

Onderstepoort Centenary Celebration

Date: 25 August 2008



From the 6-9 October, Onderstepoort will celebrate the centenary of its establishment in 1908 and a century of achievements in the field of veterinary science which was crucial in the development of South Africa.

The event is organized as a joint initiative by the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC-OVI), the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria, Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP), the Department of Agriculture and the South African Veterinary Association. The inauguration of the new Institute at Onderstepoort in 1908 was accompanied by a Pan-African Conference and the organizing committee of the present festivities decided it was fitting to celebrate the centenary with another Pan-African event. The intention is to celebrate accomplishments of the past century but also to look into the future and plan the way forward. The focus will be on research achievements and needs but due consideration will be given to the important contributions of training institutions, veterinary field services and the role of technological developments such as design and production of vaccines. In addition to the scientific conference other events on the programme include the launching of a commemorative postage stamp, the opening of a National Veterinary Museum, the launching of a book on the history of Onderstepoort and a gala dinner with the President as guest of honour.

Still referred to as 'Sickline' by the local population, Onderstepoort can be regarded as the hub of veterinary science in Africa. However, few people realize, let alone acknowledge that Onderstepoort is a world class contributor to veterinary science. It is home to the only veterinary faculty in South Africa, to OBP, a leading vaccine producer, and to the ARC-OVI, which is eminent in veterinary research in Africa. In the past economically important animal diseases such as rinderpest, lamsiekte, nagana and East Coast fever have been eradicated or brought under control whereas present research includes diseases such as avian influenza and foot and mouth disease.

A joint initiative by: ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, Onderstepoort Biological Products, University of Pretoria
Faculty of Veterinary Science, Department of Agriculture & The South African Veterinary Association.

South African Veterinary Association

P O Box 25033, MONUMENTPARK, Pretoria 0105, 47 Gemsbok Street, MONUMENT PARK 0181.

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It all started back in 1896 when an outbreak of rinderpest, the worst pandemic animal disease the country has ever experienced, occurred, eventually destroying almost half of the total livestock population and even more wildlife. The crippling economical consequences of this outbreak finally convinced the authorities of the importance of veterinary services and research. The then Z.A.R appointed a young Swiss veterinarian, Dr Arnold Theiler, with the specific brief to combat the disease. With the support of other workers a vaccine was developed which was instrumental in the complete eradication of rinderpest by the end of the century. During the rinderpest campaign a first veterinary 'laboratory' was erected at Daspoort I n Pretoria in 1897. However, the disaster firmly established the economic necessity of veterinary research and after the interruption of the Anglo-Boer War a modern laboratory was built at Onderstepoort. The new laboratory was officially inaugurated in 1908 with Theiler as first Director.

Many generations of scientist have made outstanding contributions to veterinary science since Theiler's time, giving Onderstepoort international acclaim for research and vaccine production and the generations of world class veterinarians trained at the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

The conference is open to all who have a particular interest in veterinary science and all the former employees of the above mentioned organizations. Please contact Zandile Mabena on 012 346 1150 or zandile@sava.co.za for further information

**Issued by: Zandile Mabena on behalf of
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ONDERSTEPSPOORT CENTENARY: PAN-AFRICAN VETERINARY CONFERENCE 2008

Registration
forms available from:
www.onderstepoort100.co.za



Venue: UP Faculty of Veterinary Science Onderstepoort
and ARC-OVI "Die Grasdak"

1 September 2008

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Monday 6 October 2008		
16:00	Registration desk opens at SA National Veterinary Museum (ARC-OVI)	
16:30	Cocktail function and launch of the Onderstepoort History Book, SA National Veterinary Museum Opening and tour of the SA National Veterinary Museum (ARC-OVI)	Dr DW Verwoerd Dr S T Cornelius: Head of the Department GDACE
Tuesday 7 October 2008		
08:00-09:00	Registration and tea	
09:00-10:00	Official Opening (Hall 1.35, Theiler Building, Faculty of Veterinary Science) Introduction of the Minister of Agriculture Opening speech and unveiling of Jotello Soga bust Handing over of commemorative stamp	Chair: Chairperson of the ARC Board, Ms J Davidson Director-General DoA Minister of Agriculture Representative SA, Post Office
SESSION 1	HISTORICAL OVERVIEW: ONDERSTEPSPOORT AND VETERINARY RESEARCH IN AFRICA	Chair: Dr S Moephuli, CEO ARC
10:00-10:30	Keynote address: Arnold Theiler and the 'Spirit of Onderstepoort'	Dr R D Bigalke, RSA
10:30-11:00	Tea break	
11:00-11:20	Rinderpest: an historical overview	Dr P Roeder
11:20-11:40	Strategies for Enhancing the Safety and Efficacy of Recombinant Vaccines for Rinderpest and other diseases	Dr D T Yilma, USA
10:40-12:00	Lamsiekte (Botulism)	Dr C M Cameron, RSA
12:00-12:20	Lungsickness (CBPP)	Dr W Amanfu, FAO
12:20-12:40	Toxic plants	Dr T S Kellerman, RSA
12:40-13:00	Discussion	
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
SESSION 2	VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES: TRYPANOSOMOSIS	Chair: Prof A J Musoke, ARC-OVI
14:00-14:40	Keynote address: Economic impact of Trypanosomosis in Africa	Dr Alexandra Shaw, UK
14:40-15:00	Trypanosome genetics	Prof Andy Tait, UK
15:00-15:20	Tsetse control in Africa (PAAT)	Prof A Ilembade, Nigeria
15:20-15:40	Prospects for the control of trypanosomosis	Dr G Vale, Zimbabwe
15:40-16:00	Discussion	
18:30 for 19:00	Gala Dinner at "Die Grasdak" ARC-OVI	Guest of Honour: President Thabo Mbeki

