

IV National Congress of the Italian Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine and Farriery

«From the Ancient Art of Animal Care to Modern Veterinary Public Health»

Arezzo, 14-16th october 2026

organized in collaboration with Accademia Petrarca

Venue: Casa del Petrarca
via dell'Orto 28

Programme and Abstracts

Wednesday 14th october	9,00-11,00	**Registration**

Wednesday 14th october		**Time**	**Authors**	**Presentation Title**	**Speaker**	**Chairmen**
	1	11,00-11,20	Mario Piero Marchisio, Arcangelo Gentile, Annamaria Grandis	THE ORIGINS OF THE SERUM AND VACCINE INSTITUTE IN ASMARA, ERITREA	Mario Piero Marchisio	Mario Piero Marchisio Marco Rodolfo Galloni
	2	11,20-11,40	Savas Volkan Genc	THE INVISIBLE FRONT OF WAR: OTTOMAN MILITARY VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE ITALO-TURKISH WAR (1911–1912	Savas Volkan Genc	
	3	11,40-12,00	Giovanni Battista Graglia, Mario Piero Marchisio	GENERAL, I HEREBY PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST	Giovanni Battista Graglia,	
	4	12,00-12,20	Mario Piero Marchiso, Piero Andreoni	SCIENCE IN UNIFORM: LIFE AND WORKS OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL, VETERINARY CORPS, RODOLFO ANDREONI	Mario Piero Marchiso,	
	5	12,20-12,40	Lia Brunori Cianti, Luca Cianti	FROM IMAGE TO MORPHOFUNCTIONAL PROFILE: THE HORSES OF CASTEL PANDONE IN VENAFRO, PART I	Lia Brunori Cianti, Luca Cianti	
	6	12,40-13,00	Lia Brunori Cianti, Luca Cianti	FROM IMAGE TO MORPHOFUNCTIONAL PROFILE: THE HORSES OF CASTEL PANDONE IN VENAFRO, PART II	Lia Brunori Cianti, Luca Cianti	
		13,00-14,20	**LUNCH BREAK**			

Wednesday 14th october		Time	Authors	Presentation Title	Speaker	Chairmen
	7	14,20-14,40	Pierluigi Piras	THE HISTORY OF HIPPOPHAGY IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WITH ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR ITALY: FROM THE 8TH CENTURY TO THE MID-19TH CENTURY AND FROM THE MID-19TH CENTURY THROUGH THE 20TH CENTURY (PARTS 1 AND 2)	Pierluigi Piras	Walter Pinna Cinzia Benazzi
	8	14,40-15,00	Andrej Pengov	GIOVANNI BATTISTA LAURIN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MILAN VETERINARY SCHOOL	Andrej Pengov	
	9	15,00-15,20	Carlo Rinaldi, Michele Mariani, Fulvia Marino, Antonio Calamo, Nicola Maio	THE PIONEERING ROLE OF ANTONIO FERDENZI IN ITALY AND BELGIUM IN THE LATE 18TH CENTURY: BETWEEN SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH AND VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH	Carlo Rinaldi	
	10	15,20-15,40	Massimo Aliverti	BEASTS AND SAINTS: IN HAGIOGRAPHY AND FOLK VETERINARY MEDICINE	Massimo Aliverti	
	11	15,40-16,00	Vitantonio Perrone	LIBORIO BONIFACIO AND ELIS SANDBERG TWO VETERINARIANS COMMITTED TO CANCER TREATMENT	Vitantonio Perrone	
		16,00-16,30	**COFFEE BREAK**			
	12	16,30-16,50	Mario Pio L. Bitti, Augusto Orrù, Giuliano Chirra, Walter Pinna	GIUSEPPE DONEDDU (1900–1978): A PROMINENT FIGURE AMONG THE *FRAILARZOS* OF BITTI IN THE 20TH CENTURY	Mario Pio Leonardo Bitti	Ivo Zoccarato Giovanni Graglia
	13	16,50-17,10	Walter Pinna, Augusto Orrù, Giuliano Chirra, Mario Pio L. Bitti	OX SHOEING IN BITTI THROUGH AN MANUSCRIPT SOURCE: THE WORKSHOP REGISTER OF GIUSEPPE DONEDDU (YEARS 1953 - 1956)	Walter Pinna	
	14	17,10-17,30	Nicolina Solinas	THE BLURRED LINE BETWEEN FARMING AND VETERINARY PRACTICE IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF THE 19TH CENTURY IN SMALL RURAL VILLAGES IN SARDINIA.MASTR' ANTONI (1830–1910), FARRIER AND PHLEBOTOMIST	Nicolina Solinas	

Wednesday 14th october		Time	Authors	Presentation Title	Speaker	Chairmen
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	16	17,50-18,10	Luciano Venturi, Patrizia Parodi	"VETERINARY MEDICINE PRESENTED TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS" (Thirty Years Later)	Luciano Venturi	
	17	18,10-18,30	Rocco Panetta	A "BLACK HOLE" IN PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH CARE	Rocco Panetta	

Thursday 15th october		Time	Authors	Presentation Title	Speaker	Chairmen
	18	8,50-9,10	Carlo Rinaldi, Michele Mariani	THE ANIMAL VISIONS OF SAINT ILDEGARD OF BINGEN IN THE TRIPTYCH OF PROPHETIC WORKS	Carlo Rinaldi	Annamaria Grandis Gianni Mancuso
	19	9,10-9,30	Carlo Rinaldi, Michele Mariani	THE ANIMAL VISIONS OF SAINT ILDEGARD OF BINGEN IN *LIBER SUBTILITATUM DIVERSARUM NATURARUM*	Carlo Rinaldi	
	20	9,30-9,50	Gianni Mancuso	FOR A MUSEUM EXHIBITION AT ENPAV	Gianni Mancuso	
	21	9,50-10,10	Luca Conti	JENNY BARBIERI: THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND ACADEMIC CHALLENGES OF THE PIONEER OF VETERINARY MEDICINE IN ITALY	Luca Conti	
	22	10,10-10,30	Flora Basso	PROFESSIONALIZATION AND THE ROLE OF VETERINARIANS IN MEAT INSPECTION IN PRE-UNIFICATION MILAN	Flora Basso	
		10,30-10,50	**COFFEE BREAK**			
	23	10,50-11,30	Luca Cianti	**PLENARY LECTURE** LUCIUS JUNIUS MODERATUS COLUMELLA AND THE BIRTH OF RATIONAL VETERINARY MEDICINE	Luca Cianti	Ivo Zoccarato
		11,30-13,00	**OPENING CEREMONY Greetings, Premio Zanon award ceremony, Medal ceremony**			

Thursday 15th october		Time	Authors	Presentation Title	Speaker	Chairmen
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	25	14,30-14,50	Pierluigi Piras, Giovanni Paolo Biggio	THE HISTORY OF THE HORSE IN SARDINIA (PART 1): FROM ITS ORIGINS TO THE PROSPECT OF ESTABLISHING A ROYAL STUD FARM	Pierluigi Piras	
	26	14,50-15,10	Giovanni Paolo Biggio, Pierluigi Piras	THE HISTORY OF THE HORSE IN SARDINIA (PART 2): FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE ROYAL STUD FARM TO THE SELECTION OF THE SARDINIAN ANGLO-ARAB HORSE	Giovanni Paolo Biggio	
	27	15,10-15,30	Luciano Venturi	OBSERVATIONS ON THE OF RINDERPEST CONTROL IN THE 18TH CENTURY IN LOWER ROMAGNA	Luciano Venturi	
	28	15,30-15,50	Marco Rodolfo Galloni, Patrizia Peila	THE ORIGINS OF VETERINARY SURGERY IN TURIN	Marco Rodolfo Galloni	
		15,50-16,10	**COFFEE BREAK**			
	29	16,10-16,30	Lorenzo Luatti	TENACIOUS PIONEERS IN THE SHADOWS: THE BIRTH OF A VETERINARY COMMUNITY IN THE VALDICHIANA IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY	Lorenzo Luatti	Pierluigi Piras Vitantonio Perrone
	30	16,30-16,50	Helga Mazzucco, Mario Piero Marchisio	MULTILINGUAL GLOSSARY OF HORSE TERM – PART 2	Helga Mazzucco	
	31	16,50-17,10	Giuliano Chirra, Mario Pio L. Bitti, Augusto Orrù, Walter Pinna	A COLLECTION OF TERMS RELATED TO CATTLE SHOEING IN SARDINIA	Giuliano Chirra	

Thursday 15th october		Time	Authors	Presentation Title	Speaker	Chairmen
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	33	17,30-17,50	Elio Frescani, Annamaria Grandis, Elena Martoni, Simona Nerozzi, Romina Rastelli	FROM "CAUSE" TO "TREATMENT": A BIBLIOGRAPHIC CASE STUDY IN 18TH-CENTURY VETERINARY MEDICINE IN BOLOGNA	Elio Frescani	
	34	17,50-18,10	Giulia Bompadre	THE CAT (*Αἴλουρος*) IN GREEK DOCUMENTARY PAPYRUSES FROM EGYPT	Giulia Bompadre	
		18,10-18,30	**POSTER SESSION**			
		20,30-23,00	**CONGRESS DINNER**			

Friday 16th october						
	35	8,40-9,00	Bulent Basaran	ANIMALS, DISEASE, AND EMPIRE: MILITARY VETERINARY MEDICINE AND THE HIDDEN INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE ITALO-OTTOMAN WAR IN LIBYA, 1911–1912	Bulent Basaran	Daniele De Meneghi Mario Piero Marchisio
	36	9,00-9,20	Seda Tan	WE NEED HORSES: ARAB HORSES FROM THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE TO ITALY	Seda Tan	
	37	9,20-9,40	Enrico Buriola, Marco R. Galloni, Patrizia Peila, Luisa Rambozzi, Chiara Salio	THE BONA COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF VETERINARY SCIENCES: "FROM PARAPSYCHOLOGY TO PARASITOLOGY, AND BACK AGAIN"	Enrico Buriola	
		9,40-10,50	**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**			
		10,50-11,20	**COFFEE BREAK**			

