

# Aerosols

Newsletter of the World  
Veterinary Poultry Association



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## President's message

It was great to see so many poultry colleagues and to meet old acquaintances and make many new friends at our recent XVIth Congress of the World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA) in Marrakesh, which coincided with the 50th anniversary of our association. I would like to take the opportunity to express my deep and sincere thanks to the organising committee, their efficient staff members and to all members of the Moroccan branch of WVPA.

The WVPA was formed in 1959 and is an international association of veterinarians and scientists who work in the field of poultry health. The goal of our association is to promote education and research aimed at the diagnosis and control of diseases of poultry.

Our association continues to grow in individual memberships and in the number of national country branches. In 1960 we had 150 members from 15 countries; today we have 2125 members from 53 countries. National branches exist in 38 countries. The increase in membership is being accompanied by the growing attendances at our world congresses which have now been held in five continents (nine times in Europe, twice in America as well as in Asia and once in Africa and Australia).

The world congress of our association has been established as a unique forum for sharing and exchanging knowledge among poultry disease specialists, poultry scientists, industry, government, and the general public, and to give a big push for continued development of poultry science by sharing excellent scientific knowledge and constructive discussions at the congress.

The XVII Congress of the WVPA will take place in Cancun, Mexico in 2011. The bureau members decided in 2007 unanimously for a congress interval of four years beginning in 2011, that is, the XVIII WVPA Congress will be held in 2015. Furthermore, the bureau members decided to extend the tenure of the present board (officers) to 2011. At the WVPA Congress in Mexico a new board will be elected for a period of four years (2011-2015).

On behalf of the board I thank all of you for your trust, your commitment and your generous contributions to the WVPA over the years. With your continuing support, it is our plan to move our association forward, so that it can even better fulfil its mission to serve the entire WVPA members worldwide. I thank you for this opportunity and look forward to everyone's participation. Your voice will be heard.

**Visit: [www.wvpa.net](http://www.wvpa.net)**

For more information on the association, membership, grants and awards, publications, meetings and links to related websites

Prof. Dr Hafez M. Hafez  
President of WVPA

# Well done More



Above, the congress venue and the stage is set for the opening ceremony.



Large numbers of delegates attended the commercial exhibition and the associated symposia.

Far right, Jane Cook, secretary of the Houghton Trust and Peter Kaiser, presenter of the 2009 Houghton Lecture. Near right, Professors Janet Bradbury and Richard Jones from Liverpool University who both received honorary life memberships of the Association with Prof. Dr S. Fathi Saad who was not at the congress.

## wvpc almost 1,500 delegates 2009 from 85 countries



Your executive and new honorary life members. From left to right, seated, are Dr Ursula Heffels-Redmann (Secretary/Treasurer), Prof. Richard Jones (honorary life member), Prof. Hafez M. Hafez (President) and Prof. Janet Bradbury (honorary life member and Editor of Avian Pathology). Standing, from left to right, are Nigel Horrox (Editor of Aerosols), Prof. Trevor Bagust, (Vice President), Prof. L. Houadfi Mohamed (Vice President of the local organising committee) and Prof. Erhard Kaleta (Vice President).





# OCCO wvpc2009 – a great success



Top left, the local organising committee and their awards. Top and bottom right, celebrating WVPA's 50th birthday at the gala dinner. Left, Susan Baigent receives the Bart Rispens award and cheque from SP Intervet and, centre, Claire Knott President of BVPA (a founder member of WVPA) presents a commemorative scroll for the 50th anniversary of WVPA to President Hafez M. Hafez.

Right, the WVPA Executive and local organising committee of the congress and, below, Prof. L Houadfi Mohamed relaxes at the gala dinner after a successful conference.



It was good to see so many Asian delegates at wvpc2009!







## Ben Roy Burmester, former President of WVPA, dies at 99 13th June 1910 - 10th October 2009

Dr Ben R. Burmester died on October 10, 2009 at the age of 99 in Petaluma, California, USA, the same town where he was born on June 13, 1910. He earned BS, MS, and PhD degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. He later received the DVM degree from Michigan State University. He joined the staff of the USDA Regional Poultry Laboratory in East Lansing, Michigan in 1940 where he served for 34 years as a principal scientist. He was director of the laboratory from 1964-1974.

Dr Burmester was a strong supporter of the World Veterinary Poultry Association. His first direct involvement was as a member of the Bureau and then corresponding secretary for the USA. He was instrumental in the successful bid for the VIth Congress to

take place in Atlanta, Georgia, USA in 1977, in association with the AVMA and AAAP meetings, and was co-chairman with Dr Calnek of the Organising Committee. At this Congress he was elected President of the WVPA. Under his leadership the Statutes of the Association were modernised.

In 1983 he was elected an Honorary Life President.

Ben was also a charter member of the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP) and served as its 4th President.

He is considered one of the original pioneers in cancer virology. He was best known for his work on avian leukaemia where he isolated the causative virus and determined the principal routes of transmission. He led a team that contributed critical knowledge on Marek's disease, including the development of the HVT vaccine.

He received more than 20 major awards for his research including election to the Poultry Hall of Fame.

After retirement in 1974, he continued to live in East Lansing where he enjoyed a continuing association with his former laboratory. Later he lived near his family in Idaho and California.

Additional information may be found in a biography posted on the AAAP website.

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# The Keith Gooderham Waterfowl Lecture

Keith Gooderham has been interested in waterfowl for many years. To encourage an increased awareness of waterfowl matters, he has sponsored, through the auspices of the British Veterinary Poultry Association (BVPA), a lecture to be delivered annually and known as The Keith Gooderham Waterfowl Lecture. Potential speakers may volunteer or be invited to cover any aspect of waterfowl production such as disease, genetics, incubation and nutrition.

To date, three lectures have been delivered. Keith himself gave the inaugural lecture during which he explained the purpose for the lecture and described some questions he would like answered.

In 2008, the lecture 'Past, present and future of duck breeding' was given by Frederic Grimaud of Grimaud Frères Selection of France.

The third lecture 'Key Points of Duck Nutrition' was given in 2009 by Dr Dan Shafer of Maple Leaf Farms, USA.

On 18th March 2010, Vilmos Palya of Ceva, Hungary will speak on 'The major viral diseases of waterfowl and their control'.

It is a condition of the sponsorship that the paper be made available for publication in a non-peer-reviewed journal and be held in the BVPA archives.



Frederic Grimaud (left), the recipient of the second Waterfowl Lecture, receiving a glass bowl and certificate commemorating his lecture from Keith Gooderham.

## Active Belgian branch

The Belgian branch of WVPA was established in 1968 and has been active ever since. The branch has 44 individual members and 19 corporate members.

