system net productivity and the incidence of new technologies, such as automatic milking, on grassland use. He concluded by evoking the large variety in the ways to adapt grassland utilisation to the requirements following from the combination of production and environment objectives. Dr. John Hadjigeorgiou from the Agricultural University of Athens (GR) addressed, in cooperation with authors from Portugal and Spain, the question of grassland management for sustainability in Southern Europe. He drew a panorama of grassland production, biodiversity, and landscape issues at the Mediterranean area, that stressed out the role of the decrease in farm and livestock number on the environmental problems in the region. The five contributed papers and six posters illustrated an array of grassland research studies over Europe in reference to environmental and landscape objectives. Contributions from various countries stressed the positive role of livestock farming as a tool for limiting environmental damage associated to encroachment with shrubs and trees (fire risk, biodiversity loss) in nature preservation and environmental-sensitive areas. Most of these studies included an address of the socioeconomics of the livestock farms and the farmer management practices in order to establish an improved understanding of the possibilities for adjusting grassland use to nature preservation requirements. Other relevant issues with the theme of the session were reported, from the tuning of grazing management practices combining production and environment objectives, as sward structures favourable for breeding birds, to the comparative analysis of grazing behaviour of native and modern livestock breeds in species-rich seminatural grasslands. The session illustrated the current renewal of interest for research into animal–vegetation interactions and the efforts in the development of methods and tools addressing grassland management at the whole-farm and the landscape level. Cooperation between researchers and farmers, and the joint consideration of the socioeconomics and the biotechnical aspects of livestock systems are increasingly regarded as

necessary for supporting the integration of environmental and landscape objectives with production objectives.

**Session LMP3 “Indicators of environmental impact in livestock systems”**, chaired by John Hermansen (DK) brought the first invited speaker, Prof. John Milne from the Macaulay Land Use Institute (UK). He described briefly the environmental impact of past, current, and future livestock systems in Europe, described the major strategies governments have used for mitigating the impacts of livestock systems on environment, and explored what could be learned about the societal expectations to livestock systems. It was put forward that the society at the large in many cases was more concerned about food quality, landscape, and cultural values than on specific environmental effect, possibly because the perception was that such effect were regulated through legislation. Prof. Milne also evoked the current change in attitude of livestock farmers with respect to an increased awareness of environmental issues and their role in the delivery of environmental goods. The second invited speaker, Dr. Niels Halberg from Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences (DK) reviewed, with colleagues from The Netherlands and France, the main environmental indicators developed to evaluate the environmental impact of livestock farming systems in Europe. Particular emphasis was put on the difference between indicators to address local effects and more global environmental effects, and the authors reported recent advances in the use of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in agricultural produce. The main themes addressed in the five contributed papers and the four posters were tools to support nutrient management and resource use, management options in relation to biodiversity and landscape issues, and methods for sustainability assessment, all substantiated by use of farm data. All speakers respected the theme and gave valuable contribution, supporting different angles to the question on how to assess and operate environmental impact of importance for the future development of livestock systems in different situations. The coherence of the theme was in particular obvious during the general discussion. A number of researchers are really struggling for an improved methodology in making environmental

assessments that include the before-mentioned levels and questions. It is envisaged, that the session stimulated these in new thinking.

It has been agreed that a special issue of LPS devoted to the environmental impacts of livestock farming will be prepared from the contributions presented in the two sessions LMP3 and LNCS2.

Our Commission board selected as best oral contribution, and best poster, the contribution by Alberto Bernues and coauthors, from Spain [LNCS2.4 “An integrated approach to study the role of grazing farming systems in the conservation of rangelands in a protected natural park (Sierra de Guara, Spain)”] and the poster Olivier Renault and coauthors, from France [LMP3.13 “Temporal Variability of suitable habitats for waders: does grazing management help?"]. We warmly congratulate them.

