

Australian Veterinary Poultry Association

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DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN POULTRY PRODUCTION

Dates: August 31st, September 1st and 2nd, 1983.

Venue: Manly Pacific International Hotel and Conference Centre,
Manly, Sydney

Arrangements for this very important meeting are now almost complete, and the final Scientific Programme is enclosed with this Newsletter.

Cheaper accommodation in Manly is limited, particularly as this meeting falls in the second week of the school holidays so **please register early** if you want to take advantage of it.

Concessionary air-faires are available within Australia:-

Super Apex

Book and pay 30 days prior to travel, minimum stay of 7 nights. 35% discount

Group Travel Fares

10% discount of adult economy class fare if 15 or more fly together as an eligible common interest group. The group must travel together on the same aircraft on the forward journey but may return individually.

For further details contact your TAA Convention Travel Consultants (see Registration Leaflet) or Garry Cross (Sydney), Trevor Bagust (Melbourne). If you require more Registration Leaflets ring Garry Cross on (02) 605 1511.

A final plea to register early making the task of the Organising Committee so much easier.

See you in Manly!

SUSTAINING MEMBERS OF THE AVPA

Sustaining Members contribute funds to help defray running costs of the AVPA.

Support is given in annual units of \$50.00.

The AVPA thanks these firms for their active interest and support.

A.A. Tegel Pty Ltd	1 unit
Allied Feeds	2 units
Arthur Webster Pty Ltd	*
Barrters Enterprises	2 units
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* These Companies are also major sponsors of our International Meeting.

MAJOR SPONSORS OF THE AVPA INTERNATIONAL MEETING

The following organizations have generously supported our International Meeting with contributions in excess of \$1,000. The AVPA thank these organizations for their support of a meeting of vital interest to Australian poultrymen.

- Arthur Webster Pty Ltd.
- Australian Chicken Meat Research Committee
- Australian Development Assistance Bureau
- Cyanamid (Australia) Pty Ltd
- Elanco Company Products
- Merck Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories
- Pfizer Agricare Pty Ltd
- Poultry Research and Advisory Committee

The President's Para's -

Dear AVFA Colleagues,

It's a tough time economically for private industry and in government institutions. Hence AVFA Meetings must be of the highest possible scientific calibre and practical relevance to readily justify the attendance of Members. With this Newsletter, you will receive the latest update on the AVFA Conference scheduled for Sydney in August. I can assure you, and quote me if you wish, that this Conference will be the most significant scientific event in avian health held in Australia in the last decade, and probably the next as well (?!).

Putting this Conference in place has taken well over a year's efforts by the AVFA (thanks Colin and crew!). The collective scientific calibre of the 20 or so international speakers is unbeatable and the topics were selected as being of particular relevance to Australia's current poultry health needs and planning. In such a major undertaking for the AVFA, the financial support received from several companies within or associated with our poultry industry, and the industry Research Committees (ACMRC and PRAC), has been invaluable. Hence all possible has been done to make AVFA Sydney 1983 of the greatest benefit to Australian poultry health. In your own best interests (and your employer's), please register for participation in this Conference as soon as you can - it's less than 10 weeks to August 31!

See you in Sydney,
Trevor Bagust

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

The AVFA constitution, section 18, reads: No alteration to the Constitution shall be made unless three-fourths of the votes so cast are in favour of the motion and thereafter the Council of the AVA approve the alteration.

The Secretary advises that the results of the postal ballot were as follows:-

1. That the A.V.P.A. Constitution be amended by inclusion of a new clause 3 (c), which reads : "Life Members. Life membership may be offered to members of greater than ten years standing, who are considered to have made exceptional contributions to Avian Health in Australia, and who are approved by a simple majority vote at an ordinary meeting".

For the proposal	49
Against	nil

2. That the A.V.P.A. Constitution be amended to cause the name of the association to be changed from the Australian Velterinary Foultry Association to the Australian Veterinary Avian Association.

For the proposal	21
Against	26
Invalid votes	2

XXII WVC PERTH Trevor Bagust has provided the following information of papers on avian diseases to be presented at the Congress on Friday 26 August:

ZANELLA, A.	Italy	Marek's disease: survey on vaccine failures
SINKOVIC, B.	N.S.W.	Studies on the epizootiology of reticuloendotheliosis virus infection in commercial Australian chicken flocks
WILCOX, G.E.	W.A.	Experimental investigation of the role of avian reovirus in leg weakness and runting syndromes in Australia
STEELE, F.	W.A.	Acute Death Syndrome of broiler chickens : clinical chemistry and biochemical studies
RIEGMANN, O.	Fed. Rep. Germany	The significance of monitoring the immunity of poultry flocks before and after vaccination
FIRTH, G.A.	N.S.W.	Egg Drop Syndromes in Australia: virological causes and control measures
GAINS, B.S.	Switzerland	Lasalocid Sodium, new developments for coccidiosis control in broilers
PAPPARELLA, V.	Italy	Egg Drop Syndrome 76 : epidemiology pathogenesis and prophylaxis by vaccination
SNOEYENBOS, G.H.	U.S.A.	Competitive exclusion of some pathogens other than salmonella by native intestinal microflora of chickens
BAGUST, T.J.	Victoria	Eradication of infectious laryngo-tracheitis in Australia: vision and reality
WHITHEAR, K.G.	Victoria	The control of avian mycoplasma infections in chickens in Australia with special emphasis on vaccination
MOREAU, Y.	France	Immunization of adult birds with inactivated oil adjuvant vaccines
HELLER, E.D.	Israel	The effect of infectious bursal disease virus on the immune response of turkeys
WINTERFIELD, R.W.	U.S.A.	Sub-type variations in Massachusetts- type infectious bronchitis virus when applied in vaccines
YOSHIMURA, S.	Japan	A survey on lymphomatosis of layer hens after application of turkey herpesvirus vaccine in the field
COETZEE, L.	S. Africa	The detrimental side effects of Haemophilus paragallinarum oil emulsion vaccine on chickens of varying ages
DE BOER	Holland	Avian leucosis virus GS-antigen ELISA employing monoclonal antibodies

A WVPA Dinner will be held in Perth on the previous evening, Thursday 25 August

- about \$25.00 inclusive of wine. Intending browsers and sluicers should contact Colin Mills.

In addition to the papers, a Poster Session replaces the short communications presented at previous congresses. About 25 posters on avian medicine will be exhibited by overseas and Australian workers. Then you can choose among 4 hours of plenary sessions and 104 hours of concurrent sessions covering 18 other specialist sections in 4 languages, apart from socialising and touring. If you have not yet done so, contact XXII WVC, 28 Charles Street, South Perth 6151 (phone (09) 368 1255) for registration form and accommodation details. The new deadline for early registration (\$200 for AVA members, \$300 for other vets; \$100 for students) is 30 June.

Losses due to Mareks Disease - an offer to investigate

Speaking on behalf of the AVPA, Tom Grimes informed the March 1983 meeting of the Poultry Diseases Sub-Committee that MD is occasionally reported to be present to a significant degree in certain flocks.

Witter has now provided evidence (Avian Diseases 1983 27:113-132) that highly virulent MD virus strains may be causally associated with MD vaccine failures in the field, a theory previously proposed by others but which has lacked confirmatory evidence.

That a similar situation may exist in this country is being investigated by John Withell, Viral Products Section of NBSL where all batches of HVT vaccine are currently assayed before release. John is interested in receiving more samples from flocks, preferably from hatcheries of high standard, where the incidence of MD is causing concern. The virulence of isolates of MD virus isolated from heparinized whole blood of affected fowls is being studied. If you are concerned with such a flock, telephone John on (03) 387 4211.

