

**Editor:** TIM NUTTALL, BSc BVSc CertVD CBiol MIBiol MRCVS  
LECTURER IN VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY,  
THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL SMALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL,  
CROWN STREET, LIVERPOOL, L7 7EX, UNITED KINGDOM.  
TEL. +44 151 794 4290; FAX +44 151 794 4304; EMAIL timn@liv.ac.uk

December 2001

## EDITORIAL

**W**elcome to this edition of the ESVD Bulletin. I have just moved from Edinburgh to take up a position as Lecturer in Veterinary Dermatology at the University of Liverpool. My new address and contact details are above. As always, I would welcome feedback – please send your views, news and comments.

World events inevitably cast their shadow over this bulletin. As I write, September 11<sup>th</sup> is only six weeks past, yet that world seems a lifetime away. Since then, war has engulfed Central Asia and anthrax threatens the US and Europe. Despite this, life for most of us continues as normal. I have included an article about anthrax summarising information presented by Kimberley Lower, Guillermina Manigot and Katherine Woore, a final year student at Liverpool. I hope that this never becomes more than of academic interest to anyone.

Despite all, the 17<sup>th</sup> ESVD-ECVD Congress in Copenhagen was well attended and enjoyed by all. There are several reports from the congress floor in this issue.

### ESVD committee news

Richard Harvey and Antonella Vercelli stepped down from the committee this year. Richard has done an excellent job as president and past-president, seeing the ESVD through a period of growth and development, leaving it a much stronger society. The importance of Antonella's role as ESVD secretary, an often-unsung post, is emphasised by the change to a full time paid secretary, and we are very grateful for her work in this role.

### Electronic access to Veterinary Dermatology

The membership was recently asked about access to Veterinary Dermatology on the internet. The question was – are you willing to pay 15 euro a year more to receive Veterinary Dermatology on the internet as well as on paper? This would include all past issues with restricted access to the site.

150 voting forms were received. The number of votes cast were – No 77; Yes 73. The motion was therefore defeated.

However, given the close vote and low turnout, the ESVD board will reconsider this matter next year.

### AGM attendance

Only 37 members attended the AGM this year. The pressure to get ready for the gala event may have put people off, but those that did attend, did also find time to dress up for the Tivoli Gardens. The AGM is the one place where members can discuss a range of important issues that affect the way the ESVD is run and managed. Not attending negates your right to vote and silences your say in how your society is run.

## Membership fees

There is an ongoing problem with non or late payment of membership fees. This creates extra work for the membership secretary and treasurer, as well as costing us money. It was, therefore, decided at the AGM that members who do not pay their fees by the 1<sup>st</sup> January will no longer receive *Veterinary Dermatology*.

## ACVD task force on canine atopic dermatitis

Canine atopic dermatitis is arguably the most important veterinary skin problem we face. Although atopic syndromes have been recognised in dogs for nearly 60 years, progress in defining clinical signs, diagnostic criteria, validating treatments and studying the causes has been slow and often reliant on anecdotal data. In 1999 the ACVD put together a task force to critically review all data on canine atopic dermatitis according to the standards on evidence-based medicine. This review has just been published as a special edition of *Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology* (volume 81, issue 3-4, pp.143-387 - [www.elsevier.com/inca/publications/store/5/0/3/3/1/9/](http://www.elsevier.com/inca/publications/store/5/0/3/3/1/9/)). It is divided into 24 separate papers that discuss epidemiology, clinical manifestations, pathogenesis and treatment options. Each has been superbly researched and is well written. Rigorous review shows that previously accepted dogmas are, in many cases, based on insufficient data and that further investigation is required. Areas for further research are highlighted and discussed in the light of comparative findings from human and rodent studies.

The ACVD and the authors should be congratulated for the vision and hard work that has gone in this document. It is something that deserves to be read and digested by anyone with more than a passing interest in veterinary dermatology. Novartis have kindly made copies available to ESVD members. To receive a copy, complete the form included with this bulletin and fax it to Novartis by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2002. Please note that there is a limited supply, so reply as soon as possible.

## Contentious issues in veterinary dermatology

This is an occasional series of articles, written by leading veterinarians, critically examining controversial topics in veterinary dermatology. These are written independently, and do not reflect or imply any view of the ESVD or ECVD. Their aim is to provoke debate, reappraisal of data and stimulate high quality research by ESVD members. In the first article, responding to several requests, Ann Robinson discusses the use of lufenuron in feline dermatophytosis.

## Congress 2002

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the ESVD-ECVD will take place from the 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September 2002 in Nice, France. The congress will also host the annual meeting of the International Society for Veterinary Dermatopathology, as well as the usual pre-congress Residents' Day and ESAVS Alumni meeting. The cutting edge scientific programme features an array of medical and veterinary 'stars', concentrating on the hair follicle, the dermo-epidermal junction, pigment disorders, dermatopathology and emerging therapies. The equally strong clinical stream includes presentations on parasitology, oncology, feline dermatology, alopecia and small mammals. There is also an excellent social programme - see the final announcement with this bulletin for more details. The ESVD AGM will be held at 16.30 on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Free communications for this meeting are welcome. Submission guidelines can be found on page six of the congress announcement, but please note that the final deadline is the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002.