During the Business Meeting, the topics for the sessions of the 56th Annual Meeting in Uppsala (Sweden) in 2005 were presented, and the themes for the 57th Annual Meeting in Antalya (Turkey) in 2006 were discussed. Participants strongly recommended offering enough space in the Commission programme for presentation and discussion of scientific advances related to methodology in Livestock Farming Systems research area. They consider it as necessary for sustaining European scientific communication in the field and raising interest for the EAAP Annual meetings within LFS researchers. It was therefore agreed to organise two single sessions each year in our Commission programme in the future. The topics selected for the 2006 single sessions during the Business Meeting are shown in the preliminary programme on page 277.

Finally, the Business Meeting planned elections to take place during the 2005 Annual Meeting in Uppsala when terms of the first board members expire. Annick Gibon said that she would not stand for reelection, referring to the fact that she had been the president of the LFS Working Group of the EAAP since 1995. She said she wished to make her time available to reinforce the capitalisation and dissemination of common understanding of the LFS scientific field.

A book “*Product quality based on local resources and its potential contribution to improved sustainability of Livestock Farming Systems*”, to be published in the EAAP Scientific Series, is currently being prepared from the material of the 6th Interna-

tional Livestock Farming Systems Symposium, a satellite activity of the 2003 Annual Meeting in Rome coorganised in Benevento by ConSDABI, the Istituto Sperimentale per la Zootecnia (ISZ), the Livestock Farming Systems Commission and the Horse Commission of the EAAP. In common with normal procedure, the papers are prepared according to the current standards in scientific journals with two peer referees. Dr. Roberto Rubino, the scientific editor of the book, said that the manuscript preparation process will be completed shortly.

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**WAAP Book of the year, 2003. A Review on Developments and Research in Livestock Systems. Edited by A. Rosati, A. Tewolde, and C. Mosconi. A new book series by the World Association for Animal Production and Wageningen Academic Publishers. 2004, 336 pages, cloth binding, ISBN 9076998477, € 99**

This book is an innovation by the World Association for Animal Production, intended as the first in a new annual series. The aim is to present in each yearly volume a series of chapters each written by a different author who reviews current frontiers of scientific knowledge applied to livestock.

In this first volume, covering the year 2003, there are three main sections. Section 1, with six chapters, reviews developments in livestock systems in each of six regions of the world (South America, North America, Asia, Oceania, Africa, and Europe). Section 2 covers scientific disciplines with 10 chapters: animal breeding and selection, molecular genetics, reproduction, feed, ruminant and monogastric nutrition, growth and development. This is followed by nine chapters on the main livestock species, naturally including buffalo but also embracing reindeer. In Section 3, there are five chapters dealing with what are called Contemporary Issues including the BSE crisis, genetically modified plants

in animal nutrition, and patenting in genetics. Section 4 contains most helpful statistics, largely drawn from FAO and other international agency sources, on numbers of livestock, production levels, human population, supply (in per caput per year), and gross national product.

The book is an ambitious programme with commendably great benefits in this age of scientific reductionism, when researchers and livestock systems specialists are tempted and indeed forced by circumstances to view the world with tunnel vision. A limited world view may be valid for those working in areas of science which are not directly related to applications in the market place. But for animal scientists, it is unacceptable. The book aims to help overcome the struggle in this pressured world to remain aware of progress in other scientific disciplines and also to maintain a large view of our field of agriculture—extending as it does from natural resources to socio-economic effects in the food chain.

In some ways the challenge has an inherent conflict. On the one hand, it rightly aims to bring the reader up to speed on the specific research advances in allied, scientific disciplines. On the other hand, it also rightly aims to provide the reader with a broader view of livestock production systems in the world village. Both are commendable and are achieved in this first volume. Clearly though, the project will need great skill on the part of the editors in repeating the exercise in future years. The level of success will depend both upon judicious choice of topics and of authors. Both will probably have to change yearly or periodically to maintain freshness and vigour. In successive updates in the scientific disciplines, a variety of authors might be better able to offer new perspectives on what is happening in their fields. In future reviews of livestock production systems, the topics will need to be refined and made more specific—again calling for some different authors. For example, in this volume, milk and cheese products are given a chapter but not meat products.

