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Finally, on behalf of our Vice-Presidents Dr. Erhard Fränz Kaleta and Dr. Trevor Baggot, as well as the Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Ursula Heffels-Redmann, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all WVPVA members in their many countries who have given and continue to give their support to global poultry health.

Yours sincerely,
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www.wvpc2007.org

Winter 2006 No. 17

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Hello from the AAAP office in Athens, Georgia, USA. The AAAP held the 48th annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota in July, 2005. The meetings were very well attended with nearly 300 participants. We had 109 oral papers presented and 58 poster presentations.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Fred Hoerter of the Alabama Diagnostic Laboratories, Auburn, Alabama. The title was “Clinical Aspects of Immunosuppression.”

The Lasher History Lecture was given by Mr. Andrew Rother of the NPIP. The title was “History of the National Poultry Improvement Plan.”

The award recipients this year were Daniel R. Perez as the Bayer-Snoeyenbos New Investigator Award, H. John Barnes for the Poultry Animal Health Excellence in Poultry Research Award, Simon M. Stahle for the Lasher-Bottorff Award, David A. Halvorson for the Calnek Applied Poultry Research Award. We were very excited that Karen Spouge was awarded the Special Service Award for her many years of service to everyone in AAAP. We again enjoyed a fantastic opening night reception sponsored by our friends at Intervet.

There is not much to report regarding the health status for the U.S. poultry flock in 2005. Overall, the birds have been very healthy with only localized cases of gangrenous dermatitis and scattered cases of air sacculitis. The higher fuel prices are expected to result in less profitability for the industry in the winter months.

Charles L. Hufnagel
Corresponding Secretary, USA
chof@uga.edu

http://www wwvpa.net/
Update from Egypt

On February 17, 2006, H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) hit the poultry industry in Egypt, starting with a few flocks in house hold birds and live birds shipped to Gaza & Cairo provinces, as well as one small turkey farm at El-Minia in Upper Egypt. The H5N1 spread rapidly within a few weeks to involve more commercial farms as well as different bird species in more than 17 provinces.

Culling, zoning and vaccination with an inactivated recombinant H5N1 vaccine for breeder birds and commercial layers failed to contain the outbreaks during the first five weeks. The most likely reasons for this failure are: suboptimal biosecurity and management practices, illegal behavior of some poultry producers, the unrestricted movement of live birds, litter trucks, manure and personnel, live bird markets in suburbs and villages, unregulated batcher ducks in cities, lack of sufficient poultry slaughterhouses in bird dense areas, unsatisfactory reimbursement of depopulated flocks or farms, insufficient field and laboratory surveillance during the epizootic, social and political pressures, as well as many other reasons. Economic losses due to the death and depopulation of birds within a one kilometer radius of infected farms were very great. Approximately 30 million birds were lost.

Nevertheless, after the fifth week, a positive response to the general vaccination of susceptible commercial and village flocks could be seen by the initially gradual and then significant reduction in the number of reported outbreaks, finally reaching the current low of 2 to 3 outbreaks per week. The veterinary authorities are optimistic in reaching a state of freedom from infection quickly, provided that satisfactory compliance to the current regulations by the poultry industry. Restoring the poultry industry on a calculated and sound basis will help control future outbreaks.

A. A. Sami Ahmed

Update from Hungary

The Hungarian Branch of WVPA started to reorganize its membership in 2005. National memberships were increased to more than 160. Of these, 73 members are also members of the WVPA.

Our first meeting, discussing broiler gut health, was held on September 9, 2005.

Our second meeting, entitled Drezsy Days, was held from June 8-9, 2006. More than 235 people registered and Avian Influenza, presented by international speakers, was the most popular topic. There were also sessions and discussions about the current situation in Hungary, the listeriosis problem, economic loss, and political pressures, as well as many other reasons. Economic losses due to the death and depopulation of birds within the 3-kilometer radius was completed on 1 May 2006. 30 days was then allowed to lapse before the areas were repopulated. The last restrictions were lifted on 8 June 2006.

