Comments and data from Bratislava Annual Meeting

The 63rd Annual meeting of EAAP held in Bratislava was a success for many aspects:

Congress data:
- Total number of participants: 882
- Number of countries: 54
- Total number of sessions: 60 (54 + 6 divided in A and B sessions)
- Accepted abstracts: 749
- Corresponding authors: 689
- Total number of authors: 3643
- Theatre presentations: 473
- Posters: 276

Best Posters:
- Best poster in absolute - Macheld Steensels
- Best poster horse – Gabriel Rovere
- Best papers - horses – Lisa Andersson
- Best paper LFS - Felix Teillard and Muriel Tichit
- Best poster pig - Anna Bereta
- Best paper pig – Sofie

You are all invited to register until December 2012. Please note that with the beginning of the new year all services (and hopefully new ones) will be operative only for our individual members.

Become an Individual member NOW!

All you have to do is to complete the attached form with the basic information or to go directly to our website, in order to send the application:
http://www.eaap.org/Content/Individual_Member_Information.html

One of the new services that we are establishing, we are pleased to announce the creation of the EAAP membership database. The Database is created to connect all our Individual Members. This will be important for establishing a network among members.

Currently we have approximately one thousand individual members and we think that, like in most other scientific associations, every member must know who belongs to the same group and eventually how to communicate with other members. Please remember that the database will be available only to members.

The EAAP Database will include basic information (Name, Surname, Company/University, Address, City, Country). We give also the opportunity, by receiving the specific personal permission, to include the email address.

Please it is very important that you let us know if you change your email address, as it is the main way for us to contact you.
The 63rd annual EAAP meeting is in NANTES
The dates are 26 - 30 August 2013

WAAP General Assembly

The World Association for Animal Production (WAAP) General Assembly was held on Wednesday 29th August 2012 in Bratislava during the EAAP Annual meeting.

The 11th World Conference for Animal Production (WCAP) was confirmed by the Chinese delegation led by the President of the Organising Committee, Defa Li. This international conference will be held in Beijing from 15th to 20th October 2013 and will be hosted by the Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine (CAAV).

The world meeting for animal science is held and managed by WAAP every five years. The next one, hosted in Beijing, has the main title “Animal, people and environment in harmony for progress”.

For further information please see www.wcap2013.org
Joëlle Dupont (INRA, UMR85 Physiologie de la Reproduction et des Comportements, Nouzilly, France) presented an important finding in the interactions between nutrition and ovarian function, and the role of “nutrient sensing” mechanisms. Her team showed that the infusion of glucose in ewes during the luteal phase increased the number of follicles but reduced oestradiol production. These effects were associated to changes of signalling pathways activation including MAP Kinases, Protein kinase B and Adenosine Monophosphate Activated Kinase in the large follicles. See Dupont, Nutritional and metabolic mechanisms in the ovarian follicle, abstract p 176.

Craig R. Baumrucker (PennState University, Dairy & Animal Science, University Park, PA, USA) presented a paper on ‘Specific components and mechanisms that are unique to the formation of colostrums’ (abstract p 122). He presented insights in the transfer of various colostrums constituents from blood into milk with a focus on the transcytosis of immunoglobulins. Besides the enormous variation of colostrum immunoglobulin concentration and immunoglobulin mass with consequences for the quality of passive immunization of neonatal farm animals he showed functional data on the endocrine regulation of immunoglobulin transport mechanism which may be the basis for the observed variation.
Industry Meeting

Under the chairmanship of Philippe Chemineau, President of EAAP, the EAAP Industry meeting was held on 27 August 2012 in Bratislava, Slovakia, at premises of the Slovakian University of Technology. Participants discussed the EAAP Strategic Plan (comments, suggestions and proposals), ad hoc workshops, EU projects and the EAAP Industry Package containing modalities of support of EAAP activities by industry as well as benefits offered by EAAP to sponsors and to the EAAP supporting members. Scientists and professionals from industries were encouraged and invited to participate in the EAAP Study Commissions and Working Groups.

Individual Members Meeting

Philippe Chemineau also chaired the EAAP Individual members meeting that was held on 28 August 2012 in the Slovakian University of Technology. During the meeting, the participants discussed the definition of young scientists and the “Cub Club” work in progress. The “Cub Club” is the group that EAAP intends to create to host the young scientists of EAAP and to offer specific services like, for instance, the organization of face-to-face meetings between early career scientists and industry and also programs supporting the professional livestock education. Particular attention was given to the EAAP activities related to dissemination of scientific information through the website. Networking and opportunities offered within the Individual Members system were also discussed. Website, networking will be part of the next year strategic plan of EAAP.
The International Dairy Federation 2012 World Dairy Summit will be held in Cape Town in South Africa from 4th to 8th of November.

