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### On-line submission to Animal Science is here

If you go to the BSAS website you can now submit papers for the Journal on line! There is a link on the home page. BSAS is using the same top quality Manuscript Central software as our sister organisations (ASAS and ADSA) in the US.

### BSAS ANNUAL MEETING - YORK, 5-7 APRIL 2004

It is time to get your summaries written for the 2004 BSAS Annual Meeting at York. **The deadline for receiving them is 24 October 2003.** Please look at the web site [www.bsas.org.uk](http://www.bsas.org.uk) for summary guidelines.

If you are supervising students do encourage them to submit one. We have a very inexpensive registration and accommodation package available. All student presenters will be able to take our **FREE Presentations Skills Workshop** (participants on a first come first served basis and only pay for your accommodation & meals)

The programme currently includes:

- Breeding and welfare
- Animal genetic resources
- Disease control in poultry
- Immunomodulation
- Intermediary metabolism
- Novel approaches to growth promotion and disease control in animal production
- Livestock and sustainable livelihoods
- Pig husbandry protocols

We welcome summaries on the above topics and any other topic related to animal science. The committee meets in November to finalise the programme. Authors are informed in December and the full programme together with application form will be posted out early January.

### NEW IDEAS WANTED

As well as the Annual Meeting we need new ideas for the occasional meetings usually run in early summer or the autumn. If you think you have a topic for the next BSAS meeting call or e-mail Mike Steele now at [m.steele@ed.sac.ac.uk](mailto:m.steele@ed.sac.ac.uk) We have opportunities for September 2004 and would be happy to collaborate with other groups on topics of mutual interest. Decoupling and Food Quality & Safety are ideas that have been mentioned but you may have others.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIPS ~ Deadline 31 October 2003

The BSAS Scholarships for travel study and research

- Murray Black
- Blaxter
- Alan Robertson

See [www.bsas.org.uk](http://www.bsas.org.uk) for full details.

Are all now open for applications. Please don't miss the deadline. The T&E committee will consider all applications at its December 2003 meeting. Please remember that the most successful applicants are those who take the time over completing their application form.

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## OCCASIONAL MEETINGS

This September BSAS has run two very exciting occasional meetings:

### Emerging Equine Science

RAC Cirencester, beautiful Gloucestershire. Our first dedicated event aimed at those involved or interested in equines, attracted 120 delegates to the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

There has always been a dedicated group within BSAS interested in horses including the organisers of this conference (John Alliston, Jimmy Hyslop, Annette Longland, Meriel Moore-Colyer, Andrew Hemmings and Janice Harland). They put together and delivered an exciting programme that both reviewed general aspects of equine science, whilst also presenting detailed research work. It attracted a variety of participants from equine enterprises, colleges (both lecturers and students), and the supply and advisory industry. Government was notable by its absence.



Princess Anne talking with poster presenters

Princess Anne, a keen and knowledgeable horsewoman, chaired the session on Health, Welfare and Behaviour on the first day. She did a very professional job and spent a great deal of time talking with both oral and poster presenters.

The two days of conferencing enjoyed brilliant blue skies and warm weather which contributed to a very interactive atmosphere. On the second afternoon there were trips to racing stables, eventing enterprises, studs and an equine spa. The delegates were extremely well fed and went away wanting more please - 'food for thought'.

The event is likely to be run again in 2005 and the organisers are looking at BSAS taking a facilitation role to bring the scientific side together, of what is a very fragmented but buoyant UK industry.

The summaries will be posted on the BSAS web site for those who were unable to come to RAC. The proceedings will be published by Nottingham University press in 2004. Keep in touch with [www.bsas.org.uk](http://www.bsas.org.uk) for further information.

BSAS is grateful for sponsorship from Home of Rest for Horses, Biotol UK, Trident Feeds, Lanwades Stud, CABI Publishing and Diageo.

### The Appliance of Pig Science – Nottingham

The 150 delegates attending this BSAS Conference on Pig Science were one of the most diverse audiences we have ever seen. We had a good mix of producers, vets and academics as well as those from industry, government, the levy boards and from overseas. They were a knowledgeable and questioning audience.

Generous sponsorship from MLC, (BPEX), and Defra meant that a significant reduction in the registration fee was possible for this

event at Sutton Bonington, University of Nottingham. The conference also came at a very important time for the UK Pig industry, which is striving to recover from a difficult trading and disease period.