The poultry industry and related industries in Belgium have very strong international connections, with a number of European feed and feed additive companies having their head offices in Belgium.

In addition, a number of members of the Belgian branch are involved in meat inspection and hygiene control. Thus, the members of the Belgian branch of WVPA have a broad range of interests.

The activities of the Belgian branch are very much concentrated on continuing education, with three to four activities organised every year.

As well as these educational activities, the Belgian branch of WVPA regularly organises visits, the most recent being a visit to Aviagen and the Roslin Institute in Scotland.

Between August 2008 and August 2009, they had four continuing education sessions.

The first one was on medication. Erik Hoeven from the Association of Feed Companies discussed recent developments in medicated feeds.

Chantal Rettigner from the federal govern-

ment's Food Safety Agency presented the strategy and the results of the Agency's residue control program.

Finally, Lionel Laurier from the federal government's Medicines Agency discussed the responsibilities of the veterinarians in practice, pharmaceutical companies and the distributor in relation to the legislation on the use of therapeutic drugs and vaccines in poultry.

The most important conclusion was that, under European conditions, the pharmaceutical company is responsible for documenting safety and efficacy.

The second meeting was on *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale*. An Garmyn from Ghent University presented the results of her experimental studies on the pathogenesis of the infection in broilers and turkeys.

Teun Fabri from the Dutch Veterinary Health Service discussed etiology, sources and complications of this infection.

Finally, Peter De Herdt from Intervet gave a talk on vaccination against *O. rhinotracheale*. It was concluded that interactions with other respiratory pathogens are often underestimated and the diagnosis can be missed.

The third meeting focused on infectious laryngotracheitis (ILT) with Wil Landman



Prof. Dr R. Ducatelle  
President  
and  
Dr M. Vereecken  
Secretary of the  
Belgian branch

from the Dutch Veterinary Health Service reporting on an epizootic of ILT in the Netherlands, and Ruud Hein of Intervet presenting the recent epidemiologic situation and the control measures taken against ILT in the USA.

The last meeting of the year focused on coccidiosis and Ray Williams from Coxitec, UK, discussed possible interactions between coccidiosis and clostridial infections in broilers, before reporting on differences in virulence between different strains of *Eimeria praecox*.

Helena Brutsaert and H el ene Charier from CID lines presented recent developments and

limitations of disinfection against coccidia.

It was concluded that coccidiosis and clostridial infections (either clinical or sub-clinical) are major problems in the broiler industry at the moment.

A perspective for next year is the discussion on the newly set up European College and its interactions with the WVPA.

## XVIIth Congress of WVPA

Cancun, Mexico  
14-18 August 2011

[www.wvpc2011.org](http://www.wvpc2011.org)

# HPAI in Egypt

The emergence of rapidly spreading HPAI virus subtype H5N1 in mid February 2006 has incurred serious economic losses to the poultry industry in Egypt and caused human infections with fatalities.



Target vaccination of susceptible breeder flocks, commercial layers and zoo birds at risk, which started in March 2006, with imported inactivated H5N1 reassorted vaccine, together with stamping out of diseased flocks and culling of susceptible flocks at 1km around the infected site in the commercial section and

compensation of the owners was the national policy for disease control.

In late May 2006, generalisation of vaccination with imported H5N1 reassorted and H5N2 inactivated vaccines was adopted in the commercial production sector.

This was done to stop the spread of the disease throughout the majority of the neighbouring governorates, by the irresponsible and ill-informed behaviour of owners of diseased flocks who ignored quarantine rules and movement restrictions issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.

This was as a result of the absence of further compensation policies for stamping out and culling and with charging for the government's diagnostic service to confirm the infection in such flocks.

Vaccination of village flocks free of charge which supplied livebird markets started even later in August/September 2006 and proved to be unsuccessful in controlling the

disease. Reports presented to the Ministry of Agriculture by the veterinary authorities on the epidemiological situation in early 2008 and 2009, confirmed the emergence of the disease in vaccinated flocks and confirmed mutations in the HA and NA genes of some virus isolates from poultry and humans in 2007-2009.

This led to the following conclusions:

- There was partial fulfilment of the tasks of the veterinary authorities due to financial, personal, or technical reasons which have to be seriously considered.
- There was weak co-operation between all those concerned or involved directly or indirectly with control of the disease.
- There is a necessity for continually raising the awareness and understanding of the seriousness of the problem by poultry producers in the commercial and village sectors. In addition, effective education and communication are critical.
- The importance of stopping routine AI vaccination of the flocks in areas where the disease is absent or rare (compartmentalisation) with periodical monitoring for infection is paramount.

Finally, a law was passed on 2nd May 2009 on the movement and marketing of live poultry which will be enforced through detailed regulations by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation. Decree No. 941, published 16th July, 2009, also included regulations for restructuring the poultry industry on a sound basis. It is hoped that this legislative approach with coordinated control and monitoring will help to rid Egypt of HPAI.

Prof. Dr A. A. Sami Ahmed  
Corresponding Secretary  
of the EVPA

## Fruitful year for SIPA

During 2008, the Italian Association of Avian Pathologists (SIPA) was very active in organising training courses, educational events and meetings and promoting research studies. It also maintained technical and scientific collaboration between private veterinarians and governmental institutions (National Health Ministry and Regional Health Surveillance systems). The association organised several meetings on topics of interest to both government and private veterinarians.

On 23rd May a meeting at the University of Teramo was organised and during the meeting different speakers, including G. Tosi (IZSLER Forlì), A. M. Moreno Martin (IZSLER Brescia), L. Vinco, E. Alessandri, M. Della Valentina, E. Morandini, L. Gavazzi (private veterinarians), G. Cattoli (IZS Venezia), M. V. Murgia (Ohio State University, USA), J. M. Sharma (University of Minnesota, USA) focused on several aspects of emerging and re-emerging viral diseases of poultry, including clinical signs, diagnosis, epidemiology, prevention and vaccination of infectious laryngotracheitis, haemorrhagic enteritis and marble spleen disease, astrovirus and type 1 adenovirus infections.

On 3rd October, the annual meeting of SIPA

(47th edition) was held in Forlì. In the morning several presentations focused on the global health status of poultry production with particular reference to the epidemiological situation of salmonellosis, the role of wild birds in the epidemiology of orthomyxovirus and paramyxovirus infections and health problems of turkeys, broilers and layer hens.

The meeting continued with the annual assembly of the association.

In the afternoon, the meeting centred on special topics concerning laboratory diagnostics. This involved M. Hess from the University of Wien, Austria, speaking on the development of diagnostic procedures applied to poultry production, S. de Wit (GD-Animal Health Service, Deventer, The Netherlands) on field of application, limits and advantages of serological tests, P. Cordioli (IZSLER Brescia) on an approach to the diagnosis of avian viral diseases, D. Giovanardi (Gruppo Veronesi, Verona) on an approach to the diagnosis of avian bacterial diseases and C. Franciosi (University of Bologna) on interpretation of results from the laboratory to the field.

