**World Buiatrics Congress 2022**

**The preventive role of veterinary medicine in human health and the importance of ruminants in fire control, among the topics to be discussed at the Word Buiatrics Congress**

**- Around a thousand conferences and presentations will be delivered by renowned experts in the industry from September 4 to 8.**

**August 24, 2022.** The 31st edition of the World Buiatrics Congress (WBC) will be held at the Palacio Municipal de Congresos de Ifema in Madrid from September 4 to 8 and will bring together the world's leading specialists in buiatrics.

The Spanish National Association of Specialists in Bovine Medicine (Anembe), which brings together 1,400 veterinary experts in cattle, is in charge of its organisation by delegation of the World Association of Buiatrics (WAB), made up of 53 professional associations from all over the world, with more than 50,000 associates who work in the field of veterinary medicine specialising in production ruminants.

Over the course of more than 1,000 presentations, topics related to the work of ruminant veterinarians will be discussed and the latest international scientific news and research will be presented. Therefore, in addition to a full scientific programme with twenty-five topics from different specialities of bovine, ovine, camelid and alpaca veterinary medicine, and the best speakers of the moment in each of the main topics, discussions have been organised for each day with the four best oral presentations and with the two main speakers, where interactions with them on the most relevant aspects of each of their presentations will be encouraged.

**VETERINARY MEDICINE AND HUMAN HEALTH**

At the end of each scientific day a ‘Vip Presentation’ section will take place. This can be attended by the general public after registration.

It will address current issues related to the work of farm veterinarians, such as the importance of their work in the prevention of diseases in human health, the reduction of methane emissions through production efficiency, the importance of ruminants in the face of rural depopulation and the cleaning of forests to prevent wild fires.

In this sense, the member of the Congress organising committee Marco Sánchez-Moreiro, official veterinarian and health inspector, stresses that society's perception of veterinary surgeons is currently “partial and reductionist.” “The general public is unaware that human health depends on the good condition of animals and when we examine cows for tuberculosis or control the pasteurisation of milk in industries and the residues of medicines in the food chain, we are carrying out prevention for people, fighting against zoonosis – that word so well known since the covid-19 pandemic.” “The control of welfare on the farm, in transport and in the slaughterhouse, now reinforced with video surveillance cameras, is key for animal health, but also for public health,” he argues.

On sustainable production, the fixation of population in rural areas and the work of livestock farming in the face of wild fires, Sánchez adds that “both sides of the scale should be assessed before talking about sustainability or pollution and thinking the farmer is the bad guy.”

According to these ideas, the veterinarian and partner of Anembe, Pablo González, who develops his professional activity in the province of Ourense, one of the most affected by wild fires, corroborates that “these years of pandemic, in which the sector has not stopped functoning, have been a crucial moment to show the real data in terms of CO2 emissions and it has been shown that the pollution that livestock represents is far below that of other industrial activities much more polluting.”

González, who is very sensitive to wild fires and is aware of the role of livestock in fighting them, warns that “livestock farms play a fundamental role in clearing undergrowth, in maintaining high mountain pastures and in pasture rotation. They contribute drastically against fires in some areas where livestock activity is higher.”

In addition, there will be the presence of media personalities such as the American veterinarian Dr. Jan Pol, star of the number 1 series broadcast by National Geographic Wild, *The Incredible Dr. Pol*; Odile Rodríguez, biologist and science communicator, daughter of the naturalist Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente (creator of the legendary Spanish series *El Hombre y la Tierra*) and the philosopher and writer Fernando Savater.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

During the Congress, a series of prizes will be awarded, including the Ruminant Welfare Achievement Award, worth 10,000 euros, which will recognise the best work in this field. Another series of prizes and scholarships will also be awarded to young veterinarians and veterinary students, worth 23,300 euros.

Finally, the social programme will offer a very attractive agenda for all foreign attendees, including a visit to a fighting bull breeding farm, a tour of Toledo and monumental Madrid, a gala dinner at the Negralejo palace and a jam session and concert in the bullring of the Las Ventas. Barbecues and drinks at a reduced price will be open to everyone.

Prior to the last edition of the WBC, which took place in Sapporo in 2018, the last one held in Europe took place in Dublin in 2016. The Mexican city of Cancun will take the reins in 2024.

You can find the complete programme of the Congress on the following link: https://www.wbc-madrid2022.com/index.php/es/

**Press Office of the World Buiatrics Congress**

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