In this first book, the editors have gathered a remarkable array of talent and experience among the authors. Naturally, the chapters vary in approach and depth. But the impact and general level are impressive. Each reader will select his own preferred topics for the update he or she most needs.

The target readership is exceptionally wide—global in fact—aiming to transfer knowledge to and

from advanced research laboratories on the one hand, while on the other hand, sending and receiving knowledge from remote locations, such as the small livestock farmers of the Andes.

The broad sweep taken by the editors in their first volume is good—it will test the waters of readership—who hopefully will send their suggestions of topics for future volumes. There surely is no lack of topics when the field is world animal production. The difficulty will be in deciding what to include. Probably, future volumes are mandated to provide annual updates of the disciplines, species, and products. In the Section on livestock systems, the scope for relevant topics is, of course, enormous: environment, pollution, contrasts between intensive and extensive systems, organic and alternative production, energy flow, niche agro-ecosystems, etc. The contemporary issues Section has even a larger scope and could embrace trade issues, developing country agriculture, genetically modified foods for direct human consumption, risks and benefits of bioengineering, supermarkets and competition, health and safety, traceability socioeconomic aspects of the food chain, etc.

The list of options is endless and perhaps daunting. The skill of the editors will be tested perhaps more than the ability of the authors. The editors are responsible for choosing topics and then for briefing and guiding the authors to write creatively for readers outside their field without sliding into popular journalism. Above all, they must insist upon their authors being people with a global perspective and then writing precisely and accurately.

A major topic which ought to be addressed in future volumes is the field of grassland production and utilization by livestock—which regrettably in many Western research organizations and even in FAO have been traditionally separated. Yet, on a global scale, more ruminant livestock are maintained on grasslands than any other system. This WAAP series, addressing livestock production on the world scale, must bring them together—and in so doing may be able to offer original contributions going beyond reviews, updates, and descriptions.

In conclusion, one must admire the courage, initiative and success of the Editors in bringing this galaxy of subjects and authors together in one easy-to-read volume. At the same time, one recognizes their difficulty in making judgements on topics and authors

for the next volumes. Editors will need to identify their readership accurately. Do scientists in general actually want a swift update and larger perspective? Are they willing to give the time and also pay for it—or will libraries pay? Will the readership be mainly in developing countries or in the developed West? Should future volumes be concerned primarily with recording and describing what has happened or is there a place in this series for alternative viewpoints, debates, and projections? Will the views of authors who are not livestock scientists or specialists be invited?

The project has been launched successfully. The editors and authors are to be congratulated. The concept is now being evaluated by the market place of scientists and production specialists. The management of the project will need widespread and experienced counsel from many widely placed sources if it is to gain and retain a cutting edge at the global level.

*John Hodges*  
Editor EAAP News

**Le sens des pratiques. Conceptions d'agricultures et modèles d'agronomes. (This would be freely translated: Awareness of applications). The farmers' thinking and the agronomists' models (2004). Coordinating Eds. J.P. Dazzé, Anne Mathien and J. Lasseur. Published by INRA Editions, Collection Science Update, RDIO, 78026 Versailles Cedex, France (INRA-Editions@versailles.inra.fr), 320 pp., ISBN 2-7380-1116-0, € 43.00.**

Largely speaking agronomy was defined in classical terms as the science of farming and productivity. Today, it is more and more difficult to envisage a society split between those minorities that plan and conceive the future and those others that must only implement. This would be the case between the agronomists who are supposed to know and the farmers that are meant to execute and implement. We must acknowledge through that the latter are also generating knowledge which serves their actions and activities.

The authors of this broadly based book present some of the governing principles and methods necessary to understand the global know-how available to the farming community and confront it with agronomic knowledge. Their mark consists in bridg-

ing the farmers' conceptions and thinking to the prevailing technical processes. The authors added in their work the field of livestock agriculture to that of classical agronomy, attempting a successful fusion of these two separate parallel and interwoven segments of agriculture. This globalisation of the research and development thinking is, itself, very significant. A broad definition is in the basis of the problems discussed by this collegially produced book. By addressing the overall subject of the "Science of farming" with no separation of the two main sectors of crops and livestock, the authors undertake to define the many ingredients of the basic problems posed and the answers that need the assemblage of an impressive number of factors to be met constructively.

