

BSAS Annual Meeting 22-24 March 1999
Leaflets enclosed for Milk Composition, Fertility and
Genetics Meetings

Annual Meeting 1999 - 22-24 March

By the time you read this, the annual meeting will be just a few weeks away!

If you have not yet seen a programme or would like additional copies please visit the BSAS Web site for details. The meeting is as usual very busy and we hope that everyone will enjoy the sessions and talking to other delegates. This year we have two American visitors. Dr Don Beerman is the President-Elect ASAS and Dr Bob Zimbelman is outgoing Executive President of the Federation of American Animal Science Societies (FASS). Don is giving a paper on Protein Sources for Ruminants. He and Bob will also be talking on Tuesday Evening giving delegates the opportunity to find out how the Americans run their societies and federation.

When the Secretary visited the Spa Complex in late January the sun was shining and the sea was calm. Let us hope it stays that way.

The 1999 invited Theatre sessions are :

- Advances in Animal Science, (Hammond - Professor Philip James)
- Veterinary Aspects of Meat and Milk Quality Assurance (The President's session)
- The Science and Use of Alternatives to Antibiotics
- Advances in Sheep Science (Farmers session) Includes a trip to a farm in the North Yorkshire National Park to look at upland sheep production and quality assurance.
- Protein Sources for Ruminants.
- Feed Nutrient Characterisation

Other theatre sessions include:

Pig Reproduction, Pig Nutrition, Pig Welfare & Meat Quality, Calorimetry, Reproduction, Sheep, Ruminant Nutrition, Gas Production, Meat Quality and Breeding and Genetics.

Poster sessions

Poster discussion sessions are on :

- Beef Cattle and Meat Quality
- Reproduction and
- Gas Production

Poster sessions include Forage, Breeding, Alternative Feeds for Ewes, Pigs, Milk Production, Ruminant Nutrition, Horses, Lameness and Minority Species.

This year all posters will be up for 24 hours

Powerpoint presentations

Guidelines for using powerpoint are being sent to all presenters. We have now tested Powerpoint in the Spa theatre with a bigger projector and it seems to be OK. If you are giving a theatre paper and wish to use Powerpoint you are very welcome to do so **but please bring a set of acetates as a backup**. Slide projectors will of course still be available. If you require any help or advice on Powerpoint please contact the office.

Travelling to Scarborough

Road If you are travelling by car to Scarborough, we advise you to leave your car near your hotel and walk to the Spa Complex. There is some free parking immediately in front of the Spa but the approach road is patrolled by wardens who require you to buy daily parking tickets. We have arranged use of the underground car-park at the entrance to the Spa road at £7.50 for the period of the conference (Tickets from us, please let us know soon).

The car park is locked up from 24:00-06:00 hours each night

Rail If you are travelling by train to Scarborough then please contact the Trains Helpline on 0345 484950 for details of times and fares. If you can specify a time you will probably be able to get a cheaper ticket. Scarborough is about 50 minutes from York which is on the East Coast main line with rapid links to London, the Midlands, the North and Scotland. There is approximately one train every hour to and from York. These should connect with London trains. Some trains from Manchester and Leeds go direct to Scarborough, otherwise change at York.

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Sea P&O North Sea ferries (01482 377177) sail daily to Zeebrugge and Rotterdam from Hull which is one hour by road or rail from Scarborough.

Air If you are travelling by air Leeds/Bradford (01132 509696) is the nearest 'best served' airport. It has flights to Aberdeen, Amsterdam, Belfast City, Brussels, Copenhagen, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London -Heathrow, Paris and Southampton. Delegates can reach Leeds railway station by bus for train connections. Please note that direct trains now run from Manchester Airport to York.

If you are travelling from Europe or overseas it is often cheaper to travel to a large airport like London or Manchester and then take a train to Scarborough rather than flying into a regional airport like Leeds.

The BSAS office has a large file of information for visitors to Scarborough. This includes places to eat and visit. If you would like suggestions call !!

