

REPORT OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE E.S.V.D. PARIS – JUNE 1985

The second meeting of the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology took place in conjunction with the third national meeting of the GEDAC, the French veterinary dermatology group. The GEDAC is a specialized group of the French small animal practitioners association (CNVSPA = Conférence Nationale des Vétérinaires Spécialisés en Petits Animaux).

About 180 colleagues interested in dermatology registered for the Paris meeting. Among them were approximately 120 French, 30 German and 15 Italian veterinarians. Unfortunately no Spanish, English or Dutch colleagues registered. Reportworth was the attendance of an Argentinian vet !! Whow !!

Topics included newly emerging diseases and new forms of therapy, management of common skin diseases in small animals (Peter Ihrke, Davis, U.S.A.), the use and significance of diagnostic tests in dermatology (David Llyod - G.B., Yves Legeay - F., Eric Guaguere - F.), and the differential diagnoses of pododermatitis and facial lesions (Peter Ihrke, U.S.A.). In addition Didier Carlotti (F.) and Ton Willemsen (NL) discussed case reports in front of the audience. This happens to be an exciting but difficult game to play. To our knowledge this way of presentation was unique for Europe.

Finally the role of histopathology in the diagnosis was discussed by Jean-Pierre Magnol (F.) and Claudia von Tscharner (CH.), and Didier Carlotti (F.) spoke about Cushing's disease, as did Hans Koch (D) about hypothyroidism.

The proceedings, printed by the GEDAC-CNVSPA are still available and can be ordered via D. Carlotti, with a payment of 40 ECU, to be sent out to the bank account of the E.S.V.D. : BNP Lormont-Génicart, France – account number : 30004-01258-000154 72 - 49.

Didier Carlotti.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

May 5-10, 1986 : XIII Congress European Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology – Budapest, Hungary.

May 28-31 : 13th Annual Meeting of the Society for Cutaneous Ultrastructure Research. Joint meeting with the European society for Skin Comparative Biology – Paris, France. For further information : Cl. Blanchet Bardon MD, Hopital Saint-Louis 2, Place du Dr. A.Fournier, 75475 Paris.

October 31 and November 1-2 : Dermatology meeting organized by the SCIVAC – Pesaro, Italy.
November 7-9 : British Small Animal Veterinary Association Refresher course on small animal dermatology – London, Details from B.S.A.V.A., 5 St. Georges Terrace, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 3PT.
December 4 : Dermatology seminar organised by GEDAC and E.S.V.D. – Paris, France. Informations : D. Carlotti, 29, rue Vignau-Anglade, 33560 Carbon Blanc, France.

**3rd Congress of the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology
April 11th – 13 th 1986, Amsterdam (The Netherlands).**

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I apply for membership of the E.S.V.D. as :

Full member

Associate Member

Affiliate Member
(non-veterinarian)

Full membership shall be limited to those veterinarians who devote a significant proportion of their professional activities to research, teaching or the practice of veterinary dermatology. Letters of recommendation from two founder or full members of the E.S.V.D. are required. Applications will be considered by the Executive Committee of the E.S.V.D. The executive Committee will not initiate such letters of recommendation.

Associate Membership shall be open to all veterinarians who are interested in veterinary dermatology but do not qualify for full membership. Associate membership shall be approved by the executive committee of the E.S.V.D. Associate members shall not have the right to vote or hold office in the Society. Recommendation letters are not required for associate membership.

Affiliate Membership shall be open to all non-veterinarians who are interested in veterinary dermatology. Affiliate membership shall be approved by the executive committee of the E.S.V.D. Affiliate members shall not have the right to vote or hold office in the Society. Recommendation letters are not required for affiliate membership.

All applications must be received by the executive committee of the E.S.V.D. at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting of the E.S.V.D., and must be accompanied by a payment of 40 ECU, to be made out to the E.S.V.D. by international transfer without expense for the receiver to the following bank account : Banque Nationale de Paris, F-33310 LORMONT-GENICART. n° : 30004 01258 000 00015472 49.