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Friday 16th october		11,20-12,30	VISIT TO PETRARCA' S HOUSE
		12,30-13,00	CLOOSING CEREMONY
		13,00-14,00	LUNCH BREAK
		14,00-15,30	VISIT TO THE MUSEUM "QUARTIERE DI PORTA CRUCIFERA"
		15,30-17,00	VISIT TO SAN LORENZO'S CHURCH AND TO THE ANCIENT LIBRARY OF THE EPISCOPAL SEMINAR

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	40	Nicola Maio, Antonio Calamo, Fulvia Marino, Carlo Rinaldi	La " Scuola dell' Arte veterinaria" nel Regno di Napoli: le origini
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THE ORIGINS OF THE SERUM AND VACCINE INSTITUTE IN ASMARA, ERITREA

Mario Piero Marchisio[1], Arcangelo Gentile[2], Annamaria Grandis[3]

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Eritrea was Italy's first colony in Africa, also known as the "firstborn colony." At the time, the goal was agricultural colonization that could absorb Italy's excess population. Eritrea emerged as a separate entity when it became an Italian colony; previously, it had been part of Abyssinia. The sparse population was either nomadic or lived in scattered villages and was engaged in herding and agriculture. It was precisely this nomadic lifestyle that, in the early 1900s, led to the spread of rinderpest, which caused extremely severe damage to the colony's sole local source of wealth. The then Governor of Eritrea, His Excellency the Honorable Ferdinando Martini, concerned about the extensive damage caused by rinderpest, sought the opinion of the distinguished hygienist from the University of Rome, Professor Angelo Celli, and in 1903 summoned a scientific mission to the colony consisting of Medical Lieutenants Memmo and Martoglio and Veterinary Lieutenant Adani. After studying the infection in relation to the environment, the commission proposed that the best means of combating the scourge was the application of serum-vaccination according to the method of Kolle and Turner. In 1903, 1904, and 1905, trials of the system yielded clearly favorable results. By Governor's Decree No. 435 of October 18, 1905, the Serum-Vaccine Institute was founded, based on a plan by Lieutenant Martoglio, who was appointed to direct it.

Its primary task was the production of bovine anti-plague serum, but as early as 1905, a special section was also established to produce the Jennerian vaccine (smallpox vaccine). In 1920, the Institute was assigned the specific task of protecting the livestock population, and the direction of the institution was entrusted to veterinarians. The authors trace the history of the Institute through the end of World War II and provide a description of the current NAPHL—National Animal and Plant Health Laboratory (also known as the National Veterinary Laboratory).

Keywords: Eritrea, Serum and Vaccine Institute, Bovine Plague, Veterinarians

THE INVISIBLE FRONT OF WAR: OTTOMAN MILITARY VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE ITALO-TURKISH WAR (1911–1912)

Savaş Volkan Genç

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This study examines the veterinary services and animal organization of the Ottoman army during the Italo-Turkish War (29 September 1911–18 October 1912). Its principal sources are the Regulation on the Organization of Military Veterinary Health Services (Askerî Teşkilât-ı Sıhhiye-i Baytariyye Nizamnâmesi), issued in August 1911, and documents identified in Ottoman military archives. Employing the historical document analysis method, the study evaluates legislation concerning the Ottoman military veterinary organization, official correspondence, personnel assignments, and requests for commendation alongside the literature on the history of veterinary medicine and scholarly studies addressing the military course of the war, its logistics, local forces, and the Ottoman lines-of-communication system.

The findings demonstrate that the 1911 Regulation, which entered into force immediately before the outbreak of the war, established a detailed institutional framework for veterinary officers, auxiliary personnel, farriers, animal hospitals, lines-of-communication services, and reserve personnel to be mobilized during wartime. Archival documents reveal that the need for veterinarians in the region was reflected in official correspondence, that requests were made to reinforce the existing staff, and that veterinarians were assigned to certain military units. It was also determined that some veterinarians who served during the war requested formal recognition and commendation for their services and achievements at the front. These requests indicate that their responsibilities were not limited to the treatment and care of animals but also encompassed services essential to maintaining military mobility and logistical continuity.

Nevertheless, Italian naval superiority and the blockade largely prevented the regular transfer of personnel, medicines, supplies, and animals from Istanbul to the region. Consequently, veterinary services were provided through a flexible field organization that combined existing garrison personnel, volunteer officers, local combatants, grooms, farriers, and traditional animal-care knowledge, rather than through the fully staffed institutional structure envisaged by the Regulation. Horses, mules, donkeys, and particularly camels served as indispensable means of reconnaissance, communication, troop movement, transportation of ammunition and provisions, water supply, and casualty evacuation.

In conclusion, the Italo-Turkish War constituted one of the first major wartime tests of the Ottoman military veterinary organization following its reorganization under modern legislation. Archival documents provide concrete evidence of the need for veterinarians in the region, their assignment to military units, and their requests for commendation. They also demonstrate that the extraordinary geographical and military conditions of the conflict necessitated the adaptation of the centralized institutional model to locally available resources.

Keywords: Italo-Turkish War, Ottoman military veterinary medicine, history of veterinary.

GENERAL, I HEREBY PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST

Giovanni Battista GRAGLIA[1], Mario Piero MARCHISIO[2]

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The discovery of an extremely rare copy of the autobiography “Signor Generale, la dichiaro in arresto” by Gen. Francesco Ferroni, former Chief of the Military Veterinary Corps, provided an opportunity to deepen our understanding of a veterinary officer who, throughout his military career, served as a role model for us young veterinarians who were fortunate enough to meet and get to know him.

Amid the obsessive search for collusion between state institutions and the Sicilian mafia that characterized the months following the assassination of Gen. Dalla Chiesa, Prefect of Palermo, an ambitious Sicilian public prosecutor believed he had uncovered evidence of illicit dealings between a mafia member he was investigating for murder and the General in charge of the Military Veterinary Corps, whom he ordered arrested. Only after four long years would a court issue its ruling: “the charges are unfounded.”

The authors aim to restore dignity to the youngest and one of the most brilliant commanders in the entire history of the Military Veterinary Corps, who was splashed across the front pages at the time of his arrest but never received a media reevaluation following his acquittal.

Keywords: Military Veterinary Corps, Gen. Francesco Ferroni, Commander of the Military Veterinary Corps

SCIENCE IN UNIFORM: THE LIFE AND WORKS OF VETERINARY LIEUTENANT COLONEL RODOLFO ANDREONI

Mario Piero Marchisio[1], Pietro Andreoni[2]

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Rodolfo Andreoni was born in Milan on May 30, 1906. In July 1927, he graduated in Veterinary Medicine with a mark of 110 with laude, and his thesis was published. From July 1927 to July 1929, he worked as a volunteer assistant at the Institute of Hygiene, Infectious Diseases, and Veterinary Police at the Royal University of Milan, focusing particularly on the diagnosis and prevention of infectious diseases and food safety. In 1928, he obtained his license to practice in Bologna and, in the same year, attended the Reserve Veterinary Officer Cadet Course at the Cavalry School in Pinerolo. Upon completion of the Reserve Veterinary Officer Cadet Course, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant and served his first assignment with the Milan Mounted Artillery Regiment. In 1929, he transferred to the permanent officer corps, and on January 10, 1930, he was assigned to the Experimental Laboratory of the Military Chemical Service, where he served until the armistice (September 8, 1943). During the turbulent historical period that ended on April 25, 1945, Lieutenant Colonel Andreoni served as one of the two directors of the School for Veterinary Officer Cadets, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Farriers, located in Somma Lombardo (Varese), under the jurisdiction of the Italian Social Republic.

Thanks to his work, combined with that of his colleagues, the Somma Lombardo School maintained continuity with the Pinerolo School, both culturally and in terms of the preservation and transmission of technical equipment and museum artifacts. Upon completing his service with the Military Veterinary Service, he returned to the capital, where he worked as a private lecturer and in private practice until his death on June 29, 1982. Drawing on documentation held by the veterinary officer's family, the authors trace his professional career, which was marked by numerous scientific works, particularly in the little-known field of war toxicology, the pathology and treatment of animals exposed to chemical agents, gas protection for animals, toxicity, decontamination, and the protection of food contaminated with chemical agents.

Keywords: Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Officer, Chemical Agents, Gas Protection for Animals

FROM THE IMAGE TO THE MORPHOFUNCTIONAL PROFILE: THE HORSES OF PANDONE CASTLE IN VENAFRO - PART I

Lia Brunori Cianti[1], Luca Cianti[2]

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The castle of Venafro, in Molise, preserves a remarkable cycle of paintings depicting, life-size, some of the finest horses from the stables of Enrico Pandone, the fourth Count and later Duke of Venafro. A member of the southern Italian Renaissance nobility, Pandone was educated in the ideals of chivalry and devoted particular attention to horse breeding. His family was connected both to the Aragonese court in Naples and, through its kinship with the Acquaviva and Gonzaga families, to the Mantuan milieu. These connections brought him into contact with the refined Gonzaga equestrian culture and, perhaps, with those representations of horses that, already present in the now-lost decorations of Mantuan residences, would later be incorporated into the celebrated Sala dei Cavalli of Palazzo Te.

The Venafro cycle, however, should not be regarded as a simple derivation from such models, but rather as an original reworking of diverse influences, reinterpreted in the light of the Aragonese-Spanish cultural tradition characteristic of southern Italy. This paper examines the pictorial cycle within its historical context and in relation to the Aragonese-Spanish cultural and artistic tradition, highlighting its distinctive iconographic, stylistic, and cultural features.

