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# Association News

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## **Providing travel assistance for young WPSA members and students to participate in regional and global WPSA conferences**

The Association has funds set aside for a limited number of travel grants. These are to provide international travel assistance for young WPSA members (both scientists and poultry producers) from developing countries and students from developed countries to

attend and participate in regional and global WPSA conferences.

The application conditions and the application form can be downloaded from the website ([www.wpsa.com](http://www.wpsa.com)).

## **WPSA Travel Grant programme for older scientists (>40 yrs) from developing countries**

For many years, the WPSA Board has supported a travel grant programme for members 40 years of age and younger, to enable them to attend international WPSA-sponsored meetings in other countries. Application for these grants is open to WPSA members from both developing and developed countries. It is recognised that older scientists from developing countries, even those in relatively senior positions, frequently have considerable difficulty in finding funds to attend international meetings. It is even more difficult for scientists in this age group who have only recently obtained a higher degree. Because of the lack of available training opportunities, many scientists in developing countries are near to 40 by the time they obtain a higher degree and be in a position to present their work at international meetings. The value of interaction with other scientists with similar interests and expertise, is well recognised.

It is for these reasons that WPSA has instituted a new travel grant programme to assist older (>40 years) WPSA members from developing countries to attend and present a paper (oral or poster) at international meetings. The programme is designed to

provide some financial assistance, NOT to cover the entire costs of the travel to and attendance at the meeting in question. As a not-for-profit organisation, WPSA has limited funds to allocate towards the programme, which means that the number of grants and the size of the individual grants, will not be great. Successful applicants are encouraged to use the grant as leverage in application for additional funding from the applicant's institution or other bodies. The programme is competitive and applicants are required to provide information about their research, and current status and about their planned contribution to the meeting in question, as described below and on the application form. Successful applicants will be expected to provide on their return, a brief report on the meeting and on the benefits derived by their attendance.

All applications will be assessed by a travel grants assessment committee set up under the WPSA Board. The committee will make its recommendations to the Secretary, who will advise the applicants in due course. The application conditions and the application form can be downloaded from the website ([www.wpsa.com](http://www.wpsa.com)).

## **WPSA Speakers Bureau Fostering local and regional conferences in the poultry sciences**

During the 34th meeting of the Board of WPSA on August 20, 2000 in Montreal, Canada it was recognised that expertise in several areas of poultry science and production in low income countries is often very limited, and WPSA branches in these countries often do not have sufficient financial resources to fund overseas speakers.

To address this problem, the Board created a Speakers' Bureau to assist branches in low income countries to cover the travel costs of expert international speakers. This measure is consistent with the key objective of WPSA to encourage and facilitate liaison among research scientists and educators, and between those in research and education and those working in the many diverse sectors of the poultry industry. Under the Speakers' Bureau scheme, WPSA will pay only the cost of air travel (lowest economy class). All other expenses such as local travel and accommodation are to be paid by the organizing Branch(es). WPSA will not pay any honorarium to speakers.

Given the high cost of international air travel it is important that optimum value be obtained from this expenditure by WPSA. This can be achieved by insisting that the visiting speaker provides more than just one paper at a conference. The visiting speaker could contribute in a variety of ways, e.g., present a second paper on a related topic, conduct a workshop for graduate students, have small group or one-on-one interaction, especially with students, visit industry groups, visit university groups, etc.

Unless the Branch (or group of Branches) can pay all the speakers' costs itself, a speaker should NOT be invited until approval of Speakers' Bureau funds is made by the WPSA Executive Committee. The Branch(es) should not assume that approval will be given until so advised by the WPSA Secretary.

Where a Branch or a group of Branches wish to apply for Speakers Bureau assistance, there are certain conditions which must be met:

### **Application conditions**

Application must be made using the WPSA Speakers' Bureau application form.

Application must be submitted at least 2 months prior to the meeting.

The speaker must contribute more to the meeting and/or branch than just presenting one paper.

Following approval, the speaker or the local Branch will be reimbursed by the WPSA Treasurer after the meeting.

A maximum of 2 speakers will be sponsored from the Speakers' Bureau per meeting.

The Branch(es) must be up-to-date with their membership payment.

Full details and application forms can be obtained from the WPSA secretariat ([wpsa@xs4all.nl](mailto:wpsa@xs4all.nl)) or you can download the application forms from the WPSA website ([www.wpsa.com](http://www.wpsa.com)).