The activities of SIPA for the year 2008 were generally fruitful.

## French focus on pathology

On 16th September 2008 the French branch of WVPA organised *Actualités en Pathologie Aviaire* (Current Topics in Avian Pathology) in collaboration with scientists from the French Agency for Food Safety (Ploufragan Laboratory) and supported by Filières Avicoles.

This annual conference has run for more than 30 years and is now part of SPACE – a major international agricultural fair held in Rennes, Brittany.

This year's event had more than 100 attendees, both veterinarians and poultry professionals, from France and overseas.

The four conferences were presented by the scientists who had conducted the studies, namely Nicolas Viloux (Groupe Chêne-Vert) on 'Standardising procedures for assessing sensitivity to antibiotics of *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* isolates', Nicolas Eterradossi (AFSSA-Ploufragan) on the 'Detection and

molecular characterisation of a turkey coronavirus in France', Laurence Gordon (AFSSA-Ploufragan) on 'Experimental reproduction of necrotic enteritis in broiler chickens by combined inoculation of *Eimeria acervulina*, *E. maxima* and *Clostridium perfringens*' and Gérard Lévêque (Groupe Grelier) on the 'Combined use of molecular markers for a better understanding of the molecular epidemiology of *E. coli* infections in turkey and broiler production.

The conference closed with a tribute to Dr Pierre Drouin, former secretary-treasurer of the French branch, for his excellent service to the branch during the past 13 years (Dr Drouin retired from the bureau in June 2009) and to introduce Dr Sophie Le Bouquin, who was elected as a board member of the French branch and will now be taking over the duties of secretary-treasurer.

Dr Nicolas Eterradossi,  
President  
n.eterradossi@afssa.fr

Dr Sophie Le Bouquin  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
s.lebouquin@afssa.fr

## Prof. Kaleta's heritage

In 1988 Prof. Kaleta realised the idea for a joint meeting of scientists and veterinarians from diagnostic laboratories, the field and vaccine producing companies, all working on the avian coronavirus causing infectious bronchitis which was, and still is, one of the major problems in the poultry industry.

He organized the 1st International Symposium on Infectious Bronchitis at the Castle of



From left to right:  
Prof. H. M. Hafez,  
Prof. E. Kaleta,  
Dr U. Heffels-Redmann  
Prof. M. Lierz

Rauischholzhausen, the conference centre of the Justus Liebig University, Giessen, which is located in a little village between the cities of Giessen and Marburg in Germany.

The programme comprised all aspects of this viral disease and the beautiful castle and its grounds created a pleasant atmosphere for the intense exchange of information and discussion.

During the three days of the symposium attendees from all over the world came closer together both socially and scientifically.

This had the positive effect of the formation of new working groups. Since then, eleven symposia on special avian virus infections have been organised with the financial support of several poultry related companies.

This year the 6th Symposium on Avian Coronaviruses and Pneumoviruses took place in the same Castle as the first event, confirming that the idea of Prof. Kaleta has become a well known event.

Unfortunately, this symposium was the last one under his leadership. For this reason, Prof. Hafez as President of the WVPA took the opportunity to recognise Prof. Kaleta's long lasting efforts for the promotion of exchange of information and knowledge on avian medicine.

Dr Ursula Heffels-Redmann, as his assistant and co-organizer since the beginning in 1988, thanked him on behalf of the staff members of the Clinic for Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians and Fish, Justus Liebig University, Giessen, for his good and trustful cooperation.

To make his retirement easier Prof. Lierz, as his successor as head of the clinic, promised to continue the work he started and expressed the hope that he could rely on Prof. Kaleta's support in this mission.

The proceedings (book and CD) of this 6th Symposium containing 58 full text papers and summarising reflections by Prof. Richard Jones, the chairman of the final discussion session, are available at a price of €22 plus postage from Dr Ursula Heffels-Redmann, Clinic for Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians and Fish, Justus Liebig University, Giessen, Germany.

## Hungarian branch is 50

The Hungarian branch of WVPA held a professional day on the respiratory diseases of broiler chickens on 1st April 2009 and 60 members attended.

The first lecture was given by Dr Imre Horváth-Papp on the practical issues of respiratory problems in large-scale farms.

Dr Andrea Bistyák gave an overview on the diagnostic examinations used for respiratory diseases.

Dr László Kőrösi spoke about the consequences and prevention of avian pneumovirus infection and Dr Vilmos Palya reported on the infectious bronchitis strains isolated in Hungary, and the possibility of protection against these viruses.

Derzsy's Day was held in Balatonalmádi on 4th and 5th June with over 200 registered participants.

Traditionally, this symposium lasts two



days. Lectures on the first morning were on food hygiene, farm management, including the vitality of day-old chicks, and reproduction/fertility problems in meat type hybrid parent flocks.

In the afternoon session, novel diagnostic possibilities were discussed.

This was followed by a lecture on an immuno-suppressive disease of unknown etiology occurring in turkey flocks.

The final lecture was on novel, recombinant vaccines and the possibilities of new developments in this field.

The evening programme centered around a pleasant dinner with music and dancing.

The next morning animal welfare issues related to poultry rearing were discussed plus a lecture about botulism cases.

This was followed by a lecture on the divergent properties of *Pasteurella* strains causing

poultry cholera. Finally, different practical issues, such as the role of reoviruses in broiler flocks, and the field evaluation of the efficacy of vaccines administered via drinking water, were discussed.

The 50-year anniversary of the poultry society will be celebrated by a special meeting in December 2009.

The preparations for this meeting started quite a long time ago to allow the proper celebration of this important date and the activities of the Hungarian branch (of WVPA).

## XVIIth Congress of WVPA

Cancun, Mexico

14-18 August 2011

[www.wvpc2011.org](http://www.wvpc2011.org)

# BVPA's successful run

Following on from a successful 50th Anniversary meeting in 2006, the BVPA (British Veterinary Poultry Association) has enjoyed a run of successful meetings with attendances as high as 80+.

In a typical year the BVPA hosts three meetings – a two day winter meeting, a two day spring meeting and a one day summer meeting – which are usually held in November, March and July respectively.

The two day meetings are basically scientific meetings that focus on specific themes for some sessions as well as having clinical and general sessions, whereas the summer meeting usually involves a trip somewhere.

Recent trips have been to Compton, a large pheasant breeder and Intervet's UK facilities.

The two day meetings always have a dinner at which veterinary political figures and industry personalities are our guests and often speak.