Keywords: castle of Venafro, Pandone cycle of paintings, horses

FROM THE IMAGE TO THE MORPHOFUNCTIONAL PROFILE: THE HORSES OF PANDONE CASTLE IN VENAFRO PARTE II

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The text examines the Renaissance conception of equine beauty through the analysis of horse portraits preserved in the Castle of Venafro (Castel Pandone), comparing them with treatises of the era, from Pasquale Caracciolo to Francesco Liberati. In the Renaissance, a horse's beauty was not merely aesthetic, but a synthesis of form, nobility of spirit, and practical function (for war, jousting, or riding). Within the castle's halls, two main groups can be distinguished: riding horses (palfreys, in the Hall of the Bell) and warhorses (destriers, in the Hall of the War Horses). Both share a mesomorphic morphotype, characterized by a vigorous yet agile structure, with a broad and deep chest; a light and expressive head; a markedly arched neck ("swan neck"); a generously rounded croup; and lean, robust limbs with perfect conformation.

From a morphometric point of view, the paintings - executed in life - size scale - show a height at the withers ranging between 145 cm and 155 cm. The ratio between length and height fits the animals within a rectangle (with length exceeding height by about 15 cm), diverging from the geometric and idealized canons of Leonardo and Verrocchio to offer a more realistic and pragmatic testimony of the equine selection of the time.

Enrico Pandone's stable reflects an advanced and systematic zootechnical vision. The presence of five breeding stallions testifies targeted genetic work aimed at fixing desired traits. Despite the abrupt interruption of this project due to the historical events surrounding the Lord of Venafro, the stable represents a moment of excellence and a pioneering intuition in the breeding and selection of the court horse.

Keywords: castle of Venafro, Pandone cycle of paintings, horses

THE HISTORY OF HIPPOPHAGY IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WITH ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR ITALY: FROM THE 8TH CENTURY TO THE MID-19TH CENTURY AND FROM THE MID-19TH CENTURY THROUGH THE 20TH CENTURY (PARTS 1 AND 2)

Pierluigi Piras

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The first part of this article on hippophagy covers a relatively long period of time, beginning with Pope Gregory III's letter to Saint Boniface in 732, in which - partly in response to the strong Byzantine influence within the ecclesiastical hierarchy of the time - sought to counter Germanic and Nordic rituals associated with the worship of Odin - which involved the consumption of horse meat - declaring such practices to be "impure and abominable". The essay then outlines the major events concerning the issue of hippophagy and the aversion to it up through the Late Middle Ages and the Renaissance, finally reaching the Napoleonic period, when the consumption of horse meat resurfaced as a last resort during famines resulting from sieges and armed conflicts. From that period onward - partly due to the critical spirit fostered by the Enlightenment - a phase began in which the now millennia-old aversion to hippophagy was openly questioned, and efforts to revive the practice began.

The second part of this article on the history of horse consumption covers a relatively shorter time span than the first part, but one that is decidedly richer in events of specific interest. Beginning in the mid-1800s and continuing throughout the following century, the events surrounding the reintroduction of horse meat consumption in Central Europe - and, subsequently, the debate that unfolded in Italy - are examined in as much detail as possible, highlighting the significance of this issue in both scientific and social contexts, as well as its impact on bioethical and political-administrative matters. However, following a debate that led to the inclusion of horses among animals intended for slaughter in 1890, their sale was effectively restricted to markets exclusively dedicated to horse meat, reflecting the lingering stigma associated with them. This restriction, reaffirmed in all subsequent regulations, was not lifted until 2000 with the entry into force of the provisions of the previous year's EU law.

Keywords: Food taboos, Horse meat, Hippophagy, Food use of farmed animals, Sale of horse meat

GIOVANNI BATTISTA LAURIN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MILAN VETERINARY SCHOOL

Andrej Pengov

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In 1805, a School for Veterinary Education was established in Milan. In 1811, the study duration was extended to four years, and graduates received the title of veterinarian. A significant turning point occurred in 1835 when Giovanni Battista Laurin introduced a new organisation scheme of the Veterinary Institute in Milan. The organisation was designed following the example of the Vienna veterinary school, and the institute included not only educational activities but also a veterinary hospital for the public.

Giovanni Battista Laurin, a doctor and veterinarian, was born on 29 May 1793 in Vipava, Slovenia and died on 1 September 1840 in Milan. He attended grammar school in Gorizia (1806–12), studied philosophy in Graz (1812–14), and pursued medicine at the University of Vienna (1814–18), where he also obtained his doctorate in medicine (1818). At the suggestion of his friend, the Slovenian-born physician and painter Anton Hayne (1786–1853), he became interested in veterinary medicine, and he worked for some time as an assistant at the veterinary institute in Vienna (1817–19), where he finished his veterinary studies in 1819. Afterwards, he was a professor of veterinary medicine at the Medical Faculty of the University in Pavia (1819–35) and then director of the Veterinary institute (Istituto di veterinaria) in Milan (1835–40), where he died at a young age. In addition to veterinary medicine, Laurin was equally active in medicine, particularly in pathology, and contributed professional articles to contemporary medical journals. He published the following works: Dissertatio inauguralis medica de peste in genere (Vienna 1818); Trattato sistematico delle epizoozie dei più utili mammiferi domestici per comodo ed uso degli allievi in medicina e chirurgia, non che dei Medici provinciali e distrettuali, dei Veterinari ed Economi rurali, I – II (Milan 1829–32).

Keywords: Veterinary education, Laurin, Milano

THE PIONEERING ROLE OF ANTONIO FERDENZI IN ITALY AND BELGIUM IN THE LATE 18TH CENTURY: BETWEEN SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH AND VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

Carlo Rinaldi[1], Michele Mariani[2], Fulvia Marino[3], Antonio Calamo[4], Nicola Maio[5]

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In the second half of the 18th century, the Teresian Enlightenment brought two major projects to the territories of Habsburg Lombardy, aimed at improving not only the scientific and cultural level but also the economic and rural policies of the kingdom: the reestablishment of the Royal Academy of Sciences and Fine Arts of Mantua in 1767 and the founding of a new veterinary school, initially proposed in 1772 in Mantua but ultimately established in 1791 in Milan. Antonio Ferdenzi, a medical student from Mantua, was among the young men selected and sent to France for veterinary training to support these government projects. Upon his return to Italy, he served for many years as a "public veterinary professor" - that is, as an official and the regime's chief advisor on public health matters. He distinguished himself not only through the effective measures he took during recurring animal epidemics throughout the region but also through his innovative efforts to rationalize livestock breeding and care for preventive purposes. As a member of the Agricultural Class of the Royal Academy, he worked tirelessly to promote good veterinary practices in opposition to the empirical traditions of rural Lombardy. To establish a veterinary school in Brussels, he was transferred by the Habsburg government to Belgium for several years, where he served in the same roles and was equally highly regarded. Upon his return to Italy, he published in 1794 the treatise "Advice on How to Properly Care for and Manage Livestock. With the Addition of Curative and Preventive Methods Against Pleuro-peripneumonia, Commonly Known as 'Polmonera', Which Particularly Affects Cattle". Still active in Lombardy's public health system during the French period, as attested by a public Manifesto issued by the Health Commission of the Mincio Department of the Cisalpine Republic in 1801, he died at the age of 52 in Mantua in 1807. Widely cited and respected by sources in the early nineteenth century, his name and work were subsequently gradually forgotten.

Keywords: Antonio Ferdenzi, Royal Academy of Sciences and Fine Arts, pneumonia, epizootics, veterinary public health, Mantua, Brussels School of Veterinary Medicine

BEASTS AND SAINTS, IN HAGIOGRAPHY AND IN FOLK VETERINARY MEDICINE

Massimo Aliverti

Professore a contratto nell'Università degli Studi della Insubria

The focus of this paper is the relationship between animals and the saints of the Christian faith, both in the numerous and evocative hagiographic accounts of the saints' lives and in the beliefs and therapeutic practices of popular veterinary medicine.

It is well known that in the lives of many saints-and in the corresponding hagiographic narratives-animals play an important and significant role. One need only think of the saints of the period of persecution, who were frequently thrown "ad feras (to the beasts)" in Roman amphitheaters. One need only add the numerous friendly encounters between animals and saints over the centuries up to recent times, often involving the animal acting as a protector.

It is also worth noting and emphasizing the role that many saints still play in popular veterinary medicine through the establishment of specific patronages for certain animals and the continued existence of preventive and curative rituals.

Finally, we must not forget the protective function that the veneration of certain saints serves against the harm and ailments that animals in general can unwittingly cause humans.

Keywords: Animals and Saints, popular veterinary medicine

LIBORIO BONIFACIO AND ELIS SANDBERG
TWO VETERINARIANS COMMITTED TO CANCER TREATMENT

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From the 1950s through the 1980s, there was much discussion in Italy about the hoped-for cancer treatment represented by the so-called "Bonifacio serum." Dr. Liborio Bonifacio practiced as a veterinarian in Agropoli, and based on his observations that no neoplastic lesions were found in goats, he hypothesized that goats, for some as yet unknown reason, were resistant to tumors. He then began extracting an injectable serum from the intestinal contents of slaughtered goats, which—at the request of treating physicians—began to be administered to numerous cancer patients. The news soon spread, and thanks in part to significant media attention, the health and ministerial authorities of the time authorized a sort of clinical trial—one that Bonifacio himself had advocated for. The results were, of course, dismal; nevertheless, Bonifacio continued to produce the serum, and his son Leonardo patented it in Switzerland as "Oncoclasina Bonifacio" and distributed it to those who still requested it.

Amid controversy and further experiments carried out at the public's urging, the affair was ended in 1982 by Bonifacio himself, who died the following year. Most people dismissed this affair as "typically Italian," but it is interesting to note that, during practically the same years, a very similar story unfolded in Sweden. Veterinarian Elis Sandberg, after conducting his own research into the potential immunological role of the thymus, became convinced that an extract properly derived from the thymus of ruminants could cure cancer and more. The drug produced by Sandberg was named THX and was subsequently used by anyone - including doctors - who requested it. Official trials demonstrated its ineffectiveness; nevertheless, Sandberg - who also enjoyed strong media support - continued to administer it, even going so far as to establish his own hospitals. He died in 1989, and his work was carried on for a few more years by his son Göran.