The completed application forms should be sent by e-mail to [wpsa@xs4all.nl](mailto:wpsa@xs4all.nl) or by fax to: +31 207 508 941

## **Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science Stichting Bevordering Pluimveewetenschappen**

The XIX World's Poultry Congress, held in September 1992 in Amsterdam, was financially successful. This outcome was, to a large extent, due to the contributions received from the 16 main sponsors and over 2500 participants. The terms of reference of the Congress Organizing Foundation required that any credit balance that

resulted after all liabilities had been met should be made available to the Dutch Branch of WPSA as initiator of the organization of the Congress. As a result, a Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science (Stichting Bevordering Pluimveewetenschappen) was founded. The general objective of this foundation are "to

promote the developments and propagation of poultry science in WPSA-structures, and specifically:

1. the stimulation of international congresses and the promotion of participation in these events, and
2. the support of initiative having the objective of establishing WPSA-branches in countries which do not yet have them”.

Individuals and organizations may apply for financial support for appropriate WPSA activities such as conferences, congresses and symposia. Applications for financial support of conferences, congresses and symposia should be forwarded through the local WPSA Branch.

The Foundation has a particular interest in assisting in the process of establishing new WPSA branches and therefore supports these branches by covering for three years part of

the membership fees. Individuals and organizations may apply for financial support by contacting Ir H. Hupkes, Odijkerweg 37, NL-3972 NE Driebergen, The Netherlands, e-mail: [h.hupkes@zonnet.nl](mailto:h.hupkes@zonnet.nl). An application form will be send on request.

The Board of directors of the Foundation meets three or four times a year. In case of requests for financial assistance to attend conferences, congresses and symposia, applications should be received by the secretary at least 3 months before the meeting.

Application forms should be filled out completely and can be send through e-mail and fax. An original application form should be send by regular mail.

It is the Boards policy not to fund individual applicants more than 2 times.

## **WPSA Website: [www.wpsa.com](http://www.wpsa.com)**

The WPSA website provides much valuable information about the organisation and activities of the Association, its regional federations and country branches. In addition there are regularly updated news reports from branch meetings, conferences and symposia organised by the specialist Working Groups, as well as a calendar of future events.

In order to keep it regularly updated, the

Association welcomes information and pictures from Branches, Regional Federations and Working Groups concerning activities of the various WPSA organisations, as well as news about appointment of officers and members.

Please send your information to Mrs D.M. Kleverwal, e-mail [wpsa@xs4all.nl](mailto:wpsa@xs4all.nl).

## **World's Poultry Science Journal – Digital Archive**

**Access from the first issue in 1945 until 2003 online – a total of 240 issues!**

Volumes 1 – 59 of World's Poultry Science Journal are now available on Cambridge Journals Online. The archive is fully searchable by keyword and author; abstracts can be saved and e-mailed, full text articles printed and bibliographic details exported into reference management software. Perpetual Access is available for a one-off fee of just £500/\$995\*.

For further information, or to purchase the WPSJ Digital Archive, please e-mail [jnlsales@cambridge.org](mailto:jnlsales@cambridge.org).

\*For those who do not subscribe to the current volume, there is an additional annual maintenance fee of £45/85, payable from the second year of the deal.

[www.journals.cambridge.org/WPS](http://www.journals.cambridge.org/WPS)

## **E-mail WPSA Newsletter**

WPSA has introduced a new version of the WPSA Newsletter that will be e-mailed to

individual members, on request. To receive

this, please subscribe to the e-mail Newsletter on the website ([www.wpsa.com](http://www.wpsa.com)).

## 19th European Symposium on Poultry Nutrition, Potsdam, Germany, 26-29 August, 2013 (Working Group 2)

The 19th ESPN was attended by 686 registered delegates representing many countries from Europe as well as countries outside Europe. Working Group 2 was active in the planning of the meeting in close co-operation with the German Branch of WPSA and the local organizing committee who did a tremendous job to make the symposium successful. The welcome ceremony was on the Monday evening followed by a get-together in the foyer area at the Kongresshotel Potsdam where delegates were able to meet under relaxing surroundings. The exhibition area was located outside the main hall. The symposium lasted three full days and comprised five main sessions and one hot topic session with the following topics: 1) Development in feed raw material, 2) Protein scarcity and utilisation, 3) Feeding strategies, 4) Hot topic session, 5) Feed and water intake and 6) Trends and perspectives for layer nutrition. Except for the 'hot topic' session, the symposium followed the traditional structure of previous symposia with a number of sessions (no parallel sessions) with three plenary presentations followed by group discussions of the papers and a final plenary discussion. This way of organising the discussion ensured good communication between the participants and the speakers. The 'hot topic' session followed more traditional lines on various topics since each presentation was followed immediately by discussions with delegates in the main hall. The last presentation in the 'hot topic' session was given by Prof Markus Rodehutsord regarding the status of the work done by the WG2 phosphorus sub-committee, who's phosphorus group was established in 2009 with the intension of publishing a standard protocol recommended for studies to assess P availability and to work on a feedstuff table of P availability from raw materials and on models of the available P requirement.