One of the most important topics of this year meeting is the critical processes and roles which dairy can play in reducing the incidence of both over-and under-nutrition and related diseases in developed and developing countries, while simultaneously considering the sustainability of a dairy-inclusive diet. While under-nutrition is still estimated to cause 30% of child deaths in developing countries, the prevalence of obesity has been constantly increasing globally, with large variations in some regions of the world affecting the poor even more than the wealthy. As a result, nutrition-related non-communicable diseases have become a major threat in developing and emerging economies as much as in developed communities.

The proposed conference will present some of the most recent science-based findings during four compact sessions: 1) Dairy and Sustainability, 2) Dairy and over-nutrition, 3) Dairy and under-nutrition and 4) Dairy nutrition economics.

The conference aims to benefit researchers, health professionals, scientists and students working on, or interested in, recent finding on the health and nutritional considerations of dairy as part of a health promoting diet.

This conference will take place on November 7, 2012 during the IDF World Dairy Summit.

Some excerpts from the Programme are:

For Dairy and sustainability: “Dairy’s role in sustainable diets” - Hettie Schonfeldt, University of Pretoria


For Dairy and under-nutrition: “The role of dairy and dairy components in products for malnutrition” – Mark Manary – and “New South African Food Based Dietary Guidelines - Consume milk, maas or yoghurt every day” – Este Vorster

For Dairy nutrition economics: “Dairy’s role in health care savings” – Leonie Segal and “Effects of micronutrient fortified milk and cereal food for infants and children” – Klaus Eichler.

The detailed programme is available on the IDF World Dairy Summit website at www.wds2012.com
Braunvieh Schweiz organizes the 9th World Congress of the Brown Swiss Cattle breeders! Find the latest news and more about the congress on the webpage: at www.bruna2012.com

To be welcomed in St. Gallen in December 2012 the registration for the World Congress is open.

Please check the conference website.

European research project on African swine fever was launched in October 1, 2012. Project title ASFORCE is appointed for a term of three years and has a European funding for € 5 million.

It aims to develop new strategies for control and monitoring of the disease, identify risk factors (wildlife and haematophagous arthropods such as argasid) and develop vaccines against the ASF virus.

These vaccines may use non-replicative attenuated strains or recombinant viruses carrying antigens ASF

This project is coordinated by the Technical University of Lisbon and involves partners from some European countries like (France, Russia, Spain, Bulgaria, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom) and FAO. Pfizer and two Spanish SMEs - Diomune and Ingenasa will also participate.

The ASF formerly confined to sub-Saharan areas is now at the gates of Europe (Russia, Ukraine). There is no vaccine against this disease. The Spanish SME Ingenasa is a company specializing in the development of detection kits (ELISA, double ELISA, PCR, RT-PCR, ...) and has had research projects on the African fever ("Assessment and Control of the risk of African Swine Fever in the European Union "). The company has participated in two other European projects ("Evaluation of new bioreactor performance with selected biological models" and "Development of second generation vaccines against Paroviruses"). Its very active R & D has led to publish approximately 80 articles (with pastor, Oxford University) and deposited nearly 60 patents. (www.ingenasa.eu)

Diomune developed by the University of Madrid (Centro de Biologia Molecular Severo Ochoa) and works in the discovery of immunomodulatory compounds.
CRV (a Dutch company active in cattle breeding), Wageningen University and TI Food and Nutrition (TINF), a public/private structure in the Netherlands have launched a research program to reduce methane production from dairy cattle in the Netherlands by 30% in 2020.

This project aims to:
Develop indicators of methane production per animal.
Better understand the functioning of the rumen microbiota.
Quantify and exploit genetic variation between animals.
Improve understanding of interactions between genetic microbiota and diet.

The project will last four years and will also support five PhD and two post-docs.

CRV is a company that deals with the selection of bovine in the Netherlands, partner of the EuroGenomics network (with UNCEIA, VikingGenomics, DHV). The Eurogenomics network shares genomic data on a reference population of 18,500 bulls (Illumina Bovine SNP50 BeadChip).

TINF is an organization involving public and private actors to support interdisciplinary research in food and nutrition. It involves thirteen major groups of food industry (Cargill, CHR Hansen, CRV, Danone, CSK, DSM, Bel, Friesland Campina, GlaxoSmithKline, Kellogg’s, Nestle, PepsiCo, Philips, Unilever, Vion Food Group, ...) and five research institutes. The programs are co-funded by industries and the Dutch Ministry of Economy, Innovation and Agriculture. Four lines of research have been privileged: nutrition, taste and texturing, bioingredients and sustainability of production line, each with different sub-themes.

Launch of Wikipigs online platform and more RTD2farm trainings.
And … both services for free!