Presenters covered all aspects of production and marketing with an emphasis on how the UK industry can use cutting edge science to become more competitive, whilst dealing with the constraints of new EU legislation on environment and welfare. There was a hands on IT session, posters, and an evening workshop discussing the *Nutritional Control of Salmonella* which was well attended.

The summary papers are going on the BSAS web site and the proceedings will be published by Nottingham University press in 2004.

Our thanks in particular to Jayne Thompson of MLC as well as Pinder Gill, Mike Varley and others who guided and managed things so well. The involvement of organisations like BPEX, MLC and Defra, with their interest in producers made this a meeting applied enough to attract the producers, vets and marketing people.

## RAISING THE BSAS PROFILE

### EAAP

Several BSAS officials including Mike Steele, Chief Executive, Dr Melissa Royal, EAAP representative and Prof Sandra Edwards, BSAS Vice President attend the EAAP annual meeting in Rome this year. They talked with both participants and EAAP officers to examine how BSAS can play a more active role in EAAP affairs and in European animal science. BSAS is keen to raise its profile in Europe to attract new members and play a participative role in introducing policy decisions affecting European animal science. This will give BSAS members greater value for their subscription paid to be a member of EAAP.

One area that BSAS has already been successful in is the running of joint conferences with other European societies of animal science production. Mike Steele and the Hellenic Society President, Prof George Zervas, discussed future joint meetings that might follow the very successful Organic meeting in Athens in 2000, jointly organised by BSAS and the Hellenic Society.

BSAS has offered to help run sessions at the next two EAAP Annual Meetings in Bled, Slovenia (5-9 Sept 2004) and Uppsala, Sweden (5-8 June 2005) on *Harmonising Nutrient Feeds*. BSAS President, Dr John Newbold will chair the first session

**BSAS would like to make contact with other national societies of animal science/production groups in Europe to discuss joint ventures. If you have a contact please let us know.**

### BSAS & ADSA coming together

BSAS and the American Dairying Science Association are about to exchange a Memorandum of Understanding to work more closely together by exchanging both information and speakers at their respective conferences. Members of each Society will also be able to attend the others home country meetings at the same registration rate as home country members. If BSAS members want to go to the ADSA Annual meeting next year they will be able to do so at the same fee as ADSA members.

This initiative is part of a BSAS strategy to work with sister organisations through out the world for mutual benefit.

## WEBSITE - COMING ALONG

A small sub group of the T&E Committee have been very busy this summer on the web site development. They are working with a company in Aberdeen to enable the web site to be more interactive. New features should include on-line membership and conference forms, a members only area with technical information and a photo gallery and Powerpoint presentations from conferences. There should also be more information, like e-mail address which will mean a more up to date membership database. Libraries subscribing to 'Animal Science' are now asking for computer access through IP addresses – an area which is also being explored.

We are always happy to hear what you want from the web site, so do contact us if you have a good idea.

## ON-LINE SUBMISSION TO ANIMAL SCIENCE

**Go see at [www.bsas.org.uk/](http://www.bsas.org.uk/)**

BSAS has signed up to the US Manuscript Central system to allow on-line submission of papers to the journal. As well as making it easier to submit papers, this technology will make editors work load much easier. The system is now up and running and open to authors. The technology is not cheap but is part of our service to animal scientists. We continue the system of no pay charges for authors submitting papers to Animal Science.

## NUTRITIONAL STANDARDS WORKSHOP

Now that the Nutrient Requirements Standards for Pigs Booklet is complete BSAS is looking to similar guidelines for beef and sheep series. The booklet is available from BSAS @ £10. The information in the Feed into Milk (FiM) project is being released in October 2003. Under the leadership of Prof Sandra Edwards, BSAS will be considering running a special workshop that will examine the applicability of the new information to beef and sheep sectors. This would bring together scientists and nutritional advisors from the beef and sheep sectors to debate whether a new set of Nutritional Standards might be produced and to identify where information is lacking.

If you are interested in being involved please contact the BSAS office.

### Presidents Theme for 2004/05

Professor Sandra Edwards, University of Newcastle, will become the new President of BSAS in April next year. She is currently developing her theme for her term of office but has already indicated that it will focus on young people. Like BSAS she is concerned that the animal science industry does not project itself sufficiently well to attract enough new blood. It is likely that a number of new initiatives will be brought in to try to tempt new graduates not just into BSAS but the industry as a whole.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED!!

BSAS will be looking for new chairmen for both Programme and Publications Committees by the end of 2003. Council and the standing committees will also need ordinary members and the ad hoc group overseeing the nutrient standards initiative will require a new leader as Sandra Edwards steps down shortly. Interested then please let Mike Steele now asap.