There were three short communication sessions during the symposium including short presentations of 17 selected topics from submitted abstracts. The sessions worked well with a fine debate taking place, and a lively discussion continued during lunch, which was organised perfectly at the exhibition area. Approximately 250 posters were displayed close to the main exhibition area during the whole symposium, and an official poster viewing time was organised. The gala dinner took place on a very special venue as it was organised as a dinner cruise on the beautiful lake Templin with departure from the Kongresshotel. During the symposium days, tours were organised for accompanying persons to localities in the area of Potsdam. The symposium was considered a great success with many positive comments from the delegates, and Working Group 2 is grateful for the interesting and stimulating lectures given by the speakers and for the active participation of the delegates.

The Working Group 2 held two meetings during the ESPN in Potsdam. At present, there are 29 members of WG2 representing 17 different countries. Prof Dorota Jamroz from the University of Life Sciences, Wroclaw, Poland, had decided to resign from the group, and the members thanked her for her valuable contribution to the WG2 during many years. Prof Jamroz was replaced by Dr Sebastian Kaczmarek from Poznań University of Life Sciences, Poland. WG2 also welcomed a new member from the UK, Dr Emily Burton from Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham.

The 20th European Symposium on Poultry Nutrition will be held in Prague, Czech Republic, in August 2015.

*Sanna Steinfeldt, chairperson of Working Group 2*

## **XXI European Symposium on the Quality of Poultry Meat and the XV European Symposium on the Quality of Eggs and Egg Products, Bergamo, Italy, 15-19 September, 2013 (Working Groups 4 & 5)**

There were approximately 280 delegates from 41 different countries, with five continents represented. There were three plenary sessions at the beginning of each day focusing on the consumers attitudes towards consumption of poultry meat and eggs (invited speaker: R. Nayga from the University of Arkansas, USA); the current poultry meat and egg safety issues (L. Ellerbroek from Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Germany and F. Van Immerseel from Ghent University, Belgium); and the sustainability of poultry production systems (C. Riffard from CNPO, France and C. Jondreville from INRA, France). There were eight parallel sessions for poultry meat and eggs, addressing the different *ante-mortem* factors that affect safety and quality of poultry meat and eggs, and the behaviour of poultry meat and eggs when used as raw materials for manufacturing processed food products, also in relation to the legislation evolution and consumer perception. These sessions were generally opened by a keynote speaker followed by free oral communications which accounted for a total of about 60. In addition, there were almost 100 scientific papers presented in the

form of posters. There was an excellent atmosphere of interaction among the guest speakers, student groups and scientists, producers, and as well as with personnel from private enterprises. The poultry exhibit hall was located at the same venue and eight exhibitors displayed their latest products and services.

On September 19th, two technical visits were organized with the participation of about 20 people in each. The visits were at Azienda Avicola Monteverde, a slaughtering and transformation centre for poultry meat, and at Cascina Italia, a modern egg packing centre.

A book of abstracts and a electronic proceedings of the Symposia were given to the participants. They were published with the ISSN and EISSN numbers of the World's Poultry Science Journal, respectively. The Board of WPSA also held its annual meeting in Bergamo on Sunday September 15th in conjunction with these Symposia.

A selection of pictures taken during the Symposia is available on the website of the Italian Branch of WPSA [www.wpsa.it](http://www.wpsa.it) under the title 'Photoalbum Egg and Meat 2013 – Bergamo'.

## **Meeting of the Incubation and Fertility Research Group, Gottingen, Germany, 30 September – 1 October, 2013 (Working Group 6)**

The 2013 meeting of the Incubation and Fertility Research Group (European Working Group 6) was held in the university town of Gottingen at the Georg-August University on 30 September-1 October 2013. Gottingen is in central Germany, and is a compact historically interesting town, and the accommodation and the university venue were within easy walking distance of each other. Fifty-eight participants registered for the two-day meeting, which consisted of oral sessions on: 1) Thermo stimulation, 2) The Influence of Incubation conditions on Performance, and 3) General

Aspects of Incubation; as well as a Poster Session and a workshop on Egg quality.

