

JOURNAL OF CAMEL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

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INJAZ-THE FIRST CLONED CAMEL BORN IN DUBAI

The biggest landmark research of the year was birth of a cloned camel calf in Dubai. The world's first cloned camel a female calf named Injaz was born at Dubai's Camel Reproduction Centre (CRC). Injaz, the only cloned camel, is another world's first and the method used to clone camels was developed at the Central Veterinary Research Laboratory in Dubai between 2003 and 2007 by Dr Nisar Wani, a camelid reproduction scientist. Once perfected, the technique was put into practice at the Emirate's Camel Reproduction Centre. The cells from which Injaz was cloned were taken from the tissue of a camel selected at random and slaughtered for meat in 2005. Over a period of about a year, Dr Wani developed a method to culture the embryo, allowing it to grow in an incubator that simulated the environment of a camel's uterus. Once an embryo was deemed suitable, it was inserted into the surrogate mother's uterus through the same process used in human *in-vitro* fertilisation. Injaz was the only calf born from seven induced pregnancies. In future, the programme will examine the possibilities of using cloning to perpetuate the genes of valued racing and milk-producing camels. The team of JCPR congratulates Dr. Wani and his team for this achievement.

Another landmark of the year in the field of camelid literature was publication of 'Selected Research on Camelid Parasitology' which is most comprehensive guide to Camelid Parasitology. Featuring abundant photographs, illustrations, and data, the text covers camelid protozoa, helminths, and arthropods of dromedary and New World camelids. There are at least 17 countries involved in camelid parasitology research, and 173 authors have contributed 72 manuscripts which are appropriately placed in 5 sections of this book. Camel Publishing House congratulates its editors T.K. Gahlot and M.B. Chhabra to accomplish this herculean task to bring out first ever exclusive book on camelid parasitology. This new book was released in a novel manner at the premises of clinic of College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner on 17 July 2009 by the first camel man Mr. Afzal Khan, a local resident of Bikaner, who entered in the clinics along with his sick camel. He was amazed with this gesture of camelid scientists.

Formation of Pakistan Camel Association is a welcome step for camel scientists, herders and other stake holders who are crucial to work on the issues related to camel and its husbandry in Pakistan. This would help organising the camel science activities with in Pakistan in a most co-ordinated manner. We congratulate Dr Abdul Raziq who was chosen as an organiser, to lead this association most efficiently and successfully.

Current issue is composed of 21 manuscripts out of which 5 relate to bactrians. Dr. R.T. Wilson has authored most remarkable paper, "The one-humped camel in Southern Africa: imports to and use in the Cape of Good Hope in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries." He has given the most useful information from the archives of camel history of South Africa. Papers based upon camel diseases and pathology constitute most of the dromedary section.

Bactrian camel section offers 3 papers on anatomy and other two papers on ovarian follicle dynamics and role of milk in type 2 diabetes. It is noteworthy that research on bactrian camel milk has also started. Additionally, this issue contains a thesis abstract and other relevant news items.

I express my thanks to all the authors to have chosen JCPR for publication of their papers. I do hope that the camelid scientists, researchers and practitioners would continue their support to the JCPR in future also.



(Dr. T.K. Gahlot)

Editor

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