On the Monday afternoon of the Scarborough meeting the President will be telling members about the outcomes of the London Workshop on The Future of Research, Education and Technology Transfer.

Scholarships

Summer placements 1999

BSAS is again offering four summer placements for undergraduates. A sum of £500 is available for each placement which is normally matched by a similar amount from either a commercial organisation or institute. The scheme enables undergraduate students to experience a 6-8 week period of research work. BSAS would like to hear from interested students, universities, colleges and or commercial organisations. The placement can be arranged in a the UK or abroad.

Braude

The Technical and Ethical Committee still want new applications for the 1999 BRAUDE AWARD. If you are interested in pig production or marketing and would like to apply for this travel scholarship worth £900 please contact the office for an application form now!

Blaxter Award

At its meeting in December T&E Committee approved the following applicants for Blaxter Awards :

Mr Spiridoula Athanasiadou, SAC
Mr Georgios Arsenos, SAC
Miss Helen Christie, ARINI
Mr Michael Hutchings, SAC

The Blaxter Award is much more flexible than our other scholarships. It is open to younger or active scientists who wish to travel or undertake a short piece of research. We have a total of £1,500 available each year for ideas that fit within a list of topic areas. For the 2000 award the topics are:

The challenge of genetic change in production

The quality of meat, milk and eggs

Organic farming systems plant/animal interactions

Successful applicants are expected to produce a short report for Council and give a theatre or a poster presentation at the following annual meeting.

Aberdeen Graduate Reunion at Scarborough

If you are a member of the Aberdeen University Agricultural Graduates Association - why not take the opportunity to meet up with old friends. If you are an Aberdeen graduate who hasn't joined the Association, why not come along and join. It's a great way to keep in touch with the Department and find out what classmates are doing. We plan to meet at 1.00 pm in the main bar on Tuesday 23 March.

Jes Scaife

New £1000 Animal Welfare Award

The Humane Slaughter Association's Dorothy Sidley Award is now worth £1,000. The award is given to allow a student to carry out an animal welfare project as part of their coursework. Applicants must show a clear relevance to improving the welfare of livestock in markets, during transport or at slaughter. This year the HSA are particularly interested in the humane killing of mature or very young animals, non-penetrative captive bolt stunning, optimal conditions for animals in abattoir lairages and markets, and the assessment of mobile abattoirs. Students in agriculture, veterinary and meat science are asked to contact Jill Metheringham, HSA telephone 01582 831919 or e-mail jill@hsa.org.uk

Interested in a study/Research period overseas ??

DFID's Livestock Production Programme commissions strategic/and adaptive research in developing countries; this normally involves collaboration between universities/research institutes in the UK and overseas. Projects, normally of 1-3 years duration, are aimed at improving the livelihoods of poor people through developing and promoting new knowledge which will contribute to sustainably enhanced supply and value of animal products and improved contribution of livestock to crop production.

Opportunities exist for graduate students to contribute to the Department for International Development's (DFID) research activities by undertaking a portion or a whole of their field work in an overseas research environment. The student's research theme would need to closely dovetail into the DFID project logframe. Students would normally require to secure their own funding

Those interested should contact Wyn Richards, LPP Manager, NR International, PO Box, 258, Chatham, Kent ME4 4PU or
E-Mail [Wyn.Richards c/o BSAS@ed.sac.ac.uk](mailto:Wyn.Richards@BSAS@ed.sac.ac.uk)

EAAP News

The 50th EAAP meeting is to be held in Zurich, Switzerland 22 -26 August 1999. If you are submitting a paper to EAAP remember **the deadline for abstracts is 1-March**. All authors **should register for the meeting by 31 May**.

The BSAS travel package is set out below:

If you are attending any of the satellite meetings use the 6 night package, if not then go for the 4 night one.

Costs are :

6 nights sharing £520	6 nights single £625
4 nights sharing £441	4 nights single £511

The Hotel is the Leoneck (3*), which is within walking distance of the congress venue. All rooms have private bathroom and telephone.