This book provides an excellent overview and a good description of the challenges to be addressed by today's generation of highly specialised scientists. Written in what many will call a rather old-fashioned way, it bridges very successfully the past and the future, bringing home the need to link avant-garde science to the relevant social and human aspects in the context of a society that looks again today to the need for evaluating the relationship with the agricultural and rural *milieu*, where local governance is more and more important.

This book could be useful not only to graduates and teachers but also to the decision makers and those who try to understand and develop a more participatory system of modern agriculture and rural development. The scientist should be aware of ecodevelopment and ethnosociology to address the agricultural problems of tomorrow.

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**Atlas of goat products. Roberto Rubino, Pierre Morand-Fehr, Lucia Sepe (eds.), La Biblioteca di Caseus Publisher, Viale del Basento 108, Potenza-85100 Italy, 2004, ISBN 88-900631-4-9, pp. 384, Price \$ 43.00 (Euro 35.-) plus postage (hardcopy), caseus@anfosc.com**

This beautifully produced and richly illustrated book is the result of a global survey, to which 75 contributors from 28 countries responded with

descriptions of 210 traditional and new goat products, milk and yogurt and ice cream (16), cheeses (141), meat (22), fibre and skin and fur (10), dessert (7), and other items, such as music instruments, tools, medication, and works of art.

It contains, sorted by continents and mostly on a single page each, a wide inventory of “whatever thing the goat can give us” in the words of the editors, including maps of origin, type of product, area of production, techniques and scale of production, trading of the product, uses, estimates of production volume and demand trends, even colour pictures of products and breeds of goats.

The book begins with an extensive discussion of typical products and typicality of the small ruminant sector, cheese, meat, fibre in various countries, their way of production and marketing. All contributors are recognized with their full address, which is very useful for further studies. The book ends with an excellent index of all products, but for some reason does not contain goat butter or goat ghee, possibly because no contributions had been sent in from India. This points out also the fact that this very worthwhile book project under the auspices of the International Goat Association will be continued for at least one more edition to contain many more contributions from presently underrepresented or not-represented countries. Nevertheless, this book is unique in its content and scope, giving for the first time a global account and atlas of a wide variety of goat products.

It should be a welcome source and reference for students, practitioners, distributors, consumers, people with medical needs for goat products, government officials, goat farmers, and enthusiasts of goats and their many exciting and delicious products. This book is a bargain and is highly recommended to all people with some connection to the goat world and its great potential as an industry in so many countries.

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**Goat Genome. R.P. Misra, Ramadhar Roy, Pramod K. Rout, S.K. Jindal, A. Mandal, D.K. Sharma, Proceedings of 25th Anniversary Seminar, Central**

**Institute for Research on Goats (CIRG) Publisher, Makhdoom, P.O. Farah, Mathura-281 122 (UP) India, 2004, no ISBN, pp.132, Price-donation to cover cost, [pramod@cirg.res.in](mailto:pramod@cirg.res.in)**

This book contains 25 very interesting invited papers from the 25th Anniversary Seminar of the CIRG at Makhdoom by Indian scientists working in five areas of research: Goat Genomics, Functional Genomics, Genetics of Disease Resistance, Biodiversity in Goat Genome, and Adding Value to Indigenous Goats. The research programs of the Makhdoom Institute are focused on making contributions in the disciplines of physiology, nutrition, health and particularly in genetics to the improvement of goats within the Indian economy and to aid in alleviation of poverty. Goats are a very important livestock species in India, because of their short generation interval, high rate of prolificacy, ease of marketing them and their products, usefulness, and profitability in all agroclimatic conditions, and absence of religious and gender bias.