RTD2farm project, supporting the European pig farmer

The RTD2farm project

The idea of “RTD2farm” is simple: those in possession of knowledge on pig research areas (scientists, universities, research centres), should be put in contact with those who inform about new research and knowledge to farmers (pig associations, veterinarians) so that those in need of innovation (pig farmers) can take advantage. This is the focus of the EU-funded RTD2farm project, a 2-year project coordinated by the University of Veterinary Medicine of Vienna, which is enhancing collaboration and knowledge transfer in the pig livestock sector with the following activities: 1) development of a European network of pig related organisations, 2) set-up of a platform for exchange of research outputs and best practices (Wikipigs), 3) organisation of a number of national trainings and 4) the introduction of a Life-long learning system for the exchange of best practices.

RTD2farm is pleased to present the official launch of the Wikipigs platform to the EAAP community and welcomes its members to benefit from it and contribute to it.

Wikipigs Knowledge Database@ your service!

Wikipigs is based on a database which collects research results relevant to the pig production industry from national and European pig research projects that, in contrast
to scientific publishing, links the projects results directly to farmer’s needs (in terms of aims applications, etc.).
The platform - which prototype was presented and tested at the EAAP Annual Meeting 2012 at Bratislava, Slovakia - has been publicly launched this October 2012. Access the platform in http://wikipigs.eutema.com/ and find out how you can benefit.
Wikipigs will be the basis for a EU wide lifelong e-learning platform, which will be launched, in the first quarter of 2013.

**RTD2farm national trainings for farmers: come and participate!**

Based on the identified needs collected from farmers and multipliers, the RTD2Farm project designed different trainings for a national audience in Austria, Belgium and Italy. These 3 countries are case study countries to implementing national trainings, and are being followed by further contacts and possibilities with stakeholders in different EU countries. With this purpose RTD2farm project organised two networking events with other pig related European organisations on the 28th of June in Vienna (East EU stakeholders) and on the 8th of October in Brussels (West EU stakeholders).

The purpose of the national trainings is the transfer of knowledge and - more important - solutions in the area of farm management, breeding and genetics, and nutrition. A second purpose is the validation of a Centre of Excellence in Pigs Sciences concept via a feedback system.
The next trainings will take place between November 2012 and March 2013 covering topics such as: PDO, intake and feed conversion ratio, pig health enforcement of EC animal welfare rules, manure management, vaccinations, etc. You will find more details on the trainings and how to register in the “Events und workshops” section of RTD2farm website.

You are kindly invited to find out more about RTD2farm in our project website, in the RTD2farm info brochure at http://rtd2farm.rtd-services.com/images/rtd2farmflyer.pdf or by contacting us directly at: sabin.ecker@vetmeduni.ac.at

RTD2farm Project is supported by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) grant agreement nr. 265661.

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**Expert reaction to the publication of a study on GM maize causing tumours in rats**

Long term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize by Seralini et al., published in Food and Chemical Toxicology on Wednesday 19th September has provoked a controversy and lively debate among scientists involved in toxicology studies and research. Some of them questioned methods applied in the research and results of the study and referred to previous findings that genetic modification itself is a neutral technology, with no inherent health or environmental risks.
Every year the horse commission gives a special award to a researcher that has been long time involved in the activity of this commission. This award is in recognition of the significant contribution and for individual leadership in the development of the Horse Commission and in support of EAAP objectives. This year the award has been attributed to Imre Bodò, emeritus Professor at the University of Debrecen (Hungary). He is expert for Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources, mainly equine populations (he was editor of the EAAP special issue “Conservation genetics of endangered horse breeds”, 2005). He attended EAAP since 1980 and was vice-president of the horse commission in the years 1986 – 1992. The award was given to Prof. Bodò on Monday, August 27th by Kristen Sejrsen and Nicoletta Miraglia.

**International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition (ISEP)**

On Sept 9-12, 2013 there will be the 4th EAAP International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition, Sacramento, California. For information: http://isep.ucdavis.edu

The International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition (ISEP) is pleased to announce the 4th EAAP International Symposium to be held at the Sheraton Grand in Sacramento, California, USA from September 9th to September 12th, 2013. ASAS is a sponsor of this event.

Improved understanding of animal energetic and protein metabolism will be required for sustainable animal production. For the 4th International Symposium on Energy and Protein there will be anticipated over 300 attendees from all over the globe (see program details at: http://isep.ucdavis.edu

The ISEP meeting will highlight significant new research, with invited speakers and oral and poster communications by participants. The 4th Symposium will focus on the effort of combining fundamental research with applied research and practical applications. Energy and protein metabolism and nutrition cannot be addressed separately and a better and deeper understanding of nutrient metabolism and nutrition can be achieved only by integrating the outcomes of scientists making research on different aspects. There will also be a showcase of California science and hospitality; accompanying person tours are planned.

For further details on how to submit a paper, please visit the website: http://isep.ucdavis.edu

Please let others know who may be interested.
Next EAAP Annual Meetings

- 2013: 64th EAAP – Nantes, France
- 2014: 65th EAAP – Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2015: 66th EAAP – Warsaw, Poland
- 2016 67th EAAP – United Kingdom, (location to be defined)

SEND YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT THE E-NEWSLETTER TO: eaap@eaap.org