



NEWSLETTER – MAY 2010

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DEMOGRAPHY SURVEY

48% of profession is a woman

The FVE has carried out a demographic survey amongst its members regarding the composition of their veterinary population. Although the data are not always easy to compare and are not yet complete, some interesting figures can be observed.

There are currently more than 250,000 veterinarians altogether in FVE member countries of which well over half (130,000) are in general practice. The gap between numbers of female and male veterinarians is closing; women currently make up an average 48% of the veterinary workforce and outnumber their male colleagues in Latvia (73% female veterinarians), Bulgaria (70%), Finland and Sweden (66%), Denmark (58%), Portugal (53%) and Estonia (52%). In other countries, it is still very much a male profession, in particular in Malta and Serbia (both 73% male vets), Montenegro (72%), Ireland (70%) and Italy (63%).

Some countries have a relatively high percentage of foreign nationals working within their borders, including the UK (25%), Ireland (21%), France (13%) and Croatia (12%). However, in some

cases these nationals are still registered even though they moved back home, are counted as foreign nationals because the "nation" is relatively young or include nationals who obtained their degree abroad.

In Lithuania there are six times as many large animal practitioners as companion animal vets while in Latvia, there are nearly twice as many companion animal vets than large animal vets.

70% of veterinary students today are female. Feminisation has and will further change the profession in many ways, many of which are desirable other may be less so. Irrespective the gender, veterinary schools should make sure they attract the right persons to fulfill all responsibilities conferred by society to veterinarians in the future. Sufficient attention should be given in the selection process to vocational commitment, practical aptitude and expectations for working especially in the farming and food sector.



Joining forces to address One Health

The (re-)emergence of animal diseases, including zoonoses, the growing threat of transboundary animal diseases, the impact of environmental changes and globalization, as well as societal demands regarding food safety, public health and animal welfare, all stress the need for international collaboration. With this in mind, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) published a concept note on their future collaboration. Their common vision: "A world capable of preventing, detecting, containing, eliminating, and responding to animal and public health risks attributable to zoonoses and animal diseases with an impact on food security through multi-sectoral cooperation and strong partnerships." The document proposes a strategic direction and a long-term basis for collaboration aimed at coordinating global activities to address health risks at the human-animal-ecosystems interfaces. It envisages a better coordination of their efforts. The organisations wish to encourage international solidarity, while providing international support to member countries. The veterinary profession welcomes this "concept note", as it offers a good opportunity to contribute to providing solutions for our 21st century challenges and to show the value of good veterinary medicine for our society. It is an excellent chance to show leadership and to reach out to other experts like medical doctors, scientists, in fact every-one working together on assuring One Health!

Jan Vaarten, Executive Director

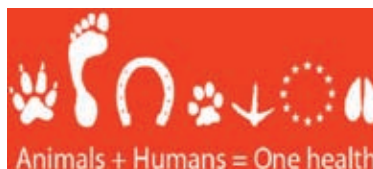
ANIMAL HEALTH

ONE HEALTH

Kick-off EU Vet Week: 14-15 June 2010

The Veterinary Week 2010 will have as theme 'Identification and traceability' and will be opened on 14 and 15 June in Brussels. The opening address will be given by John Dalli, the EU commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy.

After presentations outlining the importance and benefits of identification and traceability, three sessions will be held during the meeting: on the identification of live animals and germinal products; on traceability and labelling in the food and feed chain; and on traceability in international movements. FVE president Walter Winding will highlight the benefits of identification and traceability for the veterinary practitioner, while FVE vice president Christophe Buhot will speak about pet identification and traceability. The draft programme of the 2010 EU Veterinary Week is now available online¹ and registration will be opened this week.



EU Veterinary Week logo 2010 focusing on identification and traceability

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/food/dyna/conference/>

The cooperation with veterinary students during the 2009 EU Veterinary Week has been very successful as 33 veterinary faculties had organised events across 14 Member States. Therefore it was decided to continue the collaboration with veterinary students in 2010 and a Veterinary Week Students seminar was organised in Brussels on 8 and 9 March to prepare for student actions for the EU Veterinary Week 2010. In total, 52 representatives attended the event including students from 41 faculties from 22 EU Member States, Croatia, FYROM and Norway. The participants discussed ideas and suggestions regarding the One Health roadshow, the EU Veterinary Week campaign and Vet 2011.