The BVPA has two annual awards for speakers at its meetings – the Brian Hanson Award for best paper in the previous year and The Cliff Stuart Award for the best clinical paper from a member, also in the previous year.

At the 50th Anniversary Dinner, the then President, Nigel Horrox, donated a Quaich, a Scottish two handled silver bowl, to BVPA.

This is now awarded annually as The President's Quaich by the incumbent President to

the member who, in the President's view, has given good service to the Association.

The current officers are Claire Knott and Alan Pearson who are President and junior Vice President respectively and the senior Vice President is Paul McMullin.

Each has a two year term so progression to and through the presidency is a six year stint!

The BVPA also has a Trust Fund which is used for educational purposes.

In recent years this has been used to support delegates to WVPA Congresses, to financially support undergraduates from the British veterinary schools so they can attend BVPA meetings and to support members on post graduate courses such as the ones at the University of Melbourne, Australia.

Recent years have been good for BVPA with an increase in attendance at meetings, good scientific programmes and a great camaraderie among members, although the dinner evenings now come to a close shortly after midnight and not at 3 or 4am as they used to in the 1970s and 80s! Perhaps members are getting a little older and wiser!




Tibor Cserep –  
a recent winner of  
the President's Quaich

Nigel Horrox, WVPA Bureau  
Member for BVPA

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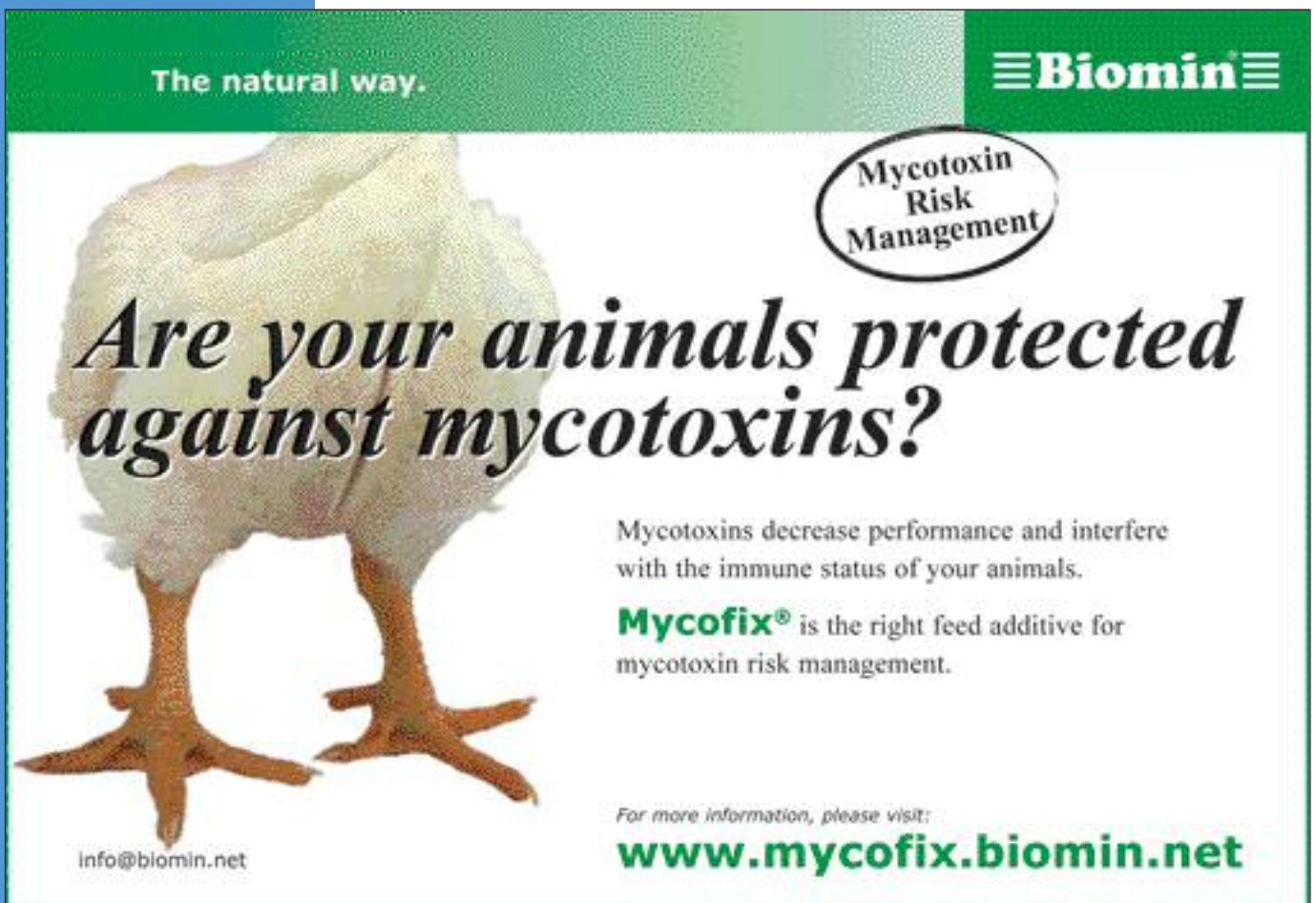
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# AAAP meets in Seattle

The American Association of Avian Pathologists met at Seattle's Washington State Convention and Trade Center on 12th-15th July this year. The three and a half day event included a symposium sponsored by the Animal Welfare and Management Practices committee entitled North American Broiler Welfare Symposium.

The program consisted of 118 oral presentations and 93 poster presentations.

Featured speakers included Dr Richard K. Gast, keynote speaker, whose address was entitled Strategies for Preharvest Control of Foodborne Salmonella in Poultry and Dr Ray Williams, whose Lasher History Lecture was entitled, A History of Coccidiosis to 1950.

Reed Rumsey Award winners, Taylor Barbosa and Deirdre I. Johnson presented their papers on Expression of Viral Immunogenic Proteins in Stable Cell Culture Using a Retroviral-Based Gene Delivery System and Evaluation of Recombinant Vector-Vaccines against Infectious Laryngotracheitis under Experimental Conditions, respectively.

Jennifer M. Pfeiffer and Enid McKinley were Richard B. Rimler Memorial Paper award winners.

Jennifer presented her paper Effects of Spe-

cific Amino Acid Changes on the Antigenicity of Haemagglutinin Molecules of Avian Influenza Isolates from Mexico and Enid presented Evidence of multiple recombination events in an Avian Coronavirus Infectious Bronchitis virus.

During the AAAP annual business meeting, Dr Jagdev Sharma began his tenure as AAAP's new President.

AAAP members elected Dr Stewart-Ritchie as their President elect and Dr Susan Williams as the new Director-at-Large.

Next year's Annual Meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on 31st July - 4th August, 2010.