1. Name :

2. Address : Business :

Residence :

3. Telephone : Business (Country code, area code, number) :

Residence (Country code, area code, number) :

4. Education (Professional and advanced degrees) :

5. Institutional affiliations :

6. Present activities involving veterinary dermatology (research, teaching, practice, etc...) :

7. Percentage of professional activity devoted to veterinary dermatology :

8. Main lectures given during the past two years, with dates and places :

9. Main publications (veterinary dermatology only) :

10. Names of sponsors (only if application for full membership) :

1 :

2 :

NB : If necessary, a sheet may be attached.

Date :

Signature :

Return to : Pierre FOURRIER, E.S.V.D. membership secretary
10, rue du Progrès - F-92160 ANTONY.

NEWS FROM EUROPEAN DERMATOLOGY GROUPS

SPAIN by dr. I. Durall.

The Spanish veterinary dermatology group has been founded in September 1985. The main condition to become a member concerns the presentation of fifteen clinical cases.

The board of the Spanish dermatology group is composed of : Ana Rios - Madrid (private practice), José Font - Girona (private practice), José Saló - Barcelona (private practice), Ignacio Durall - Barcelona (private practice), Luis Ferrer - Barcelona (State University of Barcelona) and Juan Badiola - Zaragoza (State University of Zaragoza).

ITALY by dr. Didier Carloti

One of the two Italian small animal practitioner associations, the AVPA, organized a meeting about antibiotic therapy in Bologna, October 19th and 20th, 1985.

The other organisation, the SCIVAC, will organize a future meeting in Pesaro (It.) with Didier Carloti and Danny Scott (Cornell University, U.S.A.) as the main speakers.

FRANCE by dr. Didier Carloti

During the national congress of the CNVSPA (Paris, November 29th and 30th, 1985), the GEDAC organized a dermatology meeting. Case reports were presented by GEDAC members and Danny Scott (Cornell University). The latter presentations concerned rare immunologic diseases in small animals, autoimmune disorders in large animals and laboratory aids to dermatology diagnoses.

During this meeting the new board of the GEDAC was elected : Didier Carloti - president, Eric Guaguere - secretary, Pierre Cadot - treasurer, Blaise Hubert - assistant secretary, Yves Legeay and Jean-Pierre Magnol. Pierre Fournier is now Past-President.

A lot of articles issued from the past meetings of the GEDAC have been or will be published in French veterinary journals, particularly in *Pratique Médicale et Chirurgicale de l'Animal de Compagnie*, the official journal of the CNVSPA.

The members of the GEDAC and the French members of the E.S.V.D. wish you a happy New Year and hope to meet you in Amsterdam.

DENMARK by dr. Kristian Pedersen

The Danish Veterinary Dermatology Society (DVDS) was founded on January 25th, 1985. The aims of the society are :

- to be a forum of veterinarians with a special interest in dermatology
- to increase the knowledge about dermatology
- to promote the methods of diagnosing and treatment
- to cooperate with international dermatology organizations and to represent DVDS internationally.

It is the Boards' task to edit a newsletter four times a year, handling different dermatologic subjects. The members have to contribute to this newsletter at least once every year. Subjects discussed in the past include for example hypothyroidism, clinical investigations on allergic dermatitis, biopsy techniques and the treatment of feline psychogenic alopecia.

As full members of the DVDS only Danish veterinarians are accepted ; as associate members all others, including medical companies are accepted. At the time being there are 23 full members, representing the major Danish small animal hospitals, the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and histopathologists.

The present President of the DVDS is dr. Kristian Pedersen, Janesvej 7, DK 2680 Solrød Strand.

November 16th, 1985 the first general assembly of the DVDS was held in Copenhagen. The discussions primarily concerned constitutional changes. During the meeting lectures were held about autoimmune skin diseases, the use of smears and the practical diagnosis of dermatophytes.