In total 1,120,000 birds were destroyed. 8 contractors were employed. A . A . Sami Ahmed.

Lohmann Valo SPF Eggs

Our experiences of more than 30 years in poultry management and disease prophylaxis assures the high quality standard of our LOHMANN VALO SPF eggs. Frequent monitoring in our own specialized laboratory and approved independent government institutions guarantee the top quality of LOHMANN VALO SPF eggs. Our farms are CAV negative for more than ten years and this is unique worldwide. This unchanged quality is well known and very much appreciated by many customers.

Also the yields and results of using the eggs from us are always at the highest possible level. Please contact us for further information or visit our homepage (www.ltz.de).

LOHMANN VALO SPF EGGS

Fifth International Symposium on Avian Coronavirus, and Pneumoviruses and Complicating Agents

Rauschholzhausen, Germany, 14-16 May 2006

The Castle Rauschholzhausen, serving as a conference centre for the Justus Liebig University of Giessen, was once again venue for the International Symposium on Avian Coronavirus and Pneumoviruses. Participants, mainly invited speakers from 17 countries, attended the symposium to present and discuss new research data on the epidemiology, virus properties, diagnosis, immunology, pathogenesis, vaccination and control of both virus infections. The proceedings of this symposium contain 47 full papers including summaries of the sessions. The copies of the CD with full papers are available.

Report on the 3rd International Symposium on Turkey Production Meeting of Workgroup 10, WP SA (Turkey)

Turkey Production: Prospects on future developments

Berlin, Germany, 9th - 11th June 2005

Today’s intensive turkey production, caught between consumer protection, animal welfare and economics, requires a lot of knowledge about breeding, husbandry, nutrition, diseases, slaughter, and marketing of turkeys. Since 2000, the institute of Poultry Disease, Free University of Berlin, the World Poultry Science Association - Federation of European Branches (WP SA), has worked to strengthen the dialogue and exchange of scientific work and practical experience between veterinarians, agriculturists, and economists and has organized international symposium.

In November, 2000, the first meeting of the European WP SA Working Group 10 met for the “Turkey Production in a New Millennium” meeting. Held in Berlin, the meeting was attended by participants from 15 countries.

From February 28th to March 1st, 2003 Working Group 10 arranged the second meeting on “Turkey Production: A Balancing Act Between Consumer Protection, Animal Welfare and Economy” had 187 participants from 22 countries.

This year’s symposium, which was held June 9th and 11th, 2005, entitled “Turkey Production, Prospects on Future Development”, was attended by 176 people from 27 countries. Proceedings in English are available at ISBN 3-8001-4630-4.

In the first section, presentations discussed the breeding and genetics of turkeys, as well as potential and limitations of breeding. In the past, selection of turkey lines was very complex. Progress in molecular genetics and genome mapping will offer further chances to enhance the livability, health, and the economic parameters of turkey production (Marini, USA/ Reed, USA).

The development of worldwide markets for turkey meat in the past and trends for the future was discussed. It was shown that rising production costs, declining per capita consumption and the current legislation in the EU all have negative effects on the development of the market. The European turkey industry is under threat from imports from outside countries, particularly from South America. The turkey industry had been to a great extent under food safety was discussed.

In the second section of the symposium, the development of turkey nutrition in the last few decades was summed up and analysed (Männer, Germany). Afterwards, a report about the use of possible.
Both papers highlighted the degree of cross contamination during the development of poultry meat inspection was reviewed. The effort was described in a presentation (Kranen, The Netherlands). Then, an extensive session dealt with turkey husbandry and animal welfare. A review about animal welfare entitled "Yesterday, Today and Prospective for Tomorrow" (Luy, Germany). Another presentation reported on a new litter material for use in poultry housing. The next section of the symposium dealt with harvest and post-harvest systems, and water management, to name a few were also important factors.

