

# SFT

news

AMERICAN BOARD OF VETERINARY SPECIALTIES

Vol. 26, No. 1

SPRING 2003

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DR. GARY ALTHOUSE

## ...from the president

**B**y the time you receive this newsletter, Spring will have arrived. Spring is a wonderful season, when we watch in amazement as Nature rekindles life from winter dormancy. Likewise, it is necessary that the SFT board of directors rekindle the spirit and provide renewed focus to the Society. In January, your board of directors devoted a full day prior to the winter board meeting to discussing the future direction of the Society in a Strategic Planning Session. We were fortunate enough to have

Pharmacia Animal Health generously donate the expertise and time of Ed Noe to moderate this thought-provoking session.

So what is a strategic planning session? In general terms, it is a focused meeting in which the participants identify the purpose of the organization, its goals and objectives. Pertinent questions include: Why are we here? What value do we provide? Where are we going? How will we get there? How do we know if we have arrived? For me, it seems like a two-fold benefit came out of this session—one being the process itself, which helps everyone to better understand the diversity and thinking of the individuals who make up the group, and the other being the final document drafted from this process. A summary of this document appears elsewhere in this newsletter. This will be a vital document which will aid the officers and board of the SFT in their activities for the years ahead. In retrospect, I can see that the continued vibrancy of an organization depends greatly on the free exchange of ideas generated during these sessions. In the Society's case, one-third of the board turns over on a yearly basis. Therefore, over a three-year period, a complete turnover of the board occurs. With this turnover comes a new collection of ideas and visions for the society. These ideas and visions are shaped not only by the board members, but also by current events related to public opinion, veterinary medicine, and the profession. As an innovative organization, it is only logical that a formal means be established to allow the board, its membership and current events to shape the SFT and the services it provides. Strategic planning sessions are the formal means. I encourage the Society to continue with this type of planning.

Lastly, I would like to encourage the membership to consider sharing their ideas and visions by volunteering to serve on the board or a committee of the SFT. Inform our Executive Director Dr. Charles Franz, a board member, or an officer of your interest in serving. Every year we solicit nominations to serve on the board of the SFT (see inside this issue). If you or a colleague have an interest in volunteering, please make the effort to submit a nomination. There is always plenty to do in our organization—with SFT membership over 2,700 members it is one of the largest allied veterinary organizations in the House of Delegates of the AVMA. I can say that personally, my time spent serving the SFT has been rich and satisfying. It is my hope that some of you take that step, so that I can share this feeling with you, and together we can continue to rekindle the life of the Society.

### SFT Large Animal List Serve

Do you have a question about theriogenology on a case in the equine, bovine, swine, or small ruminant? Members of the Society have an opportunity to ask questions, give comments, and gain information on topics in theriogenology that interest them by simply asking for discussion on the SFT LA list. This is a source of information that can help you practice better veterinary medicine by providing you with more information on topics in large animal theriogenology. It can provide you information on what your colleagues are doing when they see that confusing or interesting case. Who knows, it could be fun! Why don't you try the **SFT Large Animal List** for a fast answer from the experts or suggestions and comments from other practitioners?

### SFT Small Animal List Serve

What's the best way to induce estrus in the bitch? How do you work up an infertile male cat? Should you manipulate the uterus when surgically inseminating a bitch? Share your knowledge and get your questions answered. Join the **SFT Small Animal List**.

*There is no charge for SFT members to be included in this valuable member service; contact the home office at [info@therio.org](mailto:info@therio.org). Include "add to SFT-LA" or "add to SFT-SA" in the subject line of your e-mail. We look forward to your questions and comments.*



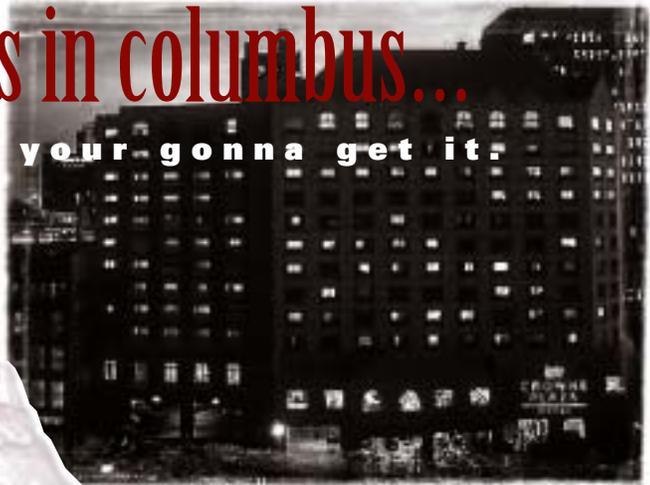
DR. FRED LEHMAN  
2003 CONFERENCE CHAIR

# join your colleagues in columbus...

**You asked for it, now your gonna get it.**

Since many people have requested programming that will have immediate practice application, each session for the Fall Conference will attempt to demonstrate how therio-ogology can

impact the profitability of the practice or the client's enterprise. In my opinion, reproductive issues are often the initial reason a veterinarian is invited on the farm or sought out by a breeder. Thus this Fall Conference will be a "must-do" for anyone interested in the application of reproductive technology. Walter Zent, Brian Carroll, Robert



Hutchison, and Herris Maxwell have done an excellent job in making this objective a reality.

The symposia just keep getting better and better! Not only are we dedicating Saturday to small ruminant and feline therio-ogology under the direction of symposia chairs Ahmed Tibary and Peggy Root-Kustritz, we just recently have been presented the opportunity to have a Bovine Symposium which will be chaired by Carlos Risco. Select Sires, a Columbus, Ohio semen supplier has agreed to be a major sponsor for the event and since we are meeting jointly with AABP, this could be a great opportunity for an intensive review of cutting edge issues in bovine reproduction.

So it is simple, mark your calendars for September 16-20 in Columbus, OH.

Fred Lehman  
Program Chair

### From the Scientific Committee:

The members of several committees have been working diligently to prepare another excellent SFT Annual Conference Program. We, the members of the Scientific Committee, invite you all to the Abstract Presentations and Happy Hour which will once again kick off this event. Presentations will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2003. Immediately following the abstracts (9 p.m.), there will be a social hour for getting together with the speakers and fellow colleagues. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Remember to come support our graduate students during the final phase of the Abstract Competition which will be held on Thursday, Sept. 18 during the Plenary Sessions. Presenters will be selected from a large and diverse pool of candidates based on the quality and scientific merit of their written abstracts. Scores from the written abstract selections will be combined with the scores received during the oral presentations and the top awards will be announced during the annual SFT Business Meeting.

Jeanette Floss, DVM, MS  
Dipl. ACT  
Chair, Scientific Committee



## Nominations being accepted for SFT Board of Directors

In accordance with SFT policy, the Society is accepting nominations for the Board of Directors. Nominations received from the general membership will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee for consideration. Directors serve a term of three years beginning at the Annual Conference (this year scheduled for September 18-20).

If you would like to nominate an active SFT member for service as a director on the SFT Board, please submit the following information to the SFT office no later than **May 5, 2003**. Please insure the nominated individual's willingness to serve on the Board (if elected) prior to submission. Please direct any questions to Dr. Jimmy Alexander, chair of the Nominating Committee, at 662-746-8307 or [jayacims@tecinfo.com](mailto:jayacims@tecinfo.com).

NOMINATED INDIVIDUAL:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATOR'S INFORMATION:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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strategic planning...

# Preparing for the Future

From Fred Lehman

The initial activity at the Baltimore mid-year board meeting was to look forward after carefully examining the realities of the present. Developing a strategic plan is a function that should occur in every organization periodically, but it was doubly beneficial to discuss the strengths and weaknesses as well as discuss the future in the presence of our new executive director, Dr. Charles Franz.

During our self examination we attempted to answer questions such as: where are we now; where do we want to be; what's working; what's not working; and what's in the way. Any person that can answer those questions with perfect clarity is either superhuman, a psychic, or not totally honest. However, we attempted to answer a response by recommending a new mission statement:

**To provide leadership in veterinary reproductive medicine for all species.**

This was further clarified with the following explanation descriptors of our common purpose:

1. establish and promote standards of excellence
2. provide a variety of forums to disseminate emerging information to veterinarians and students
3. serve as a global resource for scientific exchange
4. foster client education and awareness
5. encourage a network for collegial exchange.

The most difficult task was to establish clear, achievable objectives and determine how we were to achieve them. The highest priority was to strengthen our cash reserves. Experts recommend that non-profit organizations strive to have reserves equal to one year's operating expense. Our experience following 9/11 in Vancouver was unmistakable evidence of how important that is. You will be hearing more from your Society in the future as we further develop and achieve our objectives.



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## **RULE CHANGE PROPOSED FOR PERFORMING BREEDING SOUNDNESS EXAMINATIONS IN IDAHO CATTLE**

It has come to the Society's attention that the Idaho Cattlemen's Association has proposed a temporary rule change to their state's Veterinary Practice Act. This change would allow lay personnel to collect and evaluate semen from bulls for resale under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

In response to this proposed rule change, the President of the Society for Theriogenology sent a letter to the Idaho Veterinary Medical Association and the Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine stating the following:

Dear Idaho Veterinary Medical Association/Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine:

It has come to the Society for Theriogenology's attention that the Idaho Cattlemen's Association has proposed a temporary rule change to your state's Veterinary Practice Act. This change would allow lay personnel to collect and evaluate semen from bulls for resale under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian. We would like to bring to your attention the Society for Theriogenology/American College of Theriogenologists Position Statement on the Evaluation for the Breeding Soundness of Animals, approved and published in 2001, which states:

"It is given that the Model Veterinary Practice Act (AVMA, 1996) defines the use of diagnostic techniques, either manually or mechanically, for

- (1) the testing for pregnancy, or
- (2) correcting sterility or infertility, or
- (3) to render advice or recommendation with regard to reproductive status

as the practice of veterinary medicine. Determining the reproductive soundness along with the associated prognosticating requires an extensive knowledge of the veterinary disciplines of anatomy, embryology and physiology, as well as training in theriogenology, pathology and radiographic principles, all of which are provided in a veterinary medical education. As such, the Society for Theriogenology and the American College of Theriogenologists hold that evaluation for the breeding soundness of animals constitutes the practice of veterinary medicine."

Our organization believes that a complete breeding soundness evaluation provides value to the industry not only from its prognostication of reproductive status, but also in screening for infectious and non-infectious diseases which can have great economic consequences to regional and national livestock industries. Because of its critical importance to the health and viability to US agriculture, we feel that breeding soundness evaluations should be performed only by licensed veterinarians.

Sincerely,

GC Althouse, DVM, MS, PhD, Diplomate ACT  
President, Society for Theriogenology

Due to the potential ramifications of this action on the profession and industry, we encourage our members to voice their opinion. You may contact the Idaho Veterinary Medical Association and the Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine at:

Idaho Veterinary Medical Association  
Attn: Vicki Smith  
346 West Fourth St.  
Kuna, ID 83634  
208-922-9431  
[mrvicki1@mindspring.com](mailto:mrvicki1@mindspring.com)

Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine  
Attn: Thomas Shelton, DVM  
PO Box 7249  
Boise, ID 83707  
208-332-8588  
[sjensen@agri.state.id.us](mailto:sjensen@agri.state.id.us)

## **Report from the AVMA Leadership Conference**

The AVMA held its annual leadership conference in January 2003 in Chicago, IL. The purpose of the conference is to allow leaders in organized veterinary medicine to come together and discuss issues that affect all involved in veterinary medicine. The conference provides workshops covering topics ranging from establishing media contacts to recruiting members into organized veterinary medicine and keeping them involved to improving interpersonal skills and conflict management/ resolution. I was fortunate to be designated by our President, Dr. Gary Althouse, to be the Society's recent graduate representative, and I would like to share with all of you some of the things that I learned while attending this conference.

When I agreed to attend the conference, I was not sure what the conference was all about. As more information became available, I soon realized that this was a different type of veterinary conference. It was not a conference that taught clinical skills but rather one that taught personal skills. It was not focused on the daily aspects of practicing veterinary medicine but rather on veterinary medicine as a whole and the direction that the profession is taking. It also emphasized the importance of what organized veterinary medicine means to the profession. As a recent graduate, I was not fully aware of how important these organizations, such as the Society for Theriogenology and our state veterinary medical organizations, are and how much they do for us. These organizations provide us with information via continuing education meetings and proceedings; they give veterinarians a voice in local, state, and national forums; and they offer veterinarians a sense of community, along with other benefits too numerous to mention. Most people focus on the continuing education and proceedings as the major benefit of belonging to an organization, and I would tend to agree, but I also consider the other benefits to be just as important.

One of the major underlying concerns expressed at the conference was how to get more veterinarians involved. This included not only new graduate recruitment but also member retention and finally involvement in the organizations' committees and leadership. Mentorship for the new graduate was considered one of the major keys to get new graduates to join. If the mentor (either the new graduate employer or college professor) were to help expose the graduate to the organization, the new graduate was more likely to join. Once the new graduate joins, then it is up to the organization to retain them by exposing them to all the benefits that the organization offers. Finally, the responsibility of becoming an active member falls back onto the veterinarian. The opportunities to volunteer and to become an active member on committees and in the leadership of organized veterinary medicine are something that everyone should consider. I would encourage anyone who wants to become involved in organized veterinary medicine to do so, including new and recent graduates. There is a tremendous opportunity to become involved and help guide the profession into the future.

I would like to thank Dr. Gary Althouse and the Society for Theriogenology the opportunity to attend the AVMA Leadership Conference and be their recent graduate representative.