Students and speakers during Veterinary Students seminar on 8-9 March

EU HEALTH AND CONSUMER POLICY

FVE meets with Commissioner John Dalli

On 14 April, a delegation of the FVE Board and staff met with the recently appointed EU Commissioner John Dalli and Harry Vassallo, member of his cabinet responsible for animal health and welfare.

The Commissioner warmly welcomed the FVE delegation and stressed the need for a good communication between the Commission's Directorate SANCO and the veterinary profes-

sion. He valued FVE as an important source of knowledge and expertise necessary for the development of new policies and legislation. He also mentioned the role of veterinarians in the field, implementing and certainly also guarding the legislation in force.

FVE president Walter Winding introduced FVE and gave a summary of its goals, focusing on the strong links between animal health, animal welfare and public health.

Vice President Christophe Buhot then continued by saying that FVE welcomed the new Animal Health Strategy and highlighted some of the Federation's views regarding the importance of farm visitation systems and the need to promote innovation and sustainable ways to keep animals. He also highlighted the need for strong veterinary services and the desire to have a true internal market for veterinary medicines.



The FVE delegation met with Commissioner Dalli in 14 April. From left, Rainer Schneichel, Christophe Buhot, Walter Winding, John Dalli, Nancy De Briyne and Jan Vaarten.

Commissioner John Dalli agreed with many of the points raised by FVE. He agreed in particular with the point asking for a sustainable way of keeping animals. He said this should be seen as an added value not as a burden, although convincing farmers might not always be easy. He also raised the point that in many cases legislation is adequate, but the legislation is not implemented appropri-

ately or not enforced enough. This is a point, during his mandate, he wants to pay extra attention to.

FVE executive director Jan Vaarten thanked the Commissioner for the constructive and successful work with his services, in particular on the EU veterinary week. He also said FVE feels more efforts should be made for the prevention of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella*.

Nancy De Briyne, FVE deputy executive director, ended with raising some points on animal welfare. In particular, she said that FVE would welcome progress on the transport dossier and that FVE would like to see EU legislation on welfare for all animals, not just livestock. She also pointed to the fact that the derogation for slaughter without stunning is misused and that consumers should have the right to be informed if the meat is derived from an animal not stunned prior to slaughter. The Commissioner again pointed to the fact that the focus has to be on better implementation as the rules often are correct but not followed up sufficiently.

The Commissioner ended the meeting by thanking FVE for coming and concluded that the goals of FVE and DG Sanco are very similar. He hoped FVE would continue to work with and provide valuable input to his services in the future.

DG SANCO STAFF RESHUFFLE

Paola Testori Coggi appointed head of DG Sanco

On 31 March, the College of Commissioners announced changes to the senior management of the European Commission. DG SANCO Director General Robert Madelin moved to Director General of information society and media (INFSO) effective from 1 April 2010. His deputy Director General Paola Testori Coggi, has been promoted to Director General of DG SANCO, taking the number of women in Director General positions to five.



Paola Testori Coggi

She holds a degree in biological sciences and joined the Commission in 1982 to work on pollution policy. Previously, she worked in the office of former European commissioner Emma Bonino, as well as in the environment and research departments.

ANIMAL WELFARE

TAIEX WORKSHOP IN BELGRADE

Assessing welfare quality on the farm: practical sessions

A TAIEX workshop on “Animal Welfare: from cure to prevention”, co-organized by the FVE, the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and the Serbian Veterinary Chamber was held on 24-25 March in Belgrade, Serbia.

The workshop was attended by more than 100 participants, including official veterinarians, practitioners and academics from Serbia and its neighbouring countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo², Montenegro and Turkey).