The influence of stocking density and environmental enrichment on walking ability and tibial dyschondroplasia (TD) was presented. The incidence as well as the severity of TD was not significantly affected either by the addition of a ramp or by stocking density. It was, however, noticed that the walking ability of the birds in all groups declined with age (Berk and Cottin, Germany). This section determined the application technique (Körner / Röper, Germany). Most of the manure, how the manure is treated, and the method used to determine the application technique (Körner / Röper, Germany). The next section of the symposium dealt with harvest and post-harvest practices both at the farm and the slaughter house. A review about animal welfare entitled "Yesterday, Today and Prospective for Tomorrow" (Luy, Germany). Another presentation reported on a new litter material for use in poultry housing. The next section of the symposium dealt with harvest and post-harvest systems, and water management, to name a few were also important factors. The influence of stocking density and environmental enrichment on walking ability and tibial dyschondroplasia (TD) was presented. The incidence as well as the severity of TD was not significantly affected either by the addition of a ramp or by stocking density. It was, however, noticed that the walking ability of the birds in all groups declined with age (Berk and Cottin, Germany). This section determined the application technique (Körner / Röper, Germany). Most of the manure, how the manure is treated, and the method used to determine the application technique (Körner / Röper, Germany). The next section of the symposium dealt with harvest and post-harvest practices both at the farm and the slaughter house. A review about animal welfare entitled "Yesterday, Today and Prospective for Tomorrow" (Luy, Germany). Another presentation reported on a new litter material for use in poultry housing. The next section of the symposium dealt with harvest and post-harvest systems, and water management, to name a few were also important factors.

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A Norwegian Symposium on Poultry husbandry and Animal Welfare

A Norwegian Symposium on Poultry husbandry and Animal Welfare was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food in cooperation with the Norwegian Veterinary Institute and the Research Council of Norway. The Symposium was held at the Norwegian Veterinary Institute in Oslo on May 22-23, 2006. It covered a wide range of topics, including the influence of stocking density and environmental enrichment on the behaviour of turkeys (Bessei and Günthner, Germany), and the development of agricultural systems, and water management, to name a few, as important factors (Frackenphol, Germany). The next section of the symposium dealt with harvest and post-harvest techniques both at the farm and the slaughter house. A series of papers dealt with various aspects surrounding the loading, transport, stunning, and slaughtering of animals, all of which pose significant danger factors (Frackenphol, Germany). Another presentation reported on a new litter material that has turned farms the management conditions have been converted to closed and forced-air cooled barns with floor heating, which has turned out to be very successful. Sand-litter systems, like all-in-all-out systems, and water management, to name a few were also important factors (Frackenphol, Germany).

The influence of stocking density and environmental enrichment on walking ability and rib dyschondrosis (TD) was presented. The incidence as well as the severity of TD was not significantly affected either by the addition of a ramp or by stocking density. It was, however, noticed that the walking ability of the birds in all groups declined with age (Belk and Cotzin, Germany). This section was ended by a paper discussing new trends in turkeys husbandry and management and future approaches, with some particular attention to ongoing changes in Denmark were given. For example, in some farms the management conditions have been converted to closed and forced-air cooled barns with floor heating, which has turned out to be very successful. Sand-litter systems, like all-in-all-out systems, and water management, to name a few were also important factors (Frackenphol, Germany).

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Continued on Page 4
The SIPA scientific association has been very active in organizing courses, educational events, and meetings, promoting research studies, seminars, and workshops. SIPA's activities have been intense, especially in the field of animal welfare. Several meetings were held on border welfare and the new EEC welfare laws. SIPA suggested scientific trials of new products added to transport cages for bird transport. SIPA also suggested completing a scientific trial of holding laying hens at different densities in cages to look for any significant effect.

