



<http://nzsp.rsnz.org/index.htm>

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The President's desk is barely visible at the moment, as yet another round of bidding heats up. I feel like I have done little else for the past two months but write funding bids (there's a good reason for that...), so this will be another short one.

One welcome break from the drudgery was a visit from the Science Curator at Te Manawa (Palmerston North's answer to The British Museum), who came to assess whether we parasitologists had something interesting enough to warrant an exhibition. I think I can safely say she left convinced that we can deliver - she thought the combination of old photographs and drenching equipment (many courtesy of Dallas and Colin), specimen jars full of worms and animal parts with fascinating facts (fascinating to us - disgusting to others) was fantastic. We're now waiting to hear what the relevant museum committee think of it all.

Other than that, I look forward to a soak in the hot pools in Wanaka come October. Please make sure you mention the conference to anyone who may be interested in attending - particularly those who would not normally think of doing so.

Regards,

Ian

FROM THE WAAVP CONFERENCE



Delegates at the recent WAAVP Conference in Calgary, Canada

Executive

President:	Ian Sutherland	Ian.Sutherland@agresearch.co.nz
Vice President:	Colin McKay	colin.mckay@novartis.com
Treasurer:	Ian Scott	I.Scott@massey.ac.nz

Good to see that at least one of the WAAVP conference sessions had an outdoor setting – very relaxing!



WAAVP Conference – field trip?

22nd Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, Calgary, 9-13 August 2009 [from Ian Scott]

“You know how it is. You wait ages for a bus and then three come along!” In the case of new anthelmintics for production animals we may now be in a similar situation - or at least two thirds of the way there. Zolvix® is already here and if we strain our eyes we can just see the Startect® bus turning the corner in the distance. Pfizer introduced Startect® to the international audience at the recent WAAVP meeting in Calgary. Of all the international parasitology conferences, the biennial WAAVP meetings may be the most enjoyable (although I’m advised by our Australian friends that ICOPA in Melbourne next year will be a significant rival) and I’m sure many of the kiwi delegates at this year’s conference would agree. The full breadth of veterinary parasitology was on show with just under 700 delegates in attendance from 64 countries. If we have been suffering a dearth of new products in recent years then Calgary was

doing its best to address this. In addition to Startect®, were a new flea treatment for dogs and cats, a new anthelmintic combination for dogs and a new treatment for canine demodectic mange. As you can see from some of the pics in this newsletter, the fun didn’t stop with the closing ceremony. Unfortunately I was heading back to NZ while Dave and Bill were casting their first lines. The next WAAVP meeting will be in Buenos Aires in 2011, perhaps the NZSP could organise tango lessons!

[Startect® is a combination of derquantel (2-deoxopararherquamide – a spiroindole anthelmintic) and abamectin, that I’m sure we’ll be hearing a lot more about]

from Ian Scott

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor

I wish to respond to David Heath's letter with respect to *Taenia ovis* control. I was Manager of the National Hydatids Testing Station at Invermay (Taieri) from 1974 until it was closed in the mid-1980s. David states: "It also cycles at a low level through flocks, and hence lamb meat offcuts, or sheep meat from old animals sold as dog tucker, often contain live cysts." It was my impression that live cysts were only found in young sheep, has this changed?

Later David says "Large town dogs are now the main source of *Taenia ovis* in New Zealand." I don't think this is true and suspect David has no data to support this opinion. It is my observation that most town dogs are fed commercial feeds, so no *Taenia* risk; but my neighbour who is a farm worker feeds sheep carcasses to his dogs and the same thing happens on many of the farms I visit. I have several friends who use their dogs for hunting and they are very conscientious about treating their dogs for tapeworm every 35 days with praziquantel - which I think is totally unnecessary because they are feeding commercial feeds and there is no tapeworm risk. David, where is the evidence that "Large town dogs are now the main source of *Taenia ovis* in New Zealand." ? I don't think it exists

Paul Mason
Consultant Parasitologist
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CHRISTCHURCH 7678

The biblical 'fiery serpent' is the...?

Dracunculus medinensis, or Guinea Worm, is thought to have been the inspiration for The Fiery Serpent.

Conventions and Incentives New Zealand

The New Zealand Convention Association (marketed as Conventions and Incentives New Zealand - CINZ) is the primary association of those organisations working commercially within the convention and conference industry within New Zealand.

CINZ primary function is to promote New Zealand as a conference destination internationally and domestically through various channels such as the MEETINGS tradeshow, a presence at International Tradeshows, a hardcopy planner, our website and also the Conference Assistance Programme (CAP).

CAP - Conference Assistance Programme

The CAP scheme assists and supports NZ Associations/Organisations to bid to bring international conferences and congresses to NZ. It is funded through IAEG (Inter-Agency Events Group) which sits within the Ministry of Tourism under the Ministry of Economic Development. CINZ role is to administer the funding in order to increase international conferences within New Zealand.

