

FVE Newsletter



Farmers and veterinarians Together to tackle antimicrobial resistance

On 23 October, the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council, the European Commission and the European Federation for Animal Health and Food Safety (FESASS) held an international conference on antimicrobial resistance in Brussels. The event brought together around 200 participants; farmers' and veterinarians' representatives, public authorities and scientists. FVE contributed to the event. Rafael Laguens, Rens van Dobbenburgh and Jan Vaarten presented examples from veterinary practice and presented the view of the veterinary profession. Presentations and conclusions will become available soon on the [FESASS website](#)

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Animal welfare

FVE/UEVP animal welfare working group

On 7-8 October, the FVE/UEVP animal welfare working group met in Brussels. Sean Wensley, BVA President, joined as guest and presented the development of a BVA Animal Welfare Strategy. The WG finalized its draft position on the "*role of the veterinary profession in sustainable animal keeping*". This draft position will be submitted to the FVE Board thereafter it will be opened for comments from members. The group also discussed the "*relationship between antibiotic use, antimicrobial resistance and animal welfare*" and a framework for a paper on "*puppy trade*", on which FECAVA is taking the lead.



Animal welfare meetings

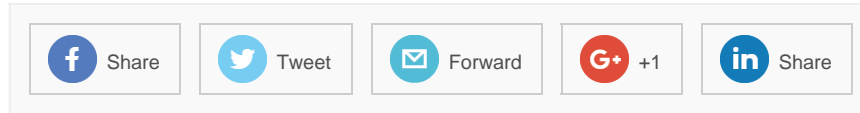
Fur farming and horse welfare

Three meetings were recently held:

- On 15 October a meeting took place in the European Parliament on fur farming organised by MEP Heidi Hautala and Eurogroup for Animals. Further info including report: [here](#): Presentations are available on request;
- On 22 October, MEP Julie Girling, Eurogroup for Animals and World Horse Welfare organised a meeting on horse welfare. The basis of this meeting was the recently released report '*Removing the blinkers*'. Further info including report: [here](#);
- 29 October - the European Parliament Intergroup run a meeting on the use of wild animals in circuses Presentations [here](#)

One more meeting is planned by:

- 12 November, the European Commission together with the General State of Baden-Württemberg will organise a conference on the use of dogs and cats in commercial practices. More info on request at the FVE office.



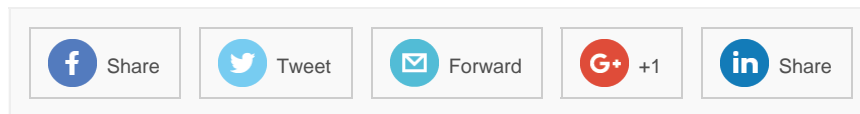
Public Health

Official Controls and the role of the Official Veterinarian

On 14 October the Council of the European Union reached an [agreement](#) between the Members States about the Official Controls legislative proposal.

Art 15 (role of the Official Veterinarian), Art 47 and Art 53 (Border Inspection Posts) were widely debated and the current version does not endanger the role of the official veterinarian. Before the agreement, FVE position paper was circulated amongst policy makers and taken into consideration by Permanent Representations and National Governments. In the forthcoming months the 3 EU Institutions (Commission, Parliament and Council) will meet in political and technical meetings to come to an official agreement on the text.

FVE will monitor the debate carefully and will keep you informed.



Food safety & quality

Food chain information model

The FVE Food Safety and Quality working group will keep working on the developments in the Food Chain Information (FCI) policy, on the promotion of the FCI template, on the revision of the hygiene package and on the policy developments on the

official controls legislative proposal. F. O' Sullivan (chairman of the FVE working group) and F. Proscia (Secretariat) met two EU Commission Officials from the DG Santé with the aim to set up joint actions to promote the revision of the Food Chain Information model. The group submitted its comments to the EU Commission's revision of the *"Guidance on the implementation of procedures based on the HACCP principles"*.