Another topic discussed at great length has been the management of the Avian Influenza Crisis. Italy in particular has suffered from a terrific decrease (almost 50%) in the consumption of poultry meat, largely due to media coverage of H5N1 in Asia. SIPA members have been very active in participating in media, newspaper, and other public education institutional activities. We have stressed the importance of keeping scientific risk analysis differentiated from emotional responses. We have also loudly trumpeted the fact that the consumption of properly cooked and handled poultry products is not a risk for the consumer.

Avian Pathology

2005 was a very good year for Avian Pathology: our highest number of submitted manuscripts and our highest impact factor (1.789, published in June 2006). That is the highest impact factor amongst journals devoted to avian species, and places Avian Pathology 6129 in the Veterinary Sciences category. The rate of acceptance of manuscripts submitted during 2005 was 40%. This reflects that we publish papers whose content is not only of high quality but also has novelty, and which is of interest to an international readership.

During November 2005 we switched submission and all aspects of the management of manuscripts to an online system. The provision of Manuscript Central permits authors to submit their papers on our homepage: www.avianpathology.com. During 2005 Taylor and Francis made 10 recent Avian Pathology papers freely available, plus the recent review by Barbara Capua and colleagues. The challenge of avian influenza to the veterinary community, published in volume 35, issue number 3. Access to these papers is via a link on the homepage of the AVP website.

Two of our Associate Editors retired from the editorial team during 2006. David Swiney and Jens Christensen. I would like to express here the gratitude of all those who have submitted and reviewed manuscripts for the journal, without the input of all these people the journal would not experience the success that it does.

Dave Cavanagh
Editor-in-Chief

http://www.wvpa.net/
Avian Pathology

President’s Message

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During this last 44 years of activity, the WPPVA has grown to be a truly global organization, adding both new members and new national country branches. There are currently 1956 members from 53 countries. National branches exist in 37 countries. 28 of these have 20 or more members. New branches have been formed within the last two years in Mexico, Poland, Tanzania and the Ukraine.

The increase in membership is matched by growing numbers of attendees at our world congresses, now held every two years. Although most members are still from European countries, our goal is to hold future World Congresses on all continents. To name just the recent locations, WPPVA congresses took place in Jerusalem (1995), Brighton (1999), Sydney (1993), Budapest (1997), Cairo (2002), Denver (2006) and Istanbul (2005). Plans are already in progress for our next congress which will be held in Beijing on 12-16 September 2007. Throughout these years, our Association can be proud that it has continued to provide leadership in the dissemination of scientific information related to all aspects poultry diseases on a global basis.

In 2005, the XV World Veterinary Poultry Congress took place in Istanbul, Turkey from August 22-26. A total of 750 registered participants enjoyed the very interesting scientific program as well as every aspect of a well-organized event. The scientific programme consisted of 15 keynote lectures, the Houghton Lecture, 174 oral and 199 poster presentations. Along with the Congress, the VIV 2005 Istanbul Poultry Exhibition took place with free entrance for all Congress participants. I would like to take the opportunity to express my deep and sincerely-felt thanks to the Organizing Committee, their efficient staff members, and to all members of the Turkish Branch of the World Veterinary Poultry Association.

As the newly-elected WPPVA President, it is an honor to have the opportunity to serve the World Veterinary Poultry Association. I thank all of you who have trusted and supported my nomination for this position. With your help and involvement, it is my plan to build further on the excellent accomplishments of my predecessors and to move our association forward so that it can even better fulfill its mission to serve all of the WPPVA members in their countries on all continents. This can be achieved through your activities and cooperation with related international poultry organizations. For this reason I would like to recommend your attention to the International Congress of the World Poultry Science Association in Brisbane, Australia, 10-15 August 2008 and encourage your attendance at that congress.

Finally, on behalf of our Vice-President Dr. Erhard Franke-Kalera and Dr. Trevor Bagust, as well as the Secret/Treasurer, Dr. Ursula Heffels-Redmann, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all WPPVA members in their many countries who have given and continue to give their support to global poultry health.

Yours sincerely,
Prof. H.M. Hafez
President, WPPVA