In addition to the aforementioned activities the Danish Veterinary Association runs a course in dermatology for general practitioners. The instructor on this course is Flemming Kristensen.

UNITED KINGDOM by dr. L.R. Thomsett

The British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group (B.V.D.S.G.) celebrates the tenth year of its inception in 1986. As the only British society encompassing all aspects of comparative dermatology its members have met regularly to discuss a wide variety of topics associated with the skin of many species and claims a truly international membership.

Membership is open to anyone having an interest in skin in its widest sense and the officers endeavour to arrange the whole day meetings per year which have recently been held at the City University, London.

The last meeting of the Group was held in May, 1985 on the theme - Recent advances in Dermatology therapy, with individual contributions on zinc responsive dermatoses in dogs, allergic responses to Staphylococci on canine skin, canine Leishmaniasis, clavulate potentiated amoxycillin in the treatment of skin infections and the homeopathic approach to therapy of skin disease.

The proceedings of the meetings are published in the Veterinary Dermatology Newsletter and circulated to subscribing members. The current subscription is £6. - for those living in the United Kingdom. Slightly higher for those living abroad. Enrolment forms for membership may be obtained from L. R. Thomsett, FRCVS, Dept. Medicine, Royal Veterinary College, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Hatfield, Herts AL9 7TA, G.B.

DERMATOLOGY NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

The purpose of this 'chapter' of the news report is to inform you about recent findings and observations within the 'dermatology area'.

However, you have to realise that only a selective overview can be presented.

1. Pukay, B.P. : *Treatment of canine bacterial hypersensitivity by hyposensitization with Staphylococcus aureus bacterin-toxoid.*
J. Am. Anim. Hosp. Assoc. 21: 479-483, 1985.

The case history of 16 dogs diagnosed as having bacterial hypersensitivity are reviewed. Diagnosis was based on the presence of the following criteria : typical - bull's eye - lesions, poor response to glucocorticoids, excellent response to systemic antibiotics alone, positive intradermal test to toxoid (Arthus reaction), and negative skin scrapings. These dogs were treated with systemic antibiotics (chloramphenicol, lincomycin or cephalaxin) along with a series of hyposensitization injections, using a *Staphylococcus aureus* cell-wall antigen and toxoid mixture (derived from quantities of both alpha and beta toxins from whole cultures of *Staphylococcus aureus* which were inactivated in formalin).

There was a 87.5% success rate. This study also indicated the need for repeated booster injections of the cell-wall antigen and toxoid mixture.

2. Scott, D. W. and Walton, D. K. : *Experiences with the use of amitraz and ivermectin for the treatment of generalized demodicosis in dogs.*
J. Am. Anim. Hosp. Assoc. 21: 535-541, 1985.

Historical and clinical data on 17 dogs treated with amitraz are presented. Dobermann Pinschers seemed to be predisposed. All 17 dogs had at least 50% of their body surface affected, and all dogs had four feet affected. Secondary pyoderma was present in nine dogs. All dogs were initially treated with biweekly dips of amitraz. Only six of the 17 dogs (35.3%) were believed initially to be cured. Subsequent follow-up showed that all six dogs relapsed within 1 to 10 months.

Four dogs with amitraz-resistant demodicosis were treated with weekly subcutaneous injections of ivermectin (0.4 mg/kg bodyweight S.Q.) for eight weeks. Only one dog became normal clinically, and was negative on skin scraping 12 weeks after beginning ivermectin therapy. No adverse effects were noted during treatment.

3. Halliwell, R.E.W. and Longino, S. J. : *IgE and IgG antibodies to flea antigen in differing dog populations.*
Vet. Immunol. Immunopathol. 8: 215-223, 1985.

A radioimmunoassay was developed for the detection of IgG and IgE canine antibodies against partially purified flea antigen.

