

- opment and intracellular glutathione content of bovine embryos. *Biology of Reproduction* 49: 228–232
20. Thompson J G, Gardner D K, Pugh P A, McMillan W H, Tervit H R 1994 Lamb birth weight following transfer is affected by the culture system used for pre-elongation development of embryos. *Journal of Reproduction and Fertility* 13: 25 (Abstr.)
21. van Wagten-donk-de Leeuw A M, Aerts B J G, den Daas J H G 1998 Abnormal offspring following in vitro production of bovine preimplantation embryos: a field study. *Theriogenology* 49: 883–894.
22. Wright J M 1998 Photographic illustrations of embryo developmental stage and quality codes. In Stringfellow D A, Seidel S M (eds), *Manual of the International Embryo Society*. International Embryo Transfer Society, Savoy, Illinois: 167–170
23. Xu K P, Hill B, Betteridge K J 1992 Application of in vitro fertilisation techniques to obtain calves from valuable cows after slaughter. *Veterinary Record* 130: 204–206

Book review — Boekresensie

Comprehensive reports on technical items presented to the International Committee or to Regional Commissions

2000. Office International des Épizooties, Paris. 301 pp., soft cover. €25. ISBN 92 9044 523 8

The 2000 edition of comprehensive reports made to various meetings of the OIE comprises papers on the control and eradication of a wide variety of important diseases, ranging from screwworm and bovine tuberculosis to aquatic animal diseases. The first section consists of 2 reports presented at the 68th General Session of the International Committee in May 2000. The first deals with principles of prevention and control of diseases of aquatic animals. This is an expanding field and breaks new ground for most veterinarians. The paper gives an excellent overview of the major notifiable diseases, procedures for inspection and control, import regulations, quarantine measures, procedures for introduction of new species, transport regulations and movement restrictions, disinfection procedures, contingency plans, training of personnel, and disease control by water treatment, vaccination, therapy and hygiene. It provides a legislative framework that is helpful in formulating control measures. The second report summarises recent progress in the diagnosis, control and eradication of bovine tuberculosis in domestic and wild animals, a subject that is extremely pertinent in South Africa at the moment. Important aspects that are emphasised are vaccination, and population management where wildlife reservoirs occur. The second section contains 5 papers presented at the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas in March 2000. Three of these concern eradication of screwworm, mainly by creating biological barriers using the sterile fly technique. This technique has been used successfully in Africa to control fruit flies and tsetse fly, and should perhaps be considered also in the control of flystrike. The other 2 papers concern surveillance, diagnosis and monitoring systems for vesicular stomatitis, which fortunately does not occur in South Africa, and prospects for diagnosis and control of brucellosis using new vaccines and/or new diagnostic tests. Awareness of diseases that do not occur in South Africa is essential in

view of globalisation of trade, so that general papers such as the report on vesicular stomatitis offer an easy means for South African veterinarians to become familiar with such diseases. The paper on brucellosis concentrates on the problem of distinguishing immune reactions to vaccination from those provoked by natural infection. This can be achieved either by using vaccines such as the RB51 strain that elicit a different response from natural infection, or by using serological tests that can distinguish the antibodies provoked by pathogenic *Brucella* from vaccine-induced and cross-reacting antibodies. The last section consists of 2 papers presented at the 19th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe in September 2000. The first is a comprehensive overview of swine vesicular disease, which can cause severe production losses, more in terms of the control measures applied than the actual effect of the disease. Its main importance lies in the fact that it is clinically impossible to distinguish from foot-and-mouth disease. Controversy exists as to whether this disease should be retained as a List A disease, but in general countries have been in favour of risking the losses incurred by eradication procedures rather than risking confusion and consequent delayed diagnosis of foot-and-mouth disease. The last paper concentrates on how to limit erosive diseases that are not OIE-listed diseases but merit control owing to their devastating effects on productivity. The approach is valid and should be taken seriously, even if the outbreaks of foot and mouth disease that have occurred subsequent to the publication of these reports have demonstrated again why List A diseases should never be ignored simply because they may only appear at long intervals! This publication is of considerable value to all veterinarians.

M-L Penrith

ARC - Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute
Pretoria