Chairman of the three BSAS standing committees normally serve for three years and usually come from the committee. Their post has to be agreed by Council. They lead the committees who undertake the main functions of BSAS.

### Technical & Ethical Committee

The BSAS ideas committee. It generates and receives ideas that often influence society policy and conferences. Members also respond on behalf of the Society to consultation documents. It oversees PR and press relations, our relationships with IOB, EAAP and other societies that relate to animal science. The committee awards scholarships and prizes. Current projects include overseeing the web site upgrade, and writing a new ethical policy for BSAS.

### Publications' Committee

Deals with all BSAS publication but mainly concerned with our journal *Animal Science*. Current projects include bringing in on-line submission.

### Programme Committee

Responsible for all conferences, seminars and workshops. Majority of work concerns the Annual Meeting in York. Including organizing the programme and assessing summaries.

### PUBLICATION

Nutrient Requirements Standards for Pigs, by C. T. Whittemore, M. J. Hazzledine and W. H. Close, is selling well. The UK Standard for Pig Nutrient Requirements is available from the BSAS for £10 (15 Euros). It is a practical bite size guide to those involved in rations for pig production. It comes in an A4 easy to read format. Contact BSAS for details

### YOUNGER SCIENTISTS

Animal Science - Interested in contributing then we would like to hear from you. BSAS is always looking for younger scientists to act as either editors or referees. We can let you have a talk with a current editor or referee if that would help.

### Where do you publish??

Have you noticed that the majority of authors contributing to our journal *Animal Science* are neither from the UK nor BSAS members. So we would like to know where you publish your papers and perhaps more importantly why. We will be e-mailing all members shortly to ask.

## New Essay Competition - deadline 19 December 03

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £150, two runners up £50. All three will be offered the opportunity to be fully funded student helpers at BSAS Annual Meeting, April 2004. As outlined in an e-mail to all members this new competition is open to all BSc & MSc students involved in their last year of study.

All applicants giving essays to supervisors will be given:

- FREE BSAS membership for the remainder of their course
- A £10 discount voucher to attend the BSAS Annual meeting
- All will be entered in a prize draw with the winner and runners up getting the opportunity to be a fully funded student helper at York.

BSAS is looking for essays from supervised students (800-1000 words maximum) on:

- The impact of globalisation on the production of animal products.
- The advantages and disadvantages of organic animal production system.
- Food safety in relation to animal products.
- The implications of banning the use of cages for laying hens.
- Alternatives to the use of antibiotics in the production of food from animals.

### Genetics Category

A special genetics category funded by the Genesis Faraday Partnership with a separate first prize of £150 and the opportunity to be a fully funded student helper at York.

- The selective breeding of livestock for disease resistance or
- Commercialisation of GM livestock

If the supervisor and student have a title closely related to one of the above we are happy to take amended titles if agreed in advance.

We also need the help of supervisors to select the best two essays from their student group to be passed on to the BSAS T&E Committee for final judging, rather than sending in all entries please.

## SUMMER PLACEMENTS

BSAS has handled the following student summer placements this year.

- Judith Maxwell - University of Newcastle/ Agrilab Ltd
- Tessa Hole, University of Plymouth/ Pennisular Milk
- Bala Shehu from Moscow Agricultural Academy undertook a project at SAC Auchencruive
- Sarah Icely, Harper Adams University/Frank Wright Ltd

These placements gave students the opportunity to gain valuable research and investigative skills. In some circumstances they also allow organisations to complete work that they otherwise might have insufficient resources. We are very grateful for those who supervise students in these placements, for example, this year Dr Tom Acamovic of SAC Auchincruive has supervised our first Russian Student. Thanks to Tom and colleagues. Bala went back to Moscow much more aware of the joys and demands of research. Bala also hopefully takes back a good profile of SAC and BSAS to colleagues and friends.

## NEW BGS PRESIDENT

Will Taylor, a dairy farmer from Ulster is the new BGS President. Our congratulations to him. BGS alternate their Presidency between farmers, academics and those from government.

## CHURCHILL TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

Please check out this website as it offers significant funding for young people to travel.

Scholarships are available for

- Unconventional and complementary medicine
- Animal Welfare
- The Rural Economy
- Voluntary Sectors

See [www.wcmt.org.uk](http://www.wcmt.org.uk)

## STAPLEDON MEMORIAL TRUST

Travel Scholarships for grassland orientated research workers (30-45). Deadline 31 October 2003.