Low background levels were found in flea naive dogs, but high levels of both IgE and IgG antibodies were found in many sera from dogs with clinical flea bite hypersensitivity. In sera from non-allergic dogs exposed chronically to fleas, IgE levels differed little from background, and levels of IgG anti-flea antibodies were much lower than those from the flea allergic group. The results suggest that chronic flea exposure may result in partial or complete tolerance rather than hyposensitization in the commonly accepted sense.

4. Willemse, A. and Egberink, H.F. : *Transmission of cowpox virus infection from domestic cat to man.*
The Lancet, June 29: 1515, 1985.

A domestic European short-haired cat, 2 months of age, is reported, with primary symptoms of rhinitis and erosive, ulcerative lesions of the labial skin and perinasal area. The animal had been housed in a barn in a field and these symptoms manifested when the cat was introduced into an urban household. One week after the first symptoms, multiple nodular skin lesions appeared with firm crusts. The lesions healed spontaneously within 4 weeks with scar formation. Another cat in the same household had vesicular and erosive lesions in the mouth and on the head a few weeks after introduction of the diseased animal. Ten days after the appearance of the skin lesions of the first cat, the owner noted an ulcer with erythematous borders on the back of her right hand. She felt ill, with lethargy and pyrexia.

Virus isolation studies and serological tests (from the cats and the owner) showed characteristic features of cowpox virus.

These suggest that cowpox virus was transmitted from a domestic cat to man.

5. Gelberg, H.B., Lewis, R. M., Felsburg, P. J. and Smith, C. A.: Anti-epithelial autoantibodies associated with the feline eosinophilic granuloma complex.
Am. J. Vet. res. 46 : 263-265, 1985.

A retrospective study of banked sera from 19 cats with the eosinophilic granuloma complex revealed that 68% of affected cats had circulating antibodies to components of normal cat epithelium. Seemingly, the eosinophilic granuloma complex of cats may be an autoimmune disease. However, epidermal damage caused by the eosinophilic granuloma complex may release altered self-antigens to which the cat's immune system responds.

6. Willemse, T., Groothuis, D.G., Koeman, J.P. and Beijer, E.G.: *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile*: extrapulmonary infection in a cat.
J. Clin. Microbiol. 21 : 854-856, 1985.

The first evidence of the potential pathogenicity of *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile* in cats is presented. This mycobacterium was isolated repeatedly from intra- and subcutaneous nodules, aspirated fluid from fluctuating skin lesions, and lymph nodes. The distinctive characteristics of the cultured organisms matched those of *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile*. Although *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile* has been thought to be limited to the Far East, the cat described here had not been out of the Netherlands.

7. Carlotti, D.: Atopic dermatitis in dogs.
Point Vétérinaire 17 : 5-17, 1985.

Clinical signs, diagnostic procedures and therapy of canine atopic disease are described. Of 34 confirmed cases of atopic disease 23 dogs had immediate skin test reactivity to non-seasonal allergens only and 2 dogs revealed this reactivity to seasonal allergens only.

Skin reactivity to house dust was observed in 27 dogs, to human dander in 19 dogs and to *Dermatophagoïdes pteronyssinus* in 8 dogs. Desensitization was successful in 12 of 18 dogs.

8. Bywater, R. J., Hewitt, G.R., Marshall, A. B. and West, B.: Efficacy of clavulanate-potentiated amoxycillin in experimental and clinical skin infections.
Vet. Record 116 : 177-179, 1985.

The efficacy of clavulanate-potentiated amoxycillin was compared with amoxycillin alone in experimental staphylococcal infection in dogs and in a controlled trial in clinical cases of skin infection in dogs and cats.

