



Veterinary News & Views

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RS3.29BN UVAS BUDGET APPROVED

Lahore: The University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS) syndicate approved on Tuesday Rs3.295 billion budget for the financial year 2019-20 with focus on innovation, research, development, improving facilities for quality of education, services and transfer of technology. UVAS Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Talat Nasser Pasha chaired the 59th syndicate meeting.

He said they were focusing on applied research and development projects for improving the quality of education, research and services at the university.

He said the value of the ongoing 144 research projects was Rs1.454 billion, while Rs1.545 billion were allocated for development projects.

Of the development allocation, Rs1.152 billion will be spent on the ongoing projects and Rs393 million on new projects.

Work on the livestock sector development through ca-



capacity building, allied research and technology transfer will begin and Rs300 million have been allocated for it. The Higher Education Commission would fund this project.

The Punjab government will provide Rs20 million for a feasibility study for the establishment of center for advanced reproductive technology in livestock and another Rs73 million for provision of urgently needed male and female hostel facilities at the university.

Up to Rs350 million will be spent on ongoing research facilities at Ravi Campus in Pattoki and Rs658.262 mil-

lion for the establishment of University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences in Bahawalpur, Rs 62.780 million for establishment of training centre for biologists at the UVAS Ravi Campus, Pattoki, and Rs81.038 million for in service training facilities of advanced veterinary education and professional development for veterinary professionals.

UVAS Treasurer Muhammad Umar said the university expected non-development income of Rs1.634 billion from different sources in the year (2019-20) while non-development expenditure was expected at

Rs1.750 billion, so there was a deficit of Rs115.849 million.

The vice-chancellor said the university would generate Rs914.061 million from its own resources and they would try to meet the budget deficit by generating more income from its own resources, by increasing its research-based products and diagnostic and clinical services for stakeholders.

He said they would also adopt austerity measures to limit the recurring expenditure within available funds. Earlier, the vice-chancellor briefed the syndicate members on various academic, research training, workshops, university development projects and scientific cooperation with Italian experts for safe milk production etc.

Prof Pasha presented souvenir to syndicate members who completed their tenure. They were Abdul Basit, Prof. Dr. Kausar, Jamil Chocani, Prof. Dr. Kamal Malik and Anna Chughai.

EXPERTS OF A CONSULTATIVE SESSION ON FOOD TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES UNDER CHANGING CLIMATE STRESSED THE NEED OF COORDINATED EFFORTS TO ADDRESS EFFECTIVELY MULTI-CENTRIC ISSUES OF WATER

Faisalabad: Experts of a consultative session on Food Trends, Challenges and Sustainable Strategies under Changing Climate stressed the need of coordinated efforts to address effectively multi-centric issues of water, energy and food security nexus in contrast to the growing population and depleting water and environmental resources. The event was held at CAS Auditorium, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad in collaboration with Water Environment Forum, HASHO Foundation and Asia Foundation.

UAF Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf (H.I.) said that water, energy, biodiversity, food and climate change were the global agenda items of all summits being held at international level. He told that China was growing maize in deserts with lesser amount of rainwater that we used to witness in potohar region so we need to make such experiments that how we can grow wheat in such conditions. He was of the view that implementation on the regulations is a paramount concern that we are facing in this country is causing rampant malpractice in all fields particularly, in agriculture. He said the water conservation in Barani areas is another frontier to be explored as during rainy season, water needs to be stored at farm level by digging ponds with plastic surface so that stored water may not suffer seepage and be used during dry days. He urged the scientists to come out of the silos and work not only for eaning impact factor but also to put an impact on the society based on their innovative techniques making the human life easier.



Former Sanitor Mr. Nisar A. Memon while describing the situation an outcome of multiple factors said that his organization bringing all stakeholders on board to strategize the future line of action. He told that they were holding dialogs that how we can make better coordination to deal with all three necessary elements of life with a holistic approach to make this a movement of awareness among the masses to taking care of water, energy and food as well. He said that our constitution provides the right of having food, water and energy to all citizens and we can ensure security of human beings if this nexus is properly addressed. He said that nexus of water, energy and food have complexity and inter-dependent to the human life and health. He underscored the need to have coordinated plan in the wake of population growth adding that during the last few decades Pakistan which had been facing water scarcity now been talked as absolute country in terms of water scarcity.

Dr. Riaz Hussain Qureshi said though Pakistan having one of the largest irrigation systems in the world, covering about 17 Mha of land but at the same time, it is considered one of the most inefficient systems wherein more than 60% water is lost either during conveyance in the channels or application in the field. Annually, 16 MAF water is lost in the canals, 26 MAF while traveling in watercourses, 17 in the field and 6 MAF in the distributaries and minars. He said that out of 106 MAF delivery at head, only 41 MAF was being used in the field and the remaining water is lost due to poor irrigation methods and management system at canal to farm level. Highlighting the yield gap against per unit of water, he said yield gap is calculated 43.5 percent in wheat, 32, 72, 58, and 45 percent in cotton, sugarcane, maize and rice, respectively. He asked for introducing water pricing to arrest the growing trend of water wastage at domestic, industrial and agriculture. He said that National Water Policy lacks research so it should be added as priority area. He expressed his reservations on having a huge number of engineers in national water council and ignoring of agriculture professionals that, he emphasized to be added in the council.

make the human life safer and sustainable. He said rise in the temperature and heatwaves were putting enormous pressure and changes in late crop maturity that ultimately affects our grain quality. He emphasized the need of putting adaptation strategies in place as this year we witnessed delay in wheat harvesting from April 30 to May 30 due to continuous rainfall, which hampered the quality of wheat and profitability of the farming community. He told that previous century this country had 36 grains but today we left with only three crops so we need to have climate resilient crops to cope with the changing climatic conditions.