Keywords: Bonifacio serum, clinical trials, cancer

GIUSEPPE DONEDDU (1900 - 1978): A PROMINENT FIGURE AMONG THE "FRAILARZOS" OF BITTI IN THE 20TH CENTURY

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In a previous note, we provided a general overview of the locations of the workshops of Bitti's best-known blacksmiths. As a further exploration of the subject, we thought it would be interesting to highlight the professional figure of Giuseppe Doneddu, better known within the rural community as **"Peppe Diaulu."** This unmistakable nickname - "s'improegliu" in the local speech of Bitti - reflected both his commanding physical presence and the powerful sound of his work, whose metallic rhythm accompanied the daily life of Bitti for many years during the last century. In this thriving rural community, numerous accounts from the oral tradition are still preserved, together with many anecdotes concerning his personality and his life at work. In this brief account, however, we would like to quote the opening lines of a fine written tribute dedicated to him in verse:

Tiu Peppe Diaulu

Trabagliaia, dae manzanu a sera,
continu, Tiu Peppe in su fraile;
si pessaia chito, as'impuddhile,
semper nigheddu che una carvonera
ca non fachia che pistare ferru

Tiu Peppe Diaulu

He worked from morning until night,
unceasingly, Uncle Peppe in his forge;
he would rise early, at dawn,
always black as a charcoal burner
for all he ever did was hammer iron

Keywords: frailes in Bitti, blacksmiths of Sardinia during 20th century

OX SHOEING IN BITTI THROUGH AN MANUSCRIPT SOURCE: THE WORKSHOP REGISTER OF GIUSEPPE DONEDDU (YEARS 1953 - 1956)

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During our investigation into the blacksmiths' workshops active in Bitti during the twentieth century, we happened upon a primary documentary source of particular interest. This discovery not only provides further tangible evidence for our research into the practice of cattle shoeing in the local context of Bitti during the period under consideration but also offers an opportunity to explore some still little-known aspects of the community's microhistory and everyday life. The analysis of the register has made it possible, firstly, to assess the significance of cattle shoeing within the overall range of activities carried out in the workshop; secondly, to collect technical and economic data concerning the services performed; and, finally, to obtain evidence useful for reconstructing everyday economic practices and the relationships between artisanal activity and the agro-pastoral world during the years documented by the source. Viewed from the perspective of the microhistory of local rural society, the register thus acquires a significance that extends well beyond the specific history of the blacksmith's craft and profession. Rather, the document constitutes a primary source for the study of material culture, socio-economic relations, and transformations within the local rural context. Finally, its discovery may be regarded as something of a "goad" to further research, encouraging possible comparative developments based on similar manuscript sources from other geographical contexts.

Keywords: cattle shoeing in 20thcentury Bitti; economic value of cattle shoeing; manuscript sources on rural everyday life; microhistory

THE BLURRED LINE BETWEEN FARMING AND VETERINARY PRACTICE IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF THE 19TH CENTURY IN SMALL RURAL VILLAGES IN SARDINIA. MASTR' ANTONI (1830–1910), FARRIER AND PHLEBOTOMIST

Nicolina Solinas

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Antonio Solinas was born in 1830 in Bonorva, Sardinia. As a boy, he moved to Ittiri Cannedu to live at the Franciscan friary, a center for education and religious instruction. The Franciscan influence would remain with him throughout his life. Antonio left the religious life; in 1855, he married Quirica Casiddu, became a father eleven times, and remained a member of the Franciscan Third Order. He worked as a blacksmith and farrier at "su Fraile," a workshop in the town center adjacent to his home, located on Via S'Istradone, where some of his sons would also work. In 1878, he was elected to the town council, and in 1906, he served as Senior Councilman in the same rural village. He moved to work as a farrier and bloodletter, becoming a pillar of the community in Ittiri and neighboring villages. Until the end of the 19th century, these two trades were often combined in a single person in small towns across Sardinia. Specializing in shoeing and hoof care, he also performed veterinary procedures. The municipality of Ittiri awarded the sum of 400 lire to Antonio Solinas, farrier and veterinarian, for treating 161 cattle in 1875 that were afflicted with foot-and-mouth disease." In 1885, the trial began against "Antonio Solinas, aged 56, born in Bonorva and residing in Ittiri, a blacksmith, whose sons are farriers; he can read and write, is a free man, and is the defendant," on two counts: "for the unauthorized practice of veterinary medicine in Ittiri and for the possession of poisonous substances." Trials and appeals ended with fines. He died in 1910 at the age of eighty in his home located on "Sa Pigada de Mastr'Antoni Solinas", as that stretch of road is known in local lore. It is interesting to note that his funeral attire featured the insignia of the Secular Franciscan Order - the only photograph still preserved by the family.

Keywords: Blacksmith, Farrier, Phlebotomist, Veterinary Medicine, Franciscan Third Order, "Fraile" – Ittiri

HEALTH CARE OR AGRICULTURE: THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF THE PLACEMENT OF PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH CARE

Vitantonio Perrone

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As is well known, in our country, veterinary public health responsibilities have always been structured around primary prevention (keeping healthy the healthy), which has had positive effects on human, animal, and environmental health. Even in the pre-unification states and subsequently in the Kingdom of Italy, veterinary medicine - like human medicine - was incorporated into and coordinated by a single ministerial structure: first under the Ministry of the Interior, then, starting in 1958, under the Ministry of Health, and finally, since 2002, under the current Ministry of Health. This administrative framework has thus always recognized the principle of operational uniformity, which should be maintained in addressing diseases - whether in humans or animals - with particular attention to zoonoses. Nevertheless, part of the veterinary profession, in concert with other political and economic actors, has consistently - albeit in fits and starts - expressed some dissatisfaction with this historical placement, considering a transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture to be more appropriate and satisfactory. In fact, this transfer took place in 1896, but by 1901 this experiment had already come to an end, and in 1907, the reorganization of the Italian healthcare system - through the new Consolidated Law on Public Health - marked the definitive return to the side of human medicine.

However, despite this, there are still frequent complaints today about the so-called “Italian anomaly,” which - by failing to recognize the role that veterinarians actually play in advancing public health in our country - still considers this change of profession necessary for our profession to receive adequate social recognition.

Keywords: Public Veterinary Health, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture

“VETERINARY MEDICINE PRESENTED TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS” (Thirty Years Later)

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Thirty years ago, in 1997, was published a booklet “La Medicina Veterinaria presentata ai Pubblici Amministratori” (A. Mantovani and R. Marabelli, editors) resulting of a collective effort by a working group belonging to both the institutional and entrepreneurial spheres, that aimed to clarify the contribution of veterinary medicine to public health: a series of considerations and reasoning included in what later became a consolidated discipline, the so-called One Health. The years have passed since then have not diminished the power of this "atypical" communication tool, which presented, in addition to institutional functions, insights that time has proven correct. This work intends, even through recovering some traces of the theoretical elaboration that preceded it, both to re-propose an initiative of which the new generations may have little knowledge and to focus on several themes that, given the evolution of society in a period not without intense pressure, could appropriately be subjected to a re-examination of their fundamentals and subsequent practices. The selected cases refer to: Veterinary Urban Hygiene, Epidemiological Surveillance and International Cooperation and Development Aid.

Keywords: Veterinary Medicine, Public Administrators, One Health

A “BLACK HOLE” IN PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH CARE

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There is a historic date in public veterinary health: January 1, 1993, when physical inspections of live animals and physical inspections of food and products of animal origin from EU countries ceased at the Ministry of Health’s Border Veterinary Offices. These offices were abolished, including those on the Italian Swiss border - even though Switzerland is not part of the European Union - as a precursor to the Schengen Agreement, which abolished border controls on travelers. Unlike the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Interior has not abolished the land border police offices; today, there are: 7 land border police offices, 2 air and land border offices, and 2 maritime and land border offices, which carry out non-routine police checks based on intelligence and operational analysis. Incredibly, there are no comparable veterinary police checks because the memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Health regarding the control of live animal transport stipulates that such checks be carried out jointly by ASL Veterinary Directors (Judicial Police Officers) and the Highway Patrol only on roads and highways - not in land border areas - in conjunction with the Border Police.

There is a “black hole” in public veterinary health, because foreign veterinary police certifications are mandatory even for food and products of animal origin—not to mention the total lack of food safety inspections for animal-derived products upon entry into the country. In 1986, as a border veterinarian, I conducted radioactivity checks on live animals and food products of animal origin during the Chernobyl emergency. I wonder if there is a plan in place to carry out this type of systematic screening in the event of a similar emergency—for a limited period, as is the case for travelers within the Schengen Area—and whether veterinarians have been trained to perform these checks.

Keywords: Black Hole, Borders, Schengen

THE ANIMAL VISIONS OF SAINT ILDEGARD OF BINGEN IN THE TRIPTYCH OF PROPHETIC WORKS

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Among the most significant female figures in the medieval cultural landscape, a place of absolute prominence certainly belongs to Saint Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1174), not only for the high theological value of her work - recognized by her belated canonization in 2012 - but also for her multifaceted contributions to the fields of music, science, and knowledge in general, which have been well known and widespread throughout Europe since the Late Middle Ages and are now finally being reevaluated, especially in recent decades. During her eventful life, in which she also served as an authoritative voice to popes and emperors, she devoted at least twenty-five years to writing three major works described as "prophetic," in which - drawing inspiration from her manifold and complex visions - she addressed various theological, anthropological, and cosmological aspects. Many animal figures appear in the Saint's visions, which she described herself in a vivid and surprising manner, with profound and at times unsettling meanings, differing greatly - in both intent and originality - from both medieval bestiaries and the classical canons of didactic symbolism.