The experimental infection was produced by subdermal inoculation with beta-lactamase producing (amoxycillin resistant) staphylococci absorbed in cotton dust. This produced discrete, localised lesions with no systemic involvement. In a cross-over study, six animals were randomly allocated to treatment with either amoxycillin alone (10 mg/kg, dosed twice daily) or a formulation of clavulanate-potentiated amoxycillin (12.5 mg/kg, of a 1 : 4 ratio, dosed twice daily). The lesions of the animals treated with clavulanate-potentiated amoxycillin resolved more quickly than those treated with amoxycillin alone. The difference was significant for both lesion diameter and inflammation score after day 6 of treatment. A trial was carried out in clinical cases of skin disease which were randomly allocated to twice-daily treatment with either amoxycillin alone (10 or 20 mg/kg), or with clavulanate-potentiated amoxycillin (12.5 or 25 mg/kg of a 1 : 4 ratio). The required duration of treatment was shorter for the potentiated amoxycillin treatments, and the success rate (judged by cure or substantial improvement) was higher for this group, especially where amoxycillin resistant organisms were isolated. It is concluded that clavulanate-potentiated amoxycillin is an effective treatment of skin infections both under experimental and clinical conditions.

9. Folz, S.D., Henke, C.L., Kakuk, T.J., Rector, D.L. and Conder, G.A.: Longterm use of amitraz in treating chronic generalized demodicosis.
Mod. Vet. Practice 66 (4) : 241-243, 1985.

In a 32-month field trial of long-term use of topical amitraz in treatment of 40 dogs with chronic generalized demodicosis, 18 (45%) were completely cured and 28 (70%) stabilized after an average of 15.2 topical treatments. Treatment intervals were 1-8 weeks. No drug-related adverse effects were noted. Only 12.5% could not be stabilized with long-term amitraz treatment.

10. Vollset, I.: Atopic dermatitis in Norwegian dogs.
Nordisk Vet. Med. 37 (2) : 97-106, 1985.

Of 122 dogs showing clinical signs of atopic dermatitis, 56.6% exhibited immediate skin test reactivity to one or more well defined allergen extracts, when intradermal skin tests were performed. The Prausnitz-Küstner test performed on two non-atopic recipient dogs, with serum from affected dogs, showed that « reaginic » antibodies translocated in serum from all affected dogs remained bound within the skin of the recipient dogs for 192 hours. House dust, house dust mite (*Dermatophagoïdes farinae*) and human dander were the allergens which most commonly caused immediate skin reactions. West Highland White Terriers and Boxers were the most affected breeds. Age at onset of clinical signs was 1-4 years in 72.2% of the dogs.

11. Gifer, U., Werner, L.L., Millickamp, N.J. and Gorman, N.T. : Sulfadiazine-induced allergy in six Dobermann Pinschers.
J. Am. Vet. Med. Assoc. 186 (5) : 479-484, 1985.

Treatment with sulfadiazine-trimethoprim caused reversible, allergic drug reactions in 6 Dobermann Pinschers 10 to 21 days after the first drug exposure and/or within 1 hour to 10 days after re-exposure. The symptomatology included a glomerulonephropathy, polyarthritis, polymyositis, focal retinitis, fever, anemia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia and/or skin rash. These clinical abnormalities were typical of an immune-mediated vasculitis. In a drug challenge study on one dog, trimethoprim (200 mg every 12 h for 7 days) alone did not result in clinical signs; however, exposure to sulfadiazine (800 mg every 12 h) caused recurrence of the polyarthritis, glomerulonephropathy and focal retinitis within 5 days.

Biochemical and immunological studies supported the hypothesis that sulfadiazine caused a type-III hypersensitivity reaction.

12. Pichler, M.E., Gross, T.L., and Kroll, W.R. : Cutaneous and mucocutaneous candidiasis in a dog.
Comp. Cont. Ed. Pract. Vet. 7 (3) : 225-230, 1985.

Candida albicans was isolated from various lesional sites. Results of a T-lymphocyte blastogenesis assay revealed very low responses of T-lymphocytes, indicating a diminution of cell-mediated immunity.

13. Scott, D.W. and Walton, D.K. : Clinical evaluation of oral vitamin E for the treatment of primary canine acanthosis nigricans.
J. Am. Anim. Hosp. Assoc. 21 : 345-350, 1985.