Dr. Ali Fouqeer Sheikh National program director Lead Pakistan, while talking about Pakistan in 2047: water and food security nexus in the changing climate, said that by growing and exporting the rice, water has been emerged as biggest export commodity through agriculture exports. Punjab Team Leader of Action on Climate Today Ms Sumaira Samad said that we feel fascinating during rainfall in May and June but we do not understand its drastic impact on quality of agricultural production. She said climate change is happening unpredictably without following previous trends so we need to prepare adapting strategies to meet with challenges of climate change. Dr. Masood Sadiq Butt, Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq, Dr. Allah Bakhsh, Dr. Ahd Mehmood, Dr. Nuzhat Huma, Dr. Farah Riaz, Dr. Fahad Rasul and Ms Rizka Javadi also spoke on the occasion.

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CLIMATE CHANGE MINISTRY TOLD TO TAKE OVER ZOO

Islamabad: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Friday directed the Ministry of Climate Change to take over Marghar Zoo to ensure proper care of the animals. Chief Justice Athar Minallah on a petition seeking proper care of the animals observed that a brown bear was injured and there were no proper facilities with the

zoo administration to take care of the animal. Likewise, animals such as marsh crocodile and Mongolian eagle require special care which is not available at Marghar Zoo, the court observed. Under these circumstances, steps are required to be taken in order to save the detained animals from further harm, Justice

Minallah remarked. The court directed to ensure that the brown bear was treated properly. The officials of Islamabad Wildlife Management Board had offered to extend assistance in this regard. Justice Minallah directed the secretary climate change ministry to appoint an authorised officer to take

over the management of the zoo till the next date of hearing on Aug 29.

The court directed that the officer appointed should ensure with the assistance of the board that proper arrangements are made and the animals are treated on an urgent basis and kept protected from any sort of harm.

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UNDERSTANDING THE PETS BEHAVIOUR

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College of Veterinary and Animal sciences, Jhang
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The need for pet handlers to understand pet behaviour

Pet handling should be taken seriously because each pet can respond either positively or negatively towards the handler. If the handler cannot tell the difference between the two reaction types, the situation could end up being detrimental to the animal and the handler. Understanding the pet behaviour will make the handler's job easier and safer.

No matter how friendly the pet appears, it has the potential to inflict serious injury if the handler does not pay special attention.

The Pets Need to Survive

It is important to understand the behavioural patterns of pets. Animal handlers and vaccinators should always remember that, similar to humans, vaccinations are stressful for the animals, and each pet will deal with it in its own way. How the animal deals with the stress is referred to as self-preservation.

Self-preservation is exhibited in 5 basic survival techniques.

The 5 basic survival techniques of Pets

Pets naturally rely on 5 basic survival techniques that have been passed down in their genetic code. This means that these survival techniques allow pets to respond to certain stimuli in a way that could prevent them from being harmed or killed.

The 5 survival techniques are generally referred to as the F system:

- 1) Fight
- 2) Flight
- 3) Freeze
- 4) Fidget (often described as being 'restless')
- 5) Faint (occurs rarely)

Communicating with Pets

The pets use facial expressions, ear or tail positioning, and overall demeanour to signal their intentions and feelings to others. Through their body language and facial expressions, dogs and

cats convey various emotions such as: fear, distress, happiness, love, anxiety, comfort, etc.

The Eyes: Eyes that appear larger or smaller than normal, usually indicates that a pet is feeling threatened, stressed or frightened. Large eyes, however, often indicate aggressive behaviour.

Dogs rarely look directly into each other's eyes because this is considered threatening behaviour. Dogs will often look directly at humans with a relaxed facial expression in the hope of being noticed, but will not make direct eye contact. If the dog makes direct eye contact, the behavior can be considered threatening and the human should look away slowly.

If a dog doesn't make eye contact, but instead looks out of the corners of its eyes (so that you see a good deal of the whites of its eyes), while appearing tense, it

To understand the pet's feelings and intentions it is important to consider all aspects of their body language and facial expression. By doing this the animal handler can correctly determine whether it is safe to approach a dog.

It is also very important that the pet can see the handler's face and body posture. If the pet cannot see the facial expression it will not be able to "communicate", which can result in the pet becoming scared or nervous.

The Traffic Light Analogy
The pet handler needs to understand the animals and their responses to stimuli through understanding:

- 1) the 5Fs system
- 2) basic animal body posture, facial expressions, and
- 3) the traffic light (red, amber and green) analogy of how dogs respond to different stimuli in their environment.



might lead to an aggressive outburst.

Body Language

Scared

When a pet is scared, it will do its best to look small. Often, a pet will look hunched with its tail held low or tucked between its legs. The pet will often flatten its ears and might cover close to the ground.

Aggressive

A pet that is fearfully aggressive will look like a scared, except that it might show its teeth and growl. Some fearful pets never escalate to aggression, but others will if they feel that they cannot escape.

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DUTCH POULTRY INDUSTRY NOT AFFECTED BY ANTIBIOTIC REDUCTION

Reduction of veterinary antibiotics sales by 63% in the Netherlands between 2009 and 2017 showed no evidence of a negative effect on either average production or economic results for broiler farmers.

And the international competitiveness of broiler farmers in Holland was not hampered economically by the decision to become one of the first nations in the world to massively reduce antibiotic usage.

The findings come from a new report, released earlier this month, by Wageningen Economic Research, at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

Monitoring antibiotic usage in livestock

The Dutch government started the monitoring of antibiotic usage in livestock production in 1959 by recording the total sales of veterinary antibiotics. This was extended in 2004 to include antibiotic usage per animal species. Since 2008, a new policy on the reduction and the responsible use of antibiotics was implemented. The policy was set



Perhaps one of the most substantial changes in Dutch poultry production has been the move to slow growing broilers that need less antibiotics.

up as a public-private partnership. Stakeholders feared that reduction of antibiotics in livestock production would have a negative effect on productivity and economic farm performance but since the antibiotic policy reforms were introduced there has been no downward trend in family farm income.