Diseases of Cage and Aviary Birds edited by Margaret L. Petrak, 2nd edition 1982. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia. \$135

We have waited 13 years for the much-rumoured second edition of this book. During this time Australian veterinary interest in Class Aves has increased, due no doubt to people becoming more involved with their birds and, hopefully, seeking advice on their care. I would also hope that aviculturists are gaining confidence in the ability of veterinarians to examine and treat their birds, a confidence that has been sadly lacking in the past, due to veterinary disinterest.

The format of the book remains the same. Part 1 deals with non-clinical aspects - types of cage birds, cage design, behaviour, anatomy, nutrition and care of orphan birds. A new chapter on avian radiology by Margaret McMillan includes about 80 radiographs which illustrate various radiographic techniques and diagnoses. Part 2 deals with clinical considerations and consists of 22 chapters on caged bird medicine and surgery.

The chapters have been written by 30 contributors and the text is well presented and easily read. Despite all the improvements of the second edition, one still has to resort to the bibliography for enlightenment on many aspects. Most veterinarians would not have quick access to journals (I realise it is an almost impossible task to cover all aspects of the diseases of cage and aviary birds in one book).

Despite the price, I have no hesitation in recommending this excellent text (Garry Cross)

Cheep Genes David Wilson writes: The Working Party established to consider the importation of avian genetic material has met regularly over the past two years and it appears that there is now substantial agreement on a set of importation conditions for hatching eggs of the domestic hen. When the report of the working party is finalised, it will be circulated to the Chief Quarantine Officers (Animals) for discussion with industry, to the Bureau of Animal Health and to CSIRO for discussion and comment.

While some details still have to be resolved the importation requirements will include:

(a) isolation and supervision of a closed single-age parent flock which has remained free from specified diseases for a specified period prior to egg collection;

(b) 100% testing of the parent flock prior to and again following egg collection for the major egg and shell transmitted agents;

(c) transport of the eggs to a high security quarantine hatchery in Australia;

(d) testing of the hatched birds and, if all test results are satisfactory, release of the birds from quarantine.

At present it is a requirement that the eggs be from a country in which clinical Newcastle disease has not been diagnosed during the previous twelve months and in which vaccination against Newcastle disease is not performed.

These draft importation conditions relate to the domestic hen but it is envisaged that, depending on demand, protocols will also be drawn up for geese, ducks, turkeys, pheasants etc and, ultimately, for rare and fancy species of birds.

The design of the high security hatchery has been revised in cooperation with personnel from the Department of Housing and Construction and the Australian National Animal Health Laboratory. The new design has the capacity to grow out 3600kg of birds, i.e. 1000 birds of 3.6kg, 2000 birds of 1.8kg.

While the government has a principle of full recovery of quarantine costs, the actual costs to be borne by the importer have not yet been determined.

It may be necessary, depending on demand, to have the Advisory Committee on Animal Import Priorities (or equivalent) examine applications for usage of the facility and allocate priorities among those applications.

Clinical Immunology The American Veterinary Medical Association has published in JAVMA 181 (10): 961 - 1200 the 38 papers which were presented at the AVMA Colloquium on Clinical Immunology in May 1982. The purpose of the colloquium was to assemble the latest information for veterinary practitioners by reviewing immunogenicity, maturation of the immune system, immune responses to infectious agents, autoimmune diseases, immunomodulation, tumour immunity, immunoprophylaxis and new techniques in immunology. Not merely chooks but an excellent review of the immune process.

A Conference on Viral Diseases of Veterinary Importance in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific will be held at ANAHL on 27 - 30 August 1984. The aim of the meeting is to contribute to improved diagnosis and control of these diseases. A circular calling for papers and with further information is available from the Conference Secretary, ANAHL, P.O. Bag 24, Geelong 3220.

For Ouzo Skolars 'Doctor, Doctor, please help me - I've got Hermes.'
'I think you mean Herpes' 'Oh no, Doctor, I'm a carrier.'