The flights are :

Outward Friday 20 Aug 1205 from Heathrow, arrive 1440
Sunday 22 Aug 1205 from Heathrow, arrive 1440*
Return Thursday 26 Aug 1545 from Zurich, arrive 1630

* This flight enables delegates to arrive in time for the EAAP Jubilee Ceremony and Dinner on Sunday 22 August at 17.00. EYAS are flexible and will look at alternatives for individuals, but at extra cost. Full details from EYAS
Telephone: 01243 775561

Two satellite meetings of interest to academics are:

Saturday 21 August **Teaching Methods in Animal Science**

** Sunday 22 August **How to Prepare and Present a Scientific Paper**

**This workshop is aimed at young scientists and others interested in the quality of their scientific communications. It will be led by Dr Mike Grossman (USA), Dr Birgitta Malmfors (Sweden) and Dr Phil Garnsworthy (UK), and include lectures, discussions and group work on:

- Techniques for scientific writing
- Oral presentation and posters

The number of participants in the workshop will be restricted to 30. (First come first served basis)
A confirmation notice will be issued, which will be needed to attend the workshop.

The workshop fees are 60 CHF (including a booklet, but excluding lunch). The fees have to be paid at the registration desk in Zurich upon presentation of the confirmation.

Participants should register for EAAP using the regular EAAP 99 registration form. Closing date for registration in the workshop is May 31, 1999.

Registration for participation in the workshop (or requests for further information) should be sent to Dr Phil Garnsworthy, University of Nottingham, Fax: +44 115 951 6060, e-mail: Phil.Garnsworthy@nottingham.ac.uk

- indicate if you are registering
- the workshop title and date
- your name, address, e-mail and fax number.

Photographic competition. Win a bottle of champagne!

Don't forget the PR group is holding a competition to find photographs or slides that can be used in the corporate presentation. They are looking for pictures that best show the activities of BSAS and its members. If you have, or can produce suitable pictures then you may be able to win our star prize:
A bottle of champagne! Pictures, slides or discs should be sent to the Secretary BSAS by 30th April 1999.

Cafe Scientifique seeks speakers on the hot issues

A scientific version of the Cafe Philosophique in Paris- the Cafe Scientifique- recently opened for business in Chapel Allerton, Leeds. Twice a month, on Monday nights, a café called the In Vino Veritas hosts a discussion on an interesting topic in science, technology, engineering or medicine. The talk is usually kicked off by an expert speaker on a topic that is relevant to ordinary people's lives. Discussion follows the presentation. The aim is that science engages with people rather than lectures at them. The idea is the brainchild of Duncan Dallas and if you would like more information you can contact him on 01132 371199. Maybe you'd like to start something similar??

Sustainability 2000 - a cyberspace conference

As part of the 1999 Public Understanding of Science Week The Institute of Biology is co-ordinating an electronic conference called Sustainability 2000. IOB have asked BSAS to provide two articles on how the society and its members have improved the efficiency of resource use with respect to one of the following:

Improved animal growth
Improved animal feeds
Better food preservation techniques

Articles should be 700-1500 words and are needed by 15 March 99. If you are interested in helping produce such an article please contact the Secretary for more details.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM is your opportunity to come and influence the officers of the society. The papers for the meeting are enclosed in this newsletter. Please read them before you come so that we can spend as much time as possible in discussion. If you cannot make the AGM pass your views on to any members of Council listed below. They will be happy to receive both positive and negative comments as long as they are constructive!

Increase in subscription

One of the topics for discussion at the AGM is the membership subscription. The last increase was over two years ago and since then the Society has undertaken a more proactive role in raising animal science issues within and outside of the Society. More activity costs more money and whilst BSAS has reserves it cannot deplete them on a long-term basis. The Society is also spending more on charitable expenditure such as scholarships, summer placements and running more meetings. As the Society is not in the business of making profits it needs to make sure that it generates sufficient funds to break-even. The BSAS income and expenditure account shows a loss of £30,000. Consequently it is now looking to raise the subscriptions to levels more comparable with other societies. The increase will take effect 1st January 2000. We hope that you will come and give your opinion at the AGM. If you can't come please send us a note now.

