



flash *e*News

European Federation of Animal Science



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EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The importance of animal farming training

All informed predictions state that food demand will increase over the coming decades. Humanity today devours an enormous amount of food compared to the recent past and we will consume much more in the future. Population growth forecasters agree that in 2050 we will have almost 2 billion more people than now, meaning we will therefore have to feed around 25% more people. With the same quality of diet, this means that we therefore must also produce a quarter more than now. In addition, evolution of diets must be considered: a marked increase in the consumption of proteins of animal origin in developing populations is likely. We know that the 2 billion more people in the next thirty years will almost all be Africans and Asians, i.e. the same populations wishing to change their diet by adding more meat, milk and eggs. After combining the effects of population increase with those of diet change, the demand of food of animal origin is forecast to grow from between 60 to 100%. Livestock production is often blamed for its environmental impact, and it is easy to anticipate what will happen with a demand for production close to doubling. It is clearly unrealistic to think that the anticipated growth will be modified, so what has to change in the next thirty years to ensure that livestock production becomes more sustainable? Simply that production will have to be more sustainable and less impactful on the environment. This will not happen magically, but through improving the efficiency of the production units (individual animal, individual farm, full production chain, etc.) through mainly research and its application. Therefore, it is essential and vital for the future of the planet, to provide the means for research. However, I would also like to emphasize another concept unfortunately not often discussed: the importance of the ability of livestock operators to use the opportunities made available by research and related industries. As most of the new demands will come from developing countries, we will have to create a class of technicians capable of improving productivity in these countries, where productivity today is very limited, and which often has neither the industries nor especially the technicians needed to make the necessary change. Often in these countries the animal production units are inefficient due to a lack of technical, industrial and commercial development. But also because there are no adequate expertise. The various NGOs or entities such as FAO do their utmost, but more will need to be done to increase the know-how of the local technicians and farmers, if we want to win this battle that, in the final analysis, is fundamental for feeding the whole of humanity and for the future of the planet on which we live.

Andrea Rosati



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News from EAAP

News about EAAP Davos 2021

As everywhere, we are attentive to the Corona situation in Switzerland. We all know that the situation can change again. Therefore, all participants will receive an email with the most important information in the next few days. However, the most important thing is to consult [our website](#). The latest information can be found there.

See you in Davos!



Topics of Sessions in Davos available on EAAP Social Media

Everything is ready for the EAAP 72nd Annual Meeting in Davos! Topics of the Sessions will be published on EAAP social media roughly twice a week before the event to offer to the participants an easier access for consulting the program. We suggest you to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts to keep yourself always updated on our activities!

EAAP booth in Davos!

Meet us in Davos at the EAAP Secretariat booth located in the exhibition area, you will meet us and have more details about EAAP services for members, detailed information about the next EAAP Conferences in Porto 2022, Lyon 2023, the New Restricted Area, how to receive the Newsletter and much more!

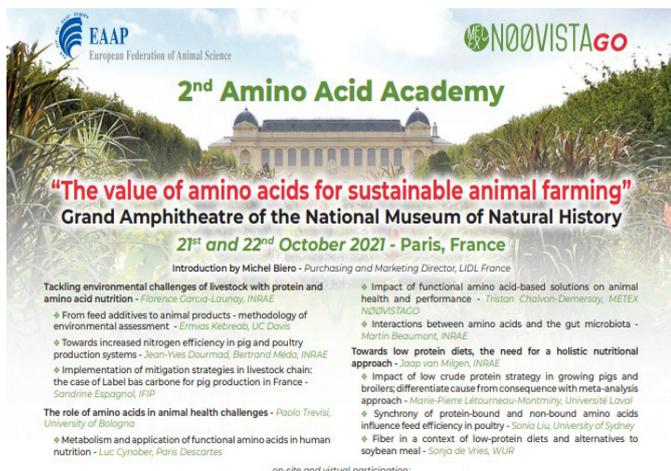
Country Members Reception

A special reception will be organised for the EAAP Countries Representatives who will join the meeting in Davos on Wednesday 1st September (9.00-10.15). The reception is planned after the meeting (10.15-10.30), sparkling wine and canapes will be served. Due to the pandemic restrictions, the reception will not possible as stand up. The country member meeting will be held in Davos Convention centre at Room Flüela, with only 26 seats. The reception is possible only for this capacity, so assure your seat on time!