The programme included presentations on animal welfare strategies of the European Union, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). After the general session, chaired by Walter Winding, practical sessions were held on farm. Three experts explained the Welfare Quality Project assessment tools in practice on poultry farms (Andy Butterworth, Bristol University), cattle farms (Christoph Winckler, Vienna University) and pig holdings (Antonio Velarde, IRTA Spain). These practical sessions were greatly welcomed by the participants for their interactive character and allowed to demonstrate how the welfare quality (WQ) assessment scheme works on the farm. WQ assessment is output-based rather

than input based and showed that even with little means, good animal welfare can be achieved.



Practical demonstration of Welfare Quality Pig Assessment Protocol by Antonio Velarde

The second day was an opportunity to share information about preventive and educational programs in animal welfare. Andrew Voas (Scottish Government Veterinary Advisor) explained how the Animal Welfare Management programme will help cattle, sheep and goat farmers to adopt and improve high standards of animal welfare over a 5-year programme. David Morton (Bristol University) gave a presentation on the “why, for who, how, when and by whom?” regarding animal welfare education. As the public pays for the education of veterinarians and for animal disease control, vets have a privileged legal position in society, stressed professor Morton. This gives the veterinary profession the responsibility to provide and ensure a good education in animal welfare science, ethics and law, as expected from them by the public, he said.

The next workshop FVE will organise with TAIEX (on veterinary legislation) will be held in Kiev, Ukraine on 2-3 November.

COMPANION ANIMALS

MEPs call for improved pet welfare

On 19 April, four Members of the European Parliament (Carl Schlyter, Marit Paulsen, Janusz Wojciechowski and Caroline Lucas) filed a written declaration (0026/2010)³ calling upon the European Commission to take further steps to protect pets, by properly enforcing existing legislation e.g. to stamp out puppy farms and by taking steps to educate the public about good pet ownership. They also want to ensure competent veterinary care for pets and call on the Commission to consider how it may improve EU efforts for the protection of companion animals. The Declaration will lapse on 19 July 2010 and needs 377 signatures of MEPs to be adopted. FVE, strongly supports this Declaration and calls upon all MEPs to give their support.



European Parliament

² UN Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999

³ Written Declaration: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+WDECL+P7-DCL-2010-0026+0+DOC+PDF+V0//EN&language=EN>

DIALOGUE ON RELIGIOUS SLAUGHTER

DIALREL: An inventory of practices, beliefs and regulations presented in Istanbul

What percentage of meat is currently slaughtered according to halal or shechita practices? What is the impact on animal welfare and how can this be improved? How is religious slaughter regulated in the various EU countries? The outcome of these and other questions were presented on 15-16 March in Istanbul, at the end-of-project meeting of the EU DIALREL project (dialogue on religious slaughter), in the presence of some 80 participants – including legislators, animal scientists, sociologists and representatives of the religious communities concerned. This 3-year research project was launched in October 2006 to “*explore the conditions for promoting the dialogue between interested parties and stakeholders, facilitating the adoption of good religious slaughter practices*”. An additional aim of the multidisciplinary project team was to review and propose a mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of good practices.

To this end, a number of investigations, field studies, surveys and meetings were held, of which the results were presented and discussed in Istanbul. The final recommendations will be drafted during a meeting on 1-2 June. For a report on the main findings of veterinary interest, please go to http://www.fve.org/members/fve/temporary_docs/dialrel_2.pdf.



FVE poster on slaughter without stunning

REGULATION ON WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT

FVE Transport working group discusses enforcement

The FVE Working Group on animal transport⁴ met in Brussels on 27 April. The main agenda point was the enforcement of the Regulation on transport. The group discussed whether the Regulation is sufficiently implemented and enforced in the various EU Member States. If this was not the case, they tried to identify the reasons for this and to find possible ways to improve this situation.

An update was provided regarding the opinion of the European Food Safety

4 consisting of Karin von Holleben (Germany), Padraig Kenny (Ireland), Giancarlo Beluzzi (Italy), Ludo Hellebrekers (Netherlands), Borut Zemljic (Slovenia) and Madeleine Campbell (UK). Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations and Jorunn Vormeland (UEVH) were invited as observers

Authority (EFSA), which has been asked by the European Commission to evaluate its 2002 opinion on welfare of animals during transport, taking into account the latest research and new technologies. The mandate asked for specific assessments in relation to the Transport Regulation⁵ also include setting possible indicators.



