

JOURNAL OF CAMEL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

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EDITORIAL

YEAR OF CAMEL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP

The year 2006 has been a year of camel conferences and workshop. A setup of ISOCARD was highlighted and camel science was discussed in form of papers on all aspects of camels at Al-Ain (UAE) in April 2006. Announcement of International Camel Research Centre at Gassim (Saudi Arabia) in May 2006 was a welcome step but its implementation is curiously awaited. A workshop was organised by Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan at Jaisalmer (India) from 6-8 November 2006. Its theme "Reviving Rajasthan's Camel husbandry for income generation and sustainable land use" drew attention of lot of people of Rajasthan state and other parts of India. It strongly recommended popularisation of camel milk and its products. Camel milk's icecream, was served to all the participants. A brain storming session was organised with camel farmers to discuss about marketing of camel products, solving the grazing problems and policy matters related to the camel husbandry. The theme of forthcoming camel conference scheduled to be held at Bikaner (India) from 16-17 February is also based on measures to save the camels. It is expected that recommendations of this conference should help to arouse a renewed interest of camel keepers in camel husbandry practices, which will in turn help saving the camels in India. Although Camel milk may set a public acceptance owing to its different taste possible health advantages but still its role to treat diabetes remains debatable. Recommendation of camel milk to treat human diabetes still needs a scientific validation. Diabetes has caused a serious health concern in society. Scientists are trying hard to develop an oral insulin for this purpose but yet-couldnot succeed. How the insulin of camel milk remains unaffected by gastric juices after oral administration, needs to be explained. Popularisation of camel milk and its products would need volumes of milk and thus would encourage camel breeds to start large scale camel dairying. The price of milk this fetched would not only improve the socioeconomic condition of camel keeper but also increase the population of this desert species.

This issue of JCPR (Vol 13 , No 2) has balanced contents and papers on New World Camelids are also published. The diverse subjects included in this issue are immunology, parasitology, pharmacology, physiology, diseases, milk, fibre, nutrition, and husbandry. The family of Camel Publishing House wishes a Happy New Year 2007 to all its readers.



(Dr. T.K. Gahlot)

Editor

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