New council members wanted

Council need four new members to join at the 1999 AGM. If you are interested in participating we would be very pleased to hear from you. Members normally serve for three years and may also join one of the standing committees. We required a name, proposer and seconder who are all BSAS members. One of your supporters must attend the AGM to introduce you. If you do not wish to run for council but would like to be involved in one of the other committees (See front of 'List of Members Booklet'..... then let us know!!

Our present Council is:

President	Prof C T Whittemore
Senior Vice-President	Prof W G Hill
Junior Vice-President	Dr J D Wood
Hon-Treasurer	Dr W J M Black
Secretary	Mr M A Steele
EAAP Liaison Officer	Dr P C Garnsworthy
IOB Representative	Dr J K Margerison
Programme Committee Chairman	Dr P H Simmins
Technical & Ethical Committee Chairman	Dr B R Cottrill
Publications Committee Chairman	Prof J C MacRae

Council Members: Elected 1996 (stepping down 1999)

- Prof D E Beever
- Mr M Hazzledine
- Dr R G Wilkinson

Elected 1997

- Dr M G Diskin
- Dr B McGuirk
- Dr J R Scaife
- Dr C L Thorp

Elected 1998

- Dr A F Carson
- Dr A J Duncan
- Dr J K Margerison
- Dr C K Reynolds

Council are recommending that:

- Professor Bill Hill becomes President
- Dr Jeff Wood becomes Senior Vice-President
- Dr John Milne becomes Junior Vice-President
- Dr Murray Black remains as Honorary Treasurer
- Mr Mike Steele remains as Secretary

Books

Far Away Cows by Patrick Guilbride
published by the Book Guild Limited, Price £18.50
The continuous theme of the book is animal health. It provides enough detail of veterinary problems faced in the widely different environments described to grip the attention of the reader. It is an honest, exciting, amusing and satisfying commentary using well chosen anecdotes, sketches and photographs.

Can you help

A qualified animal researcher with a PhD and experience in ruminant nutrition has recently returned from overseas and looking for work. The candidate has substantial experience of initiation and completion of research projects within time and budgets. Also has experience of teaching modules and coordination of international training projects. For a detailed CV please contact the BSAS Office.

FUTURE MEETINGS - BSAS (Please see enclosed leaflets)

The two meetings in Ireland have been arranged so that delegates can attend both with one trip. They are also at a time when business could be combined with a holiday.

Milk composition- Belfast, Northern Ireland 16/17 September 1999

Sessions include consumer requirements, human health, processor requirements, making milk safer, meeting medical concerns, manipulating milk composition, potential economic benefits of altering milk composition and the role of the animal breeder, opportunities for nutritional manipulation, nutritional and non nutritional manipulation, opportunities for non-nutritional manipulation.

Fertility in the High Producing Dairy Cow, Galway, Ireland, 20-22 September 1999

Sessions to include reproductive efficiency, economics, patterns of growth and development, hormone patterns, risk factors, oestrous behaviour and detection, conception, stress, breeding, animal health.

The challenge of genetic change in animal production, October 1999 Edinburgh

This meeting will address how continuing genetic change will impact on other branches of animal science and on management which will have to anticipate or cope with this change. Specific questions will be looked at under the headings of nutrition, health, welfare, economics and marketing and the genetics of animals.

Further details in the enclosed flyer.

Gas Production Workshop - Holland

In August 2000, between BSAS and Wageningen it is hoped to organise a follow up to the Reading meeting held in 1997. This workshop would, we hope, become a satellite of the EAAP meeting in the Hague in 2000.