Thus, the CIRG genetics research program includes gene marker studies, cytogenetic screening of bucks, DNA finger printing of goat breeds, genetic resource conservation, macro- and microlevel studies of population dynamics, and molecular genetics. This program is reflected in the 25th Anniversary Seminar publication, which is in its many details a first unique and very valuable contribution to animal science and the often neglected goat science in particular. K. Thangraj from the University of Hyderabad and P.K. Rout from CIRG describe for the first time the generation of an integrated genome map for goats and from the linkage map they calculate the genomic organization of domestic ruminants.

Additional papers report on gene marker studies of blood and milk protein polymorphisms, serum lysozyme markers, DNA microsatellite analyses, application for genetic improvement, and genetic distances of Indian dairy, meat, cashmere, and dual-purpose goats. Further contributions discuss transgenic goats, genetic resistance to diseases in goats, the potential of and threat to goat genomic biodiversity, the security for goat germplasm, and specific goat breed genetic studies of Gujarat, Malabari, Orissa, Sirohi, Berari, Chegu, and Marawari. This book deserves wide distribution among scientists and practitioners in the

goat industry, as it enriches our knowledge about goat genetics significantly and stimulates for further research. It is highly recommended.

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## PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

### **New FAO Publications of Relevance to Animal Production and Scientists**

**Ethics of sustainable agricultural intensification, (The) FAO Ethics Series No. 3. Rome, 2004, 36 pp. ISBN 92-5-105067-8 ISSN 1609-0098 TC/M/J0902/E \$14.00**

This issue of the FAO Ethics Series explores three possible approaches to an ethical analysis of agricultural intensification strategies. Human food needs provide the basis for an utilitarian argument for intensification, while the moral concept of virtue addresses people's duty work for the good of society. A rights-based analysis then reveals how individuals' pursuit of such good can be constrained by the rights of others. Fostering debate around these approaches helps us to articulate and, ultimately, to assume ethical responsibilities for the intensification of agriculture.

**Resistance management and integrated parasite control in ruminants. Guidelines (CD-ROM). Rome, 2004. ISBN 92-5-105147-X. TC/C/Y5455/E \$30.00**

Population growth, rapidly increasing urbanization, and growth in income in developing countries are creating a tremendous increase in the demand for food of animal origin. Globally, parasitic and other endemic diseases continue to be a major constraint on profitable livestock production. However, the false assumption that parasite control is easily accomplished by the use of chemical means alone has led to the development of parasite resistance, creating ecological imbalances and leaving drug residues in meat, milk and wool, resulting in the erosion of farmer confidence in the efficiency of current and future

parasite control programmes. In view of this, FAO has promoted partnerships with research institutions that have systematically investigated and tested alternatives for diagnosis and control of parasites. It is clear that parasite control needs to move away from the reliance on parasiticide treatment only to a more integrated and sustainable form of parasite control.

These guidelines will assist veterinarians and farmers to make qualified decisions regarding the most appropriate diagnosis and control strategy for their production system. [System requirements: Windows® 95 or 98, Pentium II. 64 Mb RAM, 12× speed CD, 16-bit colour. Software requirements: Adobe®, Acrobat Reader®].

**Poultry for profit and pleasure. By: Robyn Alders. FAO Diversification booklet No. 3 Rome, 2004, 40 pp. ISBN 92-5-105075-9 ISSN 1810-0775 TC/M/Y5114/E \$14.00**

Poultry are the most benign farm stock; easy to manage, resilient, and relatively productive under the most varied conditions. Anyone with a small patch of land can keep poultry for their eggs and meat and for breeding. There are few greater pleasures than keeping a flock of hens and feeding them from the produce of the garden or surplus food from the house. The more commercially minded producer will purchase proprietary foods, exploit local markets, and make reasonable income. Whatever the level of interest or scale, this booklet provides the information to encourage people to become more involved.

