

Dear colleague

Please find attached a CALL FOR ABSTRACTS for the World Veterinary Association conference (WVAC2024) to be held in Cape Town from 16 to 19 April 2024.

Please click on the link (www.wvac2024.com) in the ORANGE bar almost at the bottom of the attached document and then on CALL FOR ABSTRACTS, then PROGRAMME, then ABSTRACT THEMES then RUMINANTS for more detail.

Aligned to the overall theme of the conference, RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY, RuVASA will at the same time of the main conference conduct a conference focusing on several aspects of ruminants, under the sub-theme: OPPORTUNITIES FOR RUMINANT VETERINARY PRACTITIONERS. This conference will replace the usual RUVASA conference for 2024.

WVA Conference Theme Resilience in the face of adversity Sub Theme Ruminants Opportunities for ruminant veterinary practitioners	
Focus area #1 Expanding our access to technology	
Focus	Suggested topics
Technology: Opening doors to new markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The implementation of new technologies to add value to veterinary services in ruminants
An integrated approach to care – Evidence based Herd Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predictions of future pandemics with a specific focus on ruminant related zoonotic diseases Optimal detection and prevention of herd related diseases and syndromes The prudent use of antimicrobials in the context of a herd health approach – our role as gatekeepers of inhibitory substances in milk and meat.
Focus Area #2 How to become more knowledgeable in the face of adversity	
Focus	Suggested topics
Genomics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can it be used to the advantage of the veterinarian and/or the producer (sustainability) Using genomics for improved control of ticks and tick-borne diseases Genomic tools for proper management and conservation of indigenous livestock kept by smallholder farmers Epigenetics and its Impact on Genomics
Diagnostics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can it be used to the advantage of the veterinarian and/or the producer (sustainability) New POC (Point of care) developments for veterinary practitioner Practical PCT and RT PCR for the ruminant practitioner
Digital tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can it be used to the advantage of the veterinarian and/or the producer (sustainability)
Big data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can it be used to the advantage of the veterinarian and/or the producer (sustainability) Integrating data from nutritionists, geneticists, disease profiles etc to the advantage of veterinarians and the clients
The global impact of ruminants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon sequestration/ footprint Climate change Methane gas production Socio economic aspects Food security

Antimicrobial resistance - The next pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the veterinarian and producers • AMR and udder health • AMR and the environment • AMR and One Health
Acaricide resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The latest on prevention and treatment of tick-borne diseases <p>Tick borne vaccines – BM86 and beyond</p>
Anthelmintic resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • – Have we lost the battle or the war? – Future developments
Immunology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging diseases – are we prepared? • FMD – vaccines as an alternative approach • Old diseases – new vaccines i.e., mRNA and vector vaccines
Immunology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximising the neonate immune system • The changing face of the immune system during the transition to lactation • Impact of stress on the immune system of ruminant • Latest development in vaccines • The mammary gland and the immune system • The GI system and immunity – where it all begins • Microbiome colonization and gut immunity • Reproductive immunity • Respiratory immunity
Focus area #3	
Increased expertise to make us more resilient (to differentiate ourselves)	
Focus	• Suggested topics
Reproductive health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest developments on effective prevention and early detection for reproductive diseases • Venereal diseases (Trich and Vibrio) • Genetic testing for diseases • Point of Care (POC) testing for reproductive diseases
Erosive or emerging diseases – new developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foot and mouth disease • Bovine brucellosis • Bovine tuberculosis • <i>Mycoplasma bovis</i> • Enzootic bovine leucosis • Bovine viral diarrhoea virus • Ovine Johne's disease • Pest de petits ruminants
Diagnostic data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to integrate data into the development of immunization programs • How to integrate data into the development of Biosecurity programs • How to integrate data into the development of Treatment protocols (Total quality management)
Focus area #4	
Are we as veterinarians ready for the age of digitalisation	
Focus	Suggested topics
Monitoring health and productivity in a digitalized world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New developments on an individual animal and herd health basis – records and record keeping
How we as veterinarians can use the developments in digitalization to our advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For improved connection with our customers (producers) • Can social media be used to our advantage as practitioners to maintain our on-farm influence and still play a pivotal role in supplying our services and prescribing of veterinary products • Can we as practitioners improve our offering in a digitalized world

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did we as veterinarians fell behind with “the internet of things”
Focus area #5 Can we as ruminant veterinarians remain resilient and transform our industry and our businesses	
Primary Animal Health care (PAHC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAHC: an opportunity to us as ruminant veterinarians • The role of veterinary paraprofessionals to optimise animal health • The implementation of a practical training program at PAHC level
A global phenomenon – a shortage of ruminant veterinarians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An academic perspective on the way forward • An opportunity or a threat? • How to establish access to veterinary services and products to all role players
Public Private partnerships (PPP's)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real world examples of success stories • Why do we have success stories and failures when it comes to PPP's

You are invited to submit an ABSTRACT or alternatively a POSTER aligned to the above.

We are looking forward to your contribution.

You are welcome to contact me at any time on dairyvetza@outlook.com or +27 (0)82 789 4499

Regards

Dr Chris van Dijk MMedVet (Bov)

Convenor SPC Ruminants WVC2024