Approaching Cagebirds A practical approach to the handling, management and treatment of cagebirds commonly encountered in veterinary practice is described by J E Cooper 1983 *In Practice* 5: 29 - 33. (*In Practice* is published six times a year as a supplement to the *Veterinary Record*; also available separately). This well-written and informative paper should encourage in reluctant practitioners that interest and enthusiasm which, with an ability to handle and examine birds, the author believes are more important than knowledge of avian diseases and their treatment. A brief reading list emphasises management more than microbiology.

Seagulls over Scotland The seagulls flying so effortlessly over the cattle grazing in coastal fields may be infecting them with salmonella. A report in the *WHO Weekly Epidemiological Record* (1982) 32: 242 - 243 describes an outbreak of salmonellosis among dairy cattle in northern Scotland. The outbreak was traced, via seagulls and a sewer outlet, to a visitor from Malaysia who brought *Salmonella zanzibar* with him.

Virus Disinfection Meulemans and Halen assessed the efficacy of some disinfectants against infectious bursal disease virus and avian reovirus in tests at room temperature and at 4 deg in the presence, and absence, of 10% organic matter. A 2% solution of chloramine and a complex disinfectant containing formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde and alkyl dimethylbenzylammonium chloride were effective against the two viruses in all test conditions. (*Vet. Rec.* 1982 111: 412 - 413)

Egg Loss Persistent low egg production in a large battery unit in Gloucester, England, was confined to the middle and upper tiers. Inadequate ventilation and a sub-standard IBV vaccination programme were suspected until one night a former employee was caught raiding the hen house. His bad back had prevented theft of lower tier eggs.

Salmonella in USA O'Brien et alia collected serotyped isolates of salmonella from reference laboratories in the United States, tested their susceptibility to antibiotics and extracted plasmids from isolates that were resistant to a different combination of antibiotics from each of three serotypes. Restriction-endonuclease digestion showed that within each of the three groups, plasmid molecules from animal and human isolates were often identical or near identical. One serotype-plasmid combination appeared to be endemic in cattle in 20 states and infected 26 people in two states. The human cases, which were not recognisably related except for their common plasmids, appeared to be clustered in time but geographically dispersed, like cases in previous outbreaks spread by food products. These findings suggest that resistance plasmids may be extensively shared between human and animal bacteria, and that spread of multi-resistant strains of salmonella among animals and human beings, as observed in Britain, may have been undetected in the United States for lack of comparable surveillance. (*New England Journal of Medicine* 1982 307: 1-6)

Turkeys Plummet Scots toss cabers and sassenachs pots but in Yellville, Arkansas, they toss turkeys. The Ozark hill town recently staged its thirty-seventh annual turkey toss, social and cultural highlight of its year, in defiance of federal attempts to ban the affair. Planes made slow passes overhead and 17 turkeys were tossed out, coasting cumberingly to roost before being hunted and seized by spectators. Once, in deference to the Arkansas Humane Society, the organizers used frozen turkeys. The first demolished someone's porch and the second disabled the organiser's Oldsmobile.

Profitable Bookkeeping A reader has returned a book on poultry breeding to the Campbelltown Library 92 years overdue. The anonymous reader took advantage of an amnesty to save \$478.40 in fines. The book was due back on 29 August 1890.

Adenovirus Fowl adenovirus strains of 11 serotypes examined in the EM have two projections at each vertex but the serologically unrelated EDS virus strain 127 has single fibres like all mammalian adenoviruses with which it shows other similarities (Gelderblom & Maichle-Lauppe 1982 Archives of Virology 72: 289 - 298).

***** And Associates** Is avian associated-adenovirus an endogenous virus of chicken cells? That Dawson et al. recovered this defective parvovirus from limiting dilutions of purified and unpurified avian adenovirus stocks propagated in eggs from two WL flocks but not when propagated in duck cells suggests that it is (Nature 1982 298: 580 - 582).