## Veterinary Dermatology

*Veterinary Dermatology* continues to be successful, despite a recent drop in its ranking. There are now six issues per year. There have also been special issues on Equine Dermatology and Antibiotic Therapy. Furthermore, special editions of the scientific proceedings will make these more widely available. Ross Bond has resigned as European editor for *Veterinary Dermatology*, but a successor has yet to be appointed. Ross has done a great job and deserves all our thanks.

## ESVD AGM report

The Annual General Meeting of the ESVD took place at 17.00 at the Falconer Auditorium, Falconer Congress Centre, Copenhagen on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2001.

Dominique Heripret gave the President's address, thanking Flemming Kristensen for the successful organisation of the congress in Copenhagen. Special thanks were also given to all the Sponsors of the meeting.

The Treasurer's report presented by Trevor Whitbread analysed the income of Congress organization, workshops and costs. The balance of the ESVD accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2001 was presented. He emphasised the importance of paying annual membership fees on time – otherwise, it is not possible to keep sending Veterinary Dermatology without loss to the ESVD. In future, members not paying their fees by 1<sup>st</sup> January will no longer receive Veterinary Dermatology.

The Membership Secretary, Margreet Vroom, reported that the number of ESVD members was quite stable (see report in this bulletin). Chiara Noli, the Publication Secretary, thanked David Lloyd for the Web page, Tim Nuttall for editing the Bulletin, and also Thierry Olivry for the Annual Report. She also spoke about Veterinary Dermatology and the forthcoming publication of abstracts from the AAVD and ESVD meeting. Chiara also discussed the work of the ESVD Research Committee and Award, previous grants and publications.

The winner of this year's grant was announced and application for next year invited (see the separate section in this bulletin for further details). Zeineb Alhaidari gave the Further Education Committee report speaking about the Dermatopathology workshop in London, the Feline workshop in the Netherlands, as well as future workshops in France about Clinical Pathology and Equine Dermatology in Sweden. This bulletin has further details of these and other workshops. Zeineb also discussed the scientific and social programme for next year's congress in Nice, and announced that the 2003 ESVD Congress will be held in Tenerife.

Antonella Vercelli presented the results of the ESVD Board elections. The election committee formed by Antonella Vercelli and Margreet Vroom received 115 vote forms. The list proposed for the postal vote was composed of 20 new candidates and three existing board members.

**Margreet Vroom (NL) was elected President with 107 votes and Dominique Heripret (F) became Past President.**

The following Board Members who were re-elected:

**Zeineb Alhaidari (F)  
Trevor Whitbread (UK)  
Chiara Noli (I)**

The new Board member elected was **Aiden Foster (UK)**.

Under any other business some modifications to update the Constitution was suggested. These matters will be prepared by the present Board and will be sent to all members with the Bulletin. David Grant proposed that the ESVD should commemorate the tragic death of one of our members with a grant or a free subscription to the Congress. Ian Mason wishes to promote brief historical notes, for example of the ESVD, a biography, evolution of a disease etc., that could be included in Veterinary Dermatology or as a free communication or poster. These matters were taken into account and will then be discussed during the next Board Meeting.

The new ESVD president, Margreet Vroom, thanked Dominique Heripret for his sterling work, promising that the new board will pursue the same degree of organisation and efficacy. She also closed the AGM thanking everybody for their participation.

# ESVD membership report

The following were elected full members of the ESVD at the AGM held in Copenhagen on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2001:

NAME	COUNTRY	SPONSORS
MICHAELA SEKULA	Germany	David Lloyd - Richard Halliwell
TINA KOTNEK	Slovenia	Keith Thoday - David Lloyd
SILKE HORNING	Germany	David Lloyd - Richard Halliwell
EBERHARD JUNG	Germany	David Lloyd - Richard Halliwell
CLAUDIA NETT	Germany	Hans Koch - Richard Halliwell
TIM NUTTALL	United Kingdom	Andrew Carter - Peter Hill
CHRISTA HORVATH	Austria	Regina Wagner - Hans Koch
ARIANE NEUBER	Germany	David Lloyd - Richard Halliwell
SONJA ZABEL	Germany	Hans Koch - Richard Halliwell

As of the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2001, there were 625 ESVD members, of which 198 were full members. 12 members were lost, and 48 new members joined, giving a net gain of 36 members in 2001.

Margreet Vroom, ESVD Membership Secretary

## 17<sup>th</sup> ESVD-ECVD Congress of Veterinary Dermatology in Copenhagen - the view from the floor

Just how many pleasant surprises were there in Copenhagen! First of all, the climate and weather were very kind to us, then the people were very friendly, demonstrating a great talent for hospitality, organisation and entertainment. Everything began with a beautiful welcome reception at the City hall, allowing everybody to meet old and new friends in an informal atmosphere.

The congress days were very busy, offering an excellent programme with great speakers. Unfortunately, this made it very difficult to find the time to visit "wonderful Copenhagen"! The clinical sessions gave an excellent overview to what's on in veterinary dermatology with a much-appreciated special focus on horses. The principal themes of the scientific sessions were immunological disease and mediators. The main presentations by a small selection of superb lecturers were complemented by very interesting short communications on new developments in allergic skin diseases. However, if the frontiers of understanding the mechanisms of immunology are constantly explored, there are so far no new therapeutic possibilities available for the practitioner. Everybody is now waiting for the new concepts promised by our past-president Dominique Heripret during his welcome talk.

The lectures for the veterinary nurses given by authorities in veterinary dermatology were a great success. I admired the quality of the notes and I think that it will help practitioners to have well trained nurses working in their practices.

The only adverse comment regards holding the ESVD AGM on the busiest day, just one and half hours before the

gala evening at the Tivoli Gardens. This left almost no time to get ready and probably explains the low attendance at the meeting. This is a pity considering the enormous amount of work done by our committee, which deserves more support from the base.

The gala evening at Tivoli was an unforgettable moment. It was great fun and an important part of congress social life. The evening ended with the whole lot of us singing "I am flying" by Rod Stewart!

I would like to give special thanks to Flemming Kristensen, "l'homme à tout faire", and the organisation committee for the great work they did and the wonderful congress they organised.

Catherine Nägeli, Switzerland

### ESVD Research Grant

The winner of the 2001 ESVD Research Grant (5000 Euro) is Claude Favrot, of the Dept. Sciences Cliniques, Faculty of Vet. Medicine, University of Montreal, Canada, with a project to investigate serological immunodiagnosis of canine subepidermal autoimmune blistering skin diseases. Applications for the 2002 award are welcome.

Application guidelines are included with this bulletin.

## ESAVS Pre Congress Day in Copenhagen 25.09.2001

Once again we were lucky to have a successful ESAVS alumni meeting with 25 participants from 11 different countries - a great opportunity to see old friends, make new friends and listen to some excellent presentations! Candace Sousa gave a very good lecture on immune mediated diseases and tests available for private practitioners. We got valuable information and heard about her practical experiences. In the afternoon a couple of very interesting unsolved cases were presented by the participants. (We may have seen the first German Naked Dog!)

Thank you, Karin and Margret for organising such a great day - not the easiest task to organise a meeting in Denmark from Germany. Thank you, Candace for coming and sharing your thoughts with us. Also let us not forget our generous sponsors who made this day possible.

If you did not attend this time, be there next year - September 2002 in Nice, France. Invitations will be sent through e-mail in the future. If you want to be invited, please send your e-mail address to Karin Stechmann (kstechmann@t-online.de). If you have any ideas or wishes for next year's topic or speaker, please include that in your e-mail as well.

See you all in Nice in September 2002!

On behalf of the participants,

*Outi Kuisma-Parwar, Finland*

## 17<sup>th</sup> ESVD-ECVD Congress in Copenhagen - the nurses' view

This year the ESVD-ECVD congress in beautiful Copenhagen ran a nurses stream of lectures alongside the specialist lectures. Three of us from the UK who have done the Leo/PDSA Certificate of Dermatology course that were able to attend, alongside nurses from elsewhere in Europe. Many thanks and congratulations must go to the ESVD-ECVD committee who not only ran a wide choice of lectures for the vets, some of which we also attended, but also put such thought and effort into nurses and their development.

Worldwide experts gave us some very informative lectures on varied dermatological subjects from ectoparasites to genodermatoses. Most lectures seemed to draw a full complement and there weren't many empty seats- even first thing in the morning!

There was a good mix of lecture levels. Anita Patel started with a revision of skin function. This was followed by topics that we hadn't as full an understanding as we would like, such as tumours by David Grant and genodermatoses by Eric Guaguere. It can be very hard to judge the level at which to pitch the lectures and perhaps it might be an idea to indicate whether lectures are intended for trainees or qualified nurses, as the lecture titles don't always give a clue.

Overall we were very impressed at the thought that had gone into the creation of the nursing stream lectures. This sort of thing should help us facilitate the smooth running of dermatology clinics. It will also benefit training of nurses as dermatological problems and techniques aren't covered in much depth on general nursing courses.

It was great to meet experienced veterinary dermatologists that we would not expect to meet in the general course of things. I, for one, hope that the nurses' programme will become a regular feature of congress and will eagerly attend the next.

*Vicki, United Kingdom*

# Residents' Precongress Day 2001

The Residents' Precongress day was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on the 26th September 2001. Almost all the registered ECVD Residents attended the meeting, as well as some colleagues currently following the alternative route to the Diploma.

The program started with a brief introductory presentation by our sponsors, Iams and Bayer. We are all very grateful for their support, and we want to thank them once again. Without their help, the Residents' Precongress would not have been possible.

Dr Janet Littlewood gave us a really excellent presentation on dermatoses of the equine distal limb. This was followed by a review on equine hyperadrenocorticism and the most appropriate diagnostic tests for this disease in horses. At the end of the morning, Chiara Noli frightened us all with a

talk on the Diploma Exam in Veterinary Dermatology. She gave us some very useful indications on how to study for it and what to expect, including the efficacy of chocolate bars (Mars, bars) as anti-stress food while sitting the exam! In the afternoon, Dr Janet Littlewood discussed the principles of therapy in equine dermatology, including some interesting species-specific indications. The session ended with case presentations by some of the participants.