2001 Greece

Discussions are taking place with the Hellenic Society of Animal Science on a possible joint meeting. If you are interested in getting involved in this meeting or have some thoughts on a good theme then we would like to hear from you.

2001/ 2002

Enquiries are being made about a possible tropical agriculture meeting in Mexico to follow up the Nairobi Meeting. If you would like to get involved with any of these meetings please contact the BSAS office.

Other Meetings

16 March 1999

Reducing lameness in dairy cattle

An MDC sponsored conference at the NAC, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. Presenting practical, on farm solutions to farmers, vets and their advisers to improve profit margins and cattle welfare.

Tel 01797 223626 for details

23 March 1999

Organic Farming: Implications for the Environment

A one-day meeting organised by Society for Chemistry & Industry, 14-15 Belgrave Square London SW1 8PS

tel 0171 235 3681 or E-Mail conferences@chemind.demon.co.uk

14-16 April 1999

Agriculture and the Environment.

Challenges and Conflicts for the New Millennium.

University of Warwick. organised by ADAS

Full details from Sandra Smith 01865845038 or fax 845030

or e-mail Sandra_Smith@adas.co.uk

19-21 April 1999

Holstein European Conference

Charmey Switzerland Full details tel +41 26 927 14 98 or

E-Mail office.tourisme@charmey.ch

25-26 Sept 1999

Can Sustainable Agriculture Feed the Population of Tropical Countries for the next 25 years?

To be held in Edinburgh. If you are interested in giving a paper or attending please contact

Dr A J Smith, CTVM, Easter Bush, Midlothian, EH25 9RG E-mail TonyS@lab0.vet.ed.ac.uk

May 1999

Ethiopian Society of Animal Production 7th Annual Conference

Theme - Livestock and Environment: Implications for sustainable livelihoods.

12-13 May 1999

Details from Editor in chief, ESAP, P O Box 80019, Addis Ababa

British Pig and Poultry Fair

The annual business event for the pig and poultry industries! Full details from the Royal Agricultural Society of England, NAC, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, tel 01203 696969, fax 01203 535732

29 Feb-

2 March 2000

Grazing Management

This BGS conference at the Cairn Hotel, Harrogate, will address the science and practice of grazing in both intensive and extensive systems. Offered paper abstracts should be sent to the BGS before the 1st March 1999. Full details available: telephone 01189 318189 or e-mail bgs@patrol.i-way.co.uk

13-19 August 2000

Third International Congress on Symbiosis (TICS).

Marburg, Germany run by the International Symbiosis Society. Sessions will include:

Bacterial symbiosis and defence

Symbiosis of algae

Ecology, structure and evolution of symbiotic Eumycota

Physiology, biochemistry and Molecular Biology of fungal symbiosis

Lichen in symbiosis and parasymbionts

Animal and Marine symbiosis

Abstracts are requested from authors by 31 December 1999

full details from Professor Dr Hans Christian Weber, tel +49 6421 28 2091

or e-mail weberh@mail.uni-marburg.de

The 2nd Langford Food Industry Conference

Wednesday 26th May 1999 at University of Bristol, Langford

There will be 6 papers on topical issues from eminent speakers as follows:

Role of animal welfare in the marketing of meat

Vince Cartledge, Operations Manager, Freedom Food

Supermarkets and the farmer

Martin Cooke, Strategic Technical and Development Manager Tesco

How will the British livestock industry develop in the future?

Ian Gardiner, Director of Policy, National Farmers Union

The trend to organic production of meat

Patrick Holden, Director, Soil Association

The Food Standards Agency

*Geoffrey Podger, Head of Joint Food Safety and Standards Group
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food*

Consumer assurance throughout the Meat Chain

Lord Lindsay, Assured British Meat

Conference organised jointly by University of Bristol and BSAS.

Further details from Langford Continuing Education Unit
Langford House
Langford
Nr Bristol

Tel: 0117 928 9502

Fax: 01934 852170

email: rita.hinton@bris.ac.uk