



The Veterinarian

Official Newsletter of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association

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July– October 2025

Global Veterinary Collaboration: SLVA participates in the 40th WVAC 2025, Washington



The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) proudly represented the nation at the 40th World Veterinary Association Congress (WVAC) 2025, held from 18th to 22nd July 2025 in Washington, D.C. SLVA President Dr. Ushan Pallegama and President-Elect Dr. Sugath Pemachandra attended this prestigious global event, showcasing Sri Lanka's active engagement in the international veterinary community.

A special highlight was the remarkable achievement of Prof. Mangala Gunathilaka, who received the WVA Global Veterinary Award for Animal Welfare — a proud and inspiring moment for Sri Lankan veterinary professionals on the world stage.



**Continuing Professional Development
in focus**

SLVA One-day programme in Uva

The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) successfully organised a One-Day Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme on “Practical Aspects of Pregnancy Diagnosis, Uterine Pathology, and Detection of Abnormalities Using Ultrasound Scanning in Cows and Small Ruminants,” held on 01st of August 2025 at Boralanda Farm, Badulla.

A total of 23 Government Veterinary Surgeons from the Uva Province participated in this intensive, hands-on training session designed to enhance their practical expertise in reproductive ultrasonography and diagnostic techniques in farm animals. The programme provided participants with in-depth knowledge and practical experience in detecting reproductive disorders, thereby supporting improved herd fertility management and animal health outcomes.

The technical sessions were led by Dr Dammika Perera, who generously volunteered his time and expertise, with the able assistance of Dr Keshan Jayawardena. Both facilitators are from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya, and their contributions were instrumental in ensuring the success and relevance of the training.

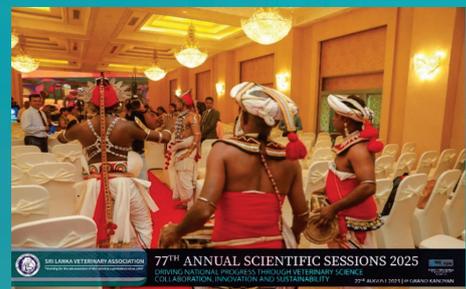
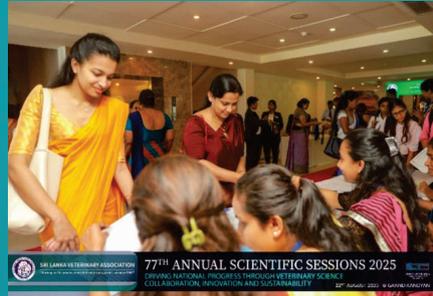
The SLVA also acknowledges with gratitude the valuable support extended by the Provincial Director, Uva Province, Dr. Heamantha Siriwardena

(Subject Matter Specialist, DAPH, Uva Province), and the staff of Boralanda Farm for their warm hospitality and seamless coordination throughout the event.

This CPD initiative reflects SLVA's continued commitment to strengthening the professional capacity of veterinarians across the country through practical, field-oriented learning. The Association extends heartfelt thanks to all participants and contributors for making this programme a success and looks forward to more collaborative training opportunities that advance veterinary service delivery in Sri Lanka.



The 77th SLVA Scientific Sessions: Advancing Veterinary Science through innovation and collaboration





The 77th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) were successfully held on 22nd August 2025 at the Grand Kandyan Hotel, Kandy, marking another milestone in the Association's commitment to advancing veterinary science and professional development in Sri Lanka.

This year's sessions were held under the theme "Driving National Progress Through Veterinary Science: Collaboration, Innovation, and Sustainability," bringing together veterinarians, academics, researchers, and industry partners from across the country to exchange knowledge, share research findings, and discuss emerging trends in the veterinary field.

The Chief Guest for the event was Prof. Sarath Abeykoon, Hon. Governor of the Central Province and Former Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya. The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Y. Reddy Bommineni, Director and Bureau Chief of the Bronson Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, United States of America.

The Conference Chair was Prof. Sampath Lokugalappatti from the University of Peradeniya, while Dr. Manoji Jayathilaka from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Land, and Irrigation served as the Conference Secretary. Their leadership and coordination ensured the successful execution of this prestigious academic event.

The scientific programme comprised multiple research presentations conducted under six thematic sessions, each chaired by esteemed

professionals:

- Clinical Session I – Dr. Eranda Rajapaksha
- Animal Health Session – Dr. Thilini Anupama
- Veterinary Public Health Session – Dr. Kamalika Ubeyratne
- Mini Oral Session (Clinical) – Dr. Chandani Ganga Wijesinghe
- Clinical Session II – Prof. Nayana Wijayawardhane
- Animal Production & Veterinary Education Research Session – Prof. Ruvini K. Mutucumarana
- Wildlife and Aquatic Veterinary Medicine Session – Dr. Dananjaya Karunaratna
- Mini Oral Session (Research) – Dr. Madhavi Hathurusinghe

The event fostered vibrant scientific discussion and collaboration, showcasing the breadth and quality of veterinary research being conducted in Sri Lanka.

The SLVA extends its appreciation to all presenters, session chairs, sponsors, and participants whose contributions made the 77th Annual Scientific Sessions a resounding success, reinforcing the Association's role in driving progress through science, innovation, and unity within the veterinary community.