Sincerely,

Waylon Fischer, DVM, DACT

# auburn university: student chapter

**I**n January of 2002 we started an official student chapter of Society for Theriogenology at the Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine. We have over 70 members interested in large and/or small animal medicine. We are fortunate enough to have 9 Diplomates of the American College of Theriogenology on the faculty and therefore have plenty of resources to pull from. The premise of our chapter is to hold at least 2 Wet Labs a semester and invite various faculty to review interesting cases in their field of interest over a lunch period once or twice monthly. We kicked the club off with help from our AABP Student Chapter by having a Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Wet Lab last January. We also have held wet labs on the non-pregnant female dog, an OB wet lab, and Stallion Collection. Members were also allowed to help with the 2002 Hudson-Walker Theriogenology Conference. Three of our members made it to Colorado Springs for the Annual Conference and were allowed to participate in those Wet Labs, as well! The support we have had from Dr. Jimmy Alexander (SFT immediate past-president), the SFT Staff and Dr. Dwight Wolfe and the Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine has been astounding. Many practitioners show their support by allowing our presence at the wet labs, and through purchasing student chapter T-shirts and hats. Our advisor, Dr. Allen Heath, has been a great mentor, as well as a great sport. For the 2002 CVM Open House, we decided it



PICTURE: Dr. Rod Christmas DVM, DACT assisting Mandy Hagan (2005) while she fetal sexes a cow at Auburn's annual Hudson-Walker Theriogenology Conference. The 2003 Conference will be held next Fall.

would be a great idea to ultrasound a pregnant llama for demonstration purposes (as well as giving members some hands-on work). Dr. Heath never gave up while the llama kicked and spat and tried to jump out of the stocks. I'm not sure if we ever located the fetus, but we had the kids convinced they were seeing a baby.

This spring, we are planning to hold a Mare Reproduction Shortcourse offered annually to our Sophomore Members, and a Cattle A.I. Shortcourse offered annually to Junior Members. We will also hold a joint meeting with our Student Chapter of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society on small animal obstetrical emergencies, and hold a Male Canine Reproduction Wet Lab. Our members are also working on building a new cow used for OB labs. The support from theriogenologists and the efforts of our student chapter officers have made our first year a great success.

Thank you!!

Lisa Willis ('05), President  
Auburn Student Chapter SFT



*Sadly on March 30, 2003, the SFT, ACT, Auburn University, the veterinary profession and numerous students, clients and friends lost an outstanding friend, teacher and colleague when Dr. Allen Heath met an untimely death in an auto-train collision on his way to church. Dr. Heath leaves a great legacy of how life should be lived. He had the passion, enthusiasm, humility, talents and sense of humor that makes a great man. We extend our greatest sympathy to his wife Jennifer and three children in this time of grief. Dr. Allen Heath truly enriched the lives of all who knew him.*

*Contributions may be made to: The Dr. Allen Heath Memorial Fund, Attn: Sam Hendrix, 317 S. College St, Auburn, AL, 36849.*

## CALL FOR ARTICLES/STORIES FROM STUDENTS

### LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have news from your SFT Student Chapter, or College of Veterinary Medicine, that you would like to share with SFT members, please send it to [franzc55@cs.com](mailto:franzc55@cs.com). Please make sure to put "SFT Newsletter Article" in subject line of your message.

# 2003 David E. Bartlett Award

Nominations are now being sought for the 2003 David E. Bartlett Award, presented annually to a distinguished individual who has made important contributions to the field of theriogenology. Nominations are needed by May 15

The Award - intended to cement the efforts of the SFT and ACT toward common goals in animal reproduction, to reward and inspire excellence, improve the visibility of theriogenology, and to annually recognize the efforts of SFT's and ACT's charter members and diplomates - particularly honors Dr. David E. Bartlett, ACT's first president. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Bartlett was responsible for deriving the terms "theriogenology" and "theriogenologist," and was instrumental in gaining

hard-won AVMA recognition for ACT and SFT in 1971.

As is tradition, the 2003 David E. Bartlett Award will be presented at a reception during the Conference. The recipient will be notified in advance, allowing family and friends to be on hand. The honoree will address those in attendance at the reception and will have the option of submitting a contribution to the conference proceedings.

The honoree will receive a \$1,000 cash award, an engraved statue of Nandi, and complimentary registration, hotel accommodations and transportation to the 2003 Annual Conference in Columbus.

Please submit the accompanying Preliminary Entry Form on the opposite page and nominate an individual to add to this list of preeminent recipients:

*Please be sure  
to attend the  
2003 Conference to see  
the 2003 David E. Bartlett  
Award Presentation.*



## David E. Bartlett Award Recipients

1984	Dr. David E. Bartlett
1985	Dr. S. J. Roberts
1986	Dr. Elmer A. Woelffer
1987	Dr. Raymond Zemjanis
1988	Dr. Lloyd Faulkner
1989	Dr. C. J. Bierschwal
1990	Dr. Les Ball
1991	Dr. Robert Kenney
1992	Dr. Victor Shille
1993	Dr. Robert Hudson
1994	Dr. Donald Walker
1995	Dr. William Wagner
1996	Dr. Willis Parker
1997	Dr. A. C. Asbury
1998	Dr. Borje Gusstafsson
1999	Dr. Charles E. Martin
2000	Dr. Shirley Johnston
2001	Dr. Robert Youngquist
2002	Dr. Patricia Olson

# 2003 David E. Bartlett Award Preliminary Entry Form

SPONSORED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THERIOGENOLOGY & THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF THERIOGENOLOGISTS

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Short description of nominee's qualifications for this award: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your form by May 15, 2003 to  
Society for Theriogenology  
Re: Bartlett Award  
P.O. Box 3007, Montgomery, AL 36109**

*If your nominee is selected as a finalist by the selection committee,  
you will receive a final entry form to assist you in gathering the appropriate documentation*



# AMERICAN COLLEGE OF THERIOGENOLOGISTS

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**2002-2003**

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## THERIOGENOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

2000

**Dr. Michelle M. LeBlanc**

2001

**Dr. Robert Youngquist**

2002

**Dr. Dickson Varner**



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

March 16, 2003

The Executive Board of the American College of Theriogenologists met in Baltimore on January 31 – February 1, 2003. Agenda items that may be of particular interest to members of the College include the following:

- Members of the Examination Committee will be available for a question and answer session with potential candidates regarding the examination process, examination requirements and the mentorship program on Friday morning at 7:00 a.m. in the Equine Symposium room, during the September conference.
- Dr. Regina Turner was appointed to a four-year term on the Scientific Abstract Committee.
- The next College dues notice will contain a place for members to acknowledge their desire to be listed in the public access search area of the website and their willingness to answer questions from the listserv.
- A number of changes to the Constitution & By Laws were proposed and will be mailed to all Diplomates eligible to vote later this year so that they may be considered at the annual business meeting.



**DR. DALE PACCAMONTI**  
ACT PRESIDENT

As many of you know from my previous email message, Dr. Parker and I attended the ABVS meeting at the AVMA headquarters in Schaumburg in February. The outcome was very favorable for the ACT. We now have a clearer understanding of the view ABVS has regarding collaborative endeavors between specialty Colleges and can rest assured that we are in good standing with the ABVS.

This will be the last newsletter you will receive before ballots for election of new officers are mailed out this summer. Nominations are currently being sought for the following positions:

- President-Elect
- Vice President
- Director-at-Large

This year, due to changes in the Constitution and By Laws approved in 2002, we will need to elect both a President-Elect and a Vice President. The person chosen as President-Elect this year will assume the presidency in 2004 and the person chosen as Vice President will become President-Elect in 2004 and assume the presidency in 2005. In future years, we will elect only a Vice President, who will then assume the office of President-Elect the following year.

Current Board members are:

Immediate Past President: Richard Fayrer-Hosken\*: academia; canine, equine, biotechnology

President: Dale Paccamonti; academia; equine, canine

President-Elect: Doug Freeman; academia; equine

Secretary: Margaret Root Kustritz; academia; canine, feline

Treasurer: Don Sanders; private practice; bovine

Director-at-Large: Bill Ley; private practice, equine

Director-at-Large: Barry Ball; academia; equine

Director-at-Large: Margo Macpherson\*; academia; equine

\*Retiring from the board in 2003

Nominations may be sent to the Executive Director by email [franzc55@cs.com](mailto:franzc55@cs.com), fax (334-270-3399), or regular post (ACT, PO Box 3065, Montgomery, AL 36109)

Nominations must be received by May 23, 2003.



# THERIOGENOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ACT THANKS MONSANTO



The American College of Theriogenologists is seeking nominations for "Theriogenologist Of The Year," an award developed to recognize outstanding achievement in the field of reproductive research and clinical theriogenology. The award, funded by the Monsanto Corporation, is accompanied by a plaque and monetary honorarium (\$1500). Selection is based on the merit of scholarly and/or professional endeavors and the significance of contributions to the veterinary community, as described in materials submitted by nominators and candidates.

Candidates must be ACT Diplomates in good standing and must be currently engaged in clinical animal reproduction. Candidates' scientific/professional achievements must be nationally recognized through books, journals, meetings, etc. Nominations may only be made by Diplomates of ACT or members of the Society for Theriogenology.

The Awards Committee encourages the nomination of ACT members in private practice, as well as Diplomates in academia and industry. Because of the tremendous diversity of professional activities among the members of ACT, the award will alternate annually

between candidates with expertise in basic reproductive science (odd-numbered years) and candidates with expertise in clinical animal reproduction (even-numbered years).

Nominations, including documentation outlined in the Award Nomination Form, will be accepted until June 1, 2003. Nominators must also procure letters of recommendation from two of the candidate's peers and submit them to the Awards Committee by June 1.

After June 1, candidates will be contacted for: (1) a current curriculum vitae; and (2) two or three manuscripts and/or documents validating their current scholarly activity. Candidates must have submitted all materials to the Awards Committee by July 1, 2003.

The Awards Committee will review the candidates' qualifications and select the recipient. Selection of the recipient and concurrent notification of ACT board members will be made no later than 30 days prior to the ACT/SFT Annual Conference. The Award will be presented at the SFT/ACT annual conference Diplomate Reception (September 19, 2003).

**By June 1, 2003:** Please submit this form with a letter describing in detail the candidate's contributions; include current research and/or clinical activity, lists of refereed articles, books and presentations at national meetings, and any other relevant information regarding the candidate's professionalism and the significance of his or her expertise to our profession. Provide two letters of recommendation from the candidate's peers. Your nominee will not be considered if letters are not received by this deadline.

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Send form and supporting documentation to: **Awards Committee  
American College of Theriogenologists  
P.O. Box 3065, Montgomery, AL 36109  
334-395-4666 • 334-270-3399 (fax)**

*If your nominee is selected as a finalist by the selection committee, you will receive a final entry form to assist you in gathering the appropriate documentation.*

# Report of the AVMA House of Delegates (HOD)

## January, 2003

Carla L. Carleton (Delegate) & Chet Rawson (Alternate Delegate)



DR. CARLA CARLETON  
AVMA DELEGATE

The Informational Assembly (IA) of the AVMA HOD met January 3-5, 2003. The IA was instituted a few years ago and has immeasurably improved the efficiency of the House when it convenes for formal sessions prior to the July annual conference. Amendments to the constitution & bylaws, or resolutions to be submitted, receive an additional *vetting* in an arena that allows for thoughtful discussion and editing. If problems are identified, they can be addressed in reference committee or District meetings or in these more informal House sessions. This has resulted in an improved quality of documents presented, and more-informed decisions being made, during the official gathering of your legislative body.

In addition, there is now overlap between the IA and the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference. This allows presidents, presidents-elect, and invited new graduates of state and Allied Groups (e.g. your SFT leaders) to observe one of the IA sessions.

Break-out sessions allow constituents of both meetings to interact. This is an excellent forum for the many new graduate representatives to see where their paths in service to organized veterinary medicine can benefit their profession and their professional lives ... turf for cross-fertilization of ideas. SFT had a new graduate representative this year. Other new graduates should talk with Dr. Waylon R. Fischer, who was selected by the SFT executive board to attend the 2003 IA.

Comments & topics for your consideration from the combined sessions:

- Candidates presented for president-elect (Dr. Bonnie V. Beaver) and vice-president (Dr. Thomas R. Kendall).
- Homeland security (Dr. Bret Marsh): Agricultural Import and Entry Inspection will be moved into the Department of Homeland Security (March, 2003), as will the Plum Island Research Center (June, 2003). Dr. DeHaven presented more detail, as follows:
- Dr. Ron DeHaven (USDA, APHIS, VS, Deputy Administrator) provided some details about the new Department of Homeland Security (DHS). It will have five undersecretaries and areas (political appointees) and a forty billion dollar budget. AQI's (agricultural quarantine inspectors) will be present at 157 ports of entry. Approximately 2200 persons will be moved from APHIS to the DHS and their total number will increase to 3870 in the near future. The transfer of Plum Island Animal Disease Center is a transfer of property and assets only from APHIS, its personnel will remain in USDA.
- The General's Star has finally been restored to the top U.S. Army veterinarian – a legislative victory for veterinary medicine.
- The GRD (government relations division) is calling for sponsors for the MUMS bill (minor use, minor species). It is to be reintroduced in this legislative session. Please contact your

congressional representatives and ask them to support it.

- CDC and Prevention: Dr. Mainzer reviewed emergency preparedness and CDC's responses in national emergencies. CDC currently employs 80 veterinarians and will likely add an additional four in 2003. He recommended an excellent reference/web site for all of us: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). Click on "In the News" and it will take you to the site of on-line publications, which includes *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, the *MMWR*, WHO technical reports, other useful publications, Future Trends in Veterinary Public Health (2002), cooperative agreements, grants, etc.
- USDA, APHIS: thirty positions are being created in USDA/APHIS, including commissions in the U.S. Public Health Service – presented as a great opportunity for new graduates.
- Committee on Wellness/Animal Welfare: Dr. Gail Golab's (AVMA) presentation covered a wide variety of topics of interest, including some of the activities of PETA. She recommended three web sites that may be of interest to you: [www.fmi.org](http://www.fmi.org) - the food marketing institute – click on animal welfare; [www.pets911.com](http://www.pets911.com) - an interesting locator vehicle to re-connect lost pets with owners, shelters seeking placements, etc., and lastly, [www.americanpartnershipforpets.org](http://www.americanpartnershipforpets.org), which is sponsored by the USPS. The AVMA has a new Animal Welfare booklet. If you haven't recently checked out [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org), it's worth a visit. Dr. Golab reviewed the move by particular groups to use the word *guardian* rather than *owner* in legislation and ordinances. These have not been species specific, the implication being that the laws reach beyond pets to include food producing species. A recent constitutional amendment in Germany legislates animal welfare as a requirement, for all species.
- Dr. Roger Mahr reviewed the Model Veterinary Practice Act (MVPA). A draft revision of it is on the AVMA web-site; comment time was January 15 – March 15, 2003. One example of a concern given, and reason to support the MVPA, was from Alaska, in which chiropractors and alternative practitioners are seeking to over-turn the state's practice act

and "do vet med." The implications are broad and serious. Visit the website, stay informed, and stay tuned. It could be a rocky road.

- Dr. Rawson and I participated in the Allied Group forum in January. We are working to strengthen the voices of our constituencies, including the SFT. By holding a separate Allied Group forum in July before the District meetings, all Allied Group Delegates and Alternates will also be able to attend their District meetings. The Allied Group forum represents sixteen entities\* in the HOD and seeks to increase the awareness of State delegations of the valuable resources we bring to the table. \*The 16 are: Uniformed Services of the U.S., AAHA, AAAP (avian pathologists), AABP, AAEP, AAFP, AAFHV (food hygiene veterinarians), AAIV (industrial veterinarians), AASRP, AASV, AAVC, ASLAP, AAV (avian veterinarians), NAFV (federal veterinarians), SFT, and SAVMA.
- Lastly, there are six proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws to be addressed in July. Matters brought before the House, have been reviewed by the Executive Board (EB) and House Advisory Committee (HAC) and their recommendations are presented to the HOD. The HOD final vote may or may not support their recommendation(s). Not infrequently, the independent spirits in your legislative body vote in opposition to the EB and/or HAC. Most of the proposed changes in 2003 are minor word changes. These will be voted on by the HOD during the 2003 formal legislative sessions of the House. Presented by Dr. David McCrystle, they are as shown in Figure 1.

I, and Dr. Rawson, are happy to address any questions you may have about the topics presented in this report. See you in Denver for the AVMA in July, 2003! Respectfully submitted, Carla L. Carleton, SFT Delegate to the HOD and Chairperson, Allied Group (2002-2003)

Figure 1

#	Amendment	Recommendation	
		EB	HAC
1	Constitution, Article V, section 4: chairman to chair	approval	approval
2	Constitution, Article IX: Annual sessions, to indicate that the annual session is the official annual business meeting of the HOD	approval	approval
3	Bylaws, Article I, Section 6 (b), to eliminate the need for individual student applications for membership.	approval	approval
4	Bylaws, Article V, Section 3 (c) iii, to reflect changes in the accreditation standards.	approval	approval
5	Bylaws, Article V, Section 3 (c) iv, to reflect accreditation practices.	approval	disapproval
6	Bylaws Article XI, Section 1 (a): to refer to accredited versus approved <u>schools/colleges</u> of veterinary medicine	approval	approval

# 2003 Winter Report of Activities of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties

Carla L. Carleton (Delegate) & Chet Rawson (Alternate Delegate)

(This report was originally submitted in January, 2003. Information relative to upcoming issues of 2003 will be included in the next newsletter).

As required of all AVMA-recognized veterinary specialty organizations (VSO's), the annual report of the ACT was submitted in November, 2002. Annual reports of all VSO's are assigned for review in December. Completion of the 2002 ACT Annual Report was facilitated by contributions from the ACT Executive Board (Drs. Paccamonti and Root Kustritz) and Dr. Robert BonDurant (chairperson of the Graduate/Residency Committee, October, 2000 - 2002). Their cooperation and assistance was greatly appreciated. Our 2002 Annual Report received support of the ABVS at its February, 2003 meeting, thus full recognition of the ACT will continue through 2003.

## **Actions taken at the 2002 ABVS Spring meeting:**

- After discussion of the reviews and evaluations of the petitions for immediate full recognition of Large Animal Internal Medicine and Small Animal Internal Medicine as separate RVSSs within the parent RVSO (ACVIM), ABVS **approved** two motions to recommend provisional recognition of each of the specialties for one year. Each specialty will be considered for full recognition in 2003 pending review of recommended changes to their petitions.
- A motion to formally recognize Clinical Pathology and Anatomic Pathology as two RVSSs with the ACPV was **approved**.
- Regarding the report of the petition for recognition of Toxicologic Pathology as a subspecialty (RVSS) within (i.e. *under the aegis of*) both RVSSs (i.e. Clinical Pathology and Anatomic Pathology) of the ACPV: the reviewers found that a subspecialty ought to be overseen only by one RVS. By voice vote, the ABVS **disapproved** this motion. By hand vote, the motion was again disapproved. A second motion for two subspecialties, both called Toxicologic Pathology, one under the RVS of Clinical Pathology and one under the RVS of Anatomic Pathology, was **disapproved**.
- ACVO: The ABVS considered a second recommendation from the Annual Report Review Committee (ARRC) regarding ACVO. The ARRC expressed concerns with the reorganization of this RVSO that resulted in the elimination of its Constitution and Bylaws and restructuring of its board to add a non-veterinarian public member. An ACVO Diplomate (Parshall) presented background information and a survey of members, indicating their displeasure with the reorganiza-

tion &/or actions of their board, with concern that the membership may have been misled. The ABVS **approved** a motion to withhold recommending full recognition status until review of the 2002 ACVO Annual Report (due November, 2002), at which time ACVO must show considerable progress towards bringing its Bylaws into compliance with the PPM. If this is not reflected in the 2002 Annual Report, the ABVS Executive Committee will be compelled to initiate disciplinary action against the college in accordance with the PPM.

- On the basis of scheduled reviews of Five-year in-depth reports of four RVSOs, motions were **approved** to continue full recognition for three: ACVN, ACVECC, and ABVT. The ACVA Five-year and Annual Reports were submitted late. Following an Executive Session, the ABVS **accepted** the report of the reviewers to continue full recognition of this RVSO. A **second motion of censure was approved**, reminding the ACVA of the deadlines and indicated that failure to meet the next deadline would result in a recommendation for probation.
- AVDC: The Executive Committee of ABVS could not review the AVDC Five-year or Annual Reports, because they were not submitted (December, 2001). Reports were finally submitted approximately two months late. In compliance with the PPM, the EC considered appropriate actions might include that the AVDC be assigned probationary recognition or that recognition be withdrawn. Following an Executive Session (Feb., 2002), the ABVS **approved** a motion to recommend to the AVMA COE that **probationary recognition** be assigned to AVDC for one year because of the college's failure to submit required reports. The AVDC will be considered for full recognition in 2003 pending receipt of updated Five-year in-depth and 2002 Annual Reports by the November deadline (note: the reports were received in a timely manner, November, 2002). [full recognition re-instated, Feb. 2003].

## **Re-review of Year 2000 Five-year in-depth reports:**

- ABVP: A final decision on continuation of full recognition had been postponed in March, 2001 due to concerns about the RVSO eliminating its Constitution and Bylaws, with a determination that ABVP was out of compliance with the ABVS policies and procedures manual (PPM). On the

## **DEFINITIONS FYI, TO THWART FRUSTRATION IN READING THROUGH THE ALPHABET SOUP OF THIS REPORT:**

RVS	Recognized Veterinary Specialty (An RVS is represented on the ABVS by the representative of the parent RVSO).
RVSO	Recognized Veterinary Specialty Organization (aka VSO)
RVSS	Recognized Veterinary Subspecialty
ABVP	American Board of Veterinary Practitioners
ACVO	American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists
ABVT	American Board of Veterinary Toxicology
ACVP	American College of Veterinary Pathologists
ACPV	American College of Poultry Veterinarians
ARRC	Annual Report Review Committee
ACVA	American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists
AVDC	American Veterinary Dental College
ACVECC	American College of Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care
COE	Council on Education of the AVMA
ACVIM	American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine
PPM	Policies & Procedures Manual
ACVN	American College of Veterinary Nutrition

*Note: this includes only VSOs mentioned in this report, i.e. these are not all of the current AVMA-recognized VSOs.*

basis of additional information provided by ABVP, a motion to recommend continued full recognition of the ABVP was **granted**.

