

Ahmed Ali Sami Ahmed (1933- 2015)



It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death of our friend, colleague and mentor Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ali Sami Ahmed who passed away on the 3rd March 2015 at the age of 81 years.

Professor Ahmed Sami was born on 20th October 1933 in El-Minia Province, Egypt. In 1958 he obtained his veterinary degree from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University. He completed his Dr. medicinae veterinariae at the Department of Poultry Diseases, Giessen University, Germany, and in 1971 he successfully completed his Dr. habilitatus thesis at the Department of Poultry Diseases, University of Munich.

In 1958, he joined the staff of the Department of Poultry Diseases at Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University and became Professor in 1976. Then he was named as the Dean of the then newly established Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Alexandria University, Egypt. From 1979 to 1982, he served as Professor of Poultry diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary science, King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia. He returned back to Alexandria University in Egypt and served as the head of Department of Poultry Diseases until his retirement and became an Emeritus Professor in 1994.

Professor Ahmed Sami established the Egyptian branch of World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA) in 1986 and served as president until 2006. He organized the XII World Congress of the World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA) that was held in 2002 in Cairo, Egypt.

From 1997 to 2005 he served as Vice-President of the WVPA; and in 2005 he was named as Honorary Life president of WVPA. In 2013 he was selected for the WVPA Hall of Honour.

His contributions to poultry veterinary science were recognized by numerous awards from industry, academia and government. He served as a scientific advisor for several poultry companies in Egypt and several Middle Eastern countries.

Over the past 50 years, he was selected to chair most, if not all of governmental committees related to poultry diseases and production in Egypt. His knowledge and expertise were instrumental to the enhancement and growth of the poultry industry in in Egypt and the Middle East. Professor Ahmed Sami's career has focused on diagnosis and control of poultry diseases, with particular emphasis on respiratory and food-borne diseases. He has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals and supervised more than 50 post-graduate students. He is best known for his work on Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis and adenovirus infections, but has also worked on bacterial and parasitic diseases of chickens, duck and geese.

He will be missed by poultry specialists of the World Veterinary Poultry Association, as his contributions will not be forgotten. We will remember Professor Ahmed Sami for his long lasting, valuable contributions to academia teaching, and research that supported the poultry industry in the Middle East.

Our thoughts are with his wife, Hildegard, his daughter Susanne and son Hani.

Hafez M. Hafez (Berlin, Germany); Fathi Saad (Giza, Egypt); Aly M. Fadly (Lansing, USA); Y.M. Saif (Ohio, USA)