EFSA accepted the request and set up working group, chaired by John Webster. The opinion is expected to be finalised by December 2010.

Other topics discussed were the fitness to transport for adult bovines, optimal stocking density for horses and the request of Eurogroup for Animals, Compassion in World Farming and Animal's Angels for FVE to support their “enforcement initiative” in the field of animal transport. Keith Meldrum (veterinary consultant for World Horse Welfare) gave a presentation on the position of WHW on the transport of horses.

5 Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Enforcing horse welfare during transport

To follow up on the enforcement issue (see previous article), the British Equine Veterinary Association and FVE plan to organise an International conference on enforcement of legislation in the field of transport of horses in Brussels on 6 December.

The draft programme includes sessions on the reasons for insufficient enforcement and possible solutions. The conference is aimed at stakeholders and legislators including CVOs, Members of the European Commission and European Parliament, scientific experts, representatives of national veterinary organizations, animal transport and animal welfare associations.

“EVERYBODY IS RESPONSIBLE”

International conference on animal welfare education

The European Commission will hold on 1-2 October the first International Conference on Animal Welfare Education⁶ in collaboration with the Belgian Presidency. As part of the event's Steering Committee, FVE actively participates in the organisation of the conference, with the key message “Everybody is responsible”.

Aim of the Conference is to “further inform citizens about animal welfare and to raise awareness on the importance of educating people about how animals should be treated”. A drawing contest on animal welfare has

been organised for children and a fair will be held.



ANIMAL WELFARE ACTION PLAN

MEP calls on Commission to protect all animals

Farm, research and wild animals should be better protected by EU law. For this reason, MEP Marit Paulsen calls on the European Commission to introduce a second Animal Welfare Action plan.

The plenary vote on her report, the *Evaluation and assessment of the animal welfare action plan 2006-2010*, took place on Wednesday 5 May.

PUBLIC HEALTH

FOOD HYGIENE

Roundtable conference on the revision of meat inspection

The revision of meat inspection is the topic of a roundtable conference organised by DG Sanco in Brussels on 18 May. The meeting is divided in three sessions: Meat inspection in the EU, Risk-based inspection and the International context. Robert Huey (Union of European Veterinary Hygienists), Thierry Chambon (UEVP) and Jan Vaarten (FVE Executive director) will attend the meeting on behalf of FVE.

The new EU legislation revising the meat inspection system aims to move away from the traditional meat inspection, whereby the carcass and its organs are examined individually for possible pathological lesions (external aspect, incision, palpation, olfaction...) to a more efficient and cost-effective risk-based approach. Meat hygiene is not only about animal health, it has to focus on animal health, animal welfare and public health equally.



The aim of modernisation must be to increase the effectivity and efficiency of the controls for food safety and not only cost reduction, according to the FVE.

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/dyna/enews/enews.cfm?al_id=992

In preparation of this meeting, the UEVH has circulated a questionnaire on the use of slaughterhouse staff to assist in the delivery of official controls in the various countries. A summary of the outcome will be published in the next Newsletter.

MEDICINES

VETERINARY MEDICINES

FVE working group discusses 1-1-1 concept

The FVE medicines working group held a meeting on 14 April in Brussels⁷. At the meeting, Rick Clayton of the International Federation of Animal Health (IFAH Europe) gave a presentation on the “one-one-one” concept, which promotes a licensing process based on a single dossier, assessment procedure and decision for marketing authorisation throughout the EU. This would allow a more efficient and cost-effective regulatory process, improve the level of public and animal health and improve medicines availability, he said. Although the group had much sympathy for the basic idea, it was not immediately convinced by the way this was worked out.

Other agenda points included the creation of an FVE draft leaflet on the use of antimicrobials, the disposal of veterinary medicines and pharmacovigilance.

⁷ The meeting was attended by Christophe Buhot (chair), Rens van Dobbenburgh, Rainer Schneichel, Peter Jones, Thierry Chambon, Jan Vaarten and Despoina Iatridou

SANCO SURVEY ON MEDICINES

Public consultation on veterinary medicines

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the legal framework for veterinary medicinal products, called *‘Better regulation of veterinary pharmaceuticals: how to put in place a simpler legal framework, safeguarding public and animal health while increasing the competitiveness of companies’*⁸.

