



**PERSATUAN PRODUKSI HAIWAN MALAYSIA
MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION**

Newsletter

October 2005•No. 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Society I wish all of you *Selamat Hari Raya Aidil Fitri - Maaf Zahir dan Batin* and Happy Deepavali. We are very pleased to see that our 26th Annual Conference and 32nd AGM 2005 held in Kuala Terengganu from 1-3 June 2005 was successfully organised and of a great support from members of the Society, and various agencies and institutions, especially the State Government of Terengganu, DVS, MARDI, UM, UKM and UPM. Congratulations and sincere thanks and appreciation for the tremendous effort and support for a job well done and great success of the Conference.

It is important to note that the animal industry is currently at a high threat not only due to the increases in cost of production, but as well as emerging and reemerging of diseases such as highly pathogenic Avian Influenza Virus in poultry and FMD in cattle and pigs. In contrast, some issues of food safety and public health can be of our advantages if we could develop Malaysia as the international center for Halal Food Hub. Unfortunately, it is not much convincing progress in this subject. It is indeed our roles to work together with the government and private agencies as well as the farmers or smallholders to provide solutions of the threats and issues.

The future of animal production seems to be more challenging and will depend very much on how we strategies ourselves to meet the challenges ahead. I wish all of you A Very Happy New Year 2006.

With very best wishes, thank you.

Associate Professor Dr Mohd Hair Bejo

President

Malaysian Society of Animal Production

In this issue.....

1. Message from the President
2. Food Safety Issue
3. Report of 26th MSAP Annual Conference 2005
4. Malaysian Journal of Animal Science
5. News
6. Research Product
7. Interesting Websites / Meetings

FOOD SAFETY ISSUE: INFLUENZA PANDEMIC THREAT

The H5N1 avian influenza virus is not transmitted to humans through properly cooked food. The virus is sensitive to heat. Normal temperatures used for cooking (so that food reaches 70°C in all parts) will kill the virus. To date, no evidence indicates that any person has become infected with the H5N1 virus following the consumption of properly cooked poultry or poultry products, even in cases where the food item contained the virus prior to cooking. Poultry and poultry products from areas free of the disease can be prepared and consumed as usual, with no fear of acquiring infection with the H5N1 virus. As a standard precaution, WHO recommends that poultry and poultry products should always be prepared following good hygienic practices, and that poultry meat should be properly cooked. This recommendation protects consumers from some well-known and common foodborne diseases that may be transmitted via inadequately cooked poultry.

Most strains of avian influenza virus are found only in the respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts of infected birds, and not in meat. Available studies indicate that highly pathogenic viruses, including the H5N1 virus, spread to virtually all parts of an infected bird, including meat. For this reason, proper handling of poultry and poultry products during food preparation and proper cooking are extremely important in areas experiencing outbreaks of H5N1 avian influenza in poultry. Consumers in areas with outbreaks need to be aware of the risks of cross-contamination between raw poultry and other foods that will not be cooked prior to their consumption. Juices from raw poultry or poultry products should never be allowed, during food preparation, to touch or mix with items eaten raw. When handling raw poultry or raw poultry products, persons involved in food preparation should wash their hands thoroughly and clean and disinfect surfaces in contact with the poultry products. Soap and hot water are sufficient for this purpose. In countries with outbreaks, thorough cooking is imperative. Consumers need to be sure that all parts of the poultry are fully cooked (no “pink” parts) and that eggs, too, are properly cooked (no “runny” yolks).

The H5N1 virus can survive for at least one month at low temperatures. For this reason, common food preservation measures, such as freezing and refrigeration, will not substantially reduce the concentration of virus in contaminated meat or kill the virus. In countries with outbreaks, poultry stored under refrigeration or frozen should be handled and prepared with the same precautions as fresh products. In countries with outbreaks, eggs may contain virus both on the outside (shell) and inside (white and yolk). Eggs from areas with outbreaks should not be consumed raw or partially cooked. Raw eggs should not be used in foods that will not be treated by heat high enough to kill the virus (70°C). To date, a large number of human infections with the H5N1 virus have been linked to the home slaughter and subsequent handling of diseased or dead birds prior to cooking. These practices represent the highest risk of human infection and are the most important to avoid. Proper handling and cooking of poultry and poultry products can further lower the risk of human infections.