Eight dogs with idiopathic acanthosis nigricans were treated with only dl-alpha-tocopherol acetate, 200 IU, given orally bid, two hours before or after a meal. All dogs improved while receiving vitamin E. In six dogs improvement was noticed within 30 days, and all dogs were improved within 60 days. Inflammation, lichenification, and any associated pruritus subsided, as did greasiness and objectionable odor.

The visible hyperpigmentation was not improved significantly in any of the dogs.

No side effects were observed after follow-up periods ranging from seven months to over three years.

14. Haupt, K.H., Prieur, D.J., Moore, M.P., Hargis, A.A. et al : Familial canine dermatomyositis : clinical, electrodiagnostic and genetic studies.
Am. J. Vet. Res. 46 : 1861-1869, 1985.

Three Collies with a skin disorder, 6 progeny from a breeding of 2 of the Collies (incross litter), and the 4 progeny from the breeding of an affected Collie male and a normal Labrador Retriever female (outcross litter) were examined. By 7 to 11 weeks of age, all six dogs in the incross litter developed a qualitatively similar, but variably severe, dermatitis of the ears, face, lips, tip of the tail and over bony prominences of limbs. Later, myopathic signs characterized by bilaterally symmetrical skeletal muscle atrophy of the head, neck, trunk, and extremities; facial palsy; decreased jaw tone; stiff gait; and hyperreflexia were observed in the dogs more severely affected by the dermatitis. Of the 4 dogs in the outcross litter, 3 had similar, but milder, clinical manifestations of the dermatitis and myopathy.

Cutaneous lesions consisted of intraepidermal and subepidermal vesicles or pustules with intradermal infiltration by leukocytes. Muscle lesions included myositis; myofiber degeneration, regeneration, and atrophy; and fibrosis. A generalized myopathy in the severely affected dogs was indicated by abnormal readings on needle electromyograms and normal motor nerve conduction velocities. Spontaneous needle electromyogram abnormalities were fibrillation potentials, positive sharp waves, and bizarre high-frequency discharges. Retrospective and prospective genetic analyses disclosed a definite familial tendency and indicated the condition has an autosomal dominant component.

15. Haupt, K.H., Prieur, D.J., Hargis, A.A. and Cavell, R.L. et al : Familial canine dermatomyositis : clinicopathologic, immunologic, and serologic studies.
Am. J. Vet. Res. 46 : 1870-1875, 1985.

Laboratory studies were performed on 3 Collies with familial canine dermatomyositis, and their progeny. High concentrations of immune complexes and proportionally increased IgG were present in the sera of moderately and severely affected incross dogs. In addition these dogs had weakly positive direct Coombs' test and only the latter group had rheumatoid factor present also.

16. Kunkle, G.A. : Double-blind flea hyposensitization trial in cats.
Proc. Am. Acad. Vet. Derm., Orlando (Fl.), 1985.

Twenty-two cats displaying clinical signs of flea allergy dermatitis (miliary dermatitis) were hyposensitized with Greer flea antigen. Selected cats exhibited positive skin test reactivity to flea antigen and had clinical histories to support a diagnosis of flea bite hypersensitivity. Eighteen cats received 1cc of flea antigen s.q. or i.d. for 20 weeks, while seven control cats received saline solution. Statistically there was no significant clinical improvement noted in either antigen-treated or control groups over the 20 weeks course.

17. Willemse, A., Noordzij, A., Van den Brom, W.E., Rutten, V.P.M.G. : Allergen specific IgG₁ anti bodies in dogs with atopic dermatitis as determined by the ELISA.
Clin. exp. Immunol. 59 : 359-363, 1985.