Participants were primarily from within Europe (France, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, UK, Hungary, Poland, Italy, Eire), as well as from several other countries including: Israel, Turkey Taiwan, and the USA. The thermo-stimulation session featured two presentations by Dr Yahav and Dr Piestun from Israel and two presentations from Dr Tzschentke's group in Berlin. The session on the Influence of Incubation Conditions saw the first ever presentation at an IFRG meeting from

Taiwan by Prof. Wang about the effects of incubation conditions on the sex ratio, as well as presentations about hatching time and broiler performance (O. Eibol, Turkey) and bone development in broiler hatchlings (Carla van der Pol, the Netherlands). The General Aspects session included presentations on bone development (Roni Yair, Israel), energy utilization during development (Henry van der Brand, the Netherlands), mechanical effects on eggs during transport (Timea Torma, Hungary), and double-yolked eggs (Attila Salamon, Eire). The session was concluded by a stimulating review of recent advances in egg immunity from several studies summarized by Dr Yves Nys (France). The poster session also provided an international flavour to the meeting with two contributions on fertility from Italy and two from France, as well as posters from the Netherlands, Poland and Turkey. The final session was in association with the Fundamental Physiology and Perinatal Development Workshop and was concerned with various aspects of egg quality. Prof. Nick Sparks (UK) provided a retrospective of the research of Prof. Ron Board of the

University of Bath, who died earlier this year. Not only was Ron Board a founding member of the IFRG, but much of the research undertaken by him and his students underpins the science we do today. Nick provided both the detail and the context of his fundamental contributions to egg science and incubation research. The potential of sensor and other technologies for non-invasive assessment of egg quality were then reviewed by Bart de Ketelaere (Belgium) and two further presentations focused on the characteristics of egg quality in layers (Anke Forster, Germany) and broiler breeders (Guo Jun, UK). The success and appeal of this meeting is reflected in the wide variety of participants about half of whom were from the industry. The meeting was held in conjunction with 6th Workshop of Fundamental Physiology and Perinatal Development in Poultry and we are very indebted to Dr A R Sharifi for the excellent local organization at Georg-August University, Gottingen.

*Marleen Boerjan, Chair, European Working Group 6*

## **The International Congress on Advancements in Poultry Production in the Middle East and African States, Antalya, Turkey, 21-25 October 2013**

Last year, WPSA's Branches in Kuwait and Turkey initiated the idea of conducting an international congress that would be organized and jointly hosted by the two branches, and by the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR). The International Congress on Advancements in Poultry Production in the Middle East and African States was successfully held in Antalya-Turkey during October 21-25, 2013. This provided information on a number of the topics related to poultry production and marketing, as well as for building and strengthening professional relationships in the Mediterranean region. It was an excellent gathering where world-renowned scientists shared their knowledge, and discussed major issues related to future research, as well as on strategies for the further development and expansion of poultry production in the Middle East and Northern African countries.

A total of 72 papers were presented during

the congress. The papers included presentations by 14 invited speakers, as well as 29 other oral and 29 poster presentations. Many distinguished individuals from all around the world participated in the congress, including 235 scientists from 38 countries. The countries represented were (in alphabetical order): Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, DR Congo, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and the USA.

The Mayor of Antalya Metropolitan Municipality Prof. Dr. Mustafa Akaydin attended the opening ceremony and made a welcoming presentation. He thanked all participants for their attendance and wished

them an enjoyable stay in Antalya and a successful meeting. WPSA president Prof. Dr. Edir Silva (Brazil) also provided an opening ceremony welcome from WPSA. He also participated throughout the congress. In addition, several other WPSA Board Members were in attendance including Vice President Prof. Dr. Sarge Bilgili (USA); WPSA Vice President Prof. Dr. Michèle Tixier-Boichard, (France); WPSA Past President, Prof. Dr. Robert Pym (Australia); and WPSA European Federation Vice President Prof. Dr. Estrella Prukner-Radovicic (Croatia).

Another important event that took place during this congress was a Steering Committee Meeting for the developing

African Poultry Network (APN). The APN is expected to make important contributions toward the development of a viable poultry industry in Africa, and the decisions made during this steering committee meeting will serve as a blueprint for future work in Africa.

CTA Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation Wageningen, The Netherlands, sponsored 8 African participants in order to attend the congress and workshop.

This congress was the culmination of an excellent collaborative effort made by WPSA's Kuwait and Turkish branches.