Strengthening International Veterinary Collaboration: SLVA meets JVMA



The **Executive Committee of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA)** had the privilege of meeting with **Dr. Atsushi Fukuda**, Chief of the International Affairs Division of the **Japan Veterinary Medical Association (JVMA)**, and **Prof. Naoki Miura**, a distinguished expert in veterinary diagnostic imaging from **Kagoshima University, Japan**, on **14th September 2025**.

The meeting provided an excellent platform to discuss ongoing collaborations and future opportunities for mutual growth. The **JVMA has been a longstanding partner of SLVA**, offering **JVMA Scholarships** to enhance the professional development of Sri Lankan veterinarians. These scholarships have significantly contributed to improving the technical skills and global exposure of veterinary professionals in Sri Lanka.

During the discussion, the SLVA Executive Committee extended its **heartfelt gratitude** to the JVMA for their continuous support and commitment to advancing veterinary education and practice in Sri Lanka. Both parties expressed enthusiasm for **further strengthening collaboration** through training, research exchange, and knowledge-sharing initiatives.

Celebration of World Rabies Day 2025 – 28th September

To mark **World Rabies Day**, celebrated globally on **28th September 2025**, the **Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA)** organised two impactful events aimed at raising public awareness and strengthening rabies prevention efforts across the country.

The first event was a **Mass Anti-Rabies Dog Vaccination Programme**, collaboratively organised by the **SLVA**, the **Lions Club**, and the **Association of Companion Animal Practitioners of Sri Lanka (ACAPSL)**. This campaign focused on promoting responsible pet ownership and achieving broader immunisation coverage among companion animals, contributing

to Sri Lanka's national goal of eliminating rabies.

The second event, the **Air Force Dog Show**, was jointly organised by the **SLVA** and the **Colombo Municipal Council**. The show featured impressive demonstrations of obedience, agility, and service skills by the Sri Lanka Air Force, drawing significant public interest and highlighting the vital role of trained service dogs in community safety and animal welfare.

Through these initiatives, the SLVA reaffirmed its commitment to **raising awareness, preventing rabies transmission, and promoting the One Health approach.**



Celebration of World Animal Day

4th October



SAVE ANIMALS SAVE THE PLANET !

Let us all learn to respect every animal as a sentient being.



Free animal clinic and dog sterilization program

04.10.2025 - 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Vystwyke Park Pavilion, Mattakkuliya

To commemorate World Animal Day 2025, celebrated globally on 4th October, the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA), in collaboration with the Dogstar Foundation, organised a **free animal clinic** at the **Vystwyke Park Pavilion** from **8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.**

The event aimed to promote **animal health, welfare, and responsible pet ownership** by providing free veterinary consultations, vaccinations, and treatments for companion animals. Pet owners from the surrounding communities enthusiastically participated, making the programme a meaningful success.



Celebration of WORLD EGG DAY 2025 10th October

To commemorate **World Egg Day 2025**, the **Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA)** organised a series of events under the theme “**Eggs for Health and Sustainability.**” The celebrations aimed to promote awareness of the nutritional, environmental, and economic importance of eggs as a vital component of human diets and sustainable food systems.

A key highlight of the celebration was an **expert panel discussion** featuring distinguished professionals from academia and government sectors. The panel included:

- **Prof. Chamdima Wickramathilake**, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna
- **Prof. Nilantha Liyanage**, Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Ruhuna
- **Dr. Palika Fernando**, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation
- **Dr. Ushan Pallegama**, President, SLVA

The discussion was **moderated by Prof. Indunil Pathirana**, Department of Animal Science, University of Ruhuna, who skillfully guided the dialogue on the health benefits of eggs, their role in sustainable nutrition, and the challenges faced by the poultry industry.

In addition to the panel discussion, several engaging activities were organized to involve students and the wider community. These included an **undergraduate poster and video competition** at the **University of Ruhuna**, a **school student video competition**, and a **live egg-based cooking demonstration** by **Mrs. Anoma Wijetunga** of *Anoma's Kitchen*, showcasing creative and nutritious ways to incorporate eggs into daily meals.

Through these events, the SLVA successfully promoted the value of eggs as an affordable, high-quality source of protein while highlighting their role in supporting **food security, health, and sustainability.**



World Egg Day Celebration 2025

Event Details:
 📅 10th October 2025 🕒 8.30 AM - 1.00 PM
 📍 Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna

Undergraduate poster and video competitions
 School student video competition

Mrs. Anoma Wijetunga
 "Anoma's Kitchen"
 Live egg-based cooking demo

Expert panel discussion: "Eggs for Health and Sustainability"

PANELISTS

 Dr. Ushan Pallegama President Sri Lanka Veterinary Association	 Prof. Chamdima Wickramathilake Faculty of Medicine University of Ruhuna
 Dr. Palika Fernando Additional Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation	 Prof. Nilantha Liyanage Department of Food Science and Technology University of Ruhuna

Moderator
 **Prof. Indunil Pathirana**
Department of Animal Science
University of Ruhuna

ORGANIZED BY

📱 



Get Ready for the

**SAVE the
DATE** **4th
NOV**
Tuesday
Following day is a Poya day

AGM & CONVENTION 2025

of

Sri Lanka Veterinary Association



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U.S. SOYBEAN EXPORT COUNCIL

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ROYAL CANIN
INCRECIBLE IN EVERY DETAIL

EXCO Meeting dates

1. 29th July 2025
2. 19th August 2025
3. 4th September 2025
4. 22nd October 2025