In the evening, we completed our meeting with very nice dinner all together in Nyhavn. This brief report would not be complete without a special acknowledgement of the wonderful organising team: Fabia Scarampella, Andrew Carter and Mieke Leistra. See you next year in Nice!

Silvia Colombo  
University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

## ESVD Feline workshop

*Huizen, The Netherlands, 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> July 2001.*

With nice weather and 40 participants (speakers included) from 12 countries, this workshop was a real success. The meeting was held in a beautiful and luxurious hotel in the historic town of Huizen.

Claudia von Tscherner introduced us to pattern analysis in dermatohistopathology. Later on, we were able to put this into practice behind a microscope. The first day ended with a discussion of some clinical cases with Ton Willemsse. Helen Power gave us a detailed explanation and practical information about dermatophytosis. Lufenuron as treatment for dermatophytosis was an important point of discussion. Flemming Kristensen presented many clinical cases in his unique way. The workshop

finished with a cytology wet-lab, with Erik Teske proving to be an enthusiastic tutor and speaker.

Unusually, we had a free afternoon. This was a very pleasant way to relax and get know each other. One group visited Amsterdam and the Van Gogh museum; another group went for a nice walk in the sun in the historic centre of Huizen. A very small group took a nap (no names mentioned).

All in all, it was a very well organised programme. The organisers, Mieke Leistra and Jacqueline Sinke, deserve our thanks. We also thank the speakers for their excellent work and Eukanuba for the nice dinner in the lovely restaurant.

Christine Swinnen, Belgium

### RESEARCH AWARD

Sponsored by the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology

The ESVD wishes to encourage high standards in all aspects of veterinary dermatology and to promote the development of related research. Therefore, an annual research grant will be awarded by the ESVD for basic or clinical research in veterinary dermatology. Each grant will be for 5,000 Euro. Applicants will be expected to propose a project one to two years duration and of scientific merit that is applicable to veterinary dermatology. Preference will be given to novel proposals including the development of pilot studies, but applications for support of some identifiable component of ongoing research work will be considered. All applications will be subject to peer review and must include background information, project aims and objectives,

project design and specific methods, and budget, together with an explanation of the relevance of the proposed work to veterinary dermatology. Use of experimental animals must conform to local animal welfare regulations. Successful applicants will be expected to submit their results for publication in *Veterinary Dermatology* and to present their findings to ESVD members at an annual congress. The principal awardee is entitled to free registration at any annual ESVD congress at which he or she will present data generated as a result of the grant.

Proposals should be prepared according to the guidelines available on request from the current ESVD grant and publication secretary (Dr Chiara Noli, Via Sismondi 62, 20133 Milano, Italy). Research proposals (four copies) should be submitted by April 1st 2002 for consideration by the grant awarding committee to the current ESVD grant and publications secretary (Dr Chiara Noli, Via Sismondi 62, 20133 Milano, Italy). The award will be granted at the next AGM of the Society.

# ESVD workshop on clinical pathology

The ESVD Clinical Pathology Workshop will take place in Nantes, France, from the 9th-12th July 2002. There will be a maximum of 30 delegates. The workshop will be held in English.

## The speakers will be:

- EMMANUEL BENSIGNOR
- ROSS BOND
- PATRICK BOURDEAU
- PASCAL PRÉLAUD
- ERIC TESKE

## The local organisers are:

- PATRICK BOURDEAU
- DOMINIQUE HÉRIPRET

There will ten and half hours of practical wet labs, during which each participant will have their own microscope to look at their own slides. A video-microscope system will also be available for teaching.

Nantes is the perfect place to visit in July. It is on the French Atlantic coast, near La Baule, one of the most famous beaches in Europe. It is only two hours from Paris by train (TGV), but also has its own international airport. Nantes is well worth visiting, with the old town, Anne de Bretagne Castle, many fish and seafood restaurants and a wonderful little white wine. Nantes Vet School is a beautiful, modern school, located in parkland near the river. We have arranged a hotel for everyone in the centre of Nantes and will organise bus transportation to the Vet School.

Registration fee: 500 euros (ESVD members), 600 euros (non members). This includes lunches and hotel transportation but not hotel accommodation.

For further information please contact **Dominique Héripret**:  
ESVD Clinical Pathology Workshop, Clinique Frégis, 43 Av. Aristide Briand, F-94110 ARCUEIL, France.  
Fax +33 (0) 149858301 - email d.heripret@infonie.fr

## PROGRAMME

### Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July • Mycology, Leishmaniasis

9.00-09.30	Reception	
9.30-10.30	Dermatologic sampling	Ross Bond
10.30-11.00	COFFEE BREAK	
11.00-12.30	Mycology: General presentation (sampling, culture and identification)	Patrick Bourdeau
12.30-14.30	LUNCH	
14.30-15.30	<i>Malassezia</i>	Ross Bond
15.30-16.00	Leishmaniasis	Patrick Bourdeau
16.00-16.30	COFFEE BREAK	
16.30-18.30	Laboratory work: 1) Mycology 2) Leishmaniasis	Ross Bond Patrick Bourdeau

### Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July • Allergology and bacteriology

9.00-10.30	Allergology (in vitro and in vivo testing)	Pascal Prélaud
10.30-11.00	COFFEE BREAK	
11.00-12.30	Bacteriology: general presentation: sampling and interpretation	Ross Bond
12.30-14.30	LUNCH	
14.30-16.00	<i>Staphylococcus intermedius</i>	Ross Bond
16.00-16.30	COFFEE BREAK	
16.30-18.30	Laboratory work: Bacteriology	Ross Bond

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July • Parasitology and cytology

9.00-10.30	Parasitology general review, emphasis on <i>Demodex</i> and <i>Sarcoptes</i>	Patrick Bourdeau
10.30-11.00	COFFEE BREAK	
11.00-12.30	Laboratory work: Parasitology	Patrick Bourdeau
12.30-14.30	LUNCH	
14.30-16.00	Introduction to cytology: indications, limitations, advantages, interpretation	Eric Teske
16.00-16.30	COFFEE BREAK	
16.30-18.30	Laboratory work: Tissue origin and malignancy	Eric Teske

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July • Cytology

9.00-10.30	Cutaneous and subcutaneous neoplastic cytology	Eric Teske
10.30-11.00	COFFEE BREAK	
11.00-12.30	Cytology of non neoplastic dermatoses	Emmanuel Besignier
12.30-14.30	LUNCH	
14.30-16.00	Laboratory work 1: Cutaneous and subcutaneous cytology	Eric Teske Emmanuel Besignier
16.00-16.30	COFFEE BREAK	
16.30-18.00	Laboratory work 2: Cutaneous and subcutaneous cytology	Eric Teske Emmanuel Besignier

## ESVD Equine Workshop

The ESVD Equine Dermatology Workshop will be held in Sweden from the 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2002.

### The speakers will be:

- Janet Littlewood
- Stephen White

### Programme

#### THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH

Allergies, insects and parasites  
Infections  
Non-pruritic hair loss  
Crusting and scaling dermatoses

#### FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH

Photoactive dermatoses  
Pigmentary abnormalities  
Congenital and hereditary conditions

#### SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> MARCH

Nodules and masses:  
Neoplasia  
Sterile and infectious  
Distal limb dermatosis  
Miscellaneous diseases

### Location

Gimo Herrgard, tel. +46 173 404 60, fax. +46 173 408 38,  
email info@gimoherrgard.se,  
internet www.gimoherrgard.se  
A special room rate has been negotiated for the workshop.

### Registration

Registration fee - ESVD members 350 euros, non members 455 euros

Payment should be by bank transfer to:

- Equine Workshop, ESVD  
Kerstin Bergvall, account nr 5273-29 262 05,  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (SEB), Sweden.

The sender must pay bank charges. The payment form must be included with registration. Please send your registration together with a copy of the bank payment to:

- Kerstin Bergvall, Beckombergaav.119, S-168 56 Bromma, Sweden.  
Fax. +46 8 37 83 20  
email kerstinbergvall@hotmail.com

THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS THE  
15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2002.

## ESVD Workshop on Exotic Animal Dermatology

Utrecht, The Netherlands, 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> November 2002

Maximum attendants - 30

### Speakers:

NEIL FORBES - HAENEN WERKMAN - SHARON REDROBE - NICO SCHOEMAKER - STEVEN DIVERS

### Local organisers:

NICO SCHOEMAKER - N.J.Schoemaker@vet.uu.nl - JACQUELINE SINKE

### Programme

#### THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup>

8.30 - 12.30	Registration	
13.30 - 14.00	Welcome and introduction	NS
14.00 - 15.00	Avian anatomy and physiology	NF
15.00 - 15.30	TEA BREAK	
15.30 - 16.30	Hyperadrenocorticism in ferrets	NS
16.30 - 17.30	Feather picking and non infectious dermatological conditions in birds	NF

#### FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup>

8.30 - 10.15	Infections dermatological conditions and sample techniques in birds	NF
10.15 - 10.45	COFFEE BREAK	
10.45 - 12.30	Dermatological conditions and sample techniques in small mammals	SR
12.30 - 13.30	LUNCH AND TRANSPORT TO WETLABS	
13.30 - 15.00	Avian handling techniques and anaesthesia	NF

Small mammal handling techniques and anaesthesia SR

15.00 - 15.30 TEA BREAK

15.30 - 17.30 Small mammal handling techniques and anaesthesia SR

Avian handling techniques and anaesthesia NF

#### SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup>

8.30 - 10.15 Dermatological conditions and sample techniques in reptiles SD

10.15 - 10.45 COFFEE BREAK

10.45 - 12.30 Dermatological conditions and ectoparasites in fish HW

12.30 - 13.30 LUNCH AND TRANSPORT TO WETLABS

13.30 - 15.00 Reptile handling techniques and anaesthesia SD

Fish anaesthesia and sample collection HW

15.00 - 15.30 TEA BREAK

15.30 - 17.30 Fish anaesthesia and sample collection HW

Reptile handling techniques and anaesthesia SD



## Future ESVD Workshops

### 2003 - Skin Biology (with wet lab); Reichnau, Switzerland

- Speakers - To be confirmed
- Local organiser - Claudia von Tscharner
- Maximum 30 participants

