Parasitology Research Programme team, Poultry Reference Laboratory staff, Uniqwa Library and transport staff, animal health and extension officers and the State veterinarian in Qwa-Qwa, are all gratefully acknowledged. This study was made possible by funds from the Institutional Research Development Programme of the National Research Foundation, University of the North's Qwa-Qwa campus and the Poultry Reference Laboratory of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria.

REFERENCES

- 1. ACIAR 2000 Improvements in rural poultry. University of Queensland, Australia (http://www.vsap.uq.edu.au/rural poultry)
- Alders R, Spradbrow P B 2000 Newcastle disease in village chickens – A field manual. ACIAR, Canberra, Australia
- 3. Gueye E H F 1998 Village egg and fowl meat production in Africa. *World's Poultry Science*

Journal 54: 73–186

- Integrated Development Programme 2000 Maluti a Phofung Municipality, Phuthaditjhaba, South Africa
- 5. Jordan F T W, Pattison M 1996 *Poultry dis*eases (4th edn). W H Saunders, London
- 6. Reinecke R K 1983 Veterinary helminthology. Butterworths, South Africa
- Spradbrow P B 1990 Village poultry and preventative veterinary medicine. Preventative Veterinary Medicine 8: 305–1307
- Spradbrow P B 1993/4 Newcastle disease in village chickens. *Poultry Science* 5: 57–196

Book review — Boekresensie

Clinical neurology in small animals: localization, diagnosis and treatment

Edited by K G Braund

An International Veterinary Information Service book. Available on-line at http://www.ivis.org

K G Braund and the International Veterinary Information Service (IVIS) have created an extremely useful electronic book for both the small animal clinician and the veterinary student. *Clinical neurology in small animals: localization, diagnosis and treatment,* contains concise, well-referenced, and up-to-date information on how to perform the neurological examination, how to arrive at a diagnosis, and how to institute effective therapy. Because of the electronic format, it is the most accessible and current reference source available on clinical neurology for the small animal clinician and, best of all, is available at no charge.

The goal of IVIS is to publish relevant, up-to-date veterinary information quickly and make its publications available for free to veterinary health professionals throughout the world. To achieve their goal, they have assembled electronic books written by experts in the veterinary field. The IVIS site can be accessed from any computer terminal with Internet capabilities. Once you register as an IVIS subscriber, at no charge, text is available to you for downloading, printing, or viewing on-screen. In the future, IVIS also hopes to make the text available, with all its formatting intact, for downloading to PDAs.

Braund's electronic book is an excellent source for learning to diagnose and treat disease of the nervous system. This level of excellence is no less than one would expect from an author with extensive clinical and research experience in the field of veterinary neurology. The book is divided into sections on neuroanatomical localisation, etiological categories of disease, neurodiagnostic techniques, and special therapeutic techniques including canine rehabilitory medicine, radiation therapy, and management of behavioral conditions. This format allows the clinician to first learn how to perform and interpret the neurological examination, and then, based on the signalment and progression of signs, allows the clinician to quickly use the chapters on categories of disease and diagnostic techniques to arrive at a definitive diagnosis. Thus the book mimics the method of the experienced clinician. Most chapters are written by Braund, but several chapters are authored by speciality experts: A de Lahunta ('Neurologic Examination'), M Berendt ('Epilepsy'), J Steiss ('Electrodiagnostics' and 'Canine Rehabilitation'), A Tipold ('Cerebrospinal Fluid') and K Overall ('Evaluation and Management of Behavioral Conditions'). Several chapters are invaluable to the veterinary neurologist including a fascinating chapter written by J Jones on neuroimaging with beautiful images available at the click of a mouse, and a chapter written by L Forrest, on the principles and uses of radiation therapy. Most chapters may be read in either English or Spanish.

Each chapter is concise, extensively referenced, and highly understandable serving as an excellent reference for both small animal clinicians and veterinary students.

The electronic format has several useful benefits. First, in a given chapter specific words, highlighted in red or blue, may be clicked on in order to open another window where text specifically related to the word may be read. For example, in the list of differential diagnoses for signs consistent with disease of the thoracolumbar spine, a click on the words 'Spinal trauma' opens an additional window with text describing the pathophysiology and treatment of spinal trauma. Clicking on the words 'methylprednisolone succinate' opens a window with information on manufacturers of this drug as well as information on possible routes of drug administration. Clicking on any one of the numerous references opens a window containing the citation for the reference. Second, all text within the IVIS database may be searched for specific terms. Simply typing the term of interest causes a search in catalogues in the IVIS library for documents in English or Spanish containing this term. Clicking on the search results takes you immediately to the relevant chapter.

Finally, and critically, the electronic format allows for regular updates on diseases and their therapies. The date when last updated is provided at the start of each chapter. Chapters are updated every three months by the authors of each chapter.

Braund's electronic textbook is an excellent reference source for the clinician and a useful, and free, learning tool for the veterinary student. I have no doubt it will become a repeatedly visited and bookmarked site on most clinicians' Internet browsers.

> C H Vite School of Veterinary Medicine University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia