CPD PROGRAM ON ULTRASOUND SCANNING IN SMALL RUMINANTS

A full day CPD program on Ultra Sound Scanning in small ruminants for Central Province veterinary surgeons was held at the University of Peradeniya, on 11th March 2022. Twenty (20) government veterinarians from DAPH participated in the workshop. The resource person was Dr. Dhammika Perera, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (FVMAS). The lectures were held at the Veterinary Teaching Farm, Department of Farm Animal Production and Health of the FVMAS, while the practical sessions were held at the Livestock Field Station, Department of Animal Science of the Faculty of Agriculture. The SLVA would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the resource person and also to both these institutions. cont. ........page 2

PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

A residential camp was held on preparation of the annual action plan at the NLDB Mahaberiya-thenna Farm on 22nd and 23rd January 2022. Members of the executive committee actively participated in this and a tentative event calendar and a financial forecast were drafted after a brain-storming and critical analyzing session. ............contd. page 2
This is the first of the series of provincial workshops planned by the SLVA for the year, and the participants gathered immense knowledge and skills on detection of pregnancy, uterine pathology and abdominal anomalies using US scanning. Prof. Anil Pushpakumara, Dean, FVMAS and Dr. Kumudinie Rajanayake, Provincial Director, Central Province also graced the occasion.

The second Ex-Co meeting of the 74th Committee was also held at the same venue. This residential event was financed fully by the individual members of the executive committee.
CLINICAL WEBINAR SERIES: WORLD VETERINARY DAY 2022

The SLVA organized a virtual webinar series on clinical aspects of veterinary medicine in an international scale, to commemorate the world veterinary day 2022, which falls on 30th April. The experience gathered from the last year program was helpful to organize this in an even more effective manner. The schedule of the webinar is as follows.
WEBINAR SERIES ON SCIENTIFIC WRITING FOR VETERINARIANS

The SLVA, going by the regular practice, plans to conduct the annual scientific session this year too where a platform to publish the research findings of its members is provided. As part of professional assistance to veterinarians who present abstracts for this session, a webinar series is organized in order to uplift the knowledge of them, resulting in good quality publications.

The first of this series on “How to write an abstract?” was held virtually on 22nd February 2022, and the resource person was Prof. Kalana Maduwage, an MBBS doctor attached to the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Macaque Sterilization Program

Toque monkey (macaque) which is an endemic species to Sri Lanka has become a serious issue for the University of Peradeniya. Undergraduates, especially at girls’ hostels, face many difficulties due to their destructive actions. One way of curbing this issue is population control by sterilization.

A pilot project to train wildlife veterinarians and vets attached to the veterinary teaching hospital (VTH) on laparoscopic fimbriectomy was organized by Prof. Asoka Dangolla, professor in veterinary clinical sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (FVMAS), on the request of the Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya and the Dean, FVMAS. Blood, feces and urine samples were also taken to look for dengue, Covid-19, leptospirosis, hemoparasites and GI parasites.

This program was conducted as collaborative work of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA), Department of Wildlife Conservation and the University of Peradeniya. It was held in stages, at the VTH, during the month of January, 2022. The SLVA funded the workshop. One health approach was also evident in this training program, as the resource person to train the laparoscopy technique to veterinarians was Dr. Gifrey Nawaz, consultant gynecologist and obstetrician, with his team with registrars and house officers, of the Peradeniya Teaching Hospital.
SLVA International Webinar Series 2022

Dr. S.B. Dhanapala Fund

The applications were called for research proposals from field veterinarians to award research funds to carry out research at field level, under Dr. S.B. Dhanapala fund. This competitive research grant of Rs. 50,000/= each was awarded to Dr. B.A.M.P. Siriwardena, VS-Lankapura and Dr. E.M. Udeni Disanayake, VS-Mawanella, after processing of applications.

Workshop on Applications of “Cell Cultures” and “MIQE” compliance Real-Time PCR (qPCR) Assay

This workshop was organized by Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SLALAS) in collaboration with Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA), held at the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya, from 14th to 20th January, 2022. This included both lectures and practical sessions. It was a novel experience to all participants.
**Webinar on Livestock Vaccine Potency**

Webinar on “Changing the landscape of Measuring Livestock Vaccine Potency in Developing Countries and Challenges Involved”, by Dr. Viskam Wijewardena, a veterinarian from the University of Peradeniya, who is attached to the IAEA now. This was held virtually on 27th February, 2022.

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**Dr. Vijitha Perera Honored Internationally**

The SLVA is happy to announce that one of our members, Dr. Vijitha Perera attached to the Department of Wildlife Conservation has brought honor to the motherland and our profession by being the winner of the prestigious “Global Animal Welfare Award 2021”, presented by the World Veterinary Association (WVA). The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association, as a member of WVA, was instrumental in recommending and helping him to win this award.

The official award ceremony was held during the 37th WVA congress in Abu Dhabi, UAE on 29-03-2022 and Dr. Vijitha Perera was among the six veterinarians selected for this award from around the world.

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**SLVA Intervention on the Issues in the Zoological Gardens**

A zoom meeting with the representatives of the State Veterinary Surgeons’ Association (SVSA) was held on 22nd Jan 2022. The prevalent administrative issues and the unrest situation at the national zoological gardens were discussed in detail. It was revealed that the director general of the zoological gardens is supportive of the veterinarians, but some workers are against her as well as the veterinarians, and that there is no ideal environment for the veterinarians to carry out professional work effectively and without influence. The SLVA released a statement on the matter, explaining its professional stance on this, with copies to all the relevant stakeholders.