The production costs in

the Dutch broiler and pig sectors were compared with 3 EU competitors:

1. Denmark - which has a low average use of antibiotics
2. Germany which has a large broiler export market
3. Spain a relatively high user of antibiotics

The report found no evidence of any relation between decreasing cost com-

petitiveness and antibiotic usage reduction.

Farmer measures

To reduce antibiotic usage, farmers used a variety of relatively easy and cheap measures to improve the health of their animals or the health status of their farms. These focused mainly on animal health management, such as paying more attention to hygiene, use of pain killers and anti-inflammatory agents or more preventive vaccinations.

Other changes in the Dutch broiler sector during this time included:

- Changes to slower growing broilers
- More attention paid to clean drinking water
- An improvement in the circumstances for day-old chicks
- Greater reliance on cleaning and disinfection during downfalls

Move to all in all out systems

Perhaps one of the most substantial changes has been the move to slow growing broilers that need less antibiotics. Last year, about one third of Dutch broiler production consisted of slower growing broilers, introduced as a response to animal welfare concerns of Dutch consumers and retailers.

A substantial part of the decrease in antibiotic usage on broiler farms is due to an increasing proportion of slower growing broilers. The animal daily dose in production of these slower growing birds is one third of that of conventional broilers and the gross margin per square metre is about the same, according to the report.

AGRI TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF PAKISTAN

FOOD FOR THOUGHT!

HUZAIMA BUKHARI AND DR IKRAMUL HAQ

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH MEANS MORE TAXES

Tax is a byproduct of growth, but for our economic managers statistics of tax collection matter, but growth does not

History of tax reforms in Pakistan, funded by foreign agencies and successive governments, has been a history of failure. It has remained largely a bureaucratic exercise behind closed doors inducing a few hand-picked experts and avoiding meaningful consultation with stakeholders, academicians and public at large.

This attitude, blatantly undemocratic and undesirable, finds its worst manifestation in the "secret" final report of 2016 Tax Reform Commission, established on September 25, 2014. This is the way we debate and carry out "reforms" in Pakistan. It is high time that the new economic and tax team of Pakistan (Tebrek-i-Insaf made it public for debate).

While the Federal Board of Revenue in the name of "tax reforms" has been playing havoc with the tax system, recent years have witnessed closure of a number of industrial units, at graduation and rising inflation. During the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, government there was a steady decline in exports and an unprecedented rise in import of luxury items. The then finance minister, Ishaq Dar, used to take great delight in imposing 30 to 50 per cent tax on various petroleum products to show "extraordinary tax collection" at the cost of destroying industries by adding to their cost, rendering them uncompetitive. Besides, inefficiency, corruption and inconsistency of FBR, oppressive, inconsistent, illogical, burdensome, complicated and expropriatory tax policies created impediments for business growth. A similar situation prevails under the PTI. Expectations of local and foreign investors cannot be met unless we concentrate on removing irritants in our tax system providing a level playing field for all, ensuring ease of doing business and training Pakistani talent in skills and innovations.



At the moment, there is not a single institute, exclusively engaged in fiscal research and teaching taxation. We do not have a chartered institute of taxation like the ones in United Kingdom, Australia, Malaysia, Nigeria, and Ghana. The business and law schools in universities, institutes like Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan, Institute of Cost Management Accountants, tax lawyers, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry or Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry etc. cannot show even one comprehensive research study suggesting a pragmatic, workable tax policy to achieve the above cited goals.

The present tax system discourages capital formation and investment and is the real cause of retarded economic growth, burgeoning fiscal deficit and insurmountable debt burden. But our economic managers are unable to fix them. They are not ready to accept that tax is a byproduct of growth. Rapid and sustainable growth can bring more taxes, but they are least concerned. For them tax collection numbers matter, but growth does not.

Devising an efficient tax model for rapid economic growth requires an analytical study of all the irritants in tax codes, procedures and implementation processes. The main irritants are highhandedness,

corruption and unprecedented high level of maladministration in tax apparatuses.

Economic challenges faced by Pakistan are multiple and grim. We are trapped in a deadly debt trap, but there is no solid programme available with any political party or the government to come out of it. They are least pushed to accelerate growth, induce investment, cut waste and make the tax administration fair and efficient. Pakistan faces the Herculean task of providing jobs to millions. On an average we need to create 2 million jobs annually for young people alone. To achieve this target, we have to ensure that economy grows at the rate of more than 7 percent per annum. For this we need at least 20 percent of the GDP to be invested. This challenge is also our great opportunity for rapid economic progress.

Most of the job seekers are young people, who are our greatest asset imparting education and skills to them and creating matching jobs is the real challenge. We need value added exports and employment generation in all fields the real engines of growth.

Pakistan is amongst those fortunate countries of the world that enjoy an abundance of resources and a climate fit for simply any activity throughout the year. But thanks to an overemphasis on regressive taxation and incompetence of our economic managers,

Pakistan's dependence on imported products has increased manifold. Value added exports have not been given any attention, let alone promoting high-tech industries capable of technological innovations modern economies are knowledge-based and future is for those people who can develop them as quickly as possible. For technological transfers, rapid industrial growth and employment generation, foreign direct investment (FDI) is desirable. Tax policy constitutes an important if not a determinant factor for favourable investment behaviour. Unfortunately, our economic managers have been preoccupied with revenue targets and have not bothered to provide some long-term investment-oriented tax incentives for infrastructure development, investment and employment generation, without which sustainable growth is not possible.

Companies are worst hit by the FBR's desired laws, mechanically passed by parliamentarians. Top management of the FBR has been demonstrating a very myopic outlook as evident from over-emphasis on withholding taxes. This policy has further accentuated in the Finance Act, 2019. With low tax rates and simpler complicated procedures, we could have promoted investment, especially corporate growth.