## AAAP Award Winners 2009

Back row from left: Andrew Rhorer, Conyers, Georgia; Jack King, Athens, Georgia; F.W. van Ginkel, Auburn University; David Swayne, ARS Southeast Laboratory, Athens Georgia; Taylor Barbosa, University of Georgia; Jerry Maiers, Asheville, NC; Rami Dalloul, Virginia Tech.

Front row from left: Deidre Johnson, University of Georgia; Carol Cardona, University of California-Davis; Sachin Kumar, University of Maryland; Annika Hoffman, Western University of Health Sciences; Aline Reis, University of Georgia; Suzanne Young, Keystone Foods, Huntsville, AL.

# Update from Greece

The Greek branch of WVPA holds several meetings each year.

On 21st February 2009 a seminar was organised in Kerkyra Island by Merial. The seminar included talks on Newcastle disease, vaccination management in the hatchery and on the farm, and protection against IBD.

The epidemiological situation with respect to viral diseases in Greece was presented by a speaker from the Clinic of Avian Medicine of the Veterinary School of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH).

On 1st May, the Veterinary Services Directorate of the Prefecture of Thessaloniki organised a meeting in Thessaloniki entitled Salmonella Control on Broiler Farms and on Layers Farms – Relation with Public Health.

The speakers discussed the national control programme for reducing the salmonella incidence in broilers, EU directives and biosecu-

rity measures for salmonella control.

The Clinic of Avian Medicine of the Veterinary School of AUTH participated with a presentation on paratyphoid infections in broilers – their transmission and prevention.

On 30th May the local veterinarian association of Chalkida, in collaboration with the Clinic of Avian Medicine of the Veterinary School of AUTH, organised a meeting that focused on gut health, the injurious factors of the intestinal mucus integrity, the emergence of necrotic enteritis in broilers and the latest methods for its control.

Presentations on recent cases of IBH and aspergillosis in broilers were discussed.

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[www.wvpc2011.org](http://www.wvpc2011.org)

Dr Ioanna Georgopoulou  
Prof. of Avian Medicine  
Veterinary Faculty of  
Aristotle University of  
Thessaloniki

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- Postgraduate Certificate in Avian Health (PGCAH)
- Masters in Avian Health & Medicine (MAHM)

### Subjects:

1. Poultry Industry Field Work
2. Poultry Pathology and Diagnosis of Disease
3. Microbiology and Serology and Disease Control
4. Product and Public Safety, Trade and Economics (poultry)
5. Advanced Studies in Poultry Diseases
6. Avian Health Online: Research Project

One intake of candidates is made each year. Applications must be made by **Friday 8th January 2010** for the course commencing Monday March 1st 2010.

Further information:  
www.avianhealthonline.vet.unimelb.edu.au or contact the  
Postgraduate Coordinator Stephanie Morrison-Duff;  
Phone: +61 (0) 3 98344 0357; Email: smd@unimelb.edu.au



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# More reports from around the world

## Austria

The Austrian Branch of the WVPA currently has 51 members. They are also members of the Austrian veterinary chamber organised in a special section.

Besides attending various national and international meetings the group organises at least one common meeting per year. In 2009 this meeting was held at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna on the 29th of October. The focus of this meeting was on intestinal tract diseases and included the following:

### **Leo Aichberger, Austria**

Intestinal stability from the perspective of poultry practitioners

### **Hafez Mohamed Hafez, Free University Berlin, Germany**

Intestinal disease of poultry – focusing on NE and coccidia

### **Michael Hess, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Austria**

Histomoniasis as a disease of the caecum in chickens

### **Koen De Gussem, Huvepharma, Belgium**

A review on some causes of gut microflora imbalance and some possible solutions

## Tunisia

The Société Scientifique Tunisienne des Médecins Vétérinaires Avicoles (Tunisian Poultry Veterinary Scientific Society) was created in 2002 and joined the WVPA in 2005 at the Istanbul Congress.

Its board has nine elected members who serve for two years. Their main objective is promoting poultry sciences among veterinarians by means of scientific meetings and post-university courses.

The branch has around 250 members from all sectors of the Tunisian poultry industry.

Since its creation, the society has organised regular events including the National Poultry Day (see Diary of meetings on the back page of this supplement) whose objective is to give a chance to all veterinary students, masters

students and practitioners to give presentations on their work for a better diffusion of the information across Tunisia.

It is also a way to bring people together for better interaction.

On the same occasion, a medallion of merit is to be given to a chosen personality for his or her contribution to the poultry industry.

## Iran

The 2nd International Veterinary Poultry Congress & Exhibition of Iran will be held on 20-21st February 2010 in Tehran, Iran. It is organised by the Veterinary Council of I. R. Iran, with support from Iran Veterinary Organisation, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of University of Tehran, Razi Serum and Vaccine Research Institute, World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA-Iran branch), Islamic Azad University and with collaboration of Contemporary Conference Organizers (CCO).

The following people have been selected as the senior managers of this branch:

- Dr Hooman Yousefi, President.
- Dr Reza Tavaef, Vice President.
- Dr Mehdi Mirsalimi, Corresponding Secretary.
- Dr Babak Yousefi.

## Mexico

At the recent WVPA Congress in Morocco the Mexicans, led by Ricardo Solado gave delegates an excellent insight in what to expect at the XVII Congress that will be held in Cancun on the Yucatan Peninsular, Mexico.


Cancun is a famous tourist resort and the venue chosen for the Congress looks superb with a large conference and exhibition centre with extensive hotel accommodation all on the same site. Cancun has direct flights from many international cities around the world.

The format for the Mexican Congress will be similar to that of recent events with four days of presentations, associated symposia and workshops, complemented by a stimulating social programme.

**The Mexican Congress of WVPA will be held on 14-18th August 2011.**

PROTECTION AGAINST GUMBORO DISEASE

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## Book Review

### Management of Food Allergens

This compact 250 page book provides all the practical and technical information on food allergens needed by anyone involved in food production and quality assurance.

It starts on the basis that the reader has limited knowledge on the subject of allergens but, by the time they have read the book, this will certainly not be the case!

After considering the reality of food allergies from the victim's perspective the book goes on to consider the clinical incidence of food allergy, the identification and characterisation of food allergens and discusses whether coeliac disease is an allergy or an intolerance.

The next section focuses on the important topic of risk analysis and considers the principles, operational implications, cleaning and cross contact and its validation and analytical methods.

Finally, Health Canada's approach to the problem is discussed and thoughts are expressed on labelling and legislation, certification programmes and communication.

This is a compact, easy to read text that is broken down into sections which are easy to ingest and digest. It is liberally illustrated with diagrams, photographs, tables and graphs.