The closing date of the public consultation is 15 July 2010. By means of this public consultation DG SANCO/Pharmaceuticals intends to consult all stakeholders. A summary of the outcome of the consultation will be published and your input will be utilised for the impact assessment report on a revision of the legal framework for veterinary medicinal products.

With the appointment of the new Commission, all policies regarding pharmaceuticals have been transferred from the Directorate General Enterprise to DG Sanco (Health and Consumer Policy).



⁸ <http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=vetframework&lang=en>

MADRID TO HOST MEETING ON MEDICINES

26 May

An international conference on veterinary medicines will be organised in Madrid by the Spanish presidency on 26 May, and will be attended by Christophe Buhot (FVE Vice-President) and Jan Vaarten (FVE executive director).

EDUCATION

EUROPEAN BOARD FOR VETERINARY SPECIALISATION

Colleges of Equine internal medicine and Bovine health management now fully recognised

The general assembly of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS)⁹ was held on 16-17 April in Brussels and culminated a very active and fulfilling two-year period for outgoing president Stefano Romagnoli (European College of Animal Reproduction). The emphasis through this period was the international recognition, quality control and standardisation of procedures of all sixteen fully recognised and seven provisionally recognised specialist Colleges, collectively representing 2384 European recognised specialists.

During the past two years, the EBVS Executive Committee worked hard to develop a re-enforced support structure for provisionally recognised Colleges. A survey of College exam procedures was conducted and a model exam process is now in production with standardised methodology, target pass rates, etc. Simultaneously, great efforts have been made towards the globalisation of a veterinary Specialist status, with the eventual aim of full reciprocity between USA, EU, Australia and (in time) Asia. Within Europe, the importance of 'acknowledged practitioner training, examination and reassessment' has been the focus of attention collectively by FVE, ECCVT, EBVS and FECAVA.

EBVS has also worked hard on raising visibility and recognition across the EU. This has been successful in many countries, but remains a target for the incoming Presidential period under Neil Forbes (European College of Zoological Medicine (Avian)) in parts of the EU.

At the GA, the Colleges of Equine Internal Medicine (ECEIM) and of Bovine Health Management (ECBHM) gained full recognition, whilst the Colleges of 'Pharmacology and Toxicology', 'Behavioural Medicine' and 'Public Health' will be assessed next spring. Potential new Specialist disciplines are being prepared for provisional college or speciality recognition, including 'Anatomy', 'Welfare, Science, Ethics and Law', 'Radiation Oncology', 'Aquatic Medicine' and 'Emergency and Critical Care'.



Neil Forbes, newly elected EBVS President

"Veterinary Specialisation, together with continuing veterinary professional development for all practitioners is of essential importance, stressed EBVS president Neil Forbes. "It's an area in which EBVS is the central axis, catalysing quality-controlled development and progress".

EUROPEAN VETERINARY SCHOOLS

EAEVE to meet in Vienna

The European Association Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) will hold its 23rd annual general assembly on 20-21 May 2010 in Vienna, Austria.



Agenda points include presentations on Veterinary Education International (Donal Walsh), the International Veterinary Students Associations (Kristina Fontél, IVSA), the Future of the Veterinary Profession (Katinka de Balogh, FAO) and Vet 2011 (Jean-François Chary). The delegates will also elect a new EAEVE Board and discuss the evaluation system. Two veterinary schools, the Ataturk University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Yakutiye, Turkey, and the Spiru Haret University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Romania, will apply for EAEVE membership.

WVA DATABASE

The world's veterinary schools all in one online database

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) is currently setting up an online database of all veterinary schools on its website, with hyperlinks to the schools concerned¹⁰. The database

9 <http://www.ebvs.org>

10 www.worldvet.org/node/5248

includes the Universities, Institutions, Colleges and Schools Awarding Veterinary Degrees.