**Codex Alimentarius Commission. Report of the 27th Session. Geneva, 28 June–3 July 2004 Rome, 2004, 106 pp. ISBN 92-5-105180-1 ISSN 1020-4091 TC/M/Y5549/E \$14.00**

The FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission is the unique United Nations body responsible for establishing international food standards aimed at protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade. The food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines and recommendations adopted by the Commission form the Codex Alimentarius: the international food code. The Codex Alimentarius Commission envisages a world afforded the highest attainable levels of consumer protection, including food safety and quality. The 27th Session adopted the Code of

Practice on Good Animal Feeding and other important texts. It was attended by 402 participants representing 89 governments and 37 international governmental and nongovernmental organizations. This is the report of that meeting, adopted by the Commission itself on its closing day. It includes a full list of all participants and a list of all of the standards and related texts adopted by the Commission.

**Animal Genetic Resources Information No. 34, 2004. Rome, 2004, 122 pp., Trilingual (En/Fr/Es) ISSN 1014-2339 TC/D/Y5303/Tri. \$18.00**

The mission of the Animal Genetic Resources Information Bulletin is the promotion of information on the better use of animal genetic resources of interest to food and agriculture production.

**Long-term tsetse and trypanosomiasis management options in West Africa By: Hendrickx, G., De la Roque, S., Mattioli, R.C. PAAT Technical and Scientific Series No. 6 Rome, 2004, 70 pp. ISBN 92-5-105118-6 ISSN 1020-7163 TC/M/Y5342/E \$16.00**

Tsetse-transmitted animal trypanosomiasis is a complex disease that directly and indirectly has an impact on Africa's crop and livestock agricultural development. In this paper, state-of-the-art spatial tools are applied to study the variety of agro-ecological settings in West Africa with a view to providing decision support to the management of the tsetse and trypanosomiasis problem according to the prevailing agro-ecological conditions.

**Site-specific grasses and herbs. Seed production and use for restoration of mountain environments. By: Krautzer, B., Peratoner, G., Bozzo, F. FAO Plant Production and Protection Series No. 32. Rome, 2004, 120 pp. ISBN 92-5-105188-7 ISSN 0259-2525 TC/P/Y5576/E \$24.00**

This publication describes 25 different grasses and herbs occurring naturally in the middle and high Alpine zones suitable for restoration. Primarily for nature protection rather than merely for forage production, site-specific grasses and herbs have

gained significance in recent years. Large building projects (such as ski lifts, ski runs, snow-making facilities, reservoir power stations, roads, and tourist infrastructure) must provide rapid surface protection, restoration stability, and protection of biomes. Prerequisites for the successful realization of such aims are the production and availability of seeds of suitable site-specific species. This book describes the possibility of lucrative, nonregulated seed production of selected species and is addressed to innovative farmers and seed producers.

## TRAINING COURSES

### CIHEAM/IAMZ COURSES, MEDITERRANEAN

The following courses are offered by CIHEAM and IAMZ. Information: Instituto Agronómico Mediterraneo de Zaragoza, Apartado 202-50080 Zaragoza, Spain. Tel.: +34 976 716000. Fax: +34 976 716001. E-mail: iamz@iamz.ciheam.org, Web: <http://www.iamz.ciheam.org>.

#### Advanced Seminars

##### Animal Production

**Valorization of sheep and goat products in the Mediterranean: present technologies and market perspectives** will be held from 7 to 18 February 2005 at Pamplona, Spain.

**Use of molecular techniques in animal breeding** will be held from 4 to 8 April 2005 in León, Spain.

**Animal production and environmental management** will be held from 2 to 6 May 2005 in Fonte Boa.

##### Fisheries

**Design and management of bivalve mollusc hatcheries** will be held from 14 to 19 February 2005 at Zaragoza, Spain.

##### Environment

**Integrated planning for rural development and environmental management** will be held from 4 October 2004 to 10 June 2005 in Zaragoza, Spain.

**The Economics of natural resources and the environment** will be held from 24 January to 4 February 2005 at Zaragoza, Spain.

## Marketing

**Traceability of meat products: systems and techniques** will be held from 13 to 17 December 2004 at Zaragoza, Spain.

**Quality assurance in agrofood marketing: norms, systems, and business implications** will be held from 7 to 11 March 2005 in Zaragoza, Spain.

**Traceability and food labelling: meeting food safety and market requirements** will be held from 14 to 18 March 2005 in Zaragoza, Spain.