Source: http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/foodrisk2005_11_03/en/index.html

REPORT OF THE 26th MSAP ANNUAL CONFERENCE (2005)

The 26th MSAP Annual Conference was successfully held from 1st – 3rd June 2005 at Primula Beach Resort, Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia. The Congress with the theme “Revitalising the Animal Industry Towards Food Security” was organized to bring together animal scientists, academicians, livestock extension officers, livestock producers, feed millers and veterinarians to discuss the challenges to transform and uplift the animal industry, particularly the ruminant industry, from the current traditional small holder level to a commercial enterprise, and to improve the balance between efficient production, product quality, animal welfare, environment and acceptance by producers and consumers.

A total of 101 participants attended the Conference. A total of 77 papers were presented in 1 keynote, 4 plenary, 16 oral and 56 posters presentations. These papers were documented in a proceeding of 149 pages. Discussion on the Conference recommendations was held at 2.40 pm on the 3rd June 2005 and the session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Abdul Salam Babji.

The Conference was officiated by the Y.B. Dato’ Dr Abdul Latif Awang, Chairman of the Education and Higher Studies, Science and Technology, and Human Resource of Terengganu, on behalf of the Y.A.B. Chief Minister of Terengganu Darul Iman, Dato Seri Idris Jusoh on the evening of Wednesday, 1st June 2005 at Primula Beach Resort, Kuala Terengganu. The event over dinner was accompanied by colourful presentations of cultural dances and traditional music. Fraternity Night for MSAP members and their family members was held on the evening of Thursday, 2nd June 2005 at the Resort. The closing ceremony was held at 4.00 pm on Friday, 3rd June 2005. The MSAP President, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd. Hair Bejo delivered the closing remarks. Five awards were given to scientists who were outstanding in their scientific poster presentation during the Conference.

The Organising Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the invited speakers, participants, and all individuals for their contributions in ensuring the success of the Conference. To all sponsors, the Organising Committee offered their utmost gratitude.

Prof. Dr. Zulkifli Idrus

Organising Chairman, 26th MSAP Annual Conference

MALAYSIAN JOURNAL OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

We need full continuous support from MSAP members and non-members, especially through contribution of articles to ensure the survival of MJAS. Contribution of papers can be in the form of current issues, research reports or review papers in animal science and livestock production. For those of you who are interested to contribute, kindly send your articles or contact the Editor-in-Chief, Dr Liang Juan Boo at the Department of Animal Science, University Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang. Dr Liang can also be contacted via email at jbliang@agri.upm.edu.my or telephone 03-89466898

NEWS

It was proud to share the achievements of our members:

Dr Canagasaby Devendra

Being awarded 2004 Lincoln University International Alumni Medal for his excellent contribution to animal industry.

Professor Dr Zulkifli Idrus

From Universiti Putra Malaysia was promoted to a Professor in Poultry Stress Biology and Welfare in June 2004.

Associate Professor Dr Mohd Hair Bejo

Won gold medal for his research invention on “Double Antibody Sandwich Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay Kit for Infectious Bursal Disease” in I-TEX 2005.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

The following members who were approved for new memberships.