On the contrary, the FBR in 2015 imposed tax on undistributed reserves (Section

5A of Income Tax Ordinance, 2001) ignoring the fact that reserves are created from already taxed income. Minimum taxation on service sector companies was another bad move. In 2014, the FBR imposed Alternative Corporate Tax (Section 113C of Income Tax Ordinance, 2001). Such erratic, arbitrary and expropriatory taxation, as expected, retarded corporate sector and discouraged investment and growth.

We need to incentivise corporatisation of business. Only about 95,000 companies are registered with the SECP out of which less than 50 per cent are active and file tax returns. There are numerous anti-corporate provisions in the tax codes. Companies are maltreated by the FBR after collecting billions as withholding tax agents of the state without any compensation; they are penalised for small lapses that may not be willful.

Devising an efficient tax model for rapid economic growth requires an analytical study of all the irritants in tax codes, procedures and implementation processes.

The main irritants are highhandedness, corruption and unprecedented high level of maladministration in tax apparatuses both at federal and provincial levels. We need research and public debate for suggesting solutions to remedy the situation and promote taxation and business growth attracting domestic and foreign investment and creating much-needed jobs. For this, we must establish a national tax institute where academicians, tax officials, practitioners, businessmen and other stakeholders contribute to devising holistic tax reforms. It can also provide a platform for young Pakistanis, who want to adopt tax practice as a career, to earn degrees/diplomas.

The writers, lawyers and authors, are Adjunct Faculty at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)

MARKHOR POPULATION GROWS WITH CONTROLLED TROPHY HUNTING

Karachi: The introduction of trophy hunting programme for the markhor has led to an increase in its population, as enormous incentive for the local communities in Gilgit Baltistan from their share of the trophy hunting licence encourages them to protect Pakistan's national animal but it has also given

rise to monetary disputes. Many villagers say the wild goat can often be seen climbing down the perilous terrain although the markhor is still on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) list of the near threatened, according to a report of The Third Pole.



Under a trophy hunting licence, which replaced a complete ban on wild goat's hunt, only four male old markhors are permitted to be hunted every season (that begins in October and lasts till April) after payment of the licence fee.

The money that came with the business of hunting the wild goat had brought prosperity to the poverty-ridden villages, the report says. It highlights that 38 community areas have been notified as hunting spots by the government. These comprise different areas, sometimes including just one hamlet, and sometimes - like the three villages of Skoyo, Khatang and Basingo in GB - marked for trophy hunting.

It says trophy hunting has brought money, but things have not worked out smoothly. For the last year, Rs6 million earned from the hunting of one markhor was stuck in the bank, 35-year-old Akbar Hussain told The Third Pole. Hussain runs a meat shop in Skoyo, and is also currently the president of the SKB village organisation, named after the first letter of each village.

Formed in 2012, the organisation comprises one person from every household from the three villages.

There is a smaller committee of six people nominated by the members that handles the funds generated through the trophy hunting programme.

Since 2012, some SKB members have begun noticing 'siphoning' of some funds by some senior members of the committee. Requesting anonymity talking over phone from their village, some community elders said it could not have happened without the collusion of the wildlife department.

Mehmood Ghaznavi, the conservator with the government of GB's Parks and Wildlife Department, said the disbursement of the 80 per cent of share was so clear that no government official could rob from it. 'The bidding process is transparent for which the amounts deposited to the government account by the hunter. At the end of the season, depending on where the hunting happened and the amount collected in the auction, the money is divided and cheques are sent to that community,' he said. The markhor was a popular game animal during the days of the British Raj, and the practice continued after

the birth of Pakistan in 1947. By the 1990s the markhor had been driven to the brink, and the government instituted a total ban on hunting. Since then, the numbers had revived, according to the report.

The ban, it added, was then replaced by controlled trophy hunting, a programme often cited as a huge success in biodiversity conservation.

Under the trophy hunting programme, said Mr Ghaznavi, the communities received 50pc of the licence fee with the government keeping the rest. The amount varied as there was a bidding process involved, the report noted. Aware of the conflicts within communities, Mr Ghaznavi said the government wanted to help resolve them.

We plan to sit with the community members and revise the programme to make the process of funds (sharing) even more transparent than it presently is. At the same time, we want them to have their accounts audited,' he said. Being a regulatory body, the government had every right to demand this from the villagers,' said Mr Ghaznavi.

AGRI TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF PAKISTAN

This is in reference to news "Dog Bite Cases on the Rise amid Shortage of Anti-Rabies Vaccines" Metro Pages Dawn 1st July.

Rabies is a viral zoonotic disease that spreads through Rabid Dogs. All warm blooded animals are susceptible to this disease but humans are the main victims of this disease. More than 95% of human cases are due to bites of infected dogs.

To control Rabies, following measures shall be taken on priority:

- 1-Mass awareness through electronic and print media regarding types of disease, their symptoms and season of diseases so that human beings are able to save themselves from bit dogs.
- 2-Stray dogs having symptoms of disease may not be allowed to meet with healthy dogs and other animals and shall be killed immediately.
- 3-Pet dogs if showing symptoms of rabies i.e. dribbling of saliva from mouth and unable to take food, shall not be exposed to family members and young children and kept under observation.
- 4-All pet dogs shall be vaccinated with quality Anti-Rabies Vaccines regularly.
- 5-Spaying and neutralizing stray dogs but this is a time taking and expensive method as after these procedures dogs are to be kept under observation until full recovery, are to be vaccinated with Anti-Rabies Vaccines.
- 6-Elimination of stray dogs

Therefore required quantity of Anti-Rabies Vaccines is to be kept at required temperature at all Tehsil Headquarters by concerned departments.

which is economical, less time taking and technically feasible but there are different views that this is inhumane procedure.

Dr. Baz Muhammad Junjo
Ex. Secretary Livestock And Fisheries, Sindh, House No. B-25, Government Officers Cooperative Housing Society, Phase I, Quinabad, Hyderabad. Ph No. 03052202525

UVAS SIGN MOU WITH ABMTO CONTROL ZONOTIC PATHOGENS, STRENGTHEN BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY PRACTICES

The University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore and Association for Biorisk Management (ABM) signed a memorandum of understanding to implement Pakistan Biorisk Management (PBMP) Program activities through mutual coordination of stakeholders and to control zoonotic pathogens

Lahore: The University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore and Association for Biorisk Management (ABM) signed a memorandum of understanding to implement Pakistan Biorisk Management (PBMP) Program activities through mutual coordination of stakeholders and to control zoonotic pathogens.

Under the MoU, biosafety and biosecurity practices will be strengthened in University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences and its all sub-campus Khan Bahadur Choudhry Mushtaq Ahmed College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Narowal, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Jhang and Ravi Campus Pattoki. Vice-Chancellor Meritorious Prof. Dr. Talat Nasser Pasha (SI) and Executive Director (ABM) Pakistan Dr. Asghar Ali signed the MoU in a ceremony held at City Campus Lahore



On Wednesday, speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Pasha said that it is directly needed to work on biosafety and biosecurity practices and UVAS doors are always open for providing facilities and technical assistance to professionals from across Pakistan. Dr. Asghar Ali spoke about the objectives of MoU and said that our organization is focusing on biosafety and biosecurity issues and contributing its role for the capacity building by providing necessary equipment required in laboratories.

He also praised the state-of-the-art lab facilities at the UVAS. According to the MoU, ABM will provide technical support to the laboratories of UVAS and its sub-campus on a regular basis regarding biosafety and biosecurity. The association will assist in constituting a biosafety committee for regular review of biosafety and biosecurity status in the laboratory and the laboratory will be strengthened through provision of essential laboratory equipment

and reagents. It will also provide biosafety kits to the training participants. UVAS would provide a focal person for effective coordination of project activities. It will implement mitigation measures and BRM protocols in the laboratories to ensure biosafety and biosecurity and will constitute a biosafety committee to look after the biosafety and biosecurity issues in the laboratory while dealing with high-risk pathogens and incidents. Dean Faculty of Biosciences Prof. Dr. Habib ur Rehman, UVAS Narowal Principal Prof. Dr. Yousuf Rana, Prof. Dr. Aneta Zameer Durrani, Prof. Dr. Aftab Anjum, and Director External Linkages Dr. Imtiaz Rabbani and few UVAS faculty members and official from (ABM) Dr. Nasir Abbas Tanoli were present on the occasion.

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HOOF HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION BY FOREIGN DELEGATE AT SAPPHIRE DAIRIES

A practical demonstration/hands-on training on hoof trimming, hoof health care management & hoof problems and their remedies was organized by Javad Impex Int'l. (Importer, Importer & Distributor) on Thursday, 4th of July 2019 with the collaboration of Sapphire Dairies at Sapphire Dairies (PVT) Ltd. Lahore, located at Mangi-Rawind Road Mr. Pieter Kloosterman, consultant, professional hoof trimmer and Mr. Ton Van Der Venne, senior sales manager Intra-Care Netherlands were the experts/ event speakers. The farm owners of different dairy farms participated in this training session including Inter loop farm, Al-Tahur, Dada Dairy, Sapphire, Easter Dairy and Veterinary News & Views. Intra-care Netherlands and Javad Impex Int'l. are working as partners in Pakistan and are providing research oriented non-antibiotic products. Intra-care is working for reduction of antibiotic usage in livestock farming. At start, Dr. Sajid Ali (Marketing Manager Dairy) welcomed all the participants and highlighted the main aspects of training session. After that, participants were brought at sapphire



dairy farm section where Mr. Pieter Kloosterman briefly demonstrated about hoof trimming and management to prevent different hoof diseases. In this hands-on training, people actively participated to learn the trimming protocols. Mr. Pieter was happy and satisfied all the participants. He told and demonstrated about the use of a skin care spray: Intra Rapidema, Intra hoof-fit liquid-fit gel, Intra hoof-fit gel, Intra hoof-fit tape, Intra hoof-fit shoe and also applied all these protective tools on hoof to clear the application procedure. Rapidema spray is best one for all kind of injuries and wounds as this is antibiotic free solution. This is 1.57 times more effective than antibiotic sprays. This product contains chelated copper and zinc. Chelated copper and zinc has 5 times more penetration in the skin as compared to copper sulfate. Copper sulfate cannot penetrate in the organic dermis of skin and only have superficial effects. Intra hoof-fit gel is one of the best antibiotic free medicines for the treatment of hoof diseases like laminitis, digital dermatitis and interdigital dermatitis. Intra hoof-fit gel results 1.9 times better than antibiotic sprays. Intra hoof-fit liquid spray

is used for group treatments. Intra hoof-fit bath is used for protective measures. After that, Mr. Ton Van gave a technical presentation on Intra care Netherlands products and their uses with trials conducted by Dutch Animal Health Centre, University of Utrecht, University of Calgary-Canada and Oniris Nantes University-Atlantic. A technical literature and catalogue was distributed among all the participants. A USB flash containing all useful literature of Intra-care products and management strategies was also presented. A lavish mess was taken by all the participants of session along with foreign delegate. In the last technical & skillful presentation, Mr. Pieter highlighted the hoof health care management in cattle, hoof trimming protocol, hoof problems and their remedies. He was trained with main subject of hoof trimming "Dutch 5 steps method". At conclusion, Dr. Sajid Ali thanked the event speakers and all the progressive farmers and participants of the session. He also appreciated the cooperation of Sapphire dairies team. At 3 pm, training session concluded with good remarks.

MANGO FESTIVAL IN MULTAN UNIVERSITY

Multan: Provincial Agriculture Minister Malik Noman Ahmad Langrial inaugurated a three-day international mango festival organized by Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture here on Friday.