- ACPV: A motion was approved at the March, 2001 ABVS meeting to postpone a decision on recommending continued full recognition of the ACPV because of several deficiencies in its 2000 Five-year in-depth report. Additional materials were provided by ACPV. A motion to recommend continued full recognition of the ACPV, on the basis of the addendum to its 2000 Five-year in-depth report, was **approved**.

Information specific to the ACT: In response to issues discussed during the 2002 Colorado Springs, ACT business meeting, Dr. Dale Paccamonti and Dr. Willis Parker (chairperson of the Advisory Committee elected after the Colorado Springs business meeting) attended the ABVS meeting, February, 2003. This was an opportunity for ACT representatives to discuss with ABVS issues related to collaboration between the ACT and ECAR, and to rule-out any action that could otherwise compromise ACT's full recognition by the AVMA. Review of additional February, 2003 actions will be included in the next newsletter.

Should any of you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for this opportunity to serve the ACT.

Carla L. Carleton  
ACT representative to the ABVS  
Chairperson-elect of the ABVS (2002-2003)

## Repeat Breeding in Dairy Heifers: Follicular Dynamics and Estrous Cycle Characteristics in Relation to Sexual Hormone Patterns

BAGE, R; GUSTAFSSON, H; LARSSON, B; FORSBERG, M; RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ, H (2002); THERIOGENOLOGY, 57, 2257-2269.

Repeat breeding occurs at an incidence of 10% in the Swedish dairy cow population. Evidence is available for a hormonal asynchrony around estrus in repeat-breeder heifers (RBH). This asynchrony seems to be the underlying cause for a series of dysfunctions such as prolonged standing estrus and delayed ovulation, leading to fertilization failure. For further determinations of repeat-breeder estrous cycle characteristics, seven strictly selected RBH and six virgin heifers (VH) were studied during 3-7 consecutive cycles, with particular attention paid to the estrous period. Follicular dynamics were studied by ultrasonography and related to estrous behavior and pattern of sexual hormones (progesterone, estradiol-17beta, and LH) in peripheral circulation. Mean group data were compared and a classification model was designed. The most prominent findings for RBH were prolonged duration of estrus, delayed LH peak, prolonged lifespan of the preovulatory follicle, and a late postovulatory rise in plasma progesterone. There was also a strong tenden-

cy for peri-ovulatory suprabasal progesterone levels in RBH. It is suspected that these deviations cause changes in the microenvironment of the preovulatory follicle, negatively affecting the final maturation of the oocyte. The heterogeneity of the RBH group underlines the multifactorial cause of the repeat-breeder syndrome. The VH formed a homogenous group with data varying within physiological limits. A classification model based on three characteristic variables managed to identify 81% of the VH and 79% of the RBH correctly. Results from this study propose that some heifers have general, consistent problems in synchronizing estrous events, displayed as varying symptoms in the course of consecutive estrous cycles. These subfertile animals could be classified as repeat-breeders.-30-



## Crossiella equi sp nov., Isolated from Equine Placentas.

DONAHUE, JM; WILLIAMS, NM; SELLS, SF; LABEDA, DP (2002); INT. J. SYST. EVOL. MICROBIOL. 52, 2169-2173.

Over the course of the past decade, actinomycetes have been isolated from the placentas of horses diagnosed with nocardioform placentitis. The incidence of this infection has generally been low, with typically no more than 30 animals affected in most years, but the incidence increased through

1999, with placentas from 144 mares found to be infected. Approximately half of the cases result in loss of the foal. A typical

actinomycete with branching mycelium was isolated from placental lesions, and a comparison of the sequence of the 16S rDNA gene against the public databases indicated a relationship to members of the suborder Pseudonocardineae. Phylogenetic analysis of representative isolates revealed a close relationship to *Crossiella cryophila*, and subsequent polyphasic comparisons determined that these isolates represent a novel species of *Crossiella*, for which the name *Crossiella equi* sp. nov. is proposed, with strain ILDDC 22291-98(T) (= NRRL B-24104(T) = DSM 44580(T)) as the type strain.-30-



## Effects of Administration of Prostaglandin F-2 Alpha-analogue Fenprostalene on Canine Corpus Luteum and Subsequent Recurrence of Estrus and Fecundity

HORI, T; AKIKAWA, T; KAWAKAMI, E; TSUTSUI, T (2002); J. VET. MED. SCI. 64, 807-811.

The effects of the long-acting prostaglandin F-2alpha-analogue fenprostalene were investigated. Twenty-three female beagles (24 cases) 1-6 years of age were divided into 6 groups, and a dose of 5-150 g/head of fenprostalene was subcutaneously administered at 25 days after ovulation to investigate its effects based on peripheral blood progesterone (P4) levels. The dogs were also examined for shortening of their estrous cycle after administration and fecundity after the recurrence of estrus. The results showed that the administration of 50 g/head of fenprostalene or more reduced the levels of

peripheral blood P4 to about 1 ng/ml 2 days after administration, indicating early regression of the corpus luteum, and that the administration of these doses shortened the time to the subsequent estrus by a mean of about 80 days, and that conception rates were normal if estrus recurred about 2 months after fenprostalene administration or later.-30-



## Plasma Levels of Cortisol and Oxytocin, and Uterine Activity After Cervical Artificial Insemination in the Ewe

HOUDEAU, E; RAYNAL, P; MARNET, PG; GERMAIN, G; MORMEDE, P; ROSSANO, B; MONNERIE, R; PRUDHOMME, MJ (2002); REPROD. NUTR. DEVELOP. 42, 381-392.

The objective was to compare in the ewe the effects of easy and difficult procedures for artificial insemination (AI) (as related to rapid or poor accessibility of the cervix, respectively) on plasma cortisol (CORT) and oxytocin (OT), and uterine motility. All AI were simulated using a catheter empty of semen to study genital and environmental stimuli only. In experiment 1, 40 ewes were sampled after AI, and whether it was an easy or difficult procedure was reported for each animal. While CORT concentrations rose to a similar amount in all ewes, whatever the AI procedure, a significant OT

response occurred after a difficult procedure only (n = 18) (17.4 +/- 1.7 versus 12.7 +/- 0.7 pg.mL<sup>-1</sup> before AI, P < 0.05). In experiment 2, uterine activity was monitored in 4 ewes using an implantable telemetric transmitter equipped with an intrauterine pressure catheter. An increased uterine activity occurred during 2 +/- 1 min after an easy AI (n = 5), whereas the evoked activity lasted for 15 +/- 4 min after a difficult AI (p < 0.001, n = 7). A similar long-lasting response occurred after OT administration (100 mIU, i.v.). We concluded that the increase in uterine motility after a difficult AI resulted from a reflex release of OT, and not to a "stress" effect.-30-





## Transport of Fertilized and Unfertilized Ova in Sows

MWANZA, M; RAZDAN, P; HULTEN, F; EINARSSON, S (2002): ANIM. REPROD. SCI. 74, 69-74.