Keywords: Hildegard of Bingen, "Scivias", "Liber vitae meritorum", "Liber divinorum operum", visions, mysticism, theology, cosmology

THE ANIMAL VISIONS OF SAINT ILDEGARD OF BINGEN IN *LIBER SUBTILITATUM DIVERSARUM NATURARUM CREATURARUM*

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The work of Saint Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1174), in its entirety and complexity, offers a vision of humanity as a being continually suspended between Earth and Heaven, between Vices and Virtues, between Sin and Salvation. The relationship between the Microcosm and the Macrocosm - a theme ever-present in Hildegard's work - is further enriched by the contribution that animals can make to humanity, particularly on humanity's uncertain journey through life between health and illness. The *Liber Subtilitatum Diversarum Naturarum Creaturarum* contains not only naturalistic descriptions of the various components of the world of God's creatures (stones and metals, plants, and especially animals), but also many surprising insights into their intrinsic nature, origins, habits, and certain beneficial effects that particular fish, birds, quadrupeds, or reptiles can offer to humankind. Given the categorization of the animals mentioned, as well as the manner of presentation and the content, this "naturalistic" work by Hildegard takes on an unexpected and extraordinary significance, especially when considered as an integral part of the Saint's great visionary work within her spiritual salvific intent.

Keywords: Hildegard of Bingen, *Liber Subtilitatum Diversarum Naturarum Creaturarum*, Physica, Causae et curae, macrocosm and microcosm, visions, nature

FOR A MUSEUM EXHIBITION AT ENPAV

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Vicepresidente - Ente Nazionale di Previdenza ed Assistenza dei Veterinari (ENPAV)

This article describes a truly rare and valuable experience: designing and creating a historical archive and a museum exhibition dedicated to the history of the veterinary profession in Italy.

The exhibition will be housed within the ENPAV headquarters in Rome. At present, there are no significant spaces dedicated to these activities, so portions of the available space will be used to accommodate display cases, showcases, and bookcases. The planned layout must take into account that the ENPAV headquarters is a workplace; therefore, these two functions will need to coexist. Future developments are anticipated that will provide sufficiently spacious and suitable areas for this purpose. The collections to be housed at the headquarters consist of donations or materials of historical interest loaned on a gratuitous basis. The donors and lenders are veterinarians or their family members, and in some cases, collectors who have “transferred” all or part of their own collections. These include documents, photographs, membership cards, postcards, medical and surgical instruments, medications, medals, and badges. In addition, a book is being compiled to document this journey. This publication, divided into various sections, will contain: 1) an updated history of veterinary medicine written by leading scholars such as Valentino Chiodi and Sebastiano Paltrinieri; 2) the history of ENPAV, which is approaching its 70th anniversary; 3) the history of the Professional Associations and FNOVI, which have been in existence for over a century; 4) A presentation of the museum exhibition and the historical archive. The presentation aims to convey to the audience the emotions, the hard work, the difficulties, but also the rewards and some interesting facts encountered during this perilous journey.

Keywords: ENPAV, veterinary instruments, historical archive

PROFESSIONALIZATION AND ROLE OF VETERINARIANS IN MEAT INSPECTION IN PRE-UNIFICATION MILAN

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This article explores the relationship between the Milan School of Veterinary Medicine and the training of professionals responsible for meat certification during the first half of the 19th century. New regulations issued by the City of Milan expanded the specific role of Milanese veterinarians in the inspection and certification of meat for slaughter. These provisions, aimed at improving meat quality and combating food fraud, fostered the emergence of new professional roles in the field of veterinary medicine.

The Milan School played a central role in training veterinarians employed in the fields of meat and food inspection. From 1834 to 1859, a special course was offered for meat inspectors and examiners, open to both regular students and external students who had completed an apprenticeship in butchery.

For the purposes of this research, documents related to this course—in particular the student registries—from the Archives of the Milan School of Veterinary Medicine were analyzed, with a focus on aspects related to the social history of the veterinary profession, such as the students' geographic and social backgrounds. The course trained approximately 500 students, primarily from Lombardy and, to a lesser extent, from Veneto and South Tyrol.

Most of the students were the sons of landowners or of people working in veterinary medicine, farriery, and agriculture. These figures indicate that the technical and scientific training offered by this new discipline represented an opportunity to improve career prospects.

The Milan School established itself as an excellent center for technical training in the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia. It addressed public health and sanitation needs that had become urgent by training professionals capable of conducting inspections and certifying meat quality. These veterinarians and certification experts found employment as municipal veterinarians, in public slaughterhouses, or in local butcher shops, contributing significantly to the protection of public health and the development of a modern profession.

Keywords: professionalization of veterinary medicine, Milan School of Veterinary Medicine, slaughterhouse meat inspection

THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND ACADEMIC CHALLENGES OF THE FIRST WOMAN TO PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE IN ITALY

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The following study examines the life of Dr. Jenny Barbieri, the first Italian woman graduated in veterinary medicine, analyzing her life and her difficult academic and professional experiences at the universities of Bologna and Perugia as an integral part of the broader and more complex context of women in academia.

Born in Salsomaggiore Terme on December 1, 1904, into a family of intellectuals, she enrolled in the School of Veterinary Medicine in Bologna, graduating in 1927. That same year, she moved to Perugia, where she first worked as a temporary assistant in the Department of Normal Anatomy and later as a tenured assistant. During these years, she published several studies and papers, but her position was suspended in 1933 at the request of her supervisor, Prof. G.B. Caradonna. Upon returning to Bologna, she worked until 1937 as an assistant in charge at the Institute of Pathology and Veterinary Clinical Medicine, directed by Prof. A. Lanfranchi, her mentor, and later at the Institute of Anatomy and Histology of Domestic Animals, directed by Prof. A. Mannu.

In 1948, she won a competitive selection process for the position of assistant to the Chair of Normal Anatomy, a post she held beginning in 1951, consistently demonstrating great competence and diligence. His career was abruptly cut short in 1954 at the behest of Prof. V. Chiodi, who had succeeded Mannu, on the grounds of a lack of scientific productivity-a charge more realistically linked to a personality clash. The case was discussed by the Academic Senate, but despite internal divisions over the positions taken and the evidence in her favor, Dr. Barbieri was dismissed on October 31, 1954.

By then in her fifties, she took a competitive exam that led her to work at the Tax Office of the City of Bologna, a position she held until her retirement. She died on April 20, 1982.

Jenny Barbieri deserves to be remembered as a professional and a pioneer of the veterinary profession for women-a worthy yet long-overlooked Italian trailblazer.

Keywords: Women in academia, Jenny Barbieri, Veterinary medicine, Women pioneers

PLENARY LECTURE

LUCIUS JUNIUS MODERATUS COLUMELLA AND THE BIRTH OF RATIONAL VETERINARY MEDICINE

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This text examines the dilemma facing historians when dealing with ancient veterinary texts; although modern biological and technological foundations were lacking, the best authors nonetheless sought to base their precepts on rational and rigorous postulates. For this reason, the most significant treatises fully deserve to be considered authentic veterinary science. In this context, the veterinary historian's task is to study and interpret the veterinary thought of ancient practitioners. This work analyzes the roots and theoretical framework underpinning Columella's approach by exploring the following topics: Columella in veterinary historiography; agriculture and animal husbandry; Columella's ethology; veterinary terminology and translation challenges; the concept of disease in **De re rustica** (humoral imbalance, **vitium**, environmental influences, and epidemics); and therapy (ranging from botanical pharmacopeia and rational empiricism to apotropaic rituals). Attention is paid to Columella's concept of disease, as he radically transformed ancient veterinary medicine in **De re rustica**. Moving beyond Varro's purely descriptive and syndrome-based approach, he isolates disease as an abstract, autonomous entity, analyzing its progression and structured causes. Columella's nosological system rests on four main pillars: 1) Environmental and management factors: disease is viewed as the consequence of human error or adverse climatic conditions (e.g., food scarcity leading to emaciation and mange); 2) Psychophysical conditions: uncontrolled reproductive behaviors and unsatisfied sexual desire (the "fury of lust") are treated as distinct altered states; 3) Trauma and disease: surgery and post-operative care (such as castration) are managed in the same way as systemic diseases; 4) Semiotic diagnosis: the timely identification of physical and behavioral signs (such as posture or secretions).

This scientific rigor is closely aligned with the economic logic of the Roman villa, where the animal represented an asset requiring protection. Unlike his predecessors (Mago, Cato, Varro), who focused on profit but relied on external, corrective oversight, Columella introduces a preventive, systematic, and all-encompassing approach. While influenced by Greek medical schools (Hippocratic and Methodic), he eschews abstract theoretical speculation (*causae abditae*) in favor of a phenomenological pragmatism aimed at rapidly restoring the animal's productive efficiency.

Parole chiave: Columella, rational veterinary medicine

EQUINE-ASSISTED ACTIVITIES IN UNCONVENTIONAL PLACES

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In recent decades, there has been much discussion about pet therapy and equine-assisted activities. There is no doubt that activities carried out in the presence of animals can provide numerous benefits to the people involved, both physically and mentally. Sometimes, for various reasons, certain patients find themselves in situations that prevent them from traveling to see the horses for therapy, but it is surprising to see how some organizations, with the help of veterinarians and specialists, manage to find ways to bring the horses to those in need.

This brief study attempts to trace the history of equine therapy and explores equine-assisted activities in certain settings that we have chosen to define as "unconventional," such as nursing homes or prisons. It has been very interesting to discover through the internet and social media how, in many different countries, horses and ponies play a key role in helping to improve the lives of certain people. Horses in nursing homes can offer significant benefits and bring smiles to what are often monotonous days. In prisons, on the other hand, inmates can learn through horses to manage their emotions - a skill that will be essential to them in life outside prison, including helping prevent recidivism. Animal welfare and ethics must also always be a priority in this type of activity, and this is where veterinarians play a key role.

To lend the article greater credibility, the authors include an interview with Ms. Michela Medoro, the owner of an educational farm, who has organized several visits to various nursing homes with her two ponies in certain areas of Tuscany.