More than 70 stalls have been arranged by growers, mango processing industry and exporters for the visitors and general public. Moreover, fun land for children, food street and entertainment programmes have been arranged for the three-day festival.

Addressing the ceremony, the minister hoped the festival would contribute well for increasing the mango export.

He said the cultivated area of mango in the country was 412,500 acres with an annual production of 1.735 million tons while 70 per cent mango was being produced in Punjab only. He said about 200 varieties of mango were being cultivated in Pakistan.

"Almost every district of Punjab grows mango. Our



mango is popular in Pakistan as well as in global markets particularly Middle East, Britain and Europe due to its taste and aroma. Now our mango is the cheapest in international markets as compared to other countries," he said.

He said the government was working on new plans for the improvement of agricultural production and profitability with higher exports which would contribute in poverty alleviation.

MNSU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali said mango was the king of fruits and according to an estimate it had about 4000-year-old history in the subcontinent.

"Today about 149 kalmi varieties and 1,000 desi varieties of mango are being cultivated across the world and its total production was 25 million tons with Pakistan, India, Brazil, China, Nigeria, Mexico, and Thailand as major producers," he said.

He said the university was establishing new footings for mango production and had introduced high density mango plantation (small tree system) in the region and about 1,500 plants per acre could be cultivated through this system with export quality harvest.

"The university has planted

a model farm of mango for farmers. Adoption of this technology will substantially increase the mango production," he said.

He said the festival was not only the gathering of mango growers, experts and exporters but it was also a source of information and entertainment for the local community.

Nigerian High Commissioner Ashimiyi Adebayo Olaniji, Indonesian High Commissioner Iwan Suyudic Amri, MNA Member Ahmad Khan Daba, MPAs Haji Attar Rehman and Shahida Ahmed, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Engineering and Technology Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Amir (Jir) Malik, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Ihtisham Ahmad Rajwana, Pest Warning Director General Sayed Zafaryab Haider, Multan Mango Research Institute Director Dr. Hamidullah Khan, Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry senior member Khwaja Farooq were also present on the occasion.

AN ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED BY PAKISTAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL (PEC) FOR EVALUATION OF BSC AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEGREE PROGRAM VISITED UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE FAISALABAD

Faisalabad: An accreditation committee constituted by Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) for evaluation of BSc Agricultural Engineering Degree program visited University of Agriculture Faisalabad and held meeting with Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf (H) here on Thursday morning.

The team led by Engineer Prof. Dr. Habib ur Rehman, UET Lahore flanked by program evaluators were Eng. Prof. Dr. Hamza Farooq Gabriel MSc Islamabad, Eng. Prof. Dr. Zaid Mahmood Ahsan University Peshawar, Eng. Dr. Nadeem Arif PARC Islamabad and Eng. Dr. Aftab Ali Syed MUEET, Jamshoro and Eng. Jehan Zeb Khan who represented PEC.

During meeting, matters pertaining to higher education particularly engineering degree programs of UAF were discussed. Greeting the visiting accreditation committee, UAF Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf applauded the strength of Agricultural Engineering program adding



that faculty of agricultural engineering and technology produced stalwarts who prove their merit in their domain while working with NASA, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission and other renowned organizations of the world. He told that UAF charges reasonable fee from the students while keeping in view the financial conditions of the students belonging to rural and disadvantaged segment of the society. He praised the efforts of Engineer Jawed Saleem Qureshi Chairman Pakistan Engineering Council and his team for attaining full statutory status of Washington Accord

since 2011. Washington Accord, he said was a highly rigorous global standard on engineering education and accreditation system which grants substantial equivalence of degrees; means international recognition to equate at par with top leading statutory countries of the world. He asked the Dean Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology to install solar energy system in the faculty thereby to attract students for Energy System Engineering Program and gradually extend its functioning in the whole campus, that he anticipated would arrest the growing bills of electricity. He extended

his full support to the engineering program to get them accredited after following the requisite protocols and procedures from the council. Dr. Ashraf was of the view to request the HEC authorities to reconsider their recurring grant formula and give special funds to those universities uplifting the poor rural youth with state of the art higher education and putting them in the mainstream.

Dean Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology Prof. Dr. Allah Bakhsh Noon, Dr. Nasir Awan, Dr. Muhammad Arshad and Dr. Abdul Ghafoor also attended the meeting.

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UVAS WINS RS300M CANADIAN FUNDING

Lahore: University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS) has won an international collaborative funding with combined worth of 2.8 million Canadian dollars (equivalent to Rs 300 million) from International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, under the Innovative Veterinary Solutions for Antimicrobial Resistance (InnoVet-AMR) programme.

According to a press release, the InnoVet-AMR is a partnership between the IDRC and the UK government's Global AMR Innovation Fund (GAMRIF), which is part of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

This project is a collaboration of UVAS and Punjab University in Pakistan and Purdue University in the USA to develop new technologies that will collectively replace the use of antibiotics in Pakistan's poultry production.

Prof Dr Zafar Hayat is project leader from UVAS with Prof Dr Ahsan Mahmood and Dr Gulbeena Saleem as Co-PIs/team members. The UVAS research team joins Dr Paul Ebner, Purdue professor of animal sciences, Nicole Widmar, Purdue professor of agricultural economics and Dr Shafiqur Rehman from the University of Punjab to reduce risk that antimicrobial resistance in poultry poses to health and food security.

The project will reduce reliance on antibiotics in Pakistan's poultry industry and support the transition to alternatives that enhance poultry health and efficiency without posing any risk to public health.

Platforms will be designed and implemented to encourage the rapid development of phage and nutraceutical-based antibiotic alternatives and a framework will be defined to introduce and promote these technologies for commercial and field use.

Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Talat Naseer Pasha congratulated the faculty on winning such a useful project and said it will prove a milestone in the development of poultry sector and availability of antibiotic-free and safe chicken to the consumers.