In 2009 this is essential reading for anyone associated with modern food production/processing and quality assurance. Maybe there is no coincidence in the book's red cover, considering the current food safety issues in China, and it might not be too long before this text becomes known as the food industry's 'Little Red Book'!

*Editors: Jacqueline Coutts and Richard Fielder. Publishers: Wiley-Blackwell*

# Incubation 2010

A one day technical conference

This one day specialist conference focusing on the key aspects of modern incubation.

*Papers and speakers include:*

What the embryo needs

Nick French, Aviagen

Thoughts on modern energy management

Ken Baker, Chickmaster

Maximising viable chick production

Filip De Smet & Roger Verrees, Emka

Maximising the day old's potential

Conny Maatjens, HatchTech/HatchBrood

Training and motivation in today's hatchery

Dr Marleen Boerjan, Pas Reform

Do we fully utilise the generated data?

Roger Banwell, Petersime

Latest thinking on in ovo vaccination

Tarsicio Villalobos, Pfizer Poultry Health

**Date:** Monday 19th April 2010 (the day before VIV Europe)

**Venue:** Utrecht, Holland

**Details/Bookings:** [palmpositive@yahoo.com](mailto:palmpositive@yahoo.com) • [www.positiveaction.co.uk](http://www.positiveaction.co.uk)



# Journal of Avian Pathology

Avian Pathology is the official journal of the WVPA. It is owned by the Houghton Trust and published by the Taylor and Francis Group. The Houghton Trust uses royalties earned by the journal to enable young scientists to attend meetings and courses to further their knowledge and interest in diseases of birds.

The Trust also sponsors the Houghton Lecture, which is presented at each WVPA Congress by a young scientist who is judged to have made major contributions to poultry disease research.

This clearly illustrates how members of the WVPA, by subscribing to Avian Pathology and choosing to publish their work in the journal, are also supporting the perpetuation of research into avian disease.

## Dave Cavanagh

Dave Cavanagh was Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of Avian Pathology for nearly 12 years but stepped down in May 2009 having pioneered significant advancements for the journal.

Professor Peter Biggs, Chairman of the Houghton Trust, paid tribute to Dave's skill, enthusiasm and achievements (Avian Pathology, 38, 259).

Dave, in his own words, (Avian Pathology, 38, 191) has 'passed the baton' to me although the sheer joy that he showed on the day of the handover filled me with foreboding. He is certainly a hard act to follow.

## New challenges

Taking the role of Editor-in-Chief has been both demanding and enlightening; my only other experiences of the administrative side of publishing were many years ago as Deputy Editor of 'Venture', the student newsletter at my university.

Among other editorials, I remember writing a tirade about the deteriorating standard of student dress – somewhat different to avian pathology!

Despite being an Associate Editor of Avian Pathology for 16 years, I was ignorant of the processes between accepting and editing manuscripts and the final preparation of the next issue of the journal. The learning curve was as steep as any graph appearing in Avian Pathology.

The slope would compare with one showing the onset of clinical signs in an outbreak of highly virulent avian influenza. However,

with the ever-present help of Dave Cavanagh, our Administrator Verity Cavanagh and the publishers, the learning curve has peaked and is now in a steady state.

## The future for Avian Pathology

The journal has an excellent panel of Associate Editors who give freely of their time and expertise. When Jim Payne originally asked me to be an Associate Editor, he commented that it would be an interesting experience but 'will not win you any friends'. Fortunately the latter comment is not completely true because most authors are more than grateful for any help and advice offered.

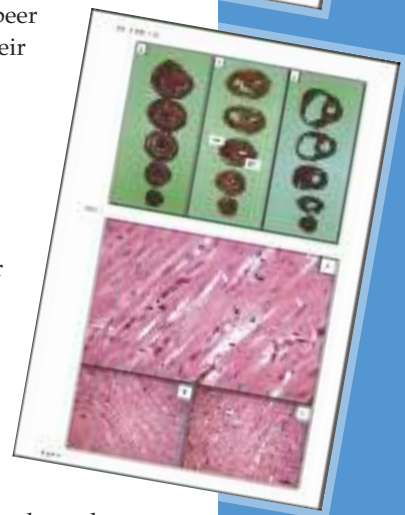
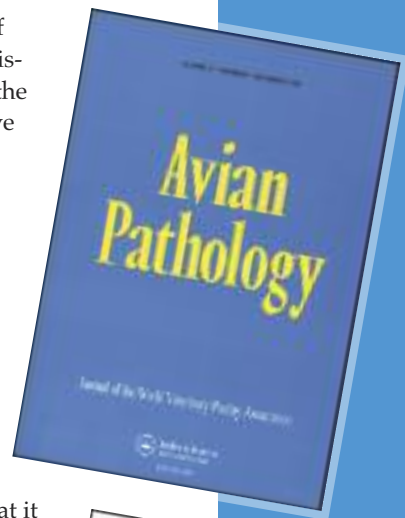
In his resignation editorial Dave acknowledged the loyalty of both our contributors and readers, who are vital to the future of the journal.

I would indeed endorse this but would also add special thanks to our many peer reviewers who contribute their time and expertise to help maintain the standard of the journal.

It becomes more and more difficult to recruit reviewers, so if you are an avian scientist who wishes to have your papers peer reviewed then please also be prepared to act as a reviewer for your peers too.

In conclusion, the journal was passed on to me in a very healthy state and I will aim to keep it at 'peak production'. The latest (2008) Impact Factor is 1.700, the highest of any journal devoted to avian species, and it is ranked 18/134 in the Veterinary Sciences category.

**Members of WVPA qualify for a significant discount when purchasing Avian Pathology.**



Janet Bradbury  
Editor-in-Chief,  
Avian Pathology



## Latest from the AVPA

2008 and 2009 have been eventful years for Australia, but that is the nature of our industry!

We have experienced two widespread outbreaks of ILT over the last two years. Predisposing problems revolved around the unavailability of ILT vaccines, allowing emergence of wild strains from unvaccinated older birds.

There had been some use of an imported vaccine to attempt to overcome the local shortage, but wild strain outbreaks began occurring in several regions. Once gaining access to broiler operations in high poultry density areas, the disease spread fairly rapidly. The first outbreaks were centred in Victoria and this was followed about 12 months later by an outbreak in New South Wales.

Typing of the viruses was undertaken by the University of Melbourne using PCR followed by RFLP on multiple genes from the PCR product. The Victorian outbreak strain differed from the two strains found in the NSW scene. Resolution of the outbreaks was hampered by the continued poor supplies available of ILT vaccines, in particular the

A20 strain which is mild enough to use in broiler chickens.

This resulted in vaccine being used at sub-label doses which provided some protection but not sufficient to stop the continued outbreaks in broiler flocks. Use of other vaccines in broilers was associated with the usual and sometimes severe reactions.