*Dr A.N. Al-Nasser, Secretary, Kuwait Branch*  
*Prof. Dr. Riveyde Akbay President, Turkey Branch*

## **5<sup>th</sup> World Waterfowl Conference (WWC), Hanoi, Vietnam, 6-8 November 2013 (Working Group 2, APF)**

The 5<sup>th</sup> World Waterfowl Conference (WWC) was held in Hanoi, Vietnam during 6-8 November 2013. It was organized by the WPSA Vietnam Branch and the theme was 'Sustainable Waterfowl Production'.

The conference was attended by 195 participants, among which 148 were from Vietnam and 47 from 19 other countries. An analysis of the participants' background shows that there were 12 (6.1%) policy-makers or government officials with managerial positions, 162 (83.1%) researchers/scientists, and 21 (10.8%) businessmen, demonstrating that the conference attracted significant attention from both poultry producers and commercial businesses.

The conference focused on five areas: genetics, breeding and reproduction, production systems and nutrition, environment, biosecurity and disease, marketing and product safety and small-scale family production

The total number of oral presentations was 66, among which 8 were delivered at the plenary session, and 58 were shared at four sessions (19 presentations focused on Genetics, Breeding and Reproduction; 19 on Production Systems and Nutrition; 13 on Environment/Biosecurity/Disease and Marketing/Product Safety (both areas combined); and seven on Small-scale Family Production). There were 37 posters,

among which 19 were related to genetic, breeding and reproduction; eight on production systems and nutrition; six on environment, biosecurity and disease; three on marketing and product safety; and one on small-scale family production system.

The WG2 Committee Meeting was held on 7th November. The president of the Asian Pacific Federation (APF), Mr. Alan Gibbins, summarised the transfer of the Waterfowl Working Group from the European Federation to APF. He also briefly introduced the activities of APF since the 4th WWC in Kerala, India in 2009. It was announced that the website of APF will be designed to facilitate more information exchange among the members. At the meeting, Dr Jeng-Fang Huang from Taiwan was nominated and endorsed to continue acting as the chairperson of WG2 while Dr Hsiu-Chou Liu was appointed the secretary of WG2. In addition, Taiwan was selected as the host country of the 6th WWC. It was decided that the next WG2 Committee Meeting will be held during the 10th APF during 18-22 October in Jeju Island, South Korea.

On 8th November, the participants were divided into two groups to visit the Duck Breeding Station in Cam Binh and the Duck Breeding and Research Centre in Dai Xuyen. After three days of engaging discussion and communication, participants bid farewell to each other with hopes to meet again at the

6th WWC. The end of the field trip drew the entire WWC event to a satisfying conclusion.

Special thanks are given to the WPSA Vietnam Branch headed by Dr. Nguyen Dang Vang for organizing such a successful conference that enriched the participants both scientifically and culturally. Additional thanks are given to the sponsors whose generous

sponsorship contributed to the achievement of this conference. Lastly, warm thanks must be expressed to all the participants for their wonderful contribution to the success of this conference.

*Dr Jeng-Fang Huang, Chairperson*

## Asian Pacific Federation website

The Asian/Pacific Federation's Website will soon go live on the World Wide Web. It will present the APF's branch members with a new era in communication throughout the region, and should help spur some the Federation's member branches into greater activity. The hope is, now that the structural work has been completed, that members will view the website as being worthwhile, and that they will use it as a resource in their branch's daily activities.

While the website will essentially be an information repository, it will also be interactive in that it houses a blog for the use of members and other 'Log In' functions for members and branches. Most of the site, however, will be accessible to the general public. The development of this site has been a very long and a somewhat a stop-start process. One good thing about taking this long, however, is that the costs associated with its production have reduced due to new

web building technologies. There is still work to be done. Populating the site will be a fairly lengthy process, but hopefully once branch members see the site live, they will be enthusiastic and will supply material to place on it on a regular basis. Seeking sponsorship is another issue. The Federation will offer a range of packages that are creative and attractive to prospective sponsors. As this website is primarily for the Asia Pacific region's poultry industries, it is hoped that Asian Pacific companies will be supportive. More website details on Log in requirements and sponsorship, as well as requests for site content, will be circulated through APF member branches. It is planned to have the APF site up and running live by 16 December. Check it out then at [www.asiapacificpoultry.com](http://www.asiapacificpoultry.com).

