



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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi there,

Here we are in winter already – I'm sure Dallas Bishop, our newsletter editor, has something to do with how quickly time is passing these days – it doesn't seem like two months since she asked me for my last contribution.

A major piece of news affecting many of our members was the announcement that AgResearch and Lincoln University will not be merging after all. So what does this mean for us parasitologists – not only in the two organisations directly involved but in e.g. Massey? My personal view is that it should have little bearing at all. As I alluded to in the last newsletter, we should be developing a collective approach, and the non-merger hasn't changed that at all.

Speaking of mass, there will be a strong NZ presence at next month's Australian Society for Parasitology meeting in Sydney. I know of six AgResearch staff attending, and hopefully there are others from elsewhere. The ASP will be absolutely delighted; they are committed to our societies building a strong relationship – Fingers crossed this is the beginning of something bigger and better.

Regards,

Ian

RETIREMENT

Over 38 years after joining DSIR Soil Bureau **Gregor Yeates** has recently retired. Gregor has made significant contributions to the study of nematodes including parasites of plants, earthworms and wetas. He contributed to the description of over 100 species and helped unravel how feeding by plant-parasitic nematodes contributes to soil processes. He has contributed to the activities of many societies and served on the editorial boards of seven journals. Three societies, including the Society of Nematologists (USA), have conferred fellowships on him.

Gregor and Judy plan to continue living in Palmerston North and Gregor has a range of science-related activities to occupy him. His new e-mail address is gregor.yeates@gmail.com.



We wish Gregor all the best in what is obviously going to be a busy retirement and look forward to meeting up at the next NZSP Conference.

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

CONGRATULATIONS!

AgResearch scientist **Dave Leathwick** has been nominated to become an Associated Member of The Society of Sheep and Beef Cattle Veterinarians, a branch of the New Zealand Veterinary Association. He is one of only three non-veterinarians to be nominated. From personal reports on the recent Sheep and Beef Society meeting his nomination was approved and he is now an associate member although he has not yet received official confirmation of this.

The Australian College of Veterinary Scientists has awarded Dave Leathwick and his team of co authors the Most Commendable Paper prize for 2009, for their paper entitled '*Managing anthelmintic resistance: Untreated adult ewes as a source of unselected parasites, and their role in reducing parasite populations*', published in the New Zealand Veterinary Journal vol. 56 in 2008. This is the second time this group has been awarded this prize. In 2007 they received it for the paper '*Drenching adult ewes: Implications of anthelmintic treatments pre- and post-lambing on the development of anthelmintic resistance*' also published in the NZVJ. Dave also received the award in 2002 for '*Anthelmintic resistance in New Zealand*' with Bill Pomroy and Allen Heath (published in the NZVJ in 2001).



CORRESPONDENCE

" The *Taenia ovis* control program orchestrated by Ovis Management Limited - an offshoot of the Meat Industry Association, is keeping a lid on the number of cysts observed in sheep and goat meat, and is partially, but not totally, protecting our export markets. In general, vets supply monthly deworming pills to farmers, and Ovis Management spreads the word at field days. However, *Taenia ovis* is still a problem. It can cause massive condemnations of lambs that have been recently infected. 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. In the old days, all this meat had to be frozen at -10°C for 7 days to kill the cysts, but recently it is sold fresh. Large town dogs are now the main source of *Taenia ovis* in New Zealand. A vaccine against *Taenia ovis* cysts in sheep was invented 15 years ago but was not promoted by the Meat Industry. It looks like the parasite will remain a problem for ever unless a concentrated control program, incorporating the vaccine, is made a preferred requisite by the Meat Industry."

Dr. David D. Heath
Vaccine Development, DNA Investments Ltd
76 Paremata Road
Porirua, New Zealand 5024

FURTHER TO THE ZOLVIX LAUNCH

At the **Zolvix Global Launch** a 5 L pack of Zolvix was put up for auction and after protracted bidding, was bought by **John Meban** for a considerable price (believed to be in excess of \$5,000).

