**AT THE FRONT PAGE**

The Spanish Technological Platform on Animal Health was presented

Last 14th July 2008, the Spanish Technological Platform on Animal Health (Vet+i) was presented with the aim of enhancing the animal health research in Spain. The Platform has been promoted by the Spanish Business Association of the Animal Health and Nutrition Industry (Veterindustria).

During the presentation, the Minister of Agriculture, Elena Espinosa, highlighted that this initiative will contribute to improve the surveillance systems and the development of therapeutic tools with the purpose of avoiding the entrance of new epidemic diseases and zoonoses, taking into account the animal welfare and the sustainable development, and stimulating a competitive Spanish industry working coordinately with the community of researchers, supporting the producers and facilitating their task to the public sector.

The Platform is also counting on the collaboration and participation of the Ministry of Environment and Rural and Marine Area, the Ministry of Science and Innovation, the Ministry of Health and Consumption and the Spanish Agency of Medicines and Sanitary Products; eleven Veterinary Medicine Schools around Spain; the Institute of Health Carlos III, CReSA, CDTI, INIA and CISA; as well as scientific veterinary and producers organizations and associations and agrarian and technological research bodies of the Autonomous Regions. (+)

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

Plants as bio-factories: Development of a recombinant vaccine against the porcine circovirosis

The main objective of this project is developing a recombinant, marked vaccine against the porcine circovirosis using plants as bio-factories. Porcine circovirosis is one of the diseases with higher economic impact in our country. (+)

**RESEARCH**

CReSA's contributions in the 7th International Pestivirus Symposium

The 7th International Pestivirus Symposium was held in Uppsala, Sweden last September 16-19, 2008. Dr. Lilianne Ganges and Rosa Rosell, researchers of the CReSA, presented last results about Classical Swine Fever and Border Disease virus, respectively. (+)
Research:

High exposure to toxoplasmosis in Spanish roe deer

The article entitled “Prevalence of antibodies against Toxoplasma gondii in roe deer from Spain” has been published in the journal Veterinary Parasitology. The study analyzes the prevalence and risk factors for T. gondii (responsible of toxoplasmosis) and concludes that environmental factors are important, and indicates high exposure to T. gondii in Spanish roe deer. (+)

Role of metallothioneins in Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies is investigated

Metallothioneins (MTs) have relevant role in many pathological conditions affecting the central nervous system. Researchers of the CReSA and UAB infected transgenic mice with an experimental strain of scrapie for gaining knowledge of the role of MTs in Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) pathogeny. (+)

Immunological markers for tuberculosis in goats

A research work carried out at the CReSA has studied the cellular and humoral immunological responses, as well as the pathology and bacterial load in Mycobacterium caprae naturally infected goats. (+)

Salmonella and Bluetongue, at Avedila 2008

The XIII Symposium Avedila was held in Lleida last 23rd September, 2008. The CReSA contributed with two speeches about control of Salmonella infection (Dr. Enric Mateu) and etiology and pathogenesis of Bluetongue (Dr. Mariano Domingo). (+)

Grant from AGAUR to the CReSA for producing a corporate video

The CReSA has been granted by a subvention from the Agency for Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) for funding the project: “Video get to know CReSA: how a high biological safety center works”. (+)

Lecture of research work on Swine influenza

Myriam Pujol, PhD student of the CReSA, carried out last 16th September the lecture and defense of her research work entitled “Interaction of swine influenza virus with different dendritic cells”, directed by Dr. Maria Montoya. (+)

Lecture and defence of three research works

The lecture and defence of the research works of three PhD students of the CReSA showed recent advances on Culicoides vectoriality, avian influenza and swine torque teno virus last 5th and 9th September, 2008. (+)

Lecture of two research works on avian influenza

The lecture and defence of the research works of two PhD students of the CReSA last 30th July, 2008 showed recent advances on immunity against avian influenza virus. (+)