FISH EXPORTS SHRINK 4.11 TO \$406M

Islamabad - The exports of fish and its preparations decreased by 4.11 percent during the fiscal year 2018-19 as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The seafood exports during July-May (2018-19) were recorded at \$406.565 million against the exports of \$423.977 million in July-May (2017-18), showing negative growth 4.11 percent, according to Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

In terms of quantity, Pakistan exported 179.743 metric tons seafood during the period under review against the exports of 184.107 metric tons last year, showing decrease of 2.73 percent.

On year-on-year basis, the fish exports from the country increased by 10.78 percent by going up from \$52.429 million during May 2018 to \$58.081 million in May 2019.

On month-on-month basis, the seafood exports increased by 6.4 percent in May 2019 when compared to the exports of \$54.589 million in April 2019, the PBS data revealed.

Meanwhile, the overall food exports from the country witnessed decreased of 4.61 percent by going down to \$4272.750 million during the first 11 months of the ongoing fiscal year compared to the exports of \$4479.357 million during the corresponding period of fiscal year 2017-18.

It is pertinent to mention here that the country's merchandise trade deficit plunged by 13.62 percent during the first eleven months of the current fiscal year compared to the corresponding period of last year. The trade deficit contracted by 13.62 percent to \$29.207 billion during July-May (2018-19) against the deficit of \$33.812 billion recorded during July-May (2017-18).



DRAFT OF BY-LAWS ON FOOD SUPPLEMENTS PRESENTED TO PFA BOARD

Lahore: The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) scientific panel on Monday presented the first draft of Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals before its board to make by-laws on food supplements.

PFA Director General (DG) retired Captain Muhammad Usman has presided over the board meeting held at its headquarters. Punjab Human Organ Transplant Authority Director General (DG) Dr Faisal Masad, former Punjab Health Services DG Dr Zahid Pervaz, UMT School of Food and Agriculture Sciences Director Dr Numan Khalid, Punjab University School of Biological Sciences teacher Dr Nasir Ahmad, Home Economics College Food's former Nutrition Department head Prof Ghazala Pervaz Zaman and University of Agriculture Faisalabad National Institute of Food Science and Technology Dr Kamran Sharif were present.

They were briefed about the progress of Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals. All those food containing health-giving additives called functional foods and the draft was presented for reviewing and to get approval from the board.

It was decided that the functional food category would be added to the Punjab Pure Food Regulation (PPFR) under the international codex standards in first phase.

PFA DG Usman said that functional foods were eatables used for extra energy and it was categorized in functional foods including vitamins, minerals and food supplements.

He said functional foods were regulated in Punjab without any law but the PFA started work on it, especially after the verdict of the Lahore High Court.

He said according to verdict 'the petitioner was not involved in manufacturing medicine/drugs but food supplements, which involved natural, homeopathic products. They are not dangerous to humans and animals and are not a subject of Sections 23 and 27 of Drug Act, 1976. Drug Regulatory Authority has no jurisdiction to interfere in the food business, which falls under the domain of the Punjab Food Laws.

The DG said according to international laws functional foods were part of food in many countries including India, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and European countries.

He directed the PFA Licensing Wing to register functional food manufacturing of all companies and Operations Wing was assigned to complete the mapping at the earliest.

The PFA Technical Wing was tasked with determining the quality of functional foods and submit its report and authority was also working to bring functional food products under the law.

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BREEDING FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Results of a new study by Wageningen Livestock Research, the Netherlands, show that breeding reduces environmental impacts of animal products by about 1% per year.

That percentage is achieved without specific selection on environmental traits, but as an indirect response to selection based on the current breeding goals. The Dutch university conducted the study on the contribution of breeding to the reduction of the environmental impact of pigs, but also of broilers, laying hens and dairy cattle. The outcomes were published in the report 'The contribution of breeding to reducing environmental impact of animal production'.



For dairy cattle, results showed that methane intensity (i.e. methane production per kg milk) decreases.

Role of animal production in emissions

According to a news release on the website of Wageningen University & Research, animal production is responsible for 14.5% of total anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. About half of those emissions originate directly from animal production, whereas the other half comes from feed production. Animal breeding aims to improve animal production and the efficient use of resources, which results in a reduction in the environmental impact, the authors explained. The objective of the study was therefore to quantify the contribution of animal breeding in the reduction of the environmental impact of the four major livestock species in the Netherlands (with their animal products), being pigs (meat), broilers (meat), laying hens (eggs) and dairy cattle (milk).

Breeding for increased efficiency

The news article, written by researcher Dr Ir Erwin Mollenhorst, WUR, explained how a literature review was performed to assess the current status of and historical trends in environmental impact, mainly focused on greenhouse gas emissions, based on general performance criteria. He wrote, "Emissions related to feed production dominate impacts of broilers, laying hens and, to a minor extent, pigs. For dairy cattle, enteric methane emissions is a large contributor to the total greenhouse gas emissions. Historical trends show considerable improvements in efficiency over the last decades, in which breeding plays an important role. From the literature review we concluded that the contribution of breeding in the reduction of the environmental impact of animal production is led by an indirect response through selection on increased efficiency."



If it is desired to select directly on environmental traits, recording of new traits is required.

Going for lower environmental impact

Next to the literature review, the researchers made a quantitative assessment of the current environmental impact of the four animal products and the effect of recent genetic improvements. For pig meat, broiler meat and chicken eggs they placed the focus on greenhouse gas emissions and nitrogen and phosphorus efficiency; for dairy the focus was laid on enteric methane emissions, an important contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Data were partly provided by breeding organisations, partners in the Breed 4 Food consortium, which includes breeding companies Topigs Norsvin and Hendrix Genetics, as well as CRV and Cobb. In general, results showed that breeding reduces environmental impacts of animal products by about 1% per year.