### BARNEVELD COLLEGE, THE NETHERLANDS

All courses include theory and practical aspects of management and technical operations, with study visits and are suited to beginners and midcareer specialists in production, extension, and management. Information: Department International Studies, P.O. Box 64, 3770 AB Barneveld, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 342 414881. Fax: +31 342 492813. E-mail: [io@ipcdier.hacom.nl](mailto:io@ipcdier.hacom.nl).

### Short Courses at Barneveld College

Courses will be held at various dates through 2004 and 2005 in the following topics:

- Modern Broiler Management
- Modern Hatchery Management
- Modern Breeder Management
- Modern Pig Farm Management
- Feed Formulation
- Practical Feed Production
- Combination Feed Formulation and Practical Feed Production

## CALENDAR OF SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

### January 2005

**Antimicrobial Growth Promoters: Worldwide Ban on the Horizon? International Debate Conference for the Feed and Food Chain** will be held 31 January–1 February 2005 at Noordwijk aan Zee, The Netherlands. Information: Bastiaanse Communica-

tion, P.O. Box 179, NL-3720 AD Bilthoven, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 30 229 4247. Fax: +31 30 225 2910. E-mail: [agp@bastiaanse-communication.com](mailto:agp@bastiaanse-communication.com). [www.bastiaanese-communication.com](http://www.bastiaanese-communication.com).

### April 2005

**British Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting** will be held in York, in April 2005. [www.bsas.org.uk](http://www.bsas.org.uk)  
E-mail: [bsas@ed.sac.ac.uk](mailto:bsas@ed.sac.ac.uk).

**Recent Advances in Pig and Poultry Modelling** will be held from 13 to 16 April 2005 at Ithala Game Reserve. Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa. [www.uksn.ac.za/poultsymp](http://www.uksn.ac.za/poultsymp).

**Assessing Rural Development Policies of the CAP. 87th Seminar of European Association of Agricultural Economists** will be held 21–23 April 2005 in Vienna, Austria. Information: [www.eaae.org/activities/indexa.htm](http://www.eaae.org/activities/indexa.htm).

### June 2005

**56th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden from 5 to 8 June 2005. Information: [www.conference.slu.se/EAAP2005](http://www.conference.slu.se/EAAP2005).

**5th European Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 2nd European Conference on Precision Livestock Farming** will be held from 9 to 12 June 2005 in Uppsala, Sweden. Scientific information: Lars Thylen: [thylen@slu.se](mailto:thylen@slu.se) Conference Secretariat: [ecpa@slu.se](mailto:ecpa@slu.se) and [ecplf@slu.se](mailto:ecplf@slu.se). Tel.: +46 18 67 10 03. Fax: +46 18 67 35 30. [www-conference.slu.se/ecpa](http://www-conference.slu.se/ecpa).

**7th International Conference on Pig Reproduction** will be held at Rolduc, The Netherlands from 12 to 15 June 2005. Information: Dr. P. Langendijk; e-mail: [Pieter.Langendijk@wur.nl](mailto:Pieter.Langendijk@wur.nl). Web: <http://www.zod.wau.nl/icpr2005/>.

**4th IDF International Mastitis Conference** will be held from 12 to 15 June 2005 at Maastricht, The Netherlands. Information: The Netherlands National Committee of the IDF, P.O. Box 165, 2700 AD Zoetermeer, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 79 3430303. Fax: +31 79 3430326, e-mail: [mastitisconference@nzo.nl](mailto:mastitisconference@nzo.nl).

**XX International Grassland Congress** will be held in Dublin, Ireland from 26 June to 1 July 2005. Information: Congress Secretary, Dr. Frank O'Mara, Department of Animal Science, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland. Tel.: + 353 1 716 7142. Fax: + 353 1 716 1103. e-mail: [igc2005@ucd.ie](mailto:igc2005@ucd.ie) Web site <http://www.igc2005.com>.