Keywords: hippotherapy, pet therapy, nursing homes, prisons

THE HISTORY OF THE HORSE IN SARDINIA (PART 1): FROM ITS ORIGINS TO THE PROSPECT OF ESTABLISHING A ROYAL STUD FARM

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The horse is not native to Sardinia, and the exact time of its introduction remains uncertain. In fact, there are few archaeological findings (anatomical and/or artifacts) that attest to its widespread presence - or even its mere existence - in Nuragic Sardinia. Although likely introduced by the Carthaginians, the horse subsequently spread throughout the island, eventually becoming - during Roman rule and up through the late imperial period - a prime source of horses, particularly for the needs of the cavalry, given the excellent physical characteristics, endurance, and temperament of the horses from the island. Even during the Giudicale period, there is documentary evidence regarding the breeding, selection, and use of horses in Sardinia, just as we find such evidence during the periods of Spanish and later Savoyard rule. An extensive body of literature on the socio-orographic characteristics of Sardinia and, correspondingly, on the animals bred within its territories - particularly horses - can be found from the late 18th century through the first half of the 19th century, written by numerous Sardinian authors and travelers who visited Sardinia.

Keywords: History of Sardinia, Equine Zoognostics, Sardinian Horse

THE HISTORY OF THE HORSE IN SARDINIA (PART 2): FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE ROYAL STUD FARM TO THE SELECTION OF THE SARDINIAN ANGLO-ARAB HORSE

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The origins of the Sardinian riding horse can be traced first and foremost to centuries of selective breeding that have shaped the Sardinian horse population since ancient times. However, it was certainly during the second half of the 19th century that the collaboration between government institutions and breeders gave a radical boost to selective breeding, leading to the creation of a new breed in just over a century: the "Sardinian Anglo-Arabian Horse." Breeding at the Regia Tanca di Paulilatino, first, and later at the Centro Rifornimento Allevamento Quadrupedi in Foresta Burgos, represented the elite breeding programs carried out by government facilities on the island. Furthermore, the Royal Stallion Depot in Ozieri provided guidelines for selecting outstanding horses, initially for the royal cavalry and later for horse racing and equestrian sports. Finally, during the Republican era, the Sardinian Institute for the Advancement of Horse Breeding carried on the legacy of these royal institutions and completed the selection process by continuing to breed and promote, first and foremost, the Sardinian Anglo-Arabian horse and, secondarily, by contributing to the preservation of two other rare equine populations on the island: the "Cavallino della Giara" and the "Cavallo del Sarcidano".

Keywords: Hippology, Stallion Station, Selection of the Sardinian Anglo-Arabian Horse

OBSERVATIONS ON THE OF RINDERPEST CONTROL IN THE 18TH CENTURY IN LOWER ROMAGNA

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Throughout most of the 18th century, the geographical area comprising the current aggregation of municipalities known as Lower Romagna (approx. 480 km2) was affected, not dissimilarly to neighbouring regions (Emilia, Marche, and Veneto), by the spread of a devastating epidemic of rinderpest. The measures implemented by Authorities – la Congregazione di Sanità di Ferrara – to control the outbreaks and reduce losses of food and animal traction were based on the theses proposed and codified by the papal physician Giovanni Maria Lancisi in 1715 in his seminal work on rinderpest, a "treatise" that has not been invalidated by scientific progress. This paper examines - from a very localized perspective on the spread of bovine disease outbreaks in most municipalities of the Lower Romagna and the veterinary police measures implemented - some documentary sources that have recently become accessible. A framework emerges of considerable attention, by religious and civil Authorities, acting under the conditions of a true "state of exception", that is manifested in a deployment of resources - both personnel and control structures - that leaves no doubt as to the devastating impact of rinderpest on the existence of the people of Lower Romagna. Furthermore, an examination of the provisions contained therein, and their underlying principles is provided, intended to serve as a useful description of a context that, as it evolved, contributed to the current organizational structure of the Italian Veterinary Public Health Service.

Keywords: Rinderpest, veterinary public health, zooprophylaxis, Lower Romagna

THE ORIGINS OF VETERINARY SURGERY IN TURIN

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Museo di Scienze Veterinarie - Università di Torino

Giovanni Brugnone, a licensed surgeon, practiced his craft on humans for many years, even after being appointed Director of the Turin School of Veterinary Medicine in 1769. In his first five-year veterinary teaching program, the fourth year was devoted to surgery, and the fifth to operations on both live and dead animals. However, as early as the period when the School was in Chivasso, from 1793 to 1798, surgery no longer appeared as a separate subject, and the course on equine medicine dealt only with podiatric issues. With the School's return to Venaria in 1818, the third of the four-year program included "theoretical and practical surgery," and the fourth year covered "surgical practice." It is curious to note that in the six volumes of the journal "Annali di Veterinaria", published in Turin between 1838 and 1846, there is not a single article on a surgical topic. In 1844, Francesco Papa, then director of the School, published the first specific treatise, in two volumes, but it was not until 1860 that the chair of Pathology and Surgical Clinic was established, a position won by Roberto Bassi, who became known for innovative techniques and original instruments. Toward the end of the nineteenth century, there was a gradual proliferation of surgical disciplines because of the advances that had taken place; subsequently, the most notable professors were Giovanni Gambarotta and Pietro Ghisleni.

The veterinary world gradually adopted the major innovations that came from human surgery - particularly anesthesia and antisepsis - but continued to use outdated techniques such as cauterization, setons, and bloodletting for a long time. The two articles by Marco Galloni, included in the fifth edition of the treatise on the history of Piedmontese surgery, edited by Prof. Mario Nano, full professor of General Surgery, provide an in-depth examination of the history of veterinary surgery at the Turin School and the evolution of surgical instruments for veterinary use.

Keywords: surgery, Turin School of Veterinary Medicine, surgical instruments.

TENACIOUS PIONEERS IN THE SHADOWS: THE BIRTH OF A VETERINARY COMMUNITY IN THE VALDICHIANA IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY

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Oxfam Italia

This paper aims to reconstruct the presence and role of the first "practicing" veterinarians who worked during the first half of the nineteenth century in Arezzo - which, since 1816, had been the seat of the Administration of the Royal Possessions of Valdichiana - and in the ten grand ducal estates of the valley, which served as the true driving forces behind the region's agricultural and livestock economy. This professional group has long remained on the margins of local historiography; this paper examines it through public and private archival sources, memoirs, and correspondence published in contemporary veterinary medicine journals. These sources reveal the gradual formation of a professional community engaged not only in the care of livestock but also, more broadly, in the processes of transformation in the region's agriculture and animal husbandry. Alongside figures such as Angelo Barluzzi and Vincenzo Luatti, several other professionals emerge - Gerli, Benedetti, Santoni, Giunti, Frullani, Marchi, Radicchi, and others - who worked in urban centers as "comunitativi" veterinarians and on the large farms of the valley, often under precarious economic conditions and through various forms of employment: from contracts to agreements and, more rarely, to public-sector employment contracts.

Their work unfolded in a context marked by a constant quest for professional exchange, at a time when logistical challenges in transportation made travel and communication more difficult, alongside the persistence of empirical practices and social and professional recognition that was not always adequate. Their accounts thus offer a unique vantage point on rural life, living conditions in farmhouses and barns, livestock-raising practices, the physical conditions of work, and the relationships between veterinarians, farm managers, tenant farmers, and landowners. Finally, particular attention will be devoted to reconstructing the networks of relationships and collaboration that connected these professionals and to the transmission of the profession within families - a phenomenon that helped ensure the continuity and deep-rooted presence of veterinary care in the region.

Keywords: early 19th-century veterinarians, grand ducal farms, Valdichiana

MULTILINGUAL GLOSSARY OF HORSE TERM – PART 2

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The purpose of this study is to analyze the terms commonly used in the most widespread European languages to refer to horses. In addition to terms from the Romance languages, this second part focuses on the Germanic and classical languages, as well as modern Turkish. The goal is to demonstrate how significant horses have been to humanity, highlighting the multitude of terms associated with them across various languages and cultures, even those geographically distant from one another. Based on this expansion of the initial experimental analysis, Turkish appears to have "overtaken" English as the language with the greatest number of terms for the horse (which is rather predictable, given that Turkey was the first nation to domesticate the horse).

The study also includes brief overviews of culture, society, history, and linguistics. Norse sagas, Ottoman culture, the Turkish linguistic revolution, and the magic of the runic alphabet all appear as areas in which the horse seems to have carved out a significant role. A tentative attempt to trace the origins of certain words also reveals - assuming the etymologies are valid - connections between terms that would rarely be linked in modern contexts. It also becomes undeniable that the equestrian and horse racing worlds rightfully belong within the more modern concept of a "micro-language."

Horses have also been a constant presence in artistic depictions throughout the centuries and across many countries, testifying to how their presence has always been intertwined with that of human beings in the unfolding of history. The names of certain steeds have even become famous alongside those of their historic commanders, underscoring how military victories often depended on the courage and valor of a "four-legged" companion.

Keywords: horse, linguistics, history, micro-language

A COLLECTION OF TERMS RELATED TO CATTLE SHOEING IN SARDINIA

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Building on two studies presented at the previous III A.I.S.Me.Ve.M. Conference (Bologna, 2024), in this paper we have compiled a corpus of more than fifty technical and specialised terms found in the Sardinian different local dialects in Bitti (Barbagia), Nuoro (Nuorese), Orroli (Sarcidano), and Senorbì (Trexenta). The lexical evidence examined suggests that the practice of cattle shoeing, once widespread all-around Sardinia, may be traced primarily to a historical and social influence of Iberian origin. On the contrary, the lexical influence of the Italian language appears to have been almost negligible, both during the period of the Sardinian-Piedmontese Kingdom and following the establishment of the Italian Republic. Our research has also led us, in primis, to reconsider the terminological appropriateness of the expression "bovine farriery in Sardinia", which we ourselves had used somewhat uncritically in the two previous studies mentioned above. The term maniscalco ("farrier") does not occur in any of the dialects in the four so-called historical regions of the island considered in our study (Barbagia, Nuorese, Sarcidano, and Trexenta). We are therefore inclined to regard it as a learned term derived from written Italian rather than as part of the local traditional terminology. The findings of this investigation also point to the need for further researchs into the still highly uncertain origins of cattle shoeing and the historical processes through which this practice spread throughout Sardinia.