Research and the Real World "The task is to conduct an investigation that does not intend to fulfill Koch's postulates, nor to prove that there is a highly significant numerical difference between the results of treatment A and treatment B, but to decide which of the two is more likely to produce a better profitability and has greater practicality in terms of an individual farmer's managerial skills and financial and land resources. Such statistical theorems exist and are used in business and industry. They need adapting to agricultural industry. You will feel the need for such techniques most acutely when you file a grant application and have it refereed by a statistician of classical lineage." An excerpt from the Schofield Lecture 1981 given by Prof. D.C. Blood and now published in Canadian Veterinary Journal 1982 23: 75 - 83. Now read on....

Cash for Research You have read in the minutes of the last AVPA meeting that your Association has formed a committee to review the current situation of funding for avian disease research in Australia, to investigate future trends and requirements and to liaise with relevant research bodies in industry, government and universities. The members of the committee - Trevor Bagust (convenor) (03) 347 2311, Hugh Bray (08) 227 3118, Rob Cumming (067) 73 2510 and Rod Ryan (049) 30 3100 - invite submissions now from all members of the AVPA. Telephone now for they want your views; lack of your input = lack of useful output on your behalf.

Dr H C CARLSON, who has had wide experience as an avian pathologist throughout Canada for over 25 years, has expressed some interest in spending up to 12 months in Australia &/or New Zealand after his retirement in early 1984. Do you know of any employment which might be available to him during this period? Dr Carlson can be contacted c/- Poultry Branch, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8W 2Z7, where he is currently the Director. A curriculum vitae is available on request from Garry Cross. A source of further information is Karl Harrigan, University of Melbourne, Veterinary Clinical Centre, Werribee 3030; telephone (03) 741 3500.

Virus Isolation and Antibodies in Eggs Prof. Rob Cumming writes that he would like to contribute to the discussion of the papers by Trevor Bagust on several avian viruses published in Advances in Veterinary Virology, Proceedings 60 of the Post-Graduate Committee in Veterinary Science, University of Sydney, May 1982. He comments:

There is confusion in the minds of some avian pathologists regarding the role and the importance of antibodies in eggs and the effects that these antibodies have on the growth of avian viruses.

Briefly, the common respiratory viruses (IB, ILT, ND) may be as readily isolated in the eggs laid by hens immune to these diseases as in eggs from SPF hens. Further, virus titration and serum neutralisation tests may be successfully carried out for these viruses in antibody positive eggs.

The confusion probably arises because some people confuse the importance of antibodies to diseases like AE and IBD in eggs with the respiratory viruses mentioned above. The two diseases mentioned are probably the exception rather than the rule.

The use of SPF eggs for all virus work may well be the ideal, but only a few research laboratories are funded so well that they can afford this luxury. In Australia I feel that a good deal of work can be successfully carried out on the respiratory viruses mentioned above using antibody positive eggs.

Certainly the insistence of using only SPF eggs for work with respiratory viruses will seriously reduce the progress in controlling these diseases. Such insistence of using only SPF eggs in developing countries will have even more deleterious effects. In these countries many of the commercial flocks are small and the cost of SPF eggs exceedingly high. Thus the cost of SPF eggs may well exceed the value of the flock being examined.

I feel that an informed view and a practical approach is essential if progress against these respiratory viruses is to be maintained, both here and overseas, especially in developing countries.

This letter was sent by the editor to Trevor Bagust who replied:

In the letter of Rob Cumming, a number of issues are intertwined. I will briefly attempt to address some of them.

1. Use of SFP eggs in Australia. These eggs are essential for propagating virus stocks which are required to be free of contamination by the substrate. Vaccine production demands it for disease control. The use of contaminated stocks for producing viral and antiserum reagents can be most misleading in both diagnostic and research situations. I agree with Rob that the use of commercial eggs for diagnostic investigations of the field respiratory pathogens is practicable. A note of caution should be added however in that antibody transfer from the yolk sac begins around day 12 of incubation. Shortridge et al. (1982) recommended that eggs for isolation of NDV are preferably obtained from an SPF flock; if this is not possible, use eggs from a flock free of NDV. Further, continuing to propagate viral stocks in commercial eggs of unknown degrees of contamination is obviously risking the collection of various microbial fellow-travellers especially adenoviruses, reoviruses and Mycoplasma spp.