What have the Maori names
Puruhi, Keha and Tuiiau?
Fleas

The chemical referred to in Rachel
Carson's book, 'Silent Spring' was?
DDT

GRAND MERCURE OAKRIDGE RESORT

CNR CARDRONA VALLEY & STUDHOLME ROADS, WANAKA

20 - 22 OCTOBER 2009

Programme

Tuesday 20 Oct	8.00pm	Welcome Function
Wednesday 21 Oct	8.30 – 5.00	Conference presentations - Tussock Room, Oakridge Resort Conference Dinner (Winery yet to be confirmed)
Thursday 22 Oct	8.30 10.00 11.00 – 2.30	Conference presentations (if needed) Travel to Lake McKay Station Farmer's Forum - Open to local farmers
	Session 1	Applications of New technology for Parasitology - Carla Antibody test - Worm FEC & Wormstar - Targeted selective treatments TST - Lincoln "Happy" Factor - PCR Test for Faecal egg counts
	Lunch on farm	
	Session 2	"How should we / can we best utilise new anthelmintic actives on farm" - Introduction by Novartis on Zolvix. - Four brief presentations (Veterinarian, Researcher, Farm advisor and farmer) on their views on topic Followed by panel discussion - questions from the floor

Accommodation

The Conference Organisers have pre booked 40 rooms at a discounted rate (GST included). These are available on a "first in, first served" basis. There are 15 standard and 25 superior rooms. Please see website for room configuration www.oakridge.co.nz

Room Type	Standard	king	\$126	(1or 2 people)
	Standard	twin	\$126	(1or 2 people)
	Superior	king/twin	\$148.50	(1or 2 people)
	Two bedroom apartment (2 bathrooms)		\$328.50	(up to 3-5 people)

Travel

One flight per day in and out of Wanaka. Plenty of flights in and out of Queenstown then approximately 1.5 hours by shuttle to Wanaka from Queenstown.

If there is enough demand a bus / shuttle will be arranged to take people to Queenstown airport, directly from the field day site. Leaving at approx 2.45 pm.

Conference Registration Form and Abstract Submission Form will be forwarded with this newsletter.

CONFERENCE NOTICES

Australian Society for Parasitology Annual Meeting

12–15 July 2009, University of Sydney [<http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/conference/index.html>]

Attending the conference?

Pass on items of interest to your fellow members for inclusion in the August newsletter.

WAAVP Conference

8 – 13 August 2009, Calgary, Canada [<http://www.waavp2009.com>]

Register on-line via the secure web link or download the Registration Form and return it to the WAAVP Secretariat.

Australasian Epidemiological Association Conference 2009

31 August – 01 September 2009, Dunedin [<http://www.aea.asn.au/annualmeeting.htm>]

EPIDEMICS 2

The Second International Conference on >Infectious Disease

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

ICOPA XII

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

QUIZ QUESTIONS

- QUIZ # 4**
1. Which parasites are most commonly associated with the conditions: a) Espundia b) Hydrocoele and c) Lockjaw?
 2. Which parasite is thought to be the biblical 'fiery serpent'?
 3. Dr. Manuel Patarroyo claimed to have created what in 1994?



John Meban from Eastland Vets (aka the GFC), our quiz winner from the April issue hard at work in the parasitology lab at Grasslands

Which primate is host to the closest relatives of the human pubic louse?
Gorillas

FROM THE WEB

BBC News - Fogle's fight with flesh-eating bug

"TV personality Ben Fogle has spoken of his battle with the "wily" parasite which left him with a potentially fatal flesh-eating condition last year.

The 35-year-old is to be regularly monitored by doctors for the next few years to ensure the leishmaniasis infection - which he contracted after being bitten by a sand fly in the Peruvian jungle - does not come back again."

The Worm Turns

Who would eat worms as a cure? Dr Joel Weinstock, a gastroenterologist has been using it as a treatment...

'In 2005, he published results from two human studies. After ingesting 2,500 microscopic *T. suis* eggs at 3-week intervals for 24 weeks, 23 of 29 Crohn's patients responded positively. (Crohn's disease belongs to the I.B.D. family, which also includes ulcerative colitis.) Twenty-one went into complete remission. In the second study, 13 of 30 ulcerative colitis patients improved compared with 4 in the 24-person placebo group'.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/29/magazine/29wwln-essay-t.html?ref=magazine>

Next Newsletter: August 2009

Please send news items, notices etc. to
Tania

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