METEX NØØVISTA GO

"The value of amino acids for sustainable animal farming"

The 2nd Amino Acid Academy, organized by EAAP and METEX NØØVISTAGO, will take place on the 21st and 22nd October 2021 in Paris, France. We are waiting for you at the amazing location of the Grand Amphitheatre of the National Museum of Natural History, but in case you are not able to join on-site, you can also participate virtually. The program and all registration details are available in [the attached flyer](#) and at <https://amino-acid.eaap.org/>



EAAP People Portrait

Andrea Rosati



Andrea was born in 1964 in Terni, an industrial town of Umbria, the region named the "green heart of Italy", where he also grew up until, unexpectedly by everyone and without any family connection with farming, he decided to attend the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Perugia. There he enjoyed the exciting lectures of animal genetics offered by Francesco Panella, who previously spent sometime in Cornell University (USA), and he decided that animal genetics was the best option for his future studies. After graduation, he decided

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to attend post-graduate courses in USA where he spent several years with Dale Van Vleck at Animal Science Department of the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (USA), and got the Master (1992) and Ph.D. (1996) in Animal Genetics. Still, he missed Italy and, again unexpectedly, decided to go back to his country to take a position in the Italian Association of Animal Breeders (AIA) where in few years he became Head of the Research Office and, later, Head of the Technical Division managing around 30 technicians in Rome and many more in the AIA offices around the country. His duties were mainly about performance recording systems, animal genetic evaluation and planning and managing selection schemes for cattle, sheep, goats, horses, pigs, buffaloes, rabbits, for AIA. He developed the first scheme of genetic evaluation for the buffalo breeding at national level. And buffalo breeding remains since then his main passion. In the same years he had been representing Italy at the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) where he was asked to chair few working groups and Sub-Committees, and then became member of the ICAR Board and finally, in the year 2000, Vice-President of ICAR. Looking for new experiences, he moved to North of Italy where he had been general manager

of LGS, the national animal DNA laboratory. After few years, the distance from his hometown, family, friends and culture forced him to consider other job opportunities allowing him to go back to live around his area. When Jean Boyazoglu retired from EAAP he decided to apply for his position and was selected to be the new Secretary General of EAAP, ICAR and also, of the World Association for Animal Production (WAAP). Andrea maintains these positions since then except the role for ICAR, that moved away from EAAP office and staff in 2014. Within ICAR he gained experiences in organizing the set-up structure of worldwide standards about animal identification for animal breeding, veterinary control, as well as global standards for performance recording and genetic evaluation. He was also invited by few countries to support the preparation of national legislations about animal identification. In his career, Andrea, also taught for seven years Animal Breeding and Statistics at University of Bologna and Camerino. He had some publications in scientific journals, although this was not the aim of the positions he has held. He is co-author of two books about animal science and gave lectures in animal science and livestock industry in more than 40 countries worldwide. In the years he spent within



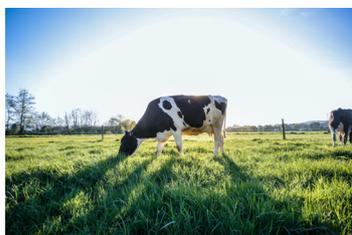
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EAAP, he coordinated 3 international research projects about animal science and livestock industry funded by the European Union and participated in at least other 20 research projects of the recent EU framework programs. Andrea lives in the countryside of Umbria, in a house that he designed and that was built few years ago using mainly local natural materials and with the style of the original local country houses. He lives with his daughter, Caterina. During his free time, Andrea enjoys spending time walking with his dog, a lovely crossbred named Nuvolina, in the woods and the mountains of his region. He also loves spending some evening with his old friends having a pizza and a beer. In his free time, he enjoys reading books of any discipline (mainly history and philosophy) except those about animal science since, as he says, he spent already too much of his time on animal science (although it still is the discipline he loves more). He feels fortunate because, thanks to the jobs he has made, he got the opportunity to know interesting people from every corner of the world and learn about different cultures, history and habits. Andrea, despite he is Italian, was also honored to become “Knight of the French Republic for Agriculture Merit”. He used to play football but actually, as his daughter often reminds him, he is already too old, and he shifted to play tennis. He almost never watches TV unless there is a football match of AC Milan!

From Science and Innovation

Chitosan improves milk yield in Holstein cows



New research published in the journal *Animal Feed Science and Technology* (2021), concludes that supplementing chitosan in dairy cow diets improves milk performance and health status of cows. [Read the full article on DairyGlobal.](#)

Improving genomic prediction of methane emission



Methane emission is a heritable trait, which makes selection for lower emitting animals possible. Recent research with Danish Holstein dairy cattle shows the impact of a multi-trait approach to achieve high selection accuracy of lower methane-emitting animals. [Read the full article on DairyGlobal.](#)

From EU (policies and projects)

The 2nd RES4LIVE newsletter is now available!

Enjoy your reading [here!](#) For receiving the future issues, [please sign up here.](#)

The RUMIGEN project : “Towards improvement of ruminant breeding through genomic and epigenomic approaches” (2021-2026) has started!