*Alan Gibbins, President Asian/Pacific Federation*

## Branch News

### Australia

The Australia Branch of WPSA started the 'High School Poultry Industry Education Project' during the year 2000 to boost public awareness and improve general knowledge of the poultry sector. Now in its 14th year, the 'WPSA Schools' Poultry Education Competition' attracted entries from 25 Queensland, 17 New South Wales and two South Australian schools. Each school submitted their top two reports and posters which were judged by industry representatives. Schools then attended the awards and careers day where prizes are presented. Interactive demonstrations were

held by industry representatives as well as presentations on the chicken meat and egg food chain, the range of career roles in both and pathways into the industry.

The competition provides the poultry industry with a unique opportunity to communicate their practices and products to the Australian community. It aims to correct a number of misconceptions about the poultry industry, including the perceived use of hormones which have been illegal for over 40 years, and to demonstrate to students the wide range of career options available in the poultry industry.

The Coordinator of the WPSA Schools'



Poultry Education Competition in recent years is Tanya Nagle of Brisbane.

*Juliet Roberts, President, Australia Branch*

### **Brazil**

FACTA/WPSA Brazilian Branch is offering this semester extension courses to update professionals working with poultry production. The first one was 'Avian Immune System- knowing about it in order to protect the birds', which took place in the National Hotel Inn, Campinas, Brazil, last October. Several issues related to the avian immune system were brought up meeting the plan which was to inform the public of the new developments in the field. During the 27-28th November the next course will be offered 'The impact of Salmonella in Poultry Production'. The theme will cover all key issues related to the improvement of salmonella control in Brazilian flocks. The courses will be available under demand in other parts of the country with previous arrangements with Facta.

Recently, during the annual meeting, the reviewed edition of the book 'Incubation' (in Portuguese) was presented to poultry production professionals. Another book is being reviewed 'Poultry Production', where current development in the area is being added to be presented next year to Brazilian producers and technicians involved in this matter.

We encourage all scientists around the world to have a look at and submit papers to Brazilian Poultry Science Journal ([www.facta.org.br/site/index.php/portal/revista/32](http://www.facta.org.br/site/index.php/portal/revista/32)), which is published quarterly in English and has a good impact index.

*Edir Silva*

### **Israel**

The Israeli Branch held its 48th Annual Convention in March 2013 for three days in Jerusalem. The convention consisted of 14 sessions covering different disciplines including: Poultry diseases and Prevention; Energy and Reproduction; Incubation; Broiler's Nutrition; and Laying hens.

Round table discussions focused on issues that are of concern to the poultry industry in Israel, such as: threats and opportunities for the

broiler industry, and different perspectives on the future moulting of laying hens.

The annual convention was honoured to invite Dr. Yves Nys the current president of the European Federation of WPSA to give a lecture on 'eggshell quality: understanding its formation and controlling its strength. During the convention 21 companies also presented their unique developed products. Approximately 500 individuals participated in the convention, including producers, representatives of several commercial companies, members of the extension service and scientists.

The evening social activities included an interesting visit to the Israeli National Museum and an outstanding lecture on: Crossing USA by foot along the USA National Path.

During the year the branch also carried out 2 separate half day symposiums on different topics.

*Prof. Shlomo Yahav, Chairman-WPSA Israel Branch*

*Mr. Yitzhak Malka, Secretary - WPSA Israel Branch*

### **Italy**

The Italian Branch of WPSA is organizing the 50th edition of its annual meeting that will be held on April 15th, 2014 in Forlì. The main theme for this meeting will be the Dietary Usage of Phosphorus in Poultry Nutrition and will be centred around recent report published in the World's Poultry Science Journal by the European Federation's Working Group No 2 on Poultry Nutrition. The relationship between dietary phosphorus and other aspects involved in poultry production will be explored thanks to the contributions of a number of prestigious international speakers. Of course, the annual meeting will also provide an opportunity to celebrate the constitution of the Italian Branch of WPSA.

*Massimiliano Petracchi*

### **Japan**

The Journal of Poultry Science (<http://jpn-psa.jp/english/index.html> Impact Factor 0.684) would welcome the submission of reviews and original papers. The 2013 fall meeting of the Japan Poultry Science Association (JPSA) was