In Victoria, the wild strain was somewhat less virulent than the northern problem, but the situation has simmered on at lower levels for some time. In the NSW situation, the imported ILT vaccine was used at higher than label dose rates and, after some attention to detail on drinking water administration and good cooperation between broiler companies in the area, the wild outbreaks were controlled and we were able to withdraw vaccination in June, with no further outbreaks occurring. The problem illustrates the importance of continual vaccination of older birds and maintaining vaccine availability, particularly of the broiler vaccine type.

**WE GROW.  
YOU WIN.**

Wendy is now a part of Pfizer. The merger of Cook, Westphal and Pfizer involves many legal and regulatory obligations. Accordingly, changes will not become effective outside of the U.S. and Puerto Rico until the relevant incumbent Go-Live date. Until that time, Pfizer and Westphal must continue to operate as two separate companies. All information and messages is subject to Pfizer's copyright and other intellectual property and other legal requirements.



### Newcastle disease vaccination

The compulsory ND vaccination which had been put in place after the outbreaks around 2000 is now being relaxed. In states that did not experience disease outbreaks, vaccination of broilers will be dropped and breeders and layers can be vaccinated through the water with a requirement to maintain titres of  $1 \times 10^5$  EID<sub>50</sub> per dose. In those States where outbreaks have occurred broiler vaccination remains mandatory and commercial layers must be vaccinated with live and killed vaccine

### Australian Government support

Of great joy to us in 2009 has been the successful rebid for a second round of 7 years of funding to be undertaken for the Australian Poultry Cooperative Research Centre (CRC). Competition for government funding and approval of CRC institutions is intense, with most bids failing.

The success of this rebid is indeed a tribute to the achievements of the first CRC which ran for 7 years and produced a great deal of outstanding research. Funding for the second Poultry CRC will total A\$70 million, (US\$60m) in cash and in kind which will allow some excellent projects to be funded.

Partners in the CRC include several univer-

sities, CSIRO, vaccine and feed additive manufacturers and the major and minor poultry producers of Australia.

Avian health research and support by scholarships for continuing professional education of avian veterinarians are both areas where the Australian Poultry CRC proved outstanding in its vision for industry sustainability.

### Future meetings & communication

We have continued in 2009 to follow our now well established practice of holding two scientific meetings each year.

AVPA will be running a scientific meeting following PIX at the Gold Coast in Queensland in May 2010 and another in New Zealand, at Christchurch, in October 2010.

Our overseas colleagues will be warmly welcomed at these meetings and please feel free to use one of the contacts here if you are able to manage a visit to Australia or New Zealand for any reason, but would also like to participate with us then.

We are also building a new website at [www.avpa.asn.au](http://www.avpa.asn.au) and details of these conferences will be available on the site as we progress its construction. We hope it may eventually prove useful to an international audience as much as our own people.

Australia sends warm felicitations to our colleagues in this most fascinating and stimulating of global animal industries.

Dr Ben Wells  
(President)  
[benwells@bigpond.net.au](mailto:benwells@bigpond.net.au)

Dr Branko Karaconji  
(Secretary)  
[karacob@fortdodge.com.au](mailto:karacob@fortdodge.com.au)

Dr Trevor Bagust  
(AVPA-WVPA Bureau)  
[trevorjb@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:trevorjb@unimelb.edu.au)

## Fort Dodge Animal Health becomes part of Pfizer Animal Health

Our new merger does more than just help us grow. It also helps you win. Pfizer Poultry Health now offers you more customer service, technology and poultry health expertise than ever before. Count on us to be your trusted supplier of vaccines, pharmaceuticals and devices—with knowledgeable technical service and customer support associates around the world who truly understand poultry health and production. All backed by the highest commitment to research and development. To learn more about how you'll win, visit us online at [www.pfizerpoultryhealth.com](http://www.pfizerpoultryhealth.com).

 Pfizer Poultry Health



CRP/10/11E

# 44th Annual convention of WVPA in Israel

The 44th Annual Convention of the WVPA Israel branch was held in the southern part of the country in Askelon in November 2008.

The members of the WVPA are always taking part in presenting to farmers, researchers, veterinarians, students and honoured guests from abroad the results of research and the current poultry health situation.

Some topics in the section on diseases and prevention were:

- Development of vector vaccine against coccidiosis. A. Zrachya
- Innovation of the monitoring program for salmonella in Israel. E. Verkin
- Development of RT-PCR for avian encephalomyelitis and the meaning of its use for diagnostics. Y. Farnoushi
- Avian influenza virus H9N2 survival under different temperatures throughout the years. S. Nagar
- Coccidiosis and necrotic enteritis differentiation, prevention and treatment. P. Bedrnik
- Development of a differential molecular assay for direct identification of vaccine and wild type infection laryngotracheitis viruses in chicken organs. I. Davidson et al.

Infectious laryngotracheitis virus causes a respiratory disease of poultry with a variable severity, from a mild to acute form with mortality rates up to 70%.

Milder forms of ILT are manifested with nasal discharges, conjunctivitis, and reduced egg production, whereas in severe forms, the clinical signs include gasping with efforts to inhale, coughing, excretion of bloody mucus, dyspnea up to suffocation and fast mortality.

The researchers aimed to develop a molecular assay that could rapidly identify the virus

directly from the organs of the affected birds, without prior inoculation of embryonated eggs. Originally, feathers were used for virus identification.

The assay could differentiate between the two virus types that could create clinical signs, the wild-type and the vaccine strain type. Moreover, the researchers demonstrated the vaccine virus presence in feather shafts of

vaccinated chickens during about a month following vaccination by the vent-application method, which is used in Israel.

## Management

- Improving bird health and performance through management of the production environment. Trisha Marsh Jonson

## AI in Israel

As a result of the international spread of avian influenza H5N1 and in particular the introduction of the diseases into the Middle East and the knowledge that Israel lies on one of the major bird migratory flyways, the Israel Veterinary Services prepared contingency plans in case of introduction of the disease into the country. These plans included increased preparedness in the laboratories and the setting up of task forces.

The first case in the outbreak was diagnosed on March 16, 2006 and the last of the nine cases on March 31, 2006. The nine cases involved six meat turkey flocks, two heavy broiler breeder flocks and one broiler flock. The maximum daily reported mortalities varied from 1.7% to 35.4%.

## Disease control actions were taken

With a high degree of confidence we can state that Israel is free of NAI and HPAI however,

- The method of introduction of the virus into Israel could not be determined.
- There was no single method of infection that could explain all nine cases in Israel.
- Six of the nine cases were associated with marketing activities (eight in Israel and one in Palestine).
- On two farms migrating birds were observed near the poultry houses.
- No association could be found between two cases and any of the other cases respectively.
- The virus seemed to have a low rate of transmission, as other farms that were associated with infected farms did not become infected.