The Kick-off meeting of the H2020 RUMIGEN project (H2020-SFS13 call “Genome and epigenome enable breeding in terrestrial livestock”) was held via teleconference - to comply with the current COVID-19 restrictions – from 30th June to 2nd July



2021. The RUMIGEN project involves 18 partners from nine EEC countries and a budget of 7M€. Its aim is to improve bovine genomic selection using of three levers: quantitative genetic, genome editing and epigenetic. Besides these biological levers, RUMIGEN also involved a lever in human and social sciences in order to propose selection methods and objectives accepted by European citizens. The genetic level aspires to enlarge the selection criteria, with for example environmental effects, biodiversity preservation, in order to increase animal resilience towards climatic changes. The genome editing level will explore domains into which genome editing might be useful for Ruminants and will assess its potential impact on de novo mutation rate and its efficiency compared to other classical breeding schemes. Read the full article [here](#).

annual meeting. Over 45 participants representing the 11 project partners and several members of the Stakeholder Advisory Board (SAB) enriched the discussions with fruitful exchanges and suggestions for the work ahead. The meeting was chaired by INRAE coordinator Elisabetta Giuffra and by deputy coordinator Hervé Acloque, with the assistance of the project manager Camille Bénard (INRAE-Transfert). Read the full article [here](#).



GENE-SWitCH Selfie Wall AM#2_5-6-7th July 2021



H2020 project GENE-SWitCH: Second annual meeting

GENE-SWitCH (the regulatory GENomE of SWine and CHicken: functional annotation during development) aims to deliver new underpinning knowledge on the functional genomes of two main monogastric farm species (pig and chicken) and to enable immediate translation to the pig and poultry sectors. The project has just entered its third year of activities. The consortium met virtually over three days (5th - 7th July 2021) for its second

VetBioNet summer School: Animal infectious disease research – good practice approaches, ethics & 3RS by design

Early and Mid-Career Researcher training to develop and improve skills and awareness relating to good research practice.

The 12th of July 2021, a 3-day Summer School, organised in partnership by the University of Nottingham and the European Federation of Animal Science (EAAP) within the Horizon 2020 funded project VetBioNet, provided an opportunity for Early and Mid-Career Researchers who work in animal infectious disease research to learn about good practice approaches in research design, including the consideration of research ethics and 3Rs in project and grant proposals. It created a space for participants to explore and challenge their understanding of ethics in research, dispel common myths regarding experimental design and accrue valuable skills in conceiving and implementing effective research projects. This 3-day course took place online and consisted of a series of themed sessions. Sessions included lectures and interactive sessions that comprised of a short presentation



to introduce the topic, followed by an activity to facilitate discussion and promote interaction between participants. The course was open to participants from VetBioNet member organisations and institutions as well as researchers who work in the field of animal infectious disease research. To facilitate maximum interaction and ensure effective delivery, the capacity of the course was limited to 18 people.



From Industry, Governments and International Organizations

Asserva's CEO talks about total pork traceability



Imagine: when buying a piece of pork, just scanning a barcode will give all the information as to where the pig lived, what it consumed and how it was treated. Science fiction? Not at all, the future is right at our doorsteps, says Dominique Cantin, CEO of Asserva. [Read the full article on AllAboutFeed.](#)

How to maximise your dairy farm's profit margins



What differentiates a high and low-profit farm? The assumption tends to be that high-production and larger dairies are the most profitable, but that is not always the case. In fact, data shows that profit margins vary widely for farms with 500 cows or more. Between 2015 and 2018, the largest farms were found in the lowest and the top 20% in profitability. [Read the full article on DairyGlobal.](#)

Job offers

UCD Post-doctoral Research Fellow Level 1 at University Dublin College, Dublin, Ireland

Applications are invited for a temporary post of a UCD Post-doctoral Research Fellow Level 1 within [UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science](#). Deadline for applications **13th August 2021**. For more information and application [read the job vacancy](#).

Associate Professor at University of Reading, United Kingdom

The [Department of Animal Sciences](#) at the University of Reading is looking for an Associate Professor in Dairy Animal Science. Location: Reading (UK) and the position is permanent/full time. Deadline for application: **15th August 2021**. For more information and application [read the job vacancy](#).

Research Scientist at Diagenode, Liège, Belgium

[Diagenode](#) is actively searching for new collaborators. A challenging and interesting position for motivated molecular biologist interested in

managing sophisticated epigenetic research work is available. For more details and application [read the job vacancy](#).