Transport of fertilized and unfertilized ova was studied in 22 crossbred (Landrace x Yorkshire) multiparous sows. Sows in the inseminated group (I-group, n = 11) were inseminated once with 100 ml of BTS extended semen from two fertile boars with a total of  $10 \times 10^9$  spermatozoa during the second estrus after weaning between 18 and 8 h prior to estimated time of ovulation, as estimated from the first estrus after weaning. All the sows were slaughtered between 36 and 48 h after ovulation in the second estrus after weaning by stunning and bleeding. After slaughter, the reproductive tract was immediately recovered, the isthmus was divided into three

equal segments, and the number of ova was determined in each segment and in the upper third of the uterine horn from the UTJ. There were no significant differences ( $P > 0.05$ ) either in the intervals from ovulation to slaughter ( $42.3 \pm 6.2$  h versus  $43.2 \pm 5.4$  h) or in the numbers of corpora lutea (CL) ( $18.2 \pm 5.5$  versus  $15.9 \pm 3.5$ ) between the non-inseminated (N-group) and the inseminated groups (I-group), respectively. Ova recovery rate was 92.5% in the N-group and 82.9% in the I-group ( $P > 0.05$ ). In the I-group, ova had passed  $2.2 \pm 0.3$  segments whereas in the N-group, ova had passed  $2.6 \pm 0.3$  segments ( $P = 0.38$ ). It can be concluded that there is no difference in the transportation of either fertilized or unfertilized ova in the reproductive tract of pigs. -30-

## Induction of Maternal Behavior in Non-parturient Adoptive Mares

PORTER, RH; DUCHAMP, G; NOWAK, R; DAELS, RF (2002): PHYSIOL. BEHAV. 77, 151-154.

An attempt was made to elicit maternal behavior in non-parturient Welsh pony mares through a combination of hormonal treatment and vaginal-cervical stimulation (VCS). Lactation was induced in 16 nonpregnant, non-parturient mares via a combination of estradiol, progesterone and a dopamine antagonist (sulpiride). During the adoption trials, each lactating mare was confined behind a padded bar and a newborn foal was held near her head. Eight of the mares received two 3-min periods of VCS when the foster foal was introduced. Following VCS, the foal was released and its interactions with the adoptive mare observed until the acceptance criterion was met (i.e. the mare accepted the foal at the udder with no signs of aggression). The remaining eight adoptive mares were treated in the same manner but did not receive VCS. All 16 non-parturient mares

eventually accepted and nursed their adopted foal. However, acceptance latencies were significantly shorter for mares in the VCS condition than for those without VCS, and did not differ between the VCS condition and a group of control mares with their biological offspring. In subsequent choice tests, both groups of foster mares (with/without VCS), like the control mares, displayed a preference for their 'own' foal. Once the non-parturient mares accepted their foster foal. Their maternal behavior resembled that of control mothers. The positive effect of VCS on maternal acceptance may reflect a release of oxytocin triggered by this treatment. -30-



## Semen Cryopreservation:

### A Genetic Explanation for Species and Individual Variation?

THURSTON, LM; WATSON, PF; HOLT, WV (2002): CRYOLETTERS. 23, 255-262.

Although semen cryopreservation has been applied successfully in a few species, considerable variation in post-thaw semen viability exists. Independent of sperm quality before freezing, the semen of certain individuals will consistently freeze badly, resulting in

- poor motility, disrupted acrosome and plasma membrane, and thus reduced fertilizing ability, indicating the existence of variation in membrane properties within species. A more comprehensive understanding of sperm cryobiology would be obtained by the investigation of within-species variation in the susceptibility of spermatozoa

to cryoinjury. This review aims to explore the phenomenon of consistent variation in frozen semen quality between species and between individuals in an effort to find new insights into the reasons for cryoinjury. Recent studies suggest that there is a genetic basis for variation in post-thaw semen quality, and argue that modern molecular technologies are able to identify markers linked to genes influencing this variation. The identification of genetic differences between individuals, which may be linked to cryosurvival, provides an opportunity to develop a functional and molecular understanding of the factors that influence semen cryopreservation, allowing selective breeding of desired traits and the development of genetic tests that predict the outcome of semen freezing. -30-

## Three Cases of Ovarian Epidermoid Cysts in Cattle

EDWARDS, JF (2002): VET. PATHOL. 39, 744-746.

Three cases of bovine, ovarian epidermoid cysts were diagnosed as unilateral benign lesions in three out of 1,971 cows at slaughter. A stratified, cornifying, and squamous epithelium without associated skin adnexal structures or tissues from other embryonic tissue layers lined the cysts. The cysts were small, usually multiple, and contained keratin debris. Macroscopically, they resembled abscesses.

These are benign, congenital lesions that are a separate entity from dermoids and teratomas, and they appear to have a higher incidence in cattle with *Bos indicus* breeding. -30-



## Concentrations of Inhibin, Progesterone and Oestradiol in Fluid from Dominant and Subordinate Follicles from Mares During Spring Transition and the Breeding Season

WATSON, ED; THOMASSEN, R; STEELE, M; HEALD, M; LEASK, R; GROOME, NP; RILEY, SC (2002): ANIM. REPROD. SCI. 74, 55-67.

Dominant and subordinate follicles were collected from mares on the day after the dominant follicle reached 30 mm in diameter, to investigate regulation of folliculogenesis during spring transition and the breeding season. Concentrations of estradiol-17beta, progesterone and inhibin A, but not inhibin isoforms with pro- and alphaC-immunoreactivity, were significantly higher in preovulatory follicles than in dominant anovulatory transitional follicles. Steroidogenic activity was regained gradually in the dominant follicles of successive anovulatory waves through spring transition. The dominant follicles, during both spring transition and cyclicity, contained higher concentrations of estradiol, progesterone and inhibin

A, but not inhibin pro- and alphaC-isoforms, than subordinate follicles. The results indicate that high follicular levels of estradiol, progesterone and inhibin A are associated with continued follicle growth and ovulation. The low concentrations of estradiol and progesterone in transitional follicles indicate that the deficiency in steroidogenesis exists early in the steroidogenic pathway. The similarity in patterns of follicular hormones in spring transition and during cyclicity strongly suggests that the mechanism of dominance is the same in both types of follicle.-30-



## Strategies for Preventing Neonatal Isoerythrolysis

BLACKMER, JM; PACCAMONTI, D; ELTS, B; COSTA, LR; KOCH, K (2002): COMPEND. CONT. EDUC. PRACT. VET. 24, 562+.



