



# World Veterinary Association

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

## Newsletter

No. 1 - January 2006



Dear colleagues and friends of veterinary medicine. This newsletter, which is designed to complement the information provided by the WVA website ([www.worldvet.org](http://www.worldvet.org)), is the fine work of Dr. Johnson Chiang, (Taiwan), Dr. Jim Edwards (New Zealand), and Dr. Bob Stevenson (United Kingdom).

On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2005, a Task Force of future WVA leaders met to determine the primary objectives of the WVA for the next three years (2005-2008).

As a result of the fine teamwork of this Task Force, we created a “Road Map” to guide me in leading the WVA for the next three years. The objectives include: continued and increased work with the OIE, WHO and FAO; global veterinary educational standards; more effective animal welfare programs; increased membership services; a global veterinary practice code; expanded industry participation in the WVA activities; and, better WVA communications, which includes this newsletter. Dr. Jim Edwards has linked the “Road Map” to the WVA website – please read it, and give us your suggestions on how to best meet these WVA objectives.

I have also appointed an *ad hoc* Membership Committee, which has been charged with identifying the WVA services that are needed to attract new members and retain the existing members. The committee will identify, prioritize and create ways to implement the new services of the WVA. The members of the committee are: WVA Vice Presidents Dr. Johnson Chiang and Dr. Faouzi Kechrid; WVA Councillors Dr. Duane Landals, Dr. Jim Nave, Dr. Karel Daniel, Dr. Per Thorup, Dr. Ramedo Ramchurn; and, former WVA President and the WVA Website Editor, Dr. Jim Edwards. Please let this committee know your ideas about membership services.

With best regards,  
Leon Russell,  
WVA President

## ■ Welcome to the WVA Newsletter

The WVA has decided to publish a quarterly hard copy news letter to complement its main communication route through the WVA website ([www.worldvet.org](http://www.worldvet.org)). This is in response to feedback from members and non-members who would like to receive such a publication.

We welcome copy for future editions. The deadline for the April edition is 31 March 2006. Please send your copy to either:

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## ■ FVE draws up list of veterinary ‘critically important antimicrobials’

Source: FVE Newsletter December 2005

The FVE has submitted a list of critically important antimicrobials in veterinary medicine to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The aim of this list is to safeguard the efficacy and availability of veterinary antibiotics for diseases where there are few or no antimicrobial alternatives. The list will complement the identification of similar antimicrobials in human medicine, to be drawn up by the WHO.

The list submitted by FVE consists of a database with of critically important’ antimicrobials listed

according to their active substance and the species in which they are used. For each substance, the various disease indications and pathogens are given, as well as the treatment route, available alternatives, economic importance of the disease and consequences for welfare.

The list may be used as a framework by organisations that still need to submit a similar list to their national government.

## ■ British Medical Journal / Veterinary Record Joint Issue on Human and Animal Health

Fears about avian ‘flu have highlighted the interrelationship between human and animal health and the need for vets and doctors to work together. In November 2005, two leading professional journals – The Veterinary Record ([www.bvpublications.com](http://www.bvpublications.com)) and the British Medical Journal ([www.bmj.com](http://www.bmj.com)) – joined forces to see how vets and doctors are collaborating in this and other areas.

The issues complemented each other and contained numerous articles on the theme of animal and human health. They examined the links between the veterinary and medical professions and explored how doctors and vets can learn from each other. Articles in The Veterinary Record considered the threat from new and emerging infectious diseases, and the steps being taken to

detect and prevent them. Others considered some of the diseases that can be carried via food and the role of vets in protecting the food chain. But not all of the articles were about disease: for example, both journals looked at the health benefits from companion animals, whether as assistance animals or in helping to treat conditions like depression.

The joint issue was the result of a request for suggestions for articles published by both journals back in April.

Martin Alder, for The Veterinary Record, and Graham Easton, for the British Medical Journal, said, ‘We hope that, between them, the two issues give a sense of how doctors and vets are working together, and perhaps highlight areas where more could be achieved.’

## ■ Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association 34th Veterinary Day Celebrations

WVA President Dr Leon Russell, Past-President Dr Jim Edwards and Dr Yamane (President of the Japan Veterinary Medical Association) attended the 34th Veterinary Day Celebrations of the Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA), held in Kenting, Taiwan 6-7 January.