Allergen specific IgG₁ antibodies were detected by the enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) in 89% of the 62 atopic dogs studied. Antibodies were found most frequently against house dust (47%), human dander (50%), grass pollens (58%) and spring tree pollens (43%). These antibodies were also found in 11 of 20 dogs with atopic symptoms but without immediate skin test reactivity to inhalant allergens. Agreement between the presence of skin reactivity and allergen specific IgG₁ titres ranged from one of 14 for cat dander to 22 of 34 for house dust. Among dogs with atopic symptoms but without skin test reactivity and specific IgG₁ titres to the respective allergens, the agreement varied between 28 of 54 for human dander and 67 of 68 for cat dander. In view of the value of the dog as an experimental model of atopic disease in man, further studies of the pathophysiological significance of IgG₁ antibodies are warranted. In addition, reconsideration of the diagnostic criteria for canine atopic dermatitis, as done by Hanifin and Rajka (1980) in man, seems indicated.

18. Sangster, L.T., Styer, E.L., and Hall, G.A. : Coccidia associated with cutaneous nodules in a dog.
Vet. Pathol. 22 (2) : 186-188, 1985.

A 6 month-old dog with clinical signs suggestive of canine distemper had multiple cutaneous nodules, of which some released a serohaemorrhagic exudate.

Histological examination of a nodule revealed the presence of coccidia. Sexual stages were predominant with many macrogametes and scattered microgamonts that produced numerous microgametes. An occasional meront with as many as 15 radially arranged, spindleshaped merozoites was seen. Developmental stages of the parasite occurred in fibroblasts within parasitophorous vacuoles. Identification of the coccidium was not possible.

19. Fourrier, P. : Dermatose améliorée par le zinc chez un Dogue allemand âgé de 3 ans.
Prat. Méd. Chir. L'Anim. Comp. 20 (5) : 515-519, 1985.

A Great Dane, 3 years of age, is described with a chronic exudative dermatitis at the nasolabial, periocular and interdigital areas. In addition, a conjunctivitis and a spot-wise leucoderma was observed at the skin of the abdomen and extremities. Bacterial cultures revealed beta-hemolytic streptococci and *Staphylococcus intermedius*. At histopathology hyper- and parakeratosis together with perivascular inflammatory reactions were most characteristic. A diagnosis was made of zinc responsive dermatoses, with secondary pyoderma.

Therapy with oral methionine-zinc resulted in clinical improvement within 2 months.

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY



ANNUAL REPORT E.S.V.D. No 1, MARCH 1986.

Editor : Ton Willemse, D.V.M., Ph. D., The Netherlands

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

For the first time the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology has published its Annual Report. This report will be printed regularly in the future and will inform you about the activities within the field of veterinary dermatology in Europe and abroad.

The European Society of Veterinary Dermatology has been founded in September 1984 in Hamburg (D). In November 1983 dr. George Muller (U.S.A.) and I had met our French colleagues dr. Didier Carlotti and dr. Pierre Fourrier in Paris. We were impressed about the high standard of the GEDAC, the French veterinary dermatology study group. When we talked about the activities in veterinary dermatology in other European countries, our French colleagues suggested a European meeting during the congress of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association in Hamburg.

Although there was not much time to prepare the first meeting, many speakers from all over Europe gathered.

In the afternoon prior to the meeting dr. George Muller and I sat together in his hotelroom and discussed the creation of a European veterinary dermatology organization.

We selected only six charter members among those colleagues who devote much of their time to veterinary dermatology, to make the executive committee more efficient :

dr. Didier Carlotti - France - elected as hon. treasurer
dr. Pierre Fourrier - France - membership secretary
dr. Hans J. Koch - Germany - president
dr. David Lloyd - United Kingdom - hon. secretary
dr. Claudia von Tscharner - Switzerland - meeting secretary
dr. Ton Willemse - the Netherlands - vice-president.

As honorary members dr. Richard Halliwell (U.S.A.), dr. Peter Ihrke (U.S.A.), dr. Robert W. Kirk (U.S.A.) and dr. George H. Muller (U.S.A.) were chosen.

It is surprising that veterinary dermatology finds its place in veterinary medicine so late. Let communication and exchange of knowledge help to accelerate the progress in Europe.

Hans J. Koch