Dr. Sabrina Sukardi

Dr Shanthi Ganabadi

Ms. Dwinna Aliza

Ms Ida Shazrina Ismail

Mr Noor Rahim Sharif

Mr Zawawi Ismail

Dr Abd. Aziz Jamaludin

Ms. Hollena Nori

Ms. Ernie Zuraida Ali

Dr. Awis Qurni Sazili

Dr Devica Saddul

Ms Masnindah Malahuban

Mr. Shokri Jusoh

RESEARCH PRODUCT – MyVac UPM 93 IBD Vaccine

On 27 September 2005, Universiti Putra Malaysia in collaboration with Malaysian Vaccines and Pharmaceutical Sdn Bhd has successfully launched and commercialised MyVAC UPM93 IBD vaccine for Malaysian market. The vaccine was officially launched by our Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia, YB Tan Sri Muhyiddin Mohd Yassin in conjunction with the Livestock Asia 2005. The MyVAC UPM93 IBD vaccine is a R&D product of Dr Mohd Hair Bejo and his team at UPM. The research was first started in 1993 following isolation of the virus from the commercial Poultry Farm at UPM Serdang.

The virus was adapted, attenuated and characterised, and its pathogenicity and immunogenicity were determined in embryonated eggs, specific pathogen free and commercial chickens. In 2004, field trials were conducted in commercial broiler farms in Johor, Selangor and Perak. Both the laboratory and field studies demonstrated that the MyVAC UPM93 IBD vaccine is safe and effective to control and prevent very virulent IBDV challenged. The vaccine is currently available in the market and can be obtained from Malaysian Vaccines and Pharmaceutical Sdn Bhd.



We are proud of you, Dr Hair!

INTERESTING WEBSITES / MEETINGS

New Web Site On Avian Influenza

A new Web site is launched -- <http://www.avianinfluenzainfo.com/> -- to respond to any public concern that may occur over avian influenza, highlighting the fact that it is not a food issue and that H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza -- "bird flu"

Scopus – New Search Tool on Internet

Scopus is available through the Universiti Putra Malaysia's network and authorized through its IP address. This is a new navigational tool, which will save your time with your literature search. With an easy-to-use interface and coverage of 14,000 peer-reviewed titles. To start using Scopus right away, go to: <http://www.scopus.com>

27th MSAP Annual Conference 2006

Our MSAP Annual Conference 2006 will be organized in conjunction with 2nd International Conference Animal Nutrition. The detail of the information will be announced by the organizing committee.

8th International Symposium on Earthworm Ecology

8th International Symposium on Earthworm Ecology will be held at the Jagiellonian University in the historical city of Krakow, Poland from 4th to 9th September 2006. More information can be found from this web site: www.eko.uj.edu.pl/isee8.

7th International Conference and Exhibition on Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods

The conference will be held at Silver Legacy Resort, Reno, Nevada, US from 5-8 November 2006. The detail information can be obtained in this web site: www.worldnutra.com/.

REMINDER

Have you paid your RM50.00 annual membership fee for 2004 and 2005? Please do so to help YOUR SOCIETY to move forward. Why not upgrade your status to LIFE MEMBERSHIP for only RM500.00 and not to worry about future payments. For those who are interested to become a new member, please feel free to enquire any information from any executive committee or contact mdhair@vet.upm.edu.my or hkwong@mardi.my or zulkifli@agri.upm.edu.my. If you don't receive this Newsletter, may be your mailing address is not updated in our mailing list. Please contact tcloh@agri.upm.edu.my.

ANY COMMENTS or CONTRIBUTIONS

We look forward to hearing from you for any constructive comments. If you have any interesting information such as announcements of new books, local or international animal science related information or websites and you think worth to share with our members in our Newsletter, please contact tcloh@agri.upm.edu.my.



Secretariat busy before 26th MSAP annual conference



Prof. Razak giving away certificate and token to Prof. Zamri



Two of the main finance controller for the conference



Delegates busy taking their food during fraternity night



Delegate asking question during the Q & A session



The president looks satisfy after dinner



Prof. Ramli is chairing a session



Who is the handsome guy?.....one of our oral presenters, Dr Alek Tuen



Delegate from Seberang Prai paying 100% attention during the talk



“...nobody help me to take photo, I am taking myself.” – Our photographer, Mr Hamdan