Keywords: cattle shoeing in Sardinia; technical terminology of cattle shoeing; farriery; farrier

A PRELIMINARY ACCOUNT ON THE HISTORY OF ITALIAN (ACAROLOGY) IXODOLOGY

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In Ancient times Cato the Elder in De Rustica considered, and treated, ticks as the other ectoparasites. During Middle Age the consideration for ticks was unchanged. During the Renaissance the fight against ectoparasites in humans and animals received more attention.

Ulisse Aldrovandi (1522 - 1605) giving the first systematic account on ectoparasites: in the De animalibus insectis, the chapter "De Ricino", is dedicated to ticks or other ectoparasites supposed to be -or accounted for being- ticks. Aldrovandi described ticks - like Ricinus seeds - attached to skin, sucking blood "sanguine satur est" and born in the grass "in herbis nascuntur", writing that Spaniards called ticks "garapatas". The use of microscope allowed Francesco Redi (1626 - 1697), in his book "Esperienze intorno alla generazione degli insetti" (1668) to describe ectoparasites as reproducing by eggs fertilized by "coitus"; he provides 29 engraved plates of insects with the first rendition of ticks with eight legs. Late '800s and early '900s, showed an improving interest in acarology, nevertheless ixodological studies remained quite limited. In 1887, Giovanni Canestrini first described Boophilus annulatus and Antonio Berlese (1863 - 1927) written about ticks "habitat in bobus, capris, capreolis, ovibus subinde etiam hominibus infestus". In 1958, Oleg Starkoff, a Russian émigré, parasitologist in Rome, published a monograph on ticks of Italy. Amid '60s and '80s, Lorenzo Sobrero conducted pioneering research on Ixodidae ticks; he published with Giulio Manilla, a monograph on the occurrence and distribution of ticks in Italy. At present, Italian scientists involved in research on ticks and tick-borne diseases is increased, but due to space limitation, it is impossible to quote here on all of them. We apologize for not mentioning some "historical" and "modern" Italian ixodologists.

This work is dedicated to Raffaele Roncalli Amici, an Italian scientist naturalized U.S. citizen, veterinarian and passionate historian.

Keywords: History Veterinary Medicine, acarology/ixodology, ticks

FROM “CAUSE” TO “TREATMENT”: A BIBLIOGRAPHIC CASE STUDY IN 18TH-CENTURY VETERINARY MEDICINE IN BOLOGNA

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Giacomo Gandolfi was the first professor to teach a regular course in veterinary medicine at the University of Bologna, beginning in the 1783–1784 academic year. After a decade of teaching, he decided to publish a textbook for his students, which he titled “Treatise on the Causes of Internal and External Diseases in Livestock for the Use of Young Men Who Wish to Become Farriers” (published by the Institute of Sciences of Bologna, 1794).

The volume is divided into three parts and written in the form of a dialogue. The first part deals with the anatomy and physiology of the animals in question; the second, with the treatment of “external ailments” (such as tumors and wounds); and the third, with the treatment of “internal ailments,” with references to a recipe book consisting of 143 preparations.

In the copies that have survived to this day, however, the title features a variation: the term “cure” appears in place of the word “cause.” We therefore have “Treatise on the Cure of Internal and External Ailments of Livestock for the Use of Young Men Who Wish to Become Farriers.” What was the origin of this change? What was the most appropriate title the author intended to give to the copies intended for the study of the subject?

This study, through an analysis of texts found in Italian libraries, attempts to provide a plausible explanation for the presence of this variation in the volume’s title.

Furthermore, a comparison of the various copies has revealed some interesting details that shed light on the working methods of authors of that time.

Keywords: Giacomo Gandolfi, antique book, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bologna.

THE CAT (ΑΪΛΟΥΡΟΣ) IN GREEK DOCUMENTARY PAPYRI FROM EGYPT

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In Book II of The Histories, Herodotus associates Boubastis with the cult of Artemis-Bastet and its great festival (II 59.1; 60.1–3); shortly thereafter, he describes the special protection afforded to cats and states that, upon their death, they were embalmed and buried in places sacred to Boubastis (II 66.1–4; 67.1). Greek sources on Egypt allow us to trace, in less literary forms, the presence of cats in religious practices, professions, accounting, and daily life. The records identified, in chronological order, are:

• 256 B.C. - P. Cair. Zen. III 59451 (= PSI IV 440): petition by temple servants of Boubastis, referred to as αἰλουροβοσκοί, who were responsible for the sacred cats.

• July 19, 241 B.C. - UPZ II 157: αἰλουροτρόφοι, cat breeders or caretakers, appear in a Theban account.

• April 20, 202 or 178 B.C. - P. Köln XV 594: a petition by Onnophris regarding kittens and their entrustment to the temple of Bastet.

• 132/131 B.C. - P. Coll. Youtie I 14: an account records a sum εἰς τροφήν αἰλουρών, “for the feeding of cats.”

• 113 B.C. - UPZ II 180a: further attestation of the lexical family of αἴλουρος in the Theban corpus.

• ca. 50–75 A.D. - O. Berenike II 195: Herennios reports that Ourses is caring for the cats according to previous instructions.

• ca. 50–75 CE - O. Berenike II 196: Another letter from Berenice again mentions one or more cats.

The picture thus reveals lexical and social continuity: the cat appears not only as a sacred animal but also as an object of care, breeding, expenditure, and administrative responsibility.

Keywords: αἴλουρος; documentary papyri; Boubastis; animal worship; Greco-Roman Egypt.

ANIMALS, DISEASE, AND EMPIRE: MILITARY VETERINARY MEDICINE AND THE HIDDEN INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE ITALO-OTTOMAN WAR IN LIBYA, 1911–1912

Bulent Basaran

The Italo-Ottoman War of 1911–1912 constituted an important test of the Ottoman Empire's military veterinary organization during a period of institutional modernization. On the eve of the conflict, military veterinary services were undergoing organizational development through the Memurin-i Sıhhiye-i Askerîye Nizamnamesi of 1909, the establishment of the Tatbikat-ı Baytariyye Mektebi in 1910, and, most significantly, the Askerî Teşkilât-ı Sıhhiye-i Baytariyye Nizâmnâmesi, promulgated on 11 July 1911. This regulation defined the responsibilities of veterinary personnel in cavalry, artillery, transport, mule-mounted, and other military units, demonstrating the increasing institutional importance of animal health within military organization and logistics.

This study examines Ottoman military veterinary medicine during the Libyan campaign within the broader framework of animal-based mobility, transportation, communication, and supply. Particular attention is given to the veterinary organization of the Tripolitanian military formation and to documented veterinary officers associated with its cavalry forces. A 1906 record identifies Captain Rasih Efendi as the veterinarian of the 38th Cavalry Regiment of the Tripolitanian Military Division, while earlier records associate Major-veterinarian Ahmed Memduh Efendi with the same regiment. These records provide evidence of the institutional presence of military veterinarians in Tripolitania before the outbreak of the war.

The study further considers the operational importance of horses, mules, and especially camels under the severe logistical conditions created by Italian naval superiority and the environmental characteristics of Libya. Animal health was therefore closely connected with military mobility, transportation, communication, and supply. The Italo-Ottoman War demonstrates how the increasingly regulated Ottoman military veterinary system interacted with the practical demands of warfare in North Africa, revealing the veterinary service as an important component of the logistical infrastructure that sustained military operations.

Keywords: Italo-Ottoman War; Ottoman military veterinary medicine; Tripolitania; military logistics; camels; veterinary history.

WE NEED HORSES: ARAB HORSES FROM THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE TO ITALY

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This study examines the official movement of horses from the Ottoman Empire to Italy in the second half of the 19th century and the early 20th century. Archival records reveal various forms of transfer between the two states: horses purchased for the use of the King of Italy, animals offered as diplomatic gifts, and Arabian stallions intended for breeding at Italian state-run stud farms. These transfers were managed through diplomatic and administrative mechanisms involving Ottoman and Italian authorities.

Procurement activities focused primarily on Syria and Iraq, historically important regions for Arabian horse breeding. The selection, purchase, transport, export authorizations, customs exemptions, and delivery of the animals thus became the subject of negotiations between the authorities of the two states.

These transfers took place while the Ottoman government was grappling with quantitative and qualitative issues regarding its equine stock. Supply difficulties, which had become more evident since the mid-19th century and were particularly acute after the Russo-Ottoman War of 1877–1878, prompted the government to support domestic breeding, develop institutions dedicated to breeding and production, and restrict the export of animals considered strategically important. At the same time, the growing influence of the principle of free trade on foreign trade and on the circulation.

The movement of prized horses beyond Ottoman borders was thus driven not only by commercial demand but also by diplomatic relations, court customs, and foreign breeding policies. In this context, Arabian horses played a special role as prestigious gifts, royal mounts, and valuable breeding stock. By analyzing these various forms of transfer, the study demonstrates how the movement of horses between the Ottoman Empire and Italy occurred at the intersection of diplomacy, trade, breeding policies, military needs, and the Ottoman management of animal resources of great strategic importance.

Keywords: Ottoman Empire; Italy; horses' exportation; Arab horse

THE BONA COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF VETERINARY SCIENCES: "FROM PARAPSYCHOLOGY TO PARASITOLOGY, AROUND AND BACK"

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Franco Bona (1922–2014) was a prominent figure in the history of zoology and parasitology in Turin during the second half of the 20th century. This article traces his scientific and educational career, with particular attention to the transmission of knowledge and the preservation of the parasitological heritage, part of which is now housed at the Museum of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Turin.

Graduated in Natural Sciences in Turin in 1949 with a thesis on avian cestodes (advisor: Prof. Alceste Arcangeli), Bona devoted his research to the systematics, morphogenesis, and histology of parasites, with a particular focus on Cestoda and Dilepididae. His long academic career was rooted in the tradition of the Turin School of Zoology and within a network of national and international scientific relationships. Alongside his parasitological research, he cultivated different interests, including parapsychology and the Tomasetti method.