### 2003 - Canine Dermatology (with practicals); Copenhagen, Denmark

- Speakers - To be confirmed
- Local organiser - Flemming Kristensen
- Maximum 24 participants

### 2003 - Therapeutics (no practicals); Cremona, Italy

- Speakers - To be confirmed
- Local organiser - Chiara Noli
- Maximum 50 participants

## Avian dermatology

*British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group Spring Meeting, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2002  
International Convention Centre, Birmingham*

9.00 - 9.30	REGISTRATION	
9.30 - 10.15	The structure of avian skin and feathers	NIGEL HARCOURT BROWN, BVSc FRCVS
10.15 - 11.00	Feather growth, including nutritional and endocrine factors	TBC
11.00 - 11.30	COFFEE	
11.30 - 12.15	Skin and feather colouration and pigmentation	NIGEL HARCOURT BROWN, BVSc FRCVS
12.15 - 13.00	Skin and feather parasites	GIDONA GOODMAN, DVM MRCVS
13.00 - 14.00	LUNCH	
14.00 - 14.45	Viral and bacterial diseases	ANNA MEREDITH, MA VetMB CertLAS CertZooMed MRCVS
14.45 - 15.15	Environmental and allergic diseases	TBC
15.15 - 15.45	COFFEE	
15.45 - 16.30	Approach to feather plucking	TBC
16.30 - 17.30	ABSTRACTS	

**Costs:** £30 for BVDSG members; £50 for non-members. Includes coffee, tea breaks and lunch and proceedings.

Further details from [Karen Bates of Class Events](#)  
tel. +44 (0)1256 325464, fax +44 (0) 1256 346975, email class - [Classevents@msn.com](mailto:Classevents@msn.com)

## Dermatology seminar in Norway

Continuing education for the small animal practitioner - allergic skin diseases of dogs and cats, pyoderma, skin diseases of birds and small mammals.

*14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2002 in Stavanger, Norway.*

**Speakers:** KJERSTIN BERGWALL (S) - MARGREIT VROOM (NL) - GUNNEL ANDERSSON (S)

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> there will be cases presented for the participants to solve, chaired by Babette Taugbol (N) and Boel Engen (N).

The meeting will be held partly in Swedish, Norwegian and English with no translation.

*For further information please contact:*  
**Babette Taugbol**, 2230 Skotterud, Norway.  
Tel: 0047-62835666, Fax: 0047-62836665,  
Email: [babette.taugbol@online.no](mailto:babette.taugbol@online.no)

*To register please contact:*  
**Institutt for arktisk veterinærmedisin**,  
9292 Tromsø, Norway.  
Tel: +47 77 66 54 01, Fax: +47 77 69 49 11,  
Email: [magnhild.jenssen@veths.no](mailto:magnhild.jenssen@veths.no)

# French Certificate of Veterinary Dermatology

The next session of the French Certificate of Veterinary Dermatology will start in December 2001. A limited number of places are reserved for external participants that wish to attend the courses without sitting the certificate examination. Each week of the courses (5 weeks in total during the period December 2001 - September 2002) is accredited as 5 days by the ECVD. It is possible to subscribe from one to all five weeks.

This course is in French language, apart from some invited speakers who will lecture in English.

Please note that attaining this certificate is not an entitlement to sit the ECVD Diploma (i.e. it is not equivalent to the Part 1 Diploma).

*Anyone interested in studying for this certificate should contact:*

**Patrick Bourdeau**, Ecole Nationale Veterinaire de Nantes - email - [bourdeau@vet-nantes.fr](mailto:bourdeau@vet-nantes.fr)

## European College of Veterinary Dermatology

### PART ONE DIPLOMA EXAMINATION: 2003

Notification is hereby given that the fourth examination for the Part 1 of the ECVD Diploma will be in the year 2003.

In order to apply to take the examination, candidates must have:

- 1) Reached the status of full membership of the ESVD
- 2) Attended a minimum of 4 weeks (140 hours) of courses on dermatology accredited by the ECVD, which currently include the courses organised by the ESVD, the ESAVS and those for the French Dermatology Certificate.
- 3) Attended a minimum of 3 Annual Meetings of the ESVD, or National dermatology meetings of equivalent status.

A fee will be charged for consideration of an applicant's credentials. This is payable in advance of application and is non-refundable in the event that an applicant's credentials are not approved. An additional fee will subsequently be charged to sit the examination.

Requests for further information about the examination should, depending on the information required, be directed to the following:

- Dr Patrick Bourdeau, Chairman ECVD Education Committee: matters regarding accreditation of courses
- Dr Eric Guaguère, Chairman ECVD Credentials Committee: matters regarding the credentials process
- Dr Dominique Héripret, Chairman ECVD Part 1 Diploma Examination Committee: matters regarding the examination (including timetable of deadlines for the credentials and examination process and casebook and examination guidelines, in advance of requesting an application form).