2. SPF eggs are elitist and restrictive. Rob's assertion that SPF eggs are a luxury affordable by few is an odd minority opinion. With the current cost of an SPF egg of \$1.50 - \$3.00, laboratory expenses for essential usages are quite secondary to other cost components, for example labour, media and disposables. Research projects can justify costings for SPF eggs in their applications. Australian industry-based laboratories purchase SPF eggs whenever they require them, as a necessary investment in their commercial enterprises.

3. Disease diagnosis in developing countries. Developing programmes for control of poultry diseases is a valid priority. However, their essential needs for SPF eggs, i.e. propagation of contaminant-free virus stocks and production of reliable reagents, are no different from ours. Indonesia has purchased small numbers of SPF eggs for this purpose for more than five years. For diagnostic purposes, they use eggs as free as possible from interfering pathogens. I foresee China adopting a similar two-tiered approach.

With respect for Rob's considerable contributions in developing countries, I feel that access to SPF eggs for essential tasks and backed by informed practical advice on usage can only foster progress made in these countries.

Shortridge KF Allan WH & Alexander DJ (1982) "Newcastle Disease Laboratory Diagnosis and Vaccine Evaluation". p4. Hong Kong University Press.

Australia/China Poultry Project - Further Developments

As you may recall, in March 1982 a Feasibility Study of ways in which Australia might assist China to increase poultry production by improved disease control was initiated by ADAB (Australian Development Assistance Bureau). The mission team, consisting of Tom Grimes, Bill Stanhope and I visited various sites in China and recommended for the institutional development of a Poultry Disease Diagnostic Training Centre at Tianjin, 110 km East of Beijing (= Peking) and a national reserve SPF Poultry Unit for avian vaccine production and research (Harbin, 1,100 km North-East of Beijing).

Late in April 1983, the Chinese authorities requested that ADAB send a Building Design Mission to assist in finalising building plans prior to construction commencing on both of the sites during Summer and Autumn 1983 i.e. till approximately November. The Mission departed from Australia for China on 10th June and the Team consists of Perc Frewett (formerly with Dept. of Agriculture, Victoria) as Leader, Gerry Smith (CSIRO) as Architect, Arthur Jenkins (CSIRO) as Engineer and Clive Jackson (Table Talk F/L) as the specialist poultry pathologist-microbiologist. After spending approximately 1 week on each site the team will return to Australia on 30th June.

In a further development, ADAB has made supplementary funding available for Professor Hu Hsiang-Pih M.R.C.V.S., of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences to visit Australia from mid-August to early September 1983. It is planned that Professor Hu will attend the World Veterinary Congress in Perth (Aug. 21-26) followed by the AVFA Scientific Conference in Sydney. It is also hoped that he will be able to present a paper on Disease Control and Poultry Production in China to the AVFA membership in the Scientific Sessions planned for Sydney.

Trevor Bagust,

Supervising Scientist, China Poultry Building Design Mission

Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Avian Health Chapter Membership of the College is a condition for membership of the Chapter. A prerequisite for membership is at least four years post-graduate experience. Entrance to membership of the College is now by examination only. The examination fee is \$200. In Avian Health, an applicant may choose to be examined on poultry (fowl, turkey and duck) or on cage and aviary birds. Membership examinations consist of a three-hour written paper and an oral examination of about 45 minutes. Provision for fellowship examinations also exist. The Guidelines for Requirements of Levels of Knowledge are as follows:

"The successful candidate would be expected to be able to advise the experienced client on all matters affecting health, but not directly on nutrition, husbandry or genetics.

"The candidate is not expected to be expert in ancillary disciplines such as virology, biochemistry, histopathology, bacteriology or toxicology, but would be expected to know of the diagnostic significance of such disciplines.

