EDITORIAL BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Key factors to consider about the future milk productions

All recent studies have shown that the world demand for dairy products will continue to grow, as will the world population. Demographic growth and climate change will reduce arable land area, especially in Asia and Africa, which will reach an average of 0.15 hectares per inhabitant in fifty years time, while currently the arable land per inhabitant averages 0.2 hectares. To date, the major exporters of milk are Europe, North America and Oceania. The growing urbanization of the population, especially in Africa and Asia, and consequently their increased spending power, will lead to a rise in the world consumption of milk from 87 kg of fresh milk equivalent per person per year to around 120 kg in about fifty years, therefore requiring an additional 600 billion kilograms of milk. There are three key factors to consider for planning the future of dairy breeding: sustainability, technologies, consumers concerns. Sustainability will be a mandatory requirement that we will have to achieve in the future. We must seriously consider the issue that to produce one kilogram of milk (corrected for fat and protein) about 1.3 kg of CO2 equivalents are produced in North America, Europe, Russia and Oceania, while in Sub-Saharan Africa it is 7.4 kg. Genetic and management technologies will facilitate the growth of dairy breeding. There will be the possibility of bigger and more efficient housing. The stables of the future will indeed be larger and perhaps specialized in the individual stages of the dairy cow’s production cycle, but the buildings will permit the cows to express their natural behavior and this will facilitate better fertility and health, especially of the feet. In the face of these positive forecasts, however, there are many uncertainties linked to consumer concerns on the practices that they perceive as unnatural; such as confinement of cows, excessive use of drugs, early removal of calves from their mothers, the excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides and the contamination of water and land with animal waste.

Andrea Rosati
The Preliminary Programme of the 71st EAAP Annual Meeting, which will be held Virtually from December 1st to 4th, is now available! Have a look at it here. The timing of the sessions will be decided later. All sessions must be confirmed. Moreover, don’t forget to enjoy the discount for “early registration” until September 15th. To register visit the dedicated webpage.

Josef Gross winner of the EAAP Young Scientist Award 2020!

Ray Keatinge comes originally from a beef and sheep farm in the West of Ireland. He qualified with a degree in General Agriculture and a Masters in Dairy Production from University College Dublin. He joined ADAS, then the national agricultural advisory service in England in 1984, initially as a dairy advisor and then a series of regional sheep advisor roles. This included a period as national fibre goat specialist during the cashmere and angora goat ‘bubble’ of the late 1980’s. In 1991, Ray moved to the ADAS Redesdale Research Centre in the North of England to work on upland beef, sheep, organic...
and environmental issues. He was manager of the centre when it closed in 2005, and subsequently went into private consultancy. This included coordinating the Defra Livestock Sustainable LINK Programme, which brought together industry and government to co-fund research projects in areas of mutual interest – area of increasing relevance to innovation today. In 2011, Ray joined the then dairy farming levy body for GB – DairyCo, as Head of R&D and subsequently became Head of Animal Science for the amalgamated levy bodies under the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board. Ray is a firm believer in the value of closer European collaboration in Animal Science. He has been coordinator of both the H2020 Thematic Network – EuroDairy, and the European Cattle Innovation Partnership. Being involved in the Cattle Commission of EAAP helps to support that mission. Last year Ray was seconded to the Livestock Information Programme for England, to lead on innovation and ‘value add’, building initiatives around productivity, animal health, genetics and industry reputation on top of a new, digitally-enabled statutory livestock traceability service. The aim is to use the functionality, data and insight created to drive sustainability in the livestock sector and help it meet the challenges ahead, not least in a post-Brexit world for the UK. Ray lives on a 13 hectare holding in the Scottish Borders, with long-suffering wife Caroline. They have four children and four grandchildren, none of whom (as yet) are remotely involved in agriculture.
net greenhouse gas emissions. The webinars videos are available at the following links: Grasslands Part 1 and Grasslands Part 2.