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Wednesday 8 October 2008		
SESSION 3	TICK-BORNE DISEASES 1	Chair: Dr W Vosloo, ARC-OVI
08:30-09:10	Keynote address: Economic impact of tick-borne diseases in Africa	Prof B Perry, ILRI
09:10-09:30	Trends in the control of Theileriosis	Prof D McKeever, UK
09:30-09:50	Persistence mechanisms in tick-borne diseases	Prof AF Barbet, USA
09:50-10:10	Canine babesiosis	Prof J Schoeman UP, RSA
10:10-10:30	Discussion	
10:30-11:00	Tea break	
SESSION 4	TICK-BORNE DISEASES 2	Convener/chairman: Prof B L Penzhorn, UP
11:00-11:20	A century of tick taxonomy	Prof I Horak, RSA
11:20-11:40	Vaccines against anaplasmosis: 100 years after Theiler	Dr G H Palmer, USA
11:40-12:00	Trends in the control of heartwater	Prof B Allsopp, UP
12:20-12:40	Discussion	
12:40-13:30	Lunch	
SESSION 5	TRANSBOUNDARY DISEASES	Convener/chairman: Prof M van Vuuren, UP
13:30-14:10	Keynote address: Epidemiology of viral diseases in Africa	Dr R Swanepoel, RSA
14:10-14:25	Foot and mouth disease	Dr W Vosloo, OVI, RSA
14:40-14:55	African swine fever	Dr M-L Penrith, RSA
14:55-15:10	African horsesickness	Dr B Erasmus, RSA
15:10-15:25	Bluetongue	Dr DW Verwoerd, RSA
15:25-15:40	Discussion	
15:40-16:00	Global approaches to animal health and poverty	Mr S Sloan, CEO of GALVmed

Thursday 9 October 2008		
SESSION 6	ANIMAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT IN THE 21st CENTURY	Convener/Chairman: Mrs V Penxa, MD of OBP
08:30-09:15	Keynote address: Future of veterinary research in Africa	Prof M Rweyemamu, Tanzania
09:30-09:45	Future of veterinary education in Africa	Prof G Swan, UP, RSA
09:45-10:00	Field services: eradication and control	Dr M Modisane, DoA, RSA
10:00-10:15	Vaccines and disease control	Dr B Dungu-Kimbenga, OBP
10:15-10:30	Role of the private veterinarian	
10:30-10:45	Discussion	
10:45-11:15	Tea break	
SESSION 7	POLICY AND TRADE ISSUES	Convener/Chairperson: Dr E Mogajane: Deputy Acting Director General, Biosecurity and Disaster management DoA
11:15-11:55	Keynote address: Important issues in disease control in Africa today	Dr G R Thomson, RSA
11:55-12:10	More appropriate disease control policies for the developing world	Dr J Mariner, Kenya
12:10-12:25	The role of the OIE in facilitating international trade in animals and animal products	Dr G Brückner, OIE
12:25-12:40	Community-based systems for the delivery of veterinary services	Dr T Leyland, Kenya
12:40-12:55	SADC representative	Mr Hulman
12:55-13:10	Improved management of drugs, hormones and pesticides in Africa	Prof E Mitema, Kenya
13:10-13:30	Discussion	
13:30-13:35	Closure	Dr DW Verwoerd, RSA
14:00-16:00	Optional tours of ARC-OVI, OBP and Faculty of Veterinary Science	
14:00	Onderstepoort staff function at "Die Grasdak" ARC-OVI	