Mares that have lost a foal affected by neonatal isoerythrolysis are at high risk for recurrence of the problem in subsequent pregnancies. The condition can be avoided by attending foaling, testing colostrum for anti-red blood cell antibodies before the foal is delivered,

withholding colostrum that contains offending antibodies, and providing immunoglobulins by another route. The milk calcium test is useful to determine fetal readiness for birth and, in conjunction with

length of gestation and cervical relaxation, can be used as a guide for either timing induction of parturition or preparing for natural parturition. The jaundiced foal agglutination test is a rapid and effective test for detecting the level of colostral anti-red blood cell antibody to determine when it is safe for the foal to nurse. If maternal colostrum must be withheld, immunoglobulins can be provided through oral administration of equine colostrum, bovine colostrum, or serum or plasma products or by intravenous administration of products that supply immunoglobulins.-30-

## Influence of Lambing-to-Rebreeding Interval on Ewe Reproductive Performance in the Anestrous Season

GOULET, F; CASTONGUAY, FW (2002): CAN. J. ANIM. SCI. 82, 453-456.

Seventy-nine primiparous crossbred Lacaune ewes were synchronized (in the anestrous season) with progestagen sponges, with mating at 75 or 90 d post-partum. Increasing the post-partum interval from 75 to 90 d improved body condition at mating, lambing rate, number of lambs born per ewe lambed, litter weight at birth, and number of lambs born per ewe treated. In conclusion, the pro-

ductivity of primiparous ewes in an accelerated lambing system tended to improve when the lambing-to-rebreeding interval was increased from 75 to 90 d.-30-



## Evaluation of the Safety and Efficacy of Testicular Biopsies in Llamas

HEATH, AM; PUGH, DG; SARTIN, EA; NAVARRE, B; PUROHIT, RC (2002): THERIOGENOLOGY. 58, 1125-1130.



Evaluation of the reproductive function of *Lama glama* is generally considered to be a challenging task due to the difficulty of obtaining representative semen samples. One method that has been proposed for evaluation of testicular function in these animals is histo-

logic examination of testicular needle biopsies. This study was undertaken to examine the safety and efficacy of using needle biopsies to assess testicular function in this species. One randomly selected testicle from each of 16 sexually mature llamas was biopsied with a 14-gauge self-firing biopsy instrument. The llamas were evaluated over a 6-week period with thermography for temperature changes of the scrotum. At the end of the 6-week trial, the llamas were castrated and sections of each testis were fixed in Bouin's solution for histologic examination. Immediately prior to castration,

an additional biopsy was taken from each testis to compare the tissue obtained via biopsy with sections from the corresponding testis obtained after castration. A qualitative grading scale was used to compare the seminiferous tubules from each testis. No difference was found between the biopsied and the nonbiopsied testes ( $P = 0.69$ ). The percentage of normal tubules between the biopsied and the nonbiopsied sides also did not differ ( $P = 0.70$ ). Furthermore, the percentage of normal seminiferous tubules did not differ between the needle biopsy samples and the corresponding tissue samples obtained at castration ( $P = 0.48$ ). The number of round seminiferous tubules counted in each biopsy section ranged from 3 to 67. There was no significant difference in the thermographic images of the scrotum between the biopsied and the nonbiopsied testes. This study supports testicular biopsies as a safe and useful procedure in the evaluation of testicular function. -30-

# classifieds...

## ■ CORNELL UNIVERSITY - FACULTY

The Department of Clinical Sciences of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University invites applications for a tenure track faculty position in Theriogenology. Candidates must have a DVM or equivalent degree and should be board certified by the American College of Theriogenologists. Preference will be given to candidates with postgraduate research training and with a demonstrated ability to perform high quality research and to generate extramural funding. Responsibilities will include approximately 55% effort to research, 25% service responsibility in the Cornell University Hospital for Animals and 15% didactic instruction of veterinary students, residents, and graduate students.

Title and salary will be commensurate with academic credentials and experience. Interested individuals should send a letter of application, curriculum vitae and names and addresses of three suitable referees to Office of the Chair, Department of Clinical Sciences, Box 31, Cornell

University, Ithaca, NY 14853-6401. For further information, contact Dr. Dietrich Volkmann dhv2@cornell.edu. Review of applications will begin March 1, 2003 and continue until an acceptable candidate is selected.

## ■ UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - FACULTY

The Department of Clinical and Population Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, invites applications for a tenure track faculty position at the Assistant Professor level, or tenure track/tenured Associate Professor level in dairy and beef cattle. Rank and tenure will depend on the qualifications of the appointee consistent with collegiate and university policy.

Duties include participation in the Department's hospital and field based clinical programs, didactic and laboratory teaching for professional and graduate students and specifically directing these efforts for bovine theriogenology. The faculty member will be expected to initiate research projects and collaborate with other faculty in the total research effort, participate in graduate training, and provide continuing education activities for veterinarians and extension education for the state's cattle producers.

Candidates must have a DVM, VMD, or equal degree from a foreign University and Diplomate status (or eligibility) in the American College of Theriogenologists, plus an advanced degree in the general field of Animal Reproduction by start date. Additionally, candidates must have three years of Post-DVM didactic and clinical teaching experience in theriogenology plus demonstrated research competency. Individuals who have completed a residency in theriogenology are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to applicants with a Ph.D., good communication skills, and proven ability to build collaborative programs involving research, extension, and continuing education.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Applications will be reviewed starting March 15, 2003 and will continue until suitable candidate is hired. Appointment will begin June 1, 2003 or thereafter. Applicants should submit a letter of intent, a CV, and the names and addresses of three referees to: Ms. Nancy Rush, College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical and Population Sciences, 225 Vet Teaching Hospital, 1365 Gortner Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer

## ■ TEXAS A&M - RESIDENCY

### RESIDENCY POSITION IN EQUINE THERIOGENOLOGY

The College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University, is seeking applicants for one residency position in Equine Theriogenology. Starting date for the position is July 15, 2003. The objective of the Equine Theriogenology residency training program is to provide comprehensive, advanced training in methods to maximize reproductive efficiency in horses. Diagnostic/therapeutic (including surgical) strategies and gamete manipulation are emphasized. The program is supported by 5 board-certified equine theriogenologists, with broad clinical interests and current research endeavors which focus on gonadal function and assisted reproductive technology.

The residency program prepares the candidate to pass the certifying examination of the American College of Theriogenologists. Participation in patient management, classroom and laboratory teaching, research projects, and rotational ambulatory emergency duty are required. There are 3 categories of residency training: (1) a 2-year program which involves primarily clinical training, (2) a 3-year program which includes a curriculum leading to a Master of Science degree, and (3) a 5-year program which includes a curriculum leading to a Doctor of Philosophy degree. Those residents desiring to complete the programs for the Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy degrees must commit to these programs within the first semester of employment.

Applicants for the position must have completed a one-year internship or must have received equivalent experience in private practice. Applicants must meet requirements for temporary licensure in Texas (*ie*, must be a graduate of an AVMA-accredited College of Veterinary Medicine). Licensure may be obtained after arrival through the institutional employment licensing agreement, with no cost to the resident. The University also covers the premium for professional liability insurance during the period of employment. First year salary: \$23,700.

Applications will be accepted through February 15th, 2003 or until position is filled. Interested individuals should submit a letter of intent and three references to Dr. Dickson Varner by e-mail [dvarner@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:dvarner@cvm.tamu.edu) or by regular mail (Department of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843-4475). Inquires may also be made by telephone at 979-845-9150.

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