Backyard producers selling affects bird flu transmission

Researchers believe small-scale poultry farmers could be increasing the risk of avian influenza transmission during outbreaks. The researchers found that backyard producers in Vietnam tended to respond to viral outbreaks by rapidly selling their birds to avoid financial loss. Read the full article on PoultryWorld.

Dairy cows: Top 5 sustainable approaches to protein nutrition

The symbiotic relationship between the dairy cow and the rumen microbial population is the cornerstone of ruminant nutrition. When the microbiome is managed well, we can successfully improve dairy production but it can be somewhat of a balancing act. Read the full article on DairyGlobal.

From EU (policies and projects)

SmartCow webinar “Using ontologies to improve animal science research”

The webinar “Using ontologies to improve animal science research” will be held on 8th-9th October 2020. Coordinated by scientists from INRAE, this webinar targets scientists, RI technicians, Bachelor, Master or PhD students. This webinar is free of charge. Deadline for registration 2nd October. For more information or to register visit the website.
2. Outskirts

Conferences and workshops

EAAP invites you to check the validity of the dates for every single event published below and in the Calendar of the website, due to the state of sanitary emergency that World is currently dealing with.

December 1st – 4th, 2020
EAAP 2020 Virtual Meeting

The COVID-19 pandemic did not stop our determination to disseminate knowledge on the latest discoveries related to Animal Science! The EAAP 2020 Annual Meeting will be held virtually from December 1st to 4th. The Early Registration, before September 15th, is discounted. Those who submitted abstracts for the 2020 annual meeting must also be registered before September 15th. To register click here. Don’t miss this important event!

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September 23rd – 25th, 2020 in Padova, Italy

28th International Symposium “Animal Science Days” - Virtual Meeting

The 28th International Symposium “Animal Science Days” (ASD2020) – “Future Perspectives in Animal Production” will be held virtually from 23rd to 25th...
September 2020. For more information, including the invited speakers, please visit the ASD2020 website.

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**Third week of June 2021 in Bled, Slovenia**

**Joint meeting EAAP Mountain Livestock Farming & FAO-CIHEAM Mountain Pasture**

The Joint Meeting of EAAP Mountain Livestock Farming Working Group & FAO-CIHEAM Mountain Pasture Sub-Network “Mountains are agroeosystems for people” has been postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The meeting will take place during the third week of June 2021. The location (Bled, Slovenia) and the meeting formula (three days between Monday 14 and Friday 18 June) will not change. The exact date of the meeting, as well as the new deadlines, will be published during autumn on the meeting website and in the EAAP Newsletter.

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**CHANGE DATE: October 27th – 28th, 2020 in Frankfurt, Germany**

**7th International Akademie Fresenius - Feed Conference**

The Feed Conference “Feed Additives, Animal Nutrition, Gut Health, Antimicrobial Resistance” organized by Die Akademie Fresenius, has been postponed and will take place on 27th - 28th October 2020 in Frankfurt, Germany. The complete program is available here. For more information visit the Akademie Fresenius website.

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**CHANGE DATE: October 21st – 22nd 2021, Paris, France**

**2nd Aminoacid Academy Workshop**

The 2nd Amino Acid Academy, organized by EAAP and Ajinomoto Animal Nutrition Europe, has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Academy will take place on the 21st and 22nd October 2021 in Paris, France. The location remains the same – the Grand Amphitheatre of the National Museum of Natural History. Stay tuned for more information in the upcoming months and save the date!

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**September 23rd – 24th 2021 in Balotesti, Romania**

**16th International Symposium of Animal Biology and Nutrition**

The 16th edition of the International Symposium of Animal Biology and Nutrition, organized by the National Institute for Research Development in Biology and Animal Nutrition (IBNA), will be held in Balotesti on September 23rd and 24th 2021. More information is available on IBNA symposium webpage.

More conferences and workshops are available on EAAP website.
“The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled.”

(Plutarch)