

# JOURNAL OF CAMEL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

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## OIE *Ad hoc* GROUP ON CAMELID DISEASES, KENYA CAMEL CONFERENCE AND FATAL POLLUTION

An update of the list of diseases of camelids proposed by the *ad hoc* Group during its first meeting was done, taking into account any recent publications and the ISOCARD Conference held in Djerba, Tunisia, in March 2009, in a meeting of the OIE *ad hoc* group which held in Paris from 3-5 May 2010. Diseases of priority were determined for validation of diagnostic assays and the need for research in this area was explored. Review the disease-specific chapters of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* for the diseases that concern Camelids in view of adding, if necessary, specific requirements for diagnostic assays and vaccine production, and an outline for these revisions and a timetable to draft them was proposed. An update on the current disease situation with regards to camelids worldwide and setting up an OIE laboratory network on diseases of camelids linked with already existing networks on this topic were considered.



Glimpses of International Camel Conference held at Garissa, Kenya June 7-10, 2010.

An International Camel Conference was organised at Garissa, Kenya from 7-11 June 2010 which was attended by a large number of participants including foreign delegates. Technical sessions were conducted on camel health, nutrition, breeding, microbiology, consumer safety, milk (value addition, marketing and trade), future challenges and alternative uses, husbandry, management and traditional knowledge. Last day of the conference was very interesting because it had a multilingual interaction of camel pastoralists and scientists; it was assisted by the translators. Garissa camel conference was a message to future organisers of such conferences to organise it close to the camel population belts in order to retrieve the information on traditional husbandry practices from the pastoralists and in turn scientists can get clue for new areas of potential camelid research. Dr. M. Younan (organising secretary), KARI, KASAL and KCA deserve congratulations for hosting a successful event.

**Fatal Pollution** was brought to the notice of general public and other related agencies by Dr. U. Wernery, Scientific Director of Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, Dubai when he necropsied dozens of camels died of plastic ingestion. He presented one copy of Fatal Pollution Documentary booklet to Editor, JCPR showing several pictures of plastic and other waste scattered in camel inhabited areas and several postmortem pictures showing plastic in gastrointestinal tract of camels carcasses. Civil authorities should take a serious note of this kind of pollution harming camels and other animals.

You will be glad to know that JCPR has entered in 17<sup>th</sup> year of its publication with this issue which contains articles related to the new and old world camelids in 3 sections. Dromedary section has 21 manuscripts based on production, reproduction, parasitology, pathology, pharmacology, infectious diseases and nutrition. Bactrian section contains 5 papers based on anatomy of testes, prostate, nasal cavity and paranasal sinuses, larynx associated lymphoid tissue and atrioventricular node. New World Camelid section contains only one paper on pharmacokinetics of tramadol in alpacas.

I am thankful to all the authors, scientists and practitioners for providing their support to the JCPR.

(Dr. T.K. Gahlot)  
Editor

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