See [www.iger.bbsrc.ac.uk/igerweb/stapledon/stapledon/index.html](http://www.iger.bbsrc.ac.uk/igerweb/stapledon/stapledon/index.html)

## COURSES

IOB has a number of training courses this autumn on technical industry and time management.

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

## PUBLICATIONS

DEFRA link projects ~[www.defra.gov.uk/science](http://www.defra.gov.uk/science)

- Unlocking the secrets of pig fertility
- Using high sugar for sustainable production of ruminant livestock and reduced environmental pollution.

Nutrition of Farm Animals Outdoors. (Leeds July 2002) is now available in the proceedings of the Nutrition Society Vol 62 p.

## MEETINGS

18/19 October 2003

### **Merida Satellite Workshop - Wild and domestic herbivore diet characterization - part of the International Herbivore Conference**

This satellite workshop is to be held in Merida, Mexico, October 18/19 2003, as part of the International Herbivore Conference. Workshops will cover *alkanes methodology*, *in situ methodology* and *in vitro* (modelling of data). One idea is that the workshop produces a small handbook, which would describe the three techniques. There will also be integrated and measurement sessions. Visit website address <http://isnh6mexico.org/satellite.htm>

26-31 October 2003

### **9th World Conference on Animal Production**

Porto Alegre, Brazil. For details visit [www.wcap2003.ufrgs.br](http://www.wcap2003.ufrgs.br)

15-17 January 2004

### **The Growing Horse: Nutrition and prevention of growth disorders**

Dijon, France - The second European workshop on equine nutrition. Discussions and sessions on Growth and development of the horse; Energy and protein requirements for growth; Mineral and vitamins requirements for growth. Please contact [e.couedel@enesad.fr](mailto:e.couedel@enesad.fr) or visit [www.enesad.fr/equinenutrition](http://www.enesad.fr/equinenutrition).

5-7 April 2004

### **BSAS Annual Meeting**

University of York, UK - Breeding and welfare, Animal genetic resources, Disease control in poultry, Immunomodulation, Intermediary metabolism, Novel approaches to growth promotion and disease control in animal production, Livestock and sustainable livelihoods, Pig husbandry protocols. Also we welcome summaries on any topic related to animal science. Please either visit [www.bsas.org.uk](http://www.bsas.org.uk) or contact the BSAS office for details.

19 April 2004

### **Plants as Animal Foods: a case of Catch 22?**

A one day conference in the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh. This conference will focus on antimicrobial and antiparasitic properties of plant products for animals as mediated through plant secondary metabolites. A joint Nutrition Society/BSAS initiative - For further details email: [Jos.Houdijk@ed.sac.ac.uk](mailto:Jos.Houdijk@ed.sac.ac.uk)

## **FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

BSAS is looking at providing a FREE individual membership of the society to animal scientists from the poorer developing countries. Many of these individuals lack access to relevant publications and information and have no funds to pay subscriptions. Watch this space for further information.



### **BSAS Subscription and Gift Aid**

If you pay tax in the UK, Gift Aid is a scheme by which you can give a sum of money to charity and the charity can reclaim from the Inland Revenue the basic rate tax on your subscription or donation. Please help us to claim our entitlement by completing a Gift Aid declaration. Please note that if you claim tax back on your annual tax return for your BSAS subscription then you will not be eligible to complete the Gift Aid declaration. If you require further information please contact the BSAS office.

#### **Gift Aid**

I am a UK registered tax payer. If applicable please claim Gift Aid from my annual subscription. I will inform you if my circumstances change and Gift Aid can no longer be claimed on my subscription.

Full name in capitals please : .....

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

Please either return this form to BSAS, PO Box 3, Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 0RZ or send us an email advising that you would like us to claim gift aid from your subscription.

### **Genesis Faraday Partnership**

BSAS has now joined the Genesis Faraday Partnership based at the Roslin Institute Edinburgh. The Partnership promotes and co-ordinates basic research, assists with technology transfer and organises training and seminars. Its area of interest is the use of genetics and genomic technology by livestock breeding and animal health industries.

Genesis Faraday will be sponsoring a special category in our student essay competition (see page 4) and we hope to work together on relevant workshops and sessions. There is a one day workshop - *Frontiers of Innate Immunity - the genetics of disease resistance*, 14 January 2004 in Edinburgh. For details see [www.genesis-faraday.org](http://www.genesis-faraday.org)