## Continuing surveillance

Immediately after culling of the last infected case and in accordance with the requirements of The Terrestrial Animal Health Code 2006 of the OIE, Appendix 3.8.9 'Guidelines for the Surveillance of Avian Influenza' a semi annual surveillance program for avian influenza was instituted.

After completion of the 1st surveillance Israel was declared by the OIE as being an 'NAI free country' on 1st August, 2006.



Rachel Bock, Bureau  
Member for WVPA



# Meet your officers



**PRESIDENT**

**Prof. Hafez. M. Hafez**

University of Berlin, Germany

Email: hafez@vetmed.fu-berlin.de

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**Prof. Erhard Kaleta**

University of Giessen, Germany

Email: erhard.f.kaleta@vetmed.uni-giessen.de



**VICE PRESIDENT**

**Prof. Trevor Bagust**

University of Melbourne, Australia

Email: trevorjb@unimelb.edu.au

**SECRETARY - TREASURER**

**Dr Ursula Heffels-Redmann**

University of Giessen, Germany

Email: ursula.heffels-redmann@vetmed.uni-giessen.de



Your officers would greatly appreciate any feedback on WVPA and its activities.

# The future of Aerosols

Aerosols is the WVPA's mouthpiece and it will be as good as the material it receives from the branches!! May I thank all the branches that have contributed to this first edition under my editorship and ask that those branches that did not submit material please do so for the next issue.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a past President of the British Veterinary Poultry Association and an active poultry veterinarian undertaking consultancy in Asia, Africa and Europe.

I also own the company that produces International Hatchery Practice and International Poultry Production and three other food safety and agriculture related magazines.

It is the resources of this company that are now being utilised to provide your Association with a professional magazine.

As was mentioned in the Business Meeting

of WVPA in Marrakesh, historically Aerosols has been one of your Association's biggest expenses.

By being more proactive in sourcing advertising for Aerosols, the objective is to make Aerosols self-financing, thereby leaving Association funds available for other uses.

In future, there will be two editions of Aerosols per year (May and November) and for editorial contributions in these and details of how to advertise in Aerosols please contact me at [neh@positiveaction.co.uk](mailto:neh@positiveaction.co.uk).

Best wishes for 2010!

**Nigel Horrox**  
Editor of WVPA's Aerosols

# 2010 Diary of Meetings

## January

27-29 – **IPE**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Contact: [www.ipe10.org](http://www.ipe10.org)

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## February

1-3 – **VIV India**, Bangalore, India  
Contact: [www.viv.net](http://www.viv.net)

20-21 – **2nd International Veterinary Poultry Congress & Exhibition of Iran**, Tehran, Iran  
Contact: [info@ivpc2010.com](mailto:info@ivpc2010.com)

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## March

1-3 – **Poultry Focus Asia 2010**, Bangkok, Thailand  
Contact: [palmpositive@yahoo.com](mailto:palmpositive@yahoo.com) or [info@positiveaction.co.uk](mailto:info@positiveaction.co.uk)

4-6 – **Ildex Vietnam**, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam  
Contact: [info@ildex.com](mailto:info@ildex.com)

8-10 – **9th EVPA Scientific Conference**, Cairo, Egypt  
Contact: [evpa@mipco-eg.com](mailto:evpa@mipco-eg.com)

11-12 – **Turkey Science and Production Conference**  
Macclesfield, UK  
Contact: [james@jsbentley.co.uk](mailto:james@jsbentley.co.uk)

18 – **Annual Meeting of WVPA - Slovak branch**,  
Nitra, Slovakia  
Contact: [jkalus@nexta.sk](mailto:jkalus@nexta.sk)

18 – **Keith Gooderham Waterfowl Lecture**, Harrogate, UK  
Contact: [www.bvpa.org.uk](http://www.bvpa.org.uk)

18-19 – **BVPA Spring Meeting**, Harrogate, UK  
Contact: [www.bvpa.org.uk](http://www.bvpa.org.uk)

25-26 – **Victam Asia**, Bangkok, Thailand  
Contact: [expo@victam.com](mailto:expo@victam.com)

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## April

13-14 – **WPSA Annual Meeting**, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
Contact: [www.wpsa-uk.com](http://www.wpsa-uk.com)

19 – **Incubation2010**, Utrecht, Holland  
Contact: [palmpositive@yahoo.com](mailto:palmpositive@yahoo.com) or [info@positiveaction.co.uk](mailto:info@positiveaction.co.uk)

20-22 – **VIV Europe**, Utrecht, Netherlands  
Contact: [www.viv.net](http://www.viv.net)

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## May

11-12 – **Pig and Poultry Fair**, Stoneleigh, England  
Contact: [pigandpoultry@rase.org.uk](mailto:pigandpoultry@rase.org.uk)

## June

3-4 – **Derzsy Days**, Hungary  
Contact: [ikorosi@t-email.hu](mailto:ikorosi@t-email.hu)

16 – **BVPA Summer Meeting**, UK  
Contact: [www.bvpa.org.uk](http://www.bvpa.org.uk)

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## July

1-3 – **Agrena**, Cairo, Egypt  
Contact: [Info@agrena.net](mailto:Info@agrena.net)

8-10 – **Indo Livestock**, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Contact: [www.indolivestock.com](http://www.indolivestock.com)

31-4 August – **AAAP Annual Meeting**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Contact: [aaap@aaap.info](mailto:aaap@aaap.info)

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## August

23-27 – **European Poultry Conference**, Tours, France  
Contact: [secretariat@epc2010.org](mailto:secretariat@epc2010.org)

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## September

14-17 – **SPACE**, Rennes, France  
Contact: [info@space.fr](mailto:info@space.fr)

21-23 – **VIV China**, Beijing, China  
Contact: [www.viv.net](http://www.viv.net)

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## October

21-23 – **VIV Latin America**, Guadalajara, Mexico  
Contact: [www.viv.net](http://www.viv.net)

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## November

16-19 – **EuroTier**, Hannover, Germany  
Contact: [info@DLG.org](mailto:info@DLG.org)

25-27 – **Vietstock**, Hanoi, Vietnam  
Contact: [support@ambexpo.com](mailto:support@ambexpo.com)

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## December

30th November - 4th December – **Agromek**, Denmark  
Contact: [ag@agromek.dk](mailto:ag@agromek.dk)

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## And in the future ...

September 2011 – **WPSA Poultry Science Symposium (Alternative Systems)**, Glasgow, UK  
Contact: [wpsa-uk.com](http://wpsa-uk.com)

August 2012 – **24th World's Poultry Congress**, Bahia, Brazil  
Contact: [www.wpc2012.com](http://www.wpc2012.com)