**Utilization of Grazed Grass in Temperate Animal Systems.** Cork Satellite Meeting of the XX International Grassland Congress. 3–5 July 2005. [www.igc2005.com](http://www.igc2005.com).

**Pastoral Systems in Marginal Environments.** A Satellite meeting of the XX International Grassland Congress. 3–6 July 2005 in Glasgow, Scotland. Information: [c.thomas@au.sac.ac.uk](mailto:c.thomas@au.sac.ac.uk) or [j.milne@macauley.ac.uk](mailto:j.milne@macauley.ac.uk). [www.gpia.co.uk](http://www.gpia.co.uk).

#### August 2005

**2005 FEBS-IUBMB Congress** will be held in Budapest, Hungary from 2 to 7 July 2005 with the major topic of Proteins and Peptides. Information: <http://www.febs-iubmb-2005.com>. Prof. Peter Csermely, Chairman of the Organizing Committee. E-mail: [organizing.comittee@febs-iubmb-2005.com](mailto:organizing.comittee@febs-iubmb-2005.com).

#### September 2005

**Emerging Equine Science. Conference** will be held at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, UK from 20 to 21 September 2005. Information: [bsas@ed.sac.ac.uk](mailto:bsas@ed.sac.ac.uk).

**Comparative Advantages for Typical Animal Products from Mediterranean Area.** Conference will be held in Fonte Boa, Santarem, Portugal from 25 to 27 September 2005. Information: Estacao Zootecnica Nacional, 2005-048 Vale de santarem, Portugal. E-mail: [director.ezn@mail.telepac.pt](mailto:director.ezn@mail.telepac.pt). <http://horta.ocatch.com/medsymp/>. Tel.: +351 243 767 321/5. Fax: +351 243 767 307.

#### October 2005

**2005 Animal Waste Management Symposium** will be held from 5 to 7 October 2005 in Rayleigh, NC, USA. Information: Dr. Gerald B. Havenstein, North

Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA. Tel: +1 919 515 5555. Fax: +1 919 513 1762. E-mail: [Gerald\\_Havenstein@ncsu.edu](mailto:Gerald_Havenstein@ncsu.edu). Website: [www.cals.ncsu.edu/waste\\_mgt/](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/waste_mgt/).

#### November 2005

**Integrating Farming Systems to meet the Challenge of Globalization** will be held in Thailand jointly between the British Society of Animal Science and the University of Khon Kaen, Thailand, and the Animal Husbandry Association of Thailand. Venue: Khon Kaen, Thailand. Information: [basa@sac.ac.uk](mailto:basa@sac.ac.uk).

#### 2005: Another Event

**5th Asian Buffalo Congress** will be held in China. Information: Antonio Borghese, General-Secretary of the International Buffalo Federation, Monterorondo, Rome, Italy.

#### May 2006

**Beef 2006 Australia's National Beef Exposition** will be held from 1 to 6 May 2006 at Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia. [www.beefaustralia.org](http://www.beefaustralia.org).

**10th Symposium on Digestive Physiology in Pigs** (which is held every three years under the auspices of the European Association of Animal Production Commission on Pig Production) will be held in Denmark in May 2006. Information: J.A. Fernandez: [josea.fernandez@agrsci.dk](mailto:josea.fernandez@agrsci.dk). Web: [www.dpp2006.dk](http://www.dpp2006.dk).

#### June 2006

**Paradigms in Pig Science. A Nottingham University Conference** will be held in June 2006. Information: [julian.wiseman@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:julian.wiseman@nottingham.ac.uk).

#### August 2006

**8th World Conference of Genetics applied to Animal Production (8WCGALP)** will be held from 13 to 19 August 2006 at Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

**September 2006**

**57th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held from 17 to 20 September in Antalya, Turkey. President: Prof. S. Metin Yener. Information: Saltur Tourism and Travel Agency, Tel.: +90 312 418 83 00. Fax: +90 312 425 71 37. E-mail: saltur@eaap2006.gen.tr.

**2007: 58th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in Ireland.

**2008: 59th EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in Lithuania.

**2009 or 2010: EAAP Annual Meeting** will be held in Greece.