"Knowledge and skills associated with the aetiology, diagnosis, prevention, control and treatment of common diseases of poultry or of cage and aviary birds is expected. Gross pathology is the key to level of diagnostic knowledge required, but of course, the candidate demonstrates a higher level of expertise if additional knowledge is provided."

Applications are now invited for Preliminary and Final Membership Examinations, 1984. Preliminary examinations may be taken at local cities if suitable venues can be arranged. The tentative date is 14 February 1984. Final examinations will be held in Sydney, Australia, and Palmerston North, New Zealand. The tentative date for Australian examinations is 14 February 1984. The closing date for applications is 1 September 1983. For further information you can contact members of the Chapter. Intending applicants are advised to seek up-to-date details and application forms from the Chief Examiner (Dr EW Moodie), Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Queensland, 96 Pinjarra Road, Pinjarra Hills, Qld. 4069.

(Thanks to Clive Jackson, A/Convener Avian Health Chapter, for this information.)

a grace note As neither Clive J. nor Ted M. has provided a past paper to cheer or depress intending applicants, here are two sample questions which fell off the back of a passing paper -

1. Mr Farquhar should be debeaked. Discuss.
2. O Cuckoo! Shall I call thee bird
Or but a wandering voice?
State the alternative preferred
And give reasons for your choice.

Attempt both questions. Send your answers (in blank verse if applying for a fellowship) written on the back of your \$200 cheque to the Chief Examiner by 1 September 1983. His model answers will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter with the name of the Exhibitioner who wins a year's supply of polyfilla.

Newcastle Disease - Two Booklets from Hong Kong These booklets are the outcome of a UNESCO-sponsored Training Course and Workshop on Viral Vaccines in Poultry which was held at the University of Hong Kong in August 1981. Participants came from Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Phillipines, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand, with two observers from the Guangdong Quarantine Station, China. The instructors were Dennis Alexander and Bill Allan from Weybridge and Prof. Ken Shortridge from the University of Hong Kong.

The Proceedings, which were published in 1982 as "Newcastle Disease and its Control in South-East Asia" edited by KF Shortridge, 107pp., Hong Kong University Press, consist of reports by the participants on the ND situation in their own countries. Some reports were more comprehensive and candid than others and revealed a pattern of farming and a range of problems that differed from those seen in, for example, Europe. The overall situation was reviewed by the instructors. This booklet is available at no charge to academic and related institutions and at HK\$30.00 to commercial organizations.

The companion booklet is "Newcastle Disease: Laboratory Diagnosis and Vaccine Evaluation" by KF Shortridge, WH Allan & DJ Alexander (1982) 53pp., Hong Kong University Press, HK\$33.00. This manual was designed not to be comprehensive but to provide basic information on the disease at the laboratory level taking into account the limitations of diagnostic facilities in the region. Techniques which are described for virus isolation, detection of viral haemagglutinins (the spot test which is little known in this country is described), virus identification including differential diagnosis of avian paramyxoviruses and influenza viruses, can be carried out in modestly equipped laboratories. The relevance of laboratory findings to field happenings is discussed and a guide to establishing the pathogenicity of an isolate is included. A special section deals with the problems of initiating, monitoring and evaluating a ND vaccination programme, including the role of the laboratory. Considering some of the vaccine trials and tribulations which are perpetrated, this section deserves a wide audience. This excellent and succinct booklet is not merely a laboratory manual but should be read by all who are responsible for measures for control of ND.

The address for both booklets is Hong Kong University Press, Bethanie, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong.

ADIX Come to Sydney in August but come to Melbourne every month, first Thursday, 4 pm, for the Avian Diseases Information Exchange. Venue is the CSIRO Animal Health Canteen. The aim of each meet is to share topical information, techniques, insights and experience on any topic selected for discussion by the group - so far Runting, IB Immunisation, ELISA, Coccidiosis, Leucosis on July 7. These sessions are not seminars, rather structure is minimal with an opener who gives a 5 - 10 minute background and a chairman for crowd control in the ensuing discussion. All interested are welcome. Telephone Don Barr at the VRI, Parkville, (03) 347 2322 or Trevor Bagust for each coming month's topic.