held in Niigata University, Niigata Prefecture on September 7-8th. The meeting consisted of public symposium entitled: 'What are the current problems for poultry businesses?' Forty paper presentations were made, and council and general meetings were held. Excellent presentation awardees (under 30 years of age or student) were Takahiro Nii, Mitsuhiro Shibata and Yuki Kawashima. The 2013 JPSA Prize was given to Takeshi Ohkubo, Ibaraki University, for his achievement with the studies on the molecular mechanism exhibiting physiological action through the chicken leptin receptor. The 2013 JPSA young scientist award was given to Kazuhiro Rikimaru, Akita Prefectural Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries Research Center, for his studies on the genetic characterization of Hinai-dori and the effective utilisation of male Hinai-jidori chicks. The 2013 outstanding paper awardees of JPS were as follows: Adachi H, Murase D, Atomura S, Ohkubo T (2012) Detection of leptin activity in living cells expressing chicken leptin receptor and STAT3, *JPS* 49 (1): 46-50; and Chowdhury VS, Tomonaga S, Nishimura S, Tabata S, Furuse M (2012) Physiological and behavioural responses of young chicks to high ambient temperature, *JPS* 49 (3): 212-218. The 2014 spring meeting will be held at the University of Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture on March 29.

*Tamao Ono, Secretary of Japanese Branch WPSA*

### **Russia**

The next AgroFarm convention, Russia's top event for animal agriculture, is scheduled to be held from 4 to 6 February 2014 at the All-Russian Exhibition Centre (VVC) in Hall 75.

AgroFarm is an excellent forum for all of Russia's animal farmers, as well as for Russian and international animal industry suppliers. It has a leading position as an international exhibition for animal husbandry and animal breeding in Russia. The exhibition's special hallmark is its broad programme that covers all major aspects of cattle, pig, poultry, goat and sheep farming: breeding and genetics, equipment and technology, animal health and feeding, environmental engineering and processing, as well as services. The technical programme,

which includes more than 45 events, meet with an expert public that is characterised by a high degree of professionalism.

A total of 333 exhibiting companies from 28 different countries showed products and services over an area of 14,700 square meters in 2013. Over 9,800 investors, specialists and managerial staff from animal husbandry farms, as well as representatives from science, professional organizations and public authorities from more than 70 regions in Russia attended AgroFarm 2013 to gather information.

The highlight for the poultry industry at AgroFarm 2014 will be the International Poultry Event 'Key markets of poultry products: trends and perspectives for producers' that will be held on 5 February 2014 at the Poultry Forum, Hall 75, All Russian Exhibition Center, Moscow.

#### *Organizers:*

The Russian Poultry Union, the DLG e.V. (German Agriculture Society), and the All Russian Exhibition Center

#### *Programme:*

Welcome address: Vladimir Fisinin, president Russian Poultry Union

An overview of the prospective markets of poultry production worldwide and the European Union: Market size, customer priorities, the requirements for quality, price segments, own production, quotation and possibilities of access for suppliers from Eastern Europe - Nan-Dirk Mulder, Analyst, Rabobank (to be confirmed)

Poland on its way to becoming the largest poultry producer in the European Union: Size and structure of the poultry farms, production costs, ensuring of efficiency - Pazgan Conrad, vice president, Konspol (to be confirmed)

Poultry production in Brazil: The size and structure of the poultry farms, production, ensuring of efficiency - Expert from Brazil (to be confirmed)

Russian poultry farmers on the way to development of new markets: Requirements for quality and food safety, production design, ensuring of efficiency - Nicholas Andronovich Krivash, CEO, Akashevskaya poultry factory (to be confirmed)

Discussion forum with speakers: Moderator of the discussion forum: - Davleev Albert, president of Agrifood Strategies (to be confirmed)

*Contact:*

Mrs. T.V. Vasilieva, P.O. Rzhavki, VNIIPP, office 209, 141552 SOLNECHNOGORSKY REGION Moscow  
Phone/Fax: +7 495 944-6313  
E-mail: vasilievatv@gmail.com

Mrs. Olga Hunger, DLG e. V. (German Agriculture Society): www.dlg.org; Tel. +49-(0)69-24788-271, Fax: +49-(0)69-24788-123; E-mail: O.Hunger@dlg.org

Additional information can be found at www.agrofarm.org.

**Seminars for Poultry Breeders in PTITSEGRAD**

This Academic year will be continued into 2014 for poultry breeders in the All-Russian Scientific Research and Technological Poultry Breeding Institute (VNITIP) in Sergiev Posad, Moscow Region. Over 1000 specialists will increase their qualifications by taking courses at the Institute during each academic year: These technologists will come from poultry farms and feed mills, and will include veterinarians, zoo technicians, breeding farm and hatchery heads and specialists, poultry meat and eggs production and processing managers, as well as engineers, power specialists, mechanical engineers and economists. Lectures are provided by leading scientists from educational and scientific research institutes, enterprises and companies specialists. Ptitsegrad has long ago become a university experience for branch experts, where they can get to know local and world poultry farming through the exchange of information on their experiences. Courses at VNITIP include not only Russian specialists, but some foreign students as well.