Dr Russell complimented the TVMA on their celebrations and spoke about role of veterinarians and the World Veterinary Association.

At a seminar on avian influenza (AI), seminar Dr Russell presented a background to AI causation, transmission and prevention; how respective countries develop control programmes to protect themselves, their people and their bird populations. Dr Russell reported on the WVA participation on the joint WHO/OIE/FAC/WB AI conference held last November in Geneva. Dr Edwards described the preparations and precautions being taken in New Zealand. The discussion focussed on how Taiwan could prepare and avoid AI.



Pictured from left: Dr Johnson Chiang (President TVMA and WVA Vice-President), WVA President Dr Leon Russell, Dr Jim Edwards (Past WVA President and Vice President Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations) and Dr Yamane (President, Japan Veterinary Medical Association)

Dr Yamane, President of the Japan Veterinary Medical Association presented a seminar on cardiac surgery.

In Taipei, the visitors met with officials of the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health.

A highlight of the visit to Taiwan was a long meeting with former President of Taiwan, Mr Lee Teng-hui, who is regarded as the “Father of Taiwan”. Mr Lee discussed the history of Taiwan, especially its agricultural background and the development of veterinary medicine. Mr Lee spoke on his philosophy on the need for a sense of identity, the need for a country to have a direction and strong leadership. Dr Russell saw direct parallels with veterinary profession.



Former President Lee meeting with Dr Russell

## World Veterinary Day

This year the veterinary profession will “**Celebrate Our Diversity**” on Saturday April 29. Please start now to plan your activity and let us know what you are going to do, or after World Veterinary Day, what you have done. We will be pleased to post your reports on the WVA website.

Please send your news to Jim Edwards at [jimedwards@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jimedwards@xtra.co.nz)



**World Veterinary Association  
Congress 2008 Inc. (WVAC 2008 Inc.)**

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The World Veterinary Congress is one of the premier events of the Veterinary Profession, world wide. Planning is already well under way for the World Veterinary Congress-2008, in Vancouver, Canada.

The Veterinary Profession is as exciting and as varied as the multitude of individuals who compose its membership. In recognition of this fact, we have chosen the theme “**CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSITY**” for the 2008 congress. This theme gives us the opportunity to develop a suitable, world class, scientific program that will be of interest to all veterinarians, as well as para-veterinarians, veterinary technicians and others who partner with us in animal care.

A scientific program committee has been struck and instructed to develop an exciting multi track, multi discipline program. The Private Practice Stream will include: small animal practice, food animal practice, equine practice, exotic practice as well as specialty practice. The Public, Educational and Industry Practice Stream will be developed to accommodate registrants who are employed by governments, educational institutions, pharmaceutical companies and other organizations. To this end we have received preliminary agreement for the participation of the OIE, the World Organization for Animal Health. More detail about the program will be posted on the Congress web site as it becomes available.

Vancouver, Canada is a beautiful and inviting city. Situated on our west coast it has the Pacific Ocean at its foot and the grand Coastal Mountains at its back. The city itself offers unlimited opportunities for visitors to relax, dine, shop or participate in a host of adventure activities, such as: whale watching, salmon fishing, ocean kayaking, mountain climbing, sight seeing and much more. Vancouver is also one of the major entry points to Canada. This means that your access to the congress from any where in the world will be easy and in most cases direct. Vancouver is also your gate way to Canada. From this city you can arrange to explore more of our remarkable country by air, rail or automobile.

The Congress will be hosting a number of social events to insure that you experience the flavor and culture of Vancouver and Canada. Additionally, pre and post congress tours will be available for you to experience as much of Canada as your time allows. You are invited to

**“COME FOR THE CONGRESS, STAY FOR THE ADVENTURE”.**

Make your plans now to attend.

**WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS-2008,  
VANCOUVER, CANADA, JULY 27-31, 2008.**

The organization committee and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association will do everything we can to ensure that you not only participate in an outstanding congress but that you experience a Canadian adventure that will last you a lifetime.

Dr. Duane Landals B.Sc., DVM  
Chair, World Veterinary Congress-2008

**Newsletter sponsored by the Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association**

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