His scientific legacy is now preserved in various Italian and foreign institutions, including the Geneva Museum of Natural History; a portion of his scientific material (parasitological specimens, books, drawings, handwritten notes, scientific correspondence, and instruments) was entrusted to his student Enrico Buriola, who oversaw its transfer to the Museum of Veterinary Sciences. This acquisition allows us to continue our research on the parasitological specimens collected by Bona, as he expressly hoped. We take pride in keeping alive the interest in historical collections and in building on our colleague's previous studies-such as those on the genus Dipylidium, which began thirty years ago using Edoardo Perroncito's parasitological collection, preserved in our Museum -thereby contributing to the promotion of the history of Italian parasitology.

Keywords: Parasitology; Franco Bona; Museum of Veterinary Sciences; University of Turin

POSTER

FROM THE HISTORICAL ATLAS TO VIRTUAL ANATOMY: AN IMMERSIVE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE HORSE'S BODY (1900)

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Veterinary anatomy "lift-the-flap" books became widespread between the late 19th century and the early decades of the 20th century, following in the footsteps of similar, much older publications dedicated to human anatomy, and today they represent a resource of particular historical and scientific interest. Through overlapping movable elements, these atlases allowed users to progressively explore the various anatomical planes, conceptually anticipating modern interactive visualization methods. The Museum of Veterinary Anatomy at the University of Naples Federico II houses a particularly valuable copy: *Il corpo del cavallo* (*The Horse's Body*), published by UTET in 1900. The work stands out for the quality of its craftsmanship and, above all, for its rarity—likely due in part to its unusually large format, which was more expensive and more prone to deterioration than similar publications. One hundred twenty-six years after its creation, the fragility of the liftable flaps—despite a recent restoration—limits direct public access to the atlas. The project was therefore launched with the dual objective of preserving the original artifact and restoring its educational and interactive function through an immersive experience. The atlas has been digitized and reconstructed as a three-dimensional model, preserving the structure, layering, and sequence of the anatomical elements. The digital copy has been integrated into an immersive environment developed in Unreal Engine 5. Using the Meta Quest 3 Touch Plus controllers, users can virtually grasp, lift, and move the anatomical flaps, replicating the way the historical volume was consulted. The result goes beyond simple digital reproduction, also recapturing the hands-on, three-dimensional aspect of the original educational experience. Virtual reality thus makes it possible to combine the preservation, promotion, and dissemination of historical and scientific heritage, preserving not only the object itself but also the historical ways in which it was used, and creating a bridge between the anatomical culture of the past and modern forms of interactive learning.

Keywords: Anatomical books with flaps, Historical and scientific heritage, Immersive technologies

THE SOUND THAT KEEPS THE HERD TOGETHER: RURAL TECHNOLOGY, ACOUSTIC HERITAGE, AND CULTURAL MEANINGS OF ANIMAL BELLS IN TURKEY AND ITALY

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Animal bells are more than simple devices for locating livestock. In rural societies, they have functioned at the intersection of herd management, acoustic communication, craftsmanship, cultural identity, symbolism, and animal welfare. As livestock became increasingly managed across extensive pastures, mountainous terrain, and forested landscapes, sound-based tracking offered an effective means of monitoring animals beyond direct visual contact. By transforming animal movement into audible signals, bells provided herders with practical information on location, movement patterns, and separation from the herd.

This study offers a comparative examination of animal-bell traditions in Türkiye and Italy. In Türkiye, the analysis focuses on Yörük transhumance, camel caravans, small-ruminant husbandry, and traditional bell-making practices. In Italy, particular attention is given to mountain pastoralism, transhumance, and the goat-bell traditions documented in Calabria. In both contexts, bells served not only as tracking devices but also as markers of acoustic identity, enabling experienced herders to distinguish individual animals, particular herds, and patterns of movement.

Variations in bell size, metal composition, body form, clapper design, and production technique generate distinctive timbres. Bell-making therefore represents not merely a metalworking craft but also a form of empirical acoustic knowledge transmitted across generations. Herders do not simply hear bells; they interpret them. Bell sounds thus constitute part of a rural soundscape jointly produced by humans, animals, material objects, and the surrounding environment.

Rather than proposing direct historical transmission between Türkiye and Italy, this study suggests that comparable ecological conditions and livestock-management requirements encouraged similar technological and cultural solutions. Animal bells may therefore be understood as elements of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage, linking rural technology, acoustic knowledge, pastoral identity, and the history of veterinary medicine. Their preservation should extend beyond the physical object to include sound recordings, local terminology, craftsmanship, and users' narratives.

Keywords: animal bells, extensive farming, cultural heritage, Türkiye, Italy

THE "SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE" IN THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES: ITS ORIGINS

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The first chair of veterinary medicine in southern Italy was established in Palermo in 1786 and entrusted to Vincenzo Palizzotto, but it was abolished a few years later due to a lack of students. In 1785, Ignazio Dominelli (1758–1827), a physician trained in Messina and Naples, was sent by Ferdinand IV to the School of Alfort and to leading European schools to specialize in veterinary medicine. Thanks to the experience he gained abroad, in 1795 he was entrusted with the task of founding a veterinary school in Naples and serving as its director. The 18th-century "Serraglio delle Fiere," known as the "Lionera," was chosen as the site - a large structure built by Guglielmo Sanfelice near the "Ponte della Maddalena," commissioned by King Charles of Bourbon to house the exotic animals he was passionate about. Based on Dominelli's design, Carlo Vanvitelli adapted three rooms - originally intended for elephants - for the new "School of Veterinary Medicine". The school was effectively founded in 1796, which is the correct date for the Kingdom's first school of its kind, although the official inauguration did not take place until the first academic year began in 1798. This school was intended to house military cadets but was short-lived, having been shut down as early as 1799 due to the revolutionary uprisings and the Bourbons' flight to Sicily.

Reopened in 1802, still under Dominelli's leadership, the second school admitted civilian students for the first time before closing again in 1806 following the invasion by Napoleonic troops. Dominelli followed the Bourbons as they fled once again to Sicily, and during his stay on the island, in 1812 he attempted to establish a veterinary school in Palermo, but his project never came to fruition. With the Restoration in 1815, Dominelli was tasked for the third time with reestablishing the school in Naples at its new location in the convent of S. Maria degli Angeli alle Croci. Inaugurated in 1816, the "Royal Veterinary Institute" featured a hospital, a botanical garden, and a boarding school, and graduated its first licensed veterinarians in 1823. Due to his confrontational nature and conflicts with superiors, colleagues, and students, Dominelli was removed from the school's directorship in 1824 and retired. A pioneer of "comparative medicine" in Southern Italy, Dominelli played a decisive role in the birth and development of veterinary medicine in the South, seeking to promote scientific innovation in animal care for the benefit of the Kingdom's rural economy. He supported public awareness campaigns on health guidelines inspired by regulations from the Napoleonic period - later confirmed by the Bourbon government - as well as vaccination programs against sheep pox, thereby fostering important collaboration between the veterinary school and the Kingdom's various public institutions.

Keywords: Naples School of Veterinary Medicine, Serraglio delle Fiere, Chair of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Palermo, Ignazio Dominelli

SLOVENIAN VETERINARY SERVICE DURING THE 2nd WORLD WAR

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After the April War (6th – 17th April 1941) in which the Yugoslav royal army surrendered in 11 days, Slovenia (part of the former Kingdom of Yugoslavia), was occupied by Italian, German, Hungarian and Croatian army forces. Partisan veterinary service was a part of the developing resistance movement.

Until the capitulation of the Italian royal army (September 8th, 1943), partisan veterinary service was badly organised due to the lack of veterinarians, small number of animals, shortage of veterinary medicine, material and equipment. The intensive development of the partisan veterinary service started after the capitulation of the Italian army, when many pack and saddle horses and mules, veterinary and farriery equipment, medicine and other veterinary means were obtained.

In June 1944 the Veterinary hospital in Kanižarica was erected on the liberated territory in the south-eastern part of Slovenia. The hospital consisted of a stable for 30 horses, surgery hall, small storehouse for medicaments and equipment. A department for infected animals with a gas cell for mange horses was about a kilometre away.

Infectious diseases of domestic animals were occasionally detected but did not cause catastrophic consequences. The biggest problems were the injuries of hooves and distal parts of the limbs in military horses.

Despite a number of medical doctors who joined the partisan movement, their number did not reach demand. That was the reason why some veterinary surgeons participated in medical service. At least 6 of them became medical referees in the partisan units, 1 was at the same time both, a veterinarian and a chemist's referee, 3 civilian veterinarians cured wounded partisans. The veterinary referees often helped the medical doctors during the surgery or with bandaging.

Keywords: Slovenia, World War II, Veterinary Service, Partisan army

ENRICO SERTOLI'S TESTICULAR PREPARATIONS: STUDY AND DOCUMENTATION OF A HISTORICAL HISTOLOGICAL COLLECTION

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The rediscovery of Enrico Sertoli's histological collection at the Museum of Veterinary Sciences of the University of Milan offers an opportunity to further the study of the original specimens collected during his scientific career. The collection comprises 1,623 slides, preserved in 116 original wooden boxes and dating from 1866 to 1903.

Among the various organs represented in the collection, the testis constitutes the numerically largest group and is of particular interest in relation to Sertoli's studies on the structure of testicular tissue and the seminiferous tubules. The testicular specimens were therefore the subject of a specific analysis, which considered both the characteristics of the specimens and the information preserved on the original handwritten labels.

The study combined an analysis of the handwritten annotations on individual slides with microscopic observation of the specimens that were still legible. For each specimen, the date, species of origin, tissue type, and preparation procedures were considered. The data collected made it possible to organize and classify the testicular tissue specimens, providing a comprehensive and informative overview of the characteristics of this section of the collection. A comparison with Sertoli's publications also made it possible to correlate certain specimens with the observations and images reported in his works, linking the specimens preserved today to the research with which they are associated. The analysis of these slides thus constitutes an initial in-depth study of the collection through the integration of material and documentary sources. The results obtained allow us to appreciate the specimens not only as evidence of Sertoli's research but also as documents capable of preserving information on the preparation and technical documentation of histological specimens.

Keywords: Enrico Sertoli; histology; historical collections

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