The listing of a veterinary school or faculty does not imply that it meets any global standard established by the WVA or other international organisation. Please contact the WVA Editor¹¹ for further information and corrections. The database aims to be completed by mid 2010.

FVE & PROFESSIONAL MATTERS

11-12 JUNE

FVE spring general assembly



The spring general assembly of the FVE will be hosted by Switzerland and will be held in Basel on 11 and 12 June. One of the highlights of the meeting is the new FVE strategy 2011-2016, where the outcomes of the three regional strategic meetings will be presented and discussed – and possibly adopted. Frans Huizenga (consultant for associations) will give a presentation on the structure and pitfalls of professional, non-profit organisations. Other guest speakers include Juan Lubroth (chief of the Animal Health Service, FAO), a representative from the European College of Veterinary Public Health ECVPH (the role of the veterinarian in One Health) and Philip Craig (Echinococcosis).

STATUTORY BODIES

Competent authorities to assist Commission with evaluation

The new FVE Statutory Bodies Working Group met in Brussels on 5 March

2010. Chaired by FVE Vice President Stephen Ware, the working group included delegates from Ireland, Norway, Italy, Bulgaria, the Netherlands and France. High on the agenda was the Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (2005/36/EC) and the evaluation of its implementation. A special meeting was convened in the afternoon with Jürgen Tiedje and Thomas Wiedmann from DG Internal Market and Services to better understand and address the impact of this Directive on the veterinary profession.

On 17 March, Stephen Ware and Francesco Proscia (FVE Office) attended a conference on the evaluation of the professional qualifications directive, on behalf of the Federation. The meeting, organised by the Commission and attended by some 80 organisations, allowed a discussion of the main strengths and weaknesses of Directive 05/36.

FVE had the opportunity to stress the importance of consumer protection and professional insurance coverage if a veterinarian provides services in another Member State. The pivotal role of a veterinarian's language skills and level of continuing professional development in this case was also highlighted by Stephen Ware.

The Commission has launched an evaluation exercise to assess the existing system of recognition of professional qualifications. The practical experience of Competent Authorities regarding the handling of applicants moving and seeking for recognition of their qualification was considered "particularly valuable". The Competent authorities responsible for the different professions were invited to draw up national experience reports throughout a consultation process involving coordinators and professional bodies. This would help the Commission to draw up policies.

11 editor@worldvet.org

**EMMA SOTO
(DG SANCO),
RESPONSIBLE FOR EU
VETERINARY WEEK
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Please explain your involvement in the Veterinary Week Project in DG Sanco

I have been involved in the organisation of the EU Veterinary Week campaign since its first edition in 2008 and have enjoyed watching the campaign grow and gain momentum. In particular, over the last two years we have involved more the deans of veterinary faculties and their students and they have brought a great deal of enthusiasm to the campaign.

Previous editions of the EU Veterinary Week focused on biosecurity and on One Health. During the 2010 edition of the EU Veterinary Week, the importance of an integrated One health approach, from farm to fork, will be highlighted. The focus of the week will be on identification and traceability along the food chain.



Emma Soto, DG Sanco, Responsible for EU veterinary Week communications.

2. Why is the Veterinary Week Project important for the Veterinary Profession and how can vets in the field participate?

The concept of an EU Veterinary Week was created in collaboration with the FVE to high-

light the important role played by EU veterinarians. The main aim of the campaign is to improve the public's understanding of the work of veterinarians, which have an important role to play in safeguarding animal health and public health including food safety, in addition to ensuring the implementation of related EU policy and legislation. It therefore seems to me vital that different representatives of the veterinary profession take part to explain to the public the different facets of their work. We really hope that numerous events will be organised in the framework of the EU Veterinary Week all over the EU. Past events have been extremely varied and included conferences on veterinary issues, stands where pet animals were vaccinated for free, visits to primary schools by veterinarians or veterinary students. The size or type of event organised is not that important, as long as veterinarians engage with the public to promote their profession.

3. Will the Veterinary Week project be repeated in the future?

This year we will celebrate the third edition of the EU Veterinary Week. We have put a lot of effort in organising the week this year, but we really do count on the support of the veterinary profession and veterinary students to ensure that it will be a success to be repeated in years to come. So ultimately your support will guide our decision to repeat the campaign or not!