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Insects farming

Alternative protein source

On 9 October 2015 in Utrecht, the Royal Dutch Veterinary Association (KNMVD) and FVE run a joint conference on insects farming. The meeting was much appreciated as it gave an overview on the insects farming sector and the role the veterinary profession can play in this. More sustainable feed production methods need to be found to feed the livestock sector. Insects grow and reproduce easily, have high feed conversion efficiency (cold blooded) and can also be reared on bio-waste streams. Insects as animal feed may offer an opportunity. It could be one of the ways to enhance food and feed security.

[Presentations](#)

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Medicines

ESVAC project: latest report published

The European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption (ESVAC) project collects information on how many antimicrobial medicines are sold for animals across the European Union (EU). The latest annual report from ESVAC project has been recently published in October 2015 and it shows that sales of antibiotics for use in animals in Europe fell by approximately 8% between 2011 and 2013.

[Read the report](#)



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Antimicrobial resistance

Review of the EU action plan

On 26 October, a workshop took place to review the [European Union Action Plan](#) against Antimicrobial Resistance. This action plan was set up in 2011. A consortium is reviewing what has been done and whether the plan needs updating. At the workshop, participants were asked to look at the objectives of the action plan, their coherence and the effectiveness. All involved stakeholders had the opportunity to point out to identified gaps and suggest alternative actions. In the next weeks, the consortium will follow this exercise with a public consultation. The final report is expected to be ready in February-March 2016.



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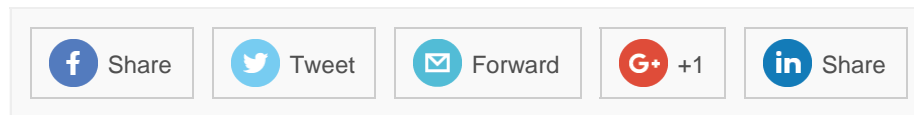


Education

CPD system in small animal medicine

Continuing Professional Development systems in small animal medicine is the topic of the research thesis written by Jos Bongers (former FVE stagiaire). The thesis from Jos deepens the many different CPD systems existing across the European region. *“With the growing focus on quality assurance of CPD and participating in CPD abroad becoming more and easier, looking for a model of international harmonization of CPD systems could be a logical next step forward, it says.*

Read the [thesis](#) of Jos



Education

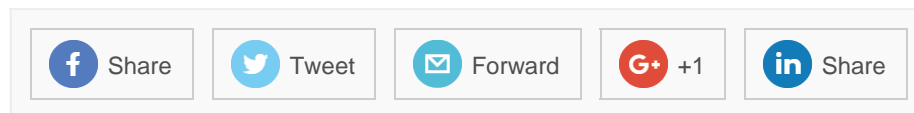
Equine and cattle programs for VETCee approval

VETCee is a joint initiative of FVE and its partners aiming at developing standards for structured continuing professional development and mutual recognition across Europe.

VETCee is proud to announce that the post graduate programme in Companion Animal Medicine of Ghent University in Belgium has been recently approved.

VETCee is now focusing on the evaluation of postgraduate mid-tier programmes for veterinary practitioners working in four different disciplines (Companion Animal Medicine, Porcine Health Management, Equine Medicine and Bovine health Management).

Applications for programmes in [Equine Medicine](#) and in [Bovine Health Management](#) can be submitted by clicking [here](#)





Professional matters

FVE General Assembly in November 2015

The next FVE members Assembly will take place in Bruxelles from 13 to 14 November. Ms. Nathalie Welschbillig, guest speaker from the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union, will give a presentation on the role of the Presidency in the Council. In the afternoon two workshops will take place namely on reputation of the profession and public trust and on the ethics in veterinary medicine and the position of the profession in the society. Summaries of the outcomes will be reported to the General Assembly on Saturday morning.



The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) is an umbrella organisation of 46 veterinary organisations from 38 European countries and 4 Sections, regulated by the law on international societies in Belgium.

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