Studies for pigs, poultry and dairy

For pigs, data were available from a well-controlled study with 2 diets and animals divided by sex; however, the time frame was only 2 years. Results showed that also for pigs in the growing-fattening phase, greenhouse gas emissions decrease and nitrogen and phosphorus efficiency increase with the current breeding goal. Furthermore, boars had lower environmental impact than gilts. For laying hens, white and brown hens were considered and it was concluded that white hens have a lower greenhouse gas impact and better nitrogen and phosphorus efficiency than brown hens and that improvements over the past 10 years went faster for white hens as well. For broilers it was shown that greenhouse gas emissions decreased and nitrogen and phosphorus efficiency increased with more than 1%. However, only data of a 4-year time-frame under less controlled circumstances were available, which resulted in a possible overestimation of genetic progress. For dairy cattle, results showed that with the current breeding goal, methane production per cow per day increases, but methane intensity (i.e. methane production per kg milk) decreases.

New traits need to be recorded

The researchers emphasised that all reported results were achieved without specific selection on environmental traits, but as an indirect response to the current breeding goals for each species, which is a combination of health, growth, and (feed) efficiency. "If it is desired to select directly on environmental traits, recording of new traits is required, e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus contents of meat and eggs and methane emission of individual dairy cows." The report was authored by Dr Ir Erwin Mollenhorst and Dr Ir Yvette de Haas, both attached to Wageningen Livestock Research.

REPORT OF "ANNUAL EVE AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY OF 2019"

Organized by the Art and Literary Society, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Agriculture Faisalabad

REPORTED BY: KHADIJA YASMEEN DVM UAF

The "Annual eve and prize distribution ceremony of 2019" was organized by the Art and Literary Society, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Agriculture Faisalabad on 20th June 2019. A farewell party was given to the students of batch 2014-2019 and many prizes were awarded to the students on their excellent performance both in academics and on their extra-curricular activities. The guests of honour of the event were Dr Sajjad Arshad General Secretary of Pakistan Veterinary Medical Association, Mr Naushir merchant CEO Dairy Lact, Dr Tahir Saddiqui UAF, Dr Anas Sarwar Qureshi Chairman Department of Anatomy UAF, Dr Shahid Afzal UAF, Dr Farooq Director of IPPP UAF and Dr Faqeer Hussain Chairman of IPPP UAF. Many colourful performances were presented by the students of the Art and Literary Society to amuse the audience. Shields of appreciation were presented to the position holder students who got overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd position in their batch. There were some students and teachers in FVS who are involved in a welfare work under the platform of CLEP (Child Labour Eradication Programme), certificates of appreciation were presented to those students as well who are working in it with the aim to eradicate the "Child Labour" from our society and they are doing their work efficiently. Shields of appreciation were given to those students as well who participated in the extra-curricular activities and performed very nicely. The chief organizer of the event was Prof Dr Zafar Iqbal Qureshi Dean FVS UAF, in his speech he not only appreciates, congratulates and gave good wishes to his students but also guide them regarding their future perspective. He advised the graduating students to do hard work with full honesty and devotion in their future.

In the conversation with the organizer Dr Ashar Mahfouz Chairman VMS, Dr Misbah Ijaz Advisor ALS, Dr Kashif Khan and Dr Saqib Saeed, they told the efforts of students and also told about the importance of such kind of events in the daily routine of the students.



EFFECTS OF ELEVATED GRIDS ON GROWING MALE CHICKENS

Elevated grids offer birds an opportunity to rest in a species-specific manner and can improve welfare, especially for medium growing chickens.

German research looked at whether environmental enrichments, which may improve welfare in broilers, could help dual purpose strains. Increasingly, due to ethical reasons, there are attempts to fatten the male chickens of layer strains or to use dual purpose strains but until now there has been limited knowledge on the behaviour of these birds.

So, the aim of the study, carried out by scientists at three German research institutes, was to test the use of elevated grids and their effect on animal-based indicators (eg physical condition).

In 2 successive trials, the researchers kept a total of 1,217 male chickens from 3 strains (Lohmann Dual, Lohmann Brown Plus, Ross 308) that show differences in growth performance in 24 pens (2 trials x 3 strains x 8 pens).

In half of the pens, grids were offered at 3 different heights (enriched groups); in the other half of the pens, no elevated structures were installed (control groups). The scientists recorded the



number of birds using the grids at different heights and also looked at:

- Locomotor activity
- Walking ability
- Plumage cleanliness
- Footpad health of chickens

Low and medium growing chickens
Chickens with low and medium growth performance preferred the highest grids during both the light and dark periods.

Fast growing chickens
In contrast, fast-growing chickens used the lowest grid more frequently. Fast growing chickens kept in the enriched pens tended to

INDONESIA TO CULL 3 MILLION BROILERS

The government action followed complaints by chicken farmers, who say that live bird prices have been below a government floor price and cost of production for months.

Broiler farmers increased production, according to Reuters, to cash in on an anticipated uptick in demand during the recent Muslim Eid al-Fitr holidays but the Agriculture Ministry said demand turned out to be lower than expected.

With farmers protesting by giving thousands of live birds away for free, the government told them to cut 68-week old chickens over a two-week period until 9 July. It is estimated this will take out three million birds, reducing the supply of day-old chickens by 1.5 million per week.

The Agriculture Ministry reported the average price of live birds in Indonesia was 20,216 rupiah (\$1.43) last week, compared to a government floor of 18,000 rupiah per kg.

However, some farmers have reported they had to sell birds for as little as 7,000 rupiah (\$0.48/kg), leading the Association of Yogyakarta farmers to complain their businesses were dying and almost bankrupt. "Some of us are afraid to raise chickens," it said in a statement.

It is not the first time Indonesia has taken such draconian action. Four years ago, it ordered the culling of six million broilers to control overcapacity issues. And it is prepared to go further this time: "If the prices of live birds are not yet in line with benchmark prices culling of parent stock of 60-week old chickens will be launched," according to Ketut Darmiarta, director general of livestock and animal health at the Ministry of Agriculture.

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