Contributors to this issue: Trevor Bagust, Rob Cumming, Garry Cross, Karl Harrigan, Clive Jackson, Colin Mills, and David Wilson - to whom many thanks. Contributions welcome.
Compiled by Trevor Faragher, NBSL, Private Bag 7, Parkville 3052.
(03) 387 4211.

A.V.P.A. ANIMAL WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT 1983

During the year the Sub-Committee prepared a detailed submission on the draft Australian Code of Animal Welfare Practice No.2 The Domestic Fowl. This was forwarded to the S.C.A. Animal Health Committee Sub Committee on Animal Welfare through the President of the A.V.A.

It is most disappointing that despite the effort and time which went into preparing this submission the Code has now been released in the original draft form without any modification.

This Sub-Committee was requested by the A.V.A. to prepare a submission on poultry welfare to be included in a general submission from the A.V.A. on Animal Welfare to the Senate Standing Committee on Animal Welfare. This has not yet been attempted as the Senate Committee has now been disbanded with the change in Government. However it should be complete by the end of April.

This Committee is presently looking at other codes of practice for the welfare of animals, these include humane destructions of animals and the welfare of animals at abattoirs.

As convener of this committee I am the A.V.P.A. representative on the W.P.S.A. Poultry Welfare Committee. While this Committee has been keeping a watching brief on the poultry welfare activities around the world it has not met in the last twelve months.


R. E. JOHNSTON
Convener

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

WILL BE HELD 7AM SEPTEMBER 1ST
1983 AT THE MANLY PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL
HOTEL. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
ABOUT \$6.00.

Report on A.V.P.A./P.D.S.C. Joint Meeting, 7th March, 1983.

The A.V.P.A. Sub-committee submitted eight topics to the Joint Meeting for discussion. Two were A.V.P.A. policy statements.

1. A.V.P.A. policy statement of Importation of Avian Material into Australia.
2. A.V.A. review of the protocol for the importation of Fertile Hen Eggs into Australia.

The third topic was the report on Avian chlamydiosis by the A.V.P.A. working party formed to consider formulating a policy on Avian chlamydiosis. (a copy from G. Cross if required)

The remaining 5 topics are listed below. (Detail of submission available from convenor on application.)

4. Newcastle Disease - Draft Model Control Plan September 1983 and Vaccination Policy.
5. Poultry Content of Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Courses at Australian Veterinary Schools.
6. Investigation of Mareks Disease.
7. Government Services to Poultry Health.
8. Industry Membership of P.D.S.C.


P.D.S.C. thanked A.V.P.A. for the quality of their submission and expressed the need for a continuing communication between the two groups.

A.V.P.A. brought forward (under item 8 above) the need for representation in sections of the P.D.S.C. meeting in which A.V.P.A. members could fully explain the industry position. Clear definitions of the field situation, particularly in disease discussions, could be better debated by P.D.S.C. with A.V.P.A. direct input.

P.D.S.C. was to discuss this possibility and report back to A.V.P.A. on the alternative methods of possible A.V.P.A. involvement in their meetings.

It is the sub-committee's considered opinion that unless A.V.P.A. has far more than peripheral involvement in these joint meetings, i.e. unless A.V.P.A. can directly be involved in P.D.S.C. agenda discussion then it would be difficult for A.V.P.A. to continue its association on this formal joint meeting basis.

There are already members of A.V.P.A. on the P.D.S.C. sub-committee - but obviously not Industry - These members could take A.V.P.A. papers as presently presented to P.D.S.C. on our behalf. The format of A.V.P.A. sub-committee is to select topics we believe could be of mutual interest at joint meetings but it is a frustrating process of little achievement beyond the academic. It would require a two-way flow of information and topic selection for this meeting to reach useful goals, and for it to continue, we believe this must happen.


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A.C. Webster
Convenor