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Dear WRSA officers and members,

Six months have passed since our seventh Newsletter. As you well know, the worldwide irruption of the COVID-19 has marked all our activity in all aspects over these months, and the world of rabbit science has been no exception. In any case, we have tried to summarize the main news of these last six months in the current issue.

Letter from the WRSA President

Dear WRSA members and followers,

First of all, I hope that you and your relatives didn't suffer of the COVID19. This pandemic modifies greatly our lifestyle and overall relationships. Still now, many countries are strongly affected by this disease, and this will affect our personal and professional life and our economy. Nevertheless, face to a crisis humanity always found ways to adapt.



Now, our 12th World Rabbit Congress is postponed to next year (23-25 june, Nantes, France). More details about the new organisation of our major event are given below. Already, many colleagues have worked for the success of our 12th WRC, and I thank them warmly.

I am happy to announce that two new branches have postulated to join WRSA , from : Malaysia, Philippines. Other countries are going presently working to apply for becoming WRSA branches.

Do not forget to use our discussion forum for every question to our community:
<https://groups.google.com/forum/world-rabbit-science-asso>

Visit and publish in the WRSA journal: World Rabbit Science <http://polipapers.upv.es/index.php/wrs>
Visit our WRSA website (<http://world-rabbit-science.com/>) and our facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/wrsaface/>).

Sincerely yours

Thierry GIDENNE  
WRSA President
Auzeville (France), July 28, 2020

Last News of the World Rabbit Congress

Because of COVID19 pandemic, our 12th World Rabbit Congress is postponed to next year (23-25 June 2021, Nantes, France). Almost all submitted papers before end of January 2020 have been reviewed by referee. Presently, a total of 239 short papers were submitted, 11 were rejected, and still 28 papers are under review.

Because of the one year postponing we have launched a survey for each author asking if they withdraw their paper for next year (yes for 21 paper), or maintain it (n= 174), or propose a new paper (n=70). All 8 main speakers, main referees, and chairman of sessions and round table have confirmed their participation for our congress next year. Thus, we are confident about the future success of our 12thWRC.

Another period of paper submission will open in next October. You still have all the information about the communications submission procedure at <https://colloque.inra.fr/wrc2020/Submission>

All relevant information, such as how to be a sponsor and where it will be held ..., is available on the official website of the congress: <https://colloque.inra.fr/wrc2020>

We look forward to welcoming you to Nantes in 2021.

The scientific and organising committee of the 12th WRC

Selected Publications

Popular Articles in World Rabbit Science last 12 months:

1. [Rabbit haemorrhagic disease: experimental study of a recent highly pathogenic GI.2/RHDV2/b strain and evaluation of vaccine efficacy](#) 3653 views since: 2019-09-30
2. [Children's consumption of rabbit meat](#) 3001 views since: 2019-09-30
3. [Effects of replacement of alfalfa by big-leaf mulberry on growth performance, digestion and meat quality in growing rabbits](#) 2455 views since: 2019-12-23
4. [Molecular genetic diversity and conservation priorities of Egyptian rabbit breeds](#) 2219 views since: 2019-09-30
5. [Abstracts of the 18th French Rabbit Days](#) 1360 views since: 2019-09-30

Other publications in the last 6 months (the 10 first in function of the cites in Google Scholar):

1. [The effect of Goji berries \(*Lycium barbarum*\) dietary supplementation on rabbit meat quality](#)
2. [Genomic regions influencing intramuscular fat in divergently selected rabbit lines.](#)
3. [Long term conjugated linoleic acid supplementation modestly improved growth performance but induced testicular tissue apoptosis and reduced sperm quality in male rabbit.](#)
4. [Pathogenesis of Intradermal Staphylococcal Infections: Rabbit Experimental Approach to Natural Staphylococcus aureus Skin Infections.](#)
5. [Assessing the Preference of Rabbit Does to Social Contact or Seclusion: Results of Different Investigations.](#)
6. [Some recent applications of rabbit biotechnology – a review.](#)
7. [High temperature impairs rabbit viability, feed consumption, growth and fecundity: examination of endocrine mechanisms.](#)
8. [Effects of garlic powder and salt additions on fatty acids profile, oxidative status, antioxidant potential and sensory properties of raw and cooked rabbit meat burgers.](#)
9. [A moderate protein diet does not cover the requirements of growing rabbits with high growth rate.](#)
10. [Early deviations in performance, metabolic and immunological indicators affect stayability in rabbit females.](#)