Further information on CAP specifically can be found at www.conventionsnz.co.nz and further questions can be directed to:

Rebecca Nelson - International Bids Manager [Rebecca@nzconventions.co.nz. DDI: 09 485 3144]

- A brochure can also be obtained from Ian Sutherland

CONFERENCE NOTICES

EPIDEMICS 2

The Second International Conference on >Infectious Disease

02 – 04 December 2009, Athens, Greece [<http://www.epidemics.elsevier.com>]

Wildlife Disease Association (Australian Section) and Wildlife Society of the New Zealand Veterinary Association - Joint Conference 2009

10 - 16 December 2009, Woodstock Lodge, The Catlins, New Zealand

The Australasian Section Wildlife Disease Association and Wildlife Society of the New Zealand Veterinary Association combined conference will be held during 10 - 16 December 2009 in the Catlins, South Otago, New Zealand.

The Catlins is an internationally renowned wilderness area with natural features that will compliment the conference programme well. Viewing of a number of threatened endemic species will be possible during the conference with New Zealand sea lions and yellow-eyed penguins having population concentrations in this region. Other features of the Catlins include old growth coastal forest remnants, the Catlins River valley, a

fossilised forest of geological interest, an abundance of native passerine species - tuis, fantails, bell birds and many wild southern beaches.

We look forward to preparing a top quality six day conference programme. The first three days will have a strong New Zealand focus in line with the Wildlife Society's past programmes, with a broader Australasian focus for the remainder of the programme.

See <http://wildlife.massey.ac.nz/meetings/meetings.asp> for conference information, registrations and abstract submission forms.

ICOPA XII

15–20 August 2010, Melbourne [<http://www.icopaxii.org>]

NZSP CONFERENCE 2009

20 - 22 OCTOBER 2009

Programme

Four keynote speakers on various aspects on their potential of future technologies for parasitology.

- 1 Prof Robin Gasser (2009 WAAVP Bayer Award for Excellence in research in veterinary parasitology)
or Dr Aaron Jex (2009 WAAVP Young Scientist of Year)
- 2 John McEwan, AgResearch
- 3 Richard Shaw AgResearch
- 4 Dr Andy Greer, Lincoln University

Welcome function and registration on Tuesday night at Oakridge Resort.

Day 1 Submitted papers
AGM at 4.30 pm
Dinner at Missy's Kitchen, Wanaka (highly recommended, Waterfront location)

Day 2 Bus trip to high country station for a general tour
Farmers Forum Part I - "Promising technologies for the future parasite control"
- with keynote speakers

Lunch on farm

Farmers Forum Part II - "With the advent of new anthelmintic actives onto the New Zealand market, how do we best use and maintain their efficacy"

- Three invited speakers (short presentations) on their personal views [plus questions]

Finish at 2.30pm at the latest to allow people to get to airport at Queenstown

There are still some spaces available for oral presentations so if you would like to participate please submit your abstract as soon as possible to:

Robin Robin.McAnulty@lincoln.ac.nz

Paul masonp@earthlight.co.nz

Which parasites were associated with the conditions: (a) **Espundia** - melted face due to cutaneous Leishmaniasis; (b) **Hydrocoele** - not so much ball lighting as ball heavying (sorry) - enlargement of the scrotum due to filariasis (elephantiasis) and (c) **Lockjaw** - most commonly associated with tetanus, but also with *Trichinella spiralis*

CONSTITUTION RULE CHANGE

Student By-Law

Rules

1. Applications for assistance to attend the next conference will be invited from students working in parasitology and who are Society members.
2. Applications shall include:
 - (a) a detailed budget of conference attendance (travel, accommodation, registration etc.).
 - (b) covering letter supporting the application which includes a statement as to what other assistance has been sought and what is available.
 - (c) a supporting statement from the students chief supervisor.
3. The applications will be considered by the Executive which shall decide which, if any, of the applicants will be offered assistance and the amount(s) to be offered.
4. The Executive's decision concerning each applicant shall be communicated to the individual applicant in question.

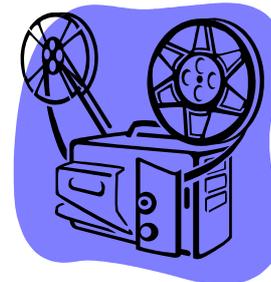
QUIZ QUESTIONS

The Quiz Master was not impressed with the efforts from the last quiz! So see what you can do with this selection...

Parasites in the movies:

QUIZ # 5

1. Which 1994 movie and subsequent TV series feature a mind-controlling parasitic lifeform?
2. What is *Linguafoeda acheronsis* better known as?
3. The mouthparts of the giant sandworms in the 1984 movie Dune bear more than a passing resemblance to those of which group of nematodes?



A conference photo from the past...
31st Conference held at Wellington Racing Club Conference Centre
20 – 22 October 2003

Dr. Manuel Patarroyo claimed to have created what in 1994?

Colombian Manuel Patarroyo became the most famous parasitologist in the world in the early 1990s for developing the world's first effective malaria vaccine (postnote: didn't work)!

Next Newsletter: November 2009

Please send news items, notices etc. to
Tania

Email: tania.waghorn@agresearch.co.nz