All applications must be received on the official application form. These are available from Dr Eric Guaguère, Clinique Vétérinaire Saint Bernard, 598 Avenue de Dunkerque, F-59160 Lomme, France and will be accompanied by a timetable of the deadlines for the credentials and examination process, casebook and examination guidelines and directions for payment of the fee for consideration of credentials.

Completed application forms must be received by 31 January 2002. Without exception, incomplete or late applications will not be processed or reviewed.

**Dr Eric Guaguère**, Chairman ECVD Credentials Committee

## European College of Veterinary Dermatology

### EXAMINATION FOR FULL DIPLOMATE STATUS: 2003

Notification is hereby given that the fourth examination for full Diplomate status of the European College of Veterinary Dermatology will be held in 2003.

There are three possible routes by which to apply to sit the Diploma Examination:

- 1) By completion of an approved ECVD residency programme. Details of documentation required for submission to the Credentials Committee by residents who have completed or will have completed a recognised programme by the time of the examination will be found in the ECVD Residency Programme.
- 2) Those who are internationally recognised in the field of veterinary dermatology with assessment by other means at the discretion of the Credentials Committee.
- 3) By passing the Part 1 ECVD Diploma examination followed by further study. Candidates proposing to take this route should be aware that at the Annual General Meeting of the College in 1997, it was decided that dermatology certificates awarded by other bodies should not be accepted in place of the Part 1 ECVD Diploma.

A fee will be charged for consideration of an applicant's credentials. This is payable in advance of application and is non-refundable in the event that an applicant's credentials are not approved. An additional fee will subsequently be charged to sit the examination.

Requests for further information about the examination should, depending on the information required, be directed to the following:

- Dr Patrick Bourdeau, Chairman ECVD Education Committee: matters regarding residency programmes
- Dr Eric Guaguère, Chairman ECVD Credentials Committee: matters regarding the credentials process
- Dr Petra Roosje, Chairman ECVD Diploma Examination Committee: matters regarding the examination.

There is no official application form. All persons who feel that they satisfy the required criteria should, prior to submitting an application, contact Dr Eric Guaguère, Clinique Vétérinaire Saint Bernard, 598 Avenue de Dunkerque, F-59160 Lomme, France for further information and directions for payment of the fee for consideration of credentials, as soon as possible. All completed applications must be received by 30 September 2002. Without exception, incomplete or late applications will not be processed or reviewed. The decision of the Credentials Committee will be reported to applicants by 31 December 2002.

**Dr Eric Guaguère**, Chairman ECVD Credentials Committee

## Anthrax in small animals

Anthrax is an acute disease of virtually all warm-blooded animals caused by *Bacillus anthracis*. Dogs and cats are relatively resistant compared to farm species. They usually acquire anthrax by ingestion of contaminated meat. Anthrax is not directly communicable between animals.

The acute form results in sudden death. More commonly, there is inflammation, necrosis, and oedema of the upper GI tract, which are in first contact. Infection of the cervical lymph nodes and tonsils can cause rapid swelling of the throat and suffocation. Spread mesenteric lymph nodes, spleen, and liver usually occurs, causing anorexia, vomiting, diarrhoea or constipation. The cutaneous form is characterised by itching followed by papules, vesicles and intensely dark, painless and oedematous eschars. Untreated infections can spread to the lymphatics or blood; untreated cutaneous anthrax has a fatality rate of 5-20% in

people. Inhalational anthrax is less common. In humans initial symptoms resemble mild URIs. Over 3-5 days, this is followed by acute respiratory distress, fever, shock and death.

Post mortem findings suggestive of anthrax include the lack of rigor mortis, rapid decomposition, dark tarry blood and haemorrhage from body orifices. McFadyen's methylene blue stains *B. anthracis* blue with a pink capsule on smears from peripheral blood, peritoneal fluid or lymph nodes. Cultures and *in vivo* tests on Guinea Pigs are also be used for identification.

Treatment with penicillin, tetracycline, erythromycin, chloramphenicol or ciprofloxacin for 5-7 days is effective if administered before the release of large amounts of exotoxin. Great care must be taken with any suspect material, as *B. anthracis* form highly resistant spores on exposure to air. These can only be destroyed by boiling for ten minutes, dry heat at 140°C for three minutes or high concentrations of disinfectants.

## Controversies in Veterinary Dermatology

### *Lufenuron - a treatment for feline dermatophytosis?*

Ann Robinson, BA BVSc(Hons) CertSAD PhD MRCVS  
Pfizer Ltd., Sandwich, Kent, UK.

Feline dermatophytosis is most commonly caused by infection with *Micosporum canis*. Most cases spontaneously resolve over a period of months. However, treatment is advisable to hasten recovery and to prevent spread. Current treatment utilises systemic anti-fungal therapy (usually griseofulvin), and topical therapy using anti-fungal shampoos or dips. Environmental decontamination and physical removal of infected material is crucial since *M. canis* spores can remain viable in the environment over two years. This is expensive, inconvenient and time consuming and in multi-cat households it may take months to years before *M. canis* is completely eliminated. Therefore, there is always considerable interest in novel treatments.