In addition, CABI has recently published the third edition of the [Nutrition of the Rabbit](#), where bringing together international expertise in rabbit production, topics covered in this fully updated volume include digestive physiology, feed formulation and product quality, as well as feeding strategies, feed processing, feed management around weaning and the relationship between nutrition and intestinal health. Brand new to this edition, the chapters also discuss the development of immune response and the role of intestinal microbiota, new dietary sources and additives, and feeding behaviour in pasture and organic feeding. A valuable resource for researchers and students of animal nutrition and production, this book provides a comprehensive, research-based review of nutrition for these important animals.

International and National Congresses

In the last six months, only one national congress could be held at the beginning of 2021, while other national and international congresses were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ASIC Annual Conference at Verona (Italy)

Last January 31, 2020, the Italian Branch of the WRSA, the Italian Scientific Association for Rabbit Farming (ASIC), held their *ASIC Annual Conference* at Verona (Italy). A few days after the publication of the new EFSA Opinions on the welfare of the rabbit in breeding and slaughtering, the annual ASIC conference was the occasion for an update on the situation of production and research in Italy in light of the new perspectives European. At the VeronaFiere site, the meeting between production, research and the various speakers also illustrated the state of the art and the actions that have been carried out so far, as well as the possibilities for renewal of the sector. For this reason, the point was made on the new guidelines being drawn up by the Italian Ministry of Health and on the funding opportunities for the sector relating to the Rural Development Program of the Veneto Region.

The presentations of this congress can be found on

<http://www.asic-wrsa.it/atti2020.php>

[Provided by the *Italian Scientific Association for Rabbit Farming*]

FIERAGRICOLA



31 gennaio 2020

Convegno Annuale ASIC

(Associazione Scientifica Italiana di Coniglicoltura)

Tavola Rotonda

Numeri e prospettive del settore cunicolo in Italia



Congresses just around the corner:

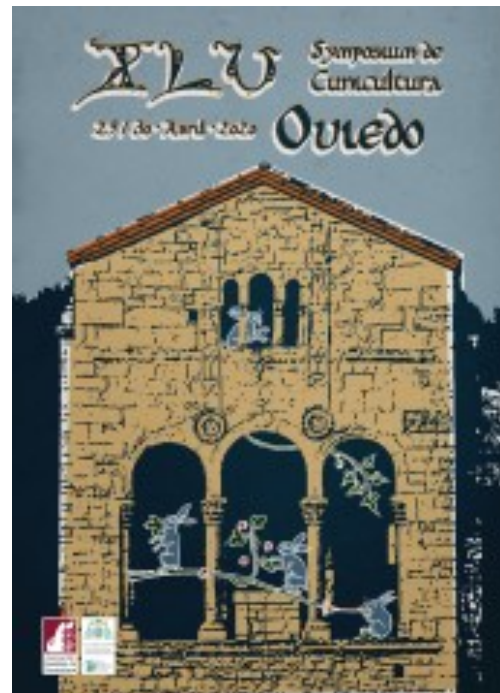
Faced with the uncertainty and restrictions on mobility and concentrations of people derived from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Spanish Association of Rabbit Farming (ASESCU), together with the University Institute of Biotechnology of the University of Oviedo (co-organizer of the Symposium), has decided to cancel the 45 Symposium on Cuniculture ASESCU. The congressed was initially scheduled for April 2020, then changed to September 2020, but finally cancelled.

Its celebration, keeping the current program, has been postponed to the year 2021 in place and dates to be decided, which will be announced in due course.

ASESCU regrets the inconvenience that this postponement can cause and trusts that its organization in 2021 will be successful, as well as being able to count on the collaboration of companies and the participation of all attendees.

The objectives of the forty-fifth edition of the Cuniculture Symposium are to publicize the reality of cuniculture in the Asturian community and its surroundings, serve as a meeting point for rabbit breeders, technicians, commercial, companies, teachers and researchers to analyse the current situation of the rabbit sector in Spain and serve as a scenario for the presentation of advances in research and technological development in the field of cuniculture since the previous Symposium.

From ASESCU we invite the whole sector to meet us in Oviedo.



Best regards and wishing you a great summer

Juan José Pascual
WRSA General Secretary



Valencia (Spain), July 28, 2020