Obituary

In memory of Assoc. Prof. George Dimov, PhD



On 11th July 2021, Assoc. Professor George Dimov suddenly passed away in his sleep at the age of 71 in Sofia, Bulgaria. George Dimov (born 23rd April 1950) devoted his life to population genetics and dairy sheep breeding. He studied Animal Science at the Agricultural Academy in Sofia (Bulgaria) and went on to obtain his PhD with a dissertation on the comparison of methods for predicting breeding values of rams for milk yield in 1979. He worked for over 20 years (1980–2002) at the Institute of Animal Sciences–Kostinbrod (Bulgaria) and was part of the research team that developed the Bulgarian Dairy Sheep Breed. George was a visiting scientist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (USA) in Professor Dale Van Vleck's group (1992–1994). Later, he joined the AgroBioInstitute (Sofia) in 2003, where he remained until his retirement in 2015. Co-founder and President (since 2007) of the Breeding Association of the Bulgarian Dairy Sheep Breed, George spent his life – to the very last day – in selfless service to the local dairy sheep farming community. Many will remember him as a tall figure of 190 cm (6 ft. 3 in.), a bit forgetful sometimes; but above all, he will be remembered for

his kind heart, mild temper, delicate sense of humour, his generosity and pure altruism. With his appreciation of Degas, Burns, Beethoven, the Beatles and the sea..., a caring husband, father and grandfather, he was one of a kind. The memory of him will be forever in the hearts of his family, friends and colleagues.

Conferences and workshops

EAAP invites you to check the validity of the dates for every single event **published below and in the Calendar of the website**, due to the state of sanitary emergency that World is currently dealing with.

August 30th – September 3rd 2021 in Davos, Switzerland

72nd EAAP Annual Meeting

EAAP is delighted to invite you to the 72nd Annual Meeting. It will be a hybrid event from August 30th to September 3rd, 2021 in Davos, the highest town in Europe situated in the alpine mountains of Switzerland and home to the World Economic Forum (WEF). Detailed information can be found on [EAAP2021 website](#).

September 15th – 17th 2021 in Gödöllő, Hungary

International Symposium Animal Science Days

The international Symposium of Animal Science Days will be held in Gödöllő, Hungary from September 15 to 17, 2021. In addition to the symposium there will be two parallel postgraduate courses: Postgraduate course 1: "Population Genetics and Genomics", on September 13; Postgraduate course 2: "Introduction to tidyverse in R" course of data visualization and filtration, on September 14. For more information, please visit [the website](#).

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www.eaap.org**September 30th - October 1st 2021 in Balotesti, Romania****16th Edition of the International Symposium of Animal Biology and Nutrition
50 years of Research in Biology and Animal Nutrition at IBNA**

The Symposium is organised every two years by the National Research and Development Institute for Animal Biology and Nutrition Balotesti. The event will gather experts and scientists in Biology and Animal Nutrition, both European and worldwide, who will present their most recent research focusing on current scientific trends. More details on Symposium and registration can be found on the Symposium page and in the attached flyer.

October 21st – 22nd 2021, Paris, France**2nd Amino acid Academy Workshop**

The 2nd Amino Acid Academy, organized by EAAP and METEX NØØVISTAGO will take place on the 21st and 22nd October 2021 in Paris, France. The location will be the Grand Amphitheatre of the National Museum of Natural History. The program and all registration details are available in the attached flyer and on the website.

July 3rd – 8th 2022, Rotterdam, The Netherlands**12th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP)**

We are excited that the 12th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production will be held in the Netherlands, between July 3rd and July 8th, 2022! The impact of Covid is at the front of our minds. We are investigating all different options on how to best deal with Covid-19 and ensure a safe conference for all. We will make our final decision

before the call for abstract opens. This way we can provide you with the best possible information. Our website contains more & more information, so please keep an eye on that. Because of the privacy laws, we would like to ask you to actively sign up for the mailing list, so we can keep you up to date. Please visit the website. Follow us on: LinkedIn and Twitter .

More conferences and workshops are available on EAAP website.



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“A flower blossoms for its own joy”

(Oscar Wilde)

The **Flash-e-news** is the Official EAAP Newsletter. This interesting update about activities of the European animal science community, presents information on leading research institutions in Europe and also informs on developments in the industry sector related to animal science and production. The Newsletter is sent to all EAAP Members and supporters. You are all invited to submit information for the newsletter. Please send information, news, text, photos and logo to: marlene@eaap.org

EAAP Secretariat is located at the following address: Via G. Tomassetti 3, A/1 - Rome (Italy). Tel.: +39-06-44 20 26 39; Fax: +39-06-44 26 67 98; E-mail: eaap@eaap.org

Production staff: Marlène Sciarretta, Federica Motterle, Andrea Rosati, Eleonora Azzaro, Milan Zjalic.

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