The following poultry breeding specialist qualification courses will be carried out together with 'Rosptitseysoyuz' experts.

The qualification courses have been scheduled to be held at VNITIP on the following dates during 2014:

*March 17-22*

*November 10-15*

Resource saving technologies for eggs production and processing (designed for leaders, technologists, zoo technicians, veterinarians, engineers, guild managers and poultry enterprise foremen and Institute teachers).

*February 24- March 01 and September 29-October 04*

New technologies and methods for improving broiler meat production and processing efficiency, and for improving the skills of technologists and specialists in poultry meat production and processing).

*April 7-12*

Selection work and reproduction of high producing poultry crosses (for breeding farms leaders and specialists).

*May 12-17 and September 8-13*

Modern approaches to high producing poultry crosses feeding, feeds and biologically active additions quality control, new technologies in feed production (for poultry and feed production enterprises, veterinary specialists, zoo- and veterinary laboratory leaders, zoo engineers in feeds).

*February 10-15 and November 17-22*

Actual problems and their decision ways in poultry egg incubation technology (for zoo engineers, veterinary specialists, incubation department managers and mechanics).

*June 2-7*

Economic aspects of poultry enterprises functioning results guarantees (for financial-and-economic service leaders and specialists, poultry enterprises technologists).

*Tatiana Vasilieva*

**United Arab Emirates**

As announced previously, the World Poultry Science Association's UAE branch has been established this year and has been accepted and approved by the WPSA Board. The new Branch held its first annual conference on 30th November 2013 at UAE University, Al Ain. Several activities are planned that will benefit local poultry producers, feed manufacturers, and the local veterinarians. These activities

will soon be announced by Prof. Ghaleb A. Alhadrami, the Dean of the UAE University, and President of WPSA's UAE Branch. Dr. Ahmed Soliman Hussein and Dr. Thiyagasundaram, Vice Presidents of the UAE Branch will address many of the issues related to the poultry industry itself.

The membership of WPSA is open to all veterinarians and professionals who are involved with UAE Poultry Industry. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to be a member of WPSA so that the branch can provide you with a membership application form and an invitation to apply. So far we have enrolled 40 members from UAE, and our target has been to have at least 100 members by the end of 2013. As we may not be able to reach everyone involved, we request that you forward this information to those whom you know who are involved in some way in the poultry industry. Thanking you in advance for helping us meet our membership goals.

We hope to have a web site of our own in the near future. We look forward to hearing from you soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 050 451 3400 / 055 451 3400.

*Viren Narkar, Secretary World Poultry Science Association UAE Branch*

**United Kingdom**

WPSA UK is pleased to report that the new look website is up and running ([www.wpsa-uk.com](http://www.wpsa-uk.com)).

Oluyinka Olukosi, our webmaster, has work tirelessly over the last year in enabling us to launch an excellent resource to advertise our Branch and most importantly to act as a focal point for members on all information relating to WPSA UK activities, meetings and other events.

**WPSA UK Research Award**

The Branch Council would like to take this

opportunity to remind members of the new RESEARCH AWARD that has been created to support any branch member carry out a small investigation likely to result in broad benefit to the UK poultry sector. This award is in addition to the Summer Vacation Scholarship and its remit is extremely broad. Proposals covering any aspect of poultry science are welcomed, including laboratory analysis of samples, collection of field data, expansion of an existing poultry trial or compilation and analysis of existing field data.

The value of the award is £1000 and proposals must be submitted to the Branch secretary before the end of September. Details on the Research Award, proposal forms and conditions of entry can all be found on the WPSA-UK website.

**Missing British Poultry Science journal copies – a plea from Paul Hocking**

The editors of British Poultry Science would like to deposit a complete set of journals in the University of Edinburgh library. They would be very grateful for assistance in identifying WPSA members or others who may be able to help fill the gaps in their collection. If anyone has the following issues, and is willing to donate them to the library, please contact the editors by email ([paul.hocking@roslin.ed.ac.uk](mailto:paul.hocking@roslin.ed.ac.uk)) or letter (Dr P M Hocking, Roslin Institute, Easter Bush, Midlothian EH25 9RG).

Year	Month	Volume	Issue
1972	May	13	3
1974	November	15	6
1975	March	16	2
1975	July	16	4
1983	September	24	5
1983	November	24	6

*Stephen Lister, Secretary WPSA UK*