Lufenuron is a chitin synthase inhibitor, licensed for the control of fleas in dogs and cats (30 mg per kg per month for cats). Chitin is a component of fungal cell walls but it is absent from mammalian cells and so provides a potential target for anti-fungal treatment.

A recent study evaluated lufenuron for the treatment of fungal infections (predominantly dermatophytosis) in dogs and cats (Ben-Ziony and Arzi 2000). The study was retrospective, based on medical records collected over a two-year period. All animals were positive by fungal culture at the time of referral. 159 cats treated with a single dose of lufenuron (51.2 to 266 mg per kg) had a mean recovery time ( $\pm$ SD) of 11.6 ( $\pm$ 1.4) days after treatment, compared to 94.7 ( $\pm$ 22.9) for an untreated group of 42 cats. Recovery was defined as resolution of all clinical signs and regrowth of hair.

However, clinical signs are an unreliable indicator and resolution is normally defined by consistently negative fungal culture results for multiple samples collected over a period of 3 - 4

weeks. 23 of the lufenuron treated cats were sampled daily for fungal culture after treatment until the result was negative and then weekly for 6 to 8 weeks. These cats were mycologically cured 8.3 $\pm$ 1.2 days after treatment. Mycological cure was defined as 2 consecutive negative culture results 4 weeks apart.

One problem is that the Ben-Ziony and Arzi study was not rigorous. It was not randomised, blinded or controlled (for the fungal culture part) and these elements of trial design are crucial when investigating a spontaneously resolving disease such as dermatophytosis. Furthermore, attaining mycological cure eight days after treatment is unlikely. It is doubtful that lufenuron has any effect on fungal spores. Following resolution of active dermatophytosis cats are likely to remain culture positive for a significant period until all hairs carrying spores have been shed and the environment is cleared of infectious material. The report does not specify if additional treatments were used (e.g. clipping, topical therapy or environmental decontamination).

The results of Ben-Ziony and Arzi suggest that lufenuron may be of benefit in the treatment of feline dermatophytosis. However, further investigation with a prospective randomised blinded controlled trial is needed. The effective dose of lufenuron also needs to be determined. The efficacy should be compared with conventional therapy and investigations conducted to determine if there are any benefits or problems associated with combining both types of treatment. It would be useful to know if lufenuron has any prophylactic effect and also if the injectable form has any efficacy.

In the absence of this information consideration can be given to adding oral lufenuron, at data sheet dose, to a conventional treatment regime on the grounds that it is well tolerated and may be of some benefit. At the moment there is insufficient evidence about efficacy or information about dosing regime to warrant the use of lufenuron as sole treatment or prophylaxis for feline dermatophytosis.

### References

Ben-Ziony Y & Arzi B (2000) Use of lufenuron for treating fungal infections of dogs and cats: 297 cases (1997-1999) *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 217: 1510-1513.



Ref. ESVD

## ACVD TASK FORCE ON CANINE ATOPIC DERMATITIS

If you wish to receive a copy of the special issue of the Journal "Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology" publishing the work of the ACVD Task Force on Canine Atopic Dermatitis, please fill in this form and fax it, **by 31.01.02**, to:

**Novartis Animal Health Inc., Basel (CH) - Attn. Roberta D'Amore - Fax: +41 61 697 67 88**

Limited supply. Requests will be met within the limits of available stock.

Please write in CAPITALS

Name: .....

Title: .....

Clinic: .....

Clinic Address: .....

Zip code and city: .....

Country: .....

E-mail: .....

Date: ..... Signature: .....

### Webwatch

#### International Veterinary Inflammation Service <http://www.ivis.org>

Once you are registered, the IVIS website provides free access to a range of forums, clinical reviews, updates, proceedings, abstracts, databases, books and reviews on a wide variety of veterinary topics. IVIS publications aspire to the same high quality standards as academic textbooks. Editors of IVIS e-books are carefully selected and all contributions are written specifically for the IVIS website. In addition, there is a calendar of veterinary events and continuing educations. There is also a wealth of links to other sites.

#### American College of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology <http://allergy.edoc.com/>

Registration at this site gets you access to past and present issues of the Annals of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology. They also have an allergy watch - an updated review of related articles from 17 different journals. The site is regularly updated, with alerts sent to your email address. There is also a selection of links to related sites.

#### European Pollen Information

<http://www.ca1.at/pollen/index.en.html>

This site has a number of sections related to pollenosis. There are pollerecasts for various areas of Europe, together with a pollen overview and more detailed distribution maps. There is also plenty of information about allergenic plant species, pollen biology, links to national sites and links to pollen and aerobiology symposia.

#### Dermavel - <http://www.dermavel.com>

This site is a private development of William Bourdeau, a dermatologist from the L'Ile de France. It is still in development, but has plenty of information about veterinary dermatology. It has an agenda of forthcoming events, a forum, atlas, information on clinical trials and a literature reviews. To gain access you must register to and obtain a password.

I hope you find these sites useful. Thank you to those who recommended them. Please let me have your recommendations for the next bulletin.

Tim Nuttall, email [timn@liv.ac.uk](mailto:timn@liv.ac.uk)