EQUINE VETERINARY MEETING

FEEVA to discuss antibiotic resistance in Hungary

The Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations (FEEVA) will hold its general assembly in Debrecen, Hungary on 27 May. Main topics will include antibiotic resistance and the responsible use of antimicrobials. Peter Clegg (Liverpool University) will give a presentation on the responsible use of these medicines and Nancy De Briyne (FVE Office) will provide an update on the European Platform of the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals (EPRUMA). Another important agenda point will be the application for FEEVA membership by Spain and Portugal.

The FEEVA will meet on the eve of the intermediate meeting of the World Equine Veterinary Association, which will be held in Debrecen on 28 and 29 May. For further information about the WEVA meeting, see <http://wevaonline.org/hungary.shtml>

WORLD VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

WVA Council and Presidents' Assembly to be held in Paris

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) is planning a WVA Excom, Council and extra-ordinary meeting of the Presidents' Assembly in Paris in conjunction with the 78th OIE General Session. The WVA Council meeting will take place on Friday 21 May, the Presidents' Assembly on Saturday 22 May.

The main purpose of the meetings is to present and discuss the WVA strategic objectives and its internal organisation. Overarching goals include raising the public profile of the WVA and promoting its level of activity. Agenda and further documentation will be available on the WVA website and circulated by e-mail. Delegates that wish to receive paper copies should contact the WVA-secretariat: secretariat@worldvet.org

The meeting immediately precedes the annual OIE general session which will be opened the following day, Sunday 23rd May.

WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS

Cape Town to host world congress in October 2011

The 30th World Veterinary Congress, will be held from 10th to 14th October 2011 in Cape Town. The Convention Centre is located between the city centre and the famous Waterfront area, a perfect starting point for combining professional development and pleasure. A unique opportunity, that may not be missed and the ideal excuse for every veterinarian dreaming of visiting Africa.

Read more on www.worldvetcongress2011.com



PREQUID

International expert group to issue equine infectious disease guidelines

The establishment of an independent international expert group on the Prevention of Equine Infectious Diseases – PrEquID for short – was announced in April. “Our aim is to develop overarching international guidelines for the management of infectious diseases,” explained professor Horzinek, PrEquID chairman. “These should contain practical, evidence-based recommendations for disease control and horse movement.”



The Prequid group during its meeting in Marrakesh. From left, Klaus Osterrieder, Ann Culinane, Alan Guthrie, Marian Horzinek, Richard Newton, Peter Timoney, James Gilkerson. Absent: Paul Lunn and Paul-Pierre Pastoret.

Professor Peter Timoney added, “the equine industry worldwide is facing an unprecedented threat from the challenge of infectious diseases. It’s a huge industry involving a complex range of stakeholders, including veterinarians, owners, breeders, trainers, shippers and regulators. We must set aside individual and national agendas and concentrate on the bigger picture if we’re to achieve greater international control over the spread of equine diseases and protect our industry for the future.”

PrEquID members include highly respected equine infectious disease experts from eight countries and spanning four continents: Peter Timoney (University of Kentucky, USA), Paul Lunn (Colorado State University,

USA), Ann Cullinane (Irish Equine Centre, Ireland), James Gilkerson (University of Melbourne, Australia), Alan Guthrie (University of Pretoria, South Africa), Klaus Osterrieder (University of Berlin, Germany), Richard Newton (Animal Health Trust, UK), Paul-Pierre Pastoret (World Organisation for Animal Health), under the chairmanship of Marian C. Horzinek (Netherlands).

The PrEquID group held its founding meeting in November 2009. In March 2010, it met again to discuss guidelines on Equine Influenza and Equine Herpesvirus infections, considered to be diseases with a significant impact on the horse industry, based on disease outcome, economic impact, veterinary care and travel restrictions. Practical, evidence-based recommendations are currently being finalised and will be made available shortly¹².

¹² For further information, please contact kde-lange@invivo.edu

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The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) is an umbrella organisation of 46 veterinary organisations from 38 European countries and 4 Sections, regulated by the law on international societies in Belgium.

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