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**ATTHE FRONTPAGE**

**Phagocytosis resistance is a virulence mechanism of Haemophilus parasuis**

Researchers of CReSA have reported for the first time that phagocytosis resistance is a virulence mechanism of Haemophilus parasuis (H. parasuis) and that several factors may be involved in this function. The paper, published in Veterinary Research describes that H. parasuis strains from different clinical origin present different susceptibility to phagocytosis by porcine alveolar macrophages (PAM).

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Relevant facts of the research activities of the CReSA in 2008**

Last year, the team of researchers of the CReSA reached the following achievements, among others: 58 scientific, indexed articles, 134 communications in congresses, 1 patent, 29 competitive projects in course (4 European projects funded by the 6th Frame Program among them), 9 doctoral thesis, and 35 new contracts with private companies. The "Annual Report CReSA 2008" can be consulted.

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**CONGRESS**

**CReSA research contributions to the 3rd Annual Meeting EPIZONE**

EPIZONE is the Network of Excellence for Epizootic Disease Diagnosis and Control. Researchers of the CReSA took part in the 3rd Annual Meeting with five communications showing recent experimental developments on African Swine Fever, Foot and Mouse Disease, Bluetongue and Rift Valley Fever viruses.
**PUBLICATIONS**

**Last relevant results on swine hepatitis E virus**

Hepatitis E is an emergent human infection and it is thought that swine are the main animal reservoir. Five papers published during 2009 describe the latest results obtained by swine hepatitis E virus group at CReSA. (+)

**New publications about porcine circoviruses during 2009**

Porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2) is considered the essential infectious agent for postweaning multisystemic wasting syndrome (PMWS) development. Five papers published during 2009 describe the latest results obtained by the PCV group at CReSA. Moreover, two papers have also been published as a result of the collaboration with other research groups in Mexico and Germany. (+)

**Torque teno virus: new discoveries during 2009**

Little information on swine Torque teno virus (TTV) infection and transmission dynamics is nowadays available. Five papers published during 2009 describe the latest results obtained by the swine TTV group at CReSA. (+)

**Th1 immune response could be protective against Neospora caninum abortion**

A recent study carried out by the research group of Dr. Sonia Almería (CReSA) indicates that a Th1 immune response, in which IgG2 antibodies prevail, could be protective against N. caninum abortion, but only in the presence of IFN-γ production. These results will be soon published at the journal *Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology*. (+)

**EDUCATION**

**More than 250 students visited the CReSA**

From February to May 2009, the CReSA offered the activity called “Mad cows, bluetongue, avian flu... diseases that we investigate” within the initiative Escolab 2009. In total, 250 secondary level students have been able to know how a high biological center works. (+)

**SEMINAR**

**Dr. María Teresa Frías talked about "emerging pig viruses in Cuba"**

Last 18th June, Dr. María Teresa Frías Leporeau, researcher of the Group of Animal Virology of the CENSA (Cuba) offered a seminar called “Swine fever and emerging pig viruses in Cuba”. The seminar was hold at the CReSA’s auditorium. (+)

**THESIS AND RESEARCH WORKS**

**Defence of doctoral thesis on new vaccine strategies against the African Swine Fever**

Next Wednesday, 15th of July 2009, Jordi Marquès i Argilaguet, PhD student of the CReSA, will defend his doctoral thesis entitled “Development of new vaccine strategies against the African Swine Fever” directed by Dr. Fernando Rodríguez. (+)

**Defence of doctoral thesis on porcine circovirus type 2**

Next Friday, 17th of July 2009, Maria Fort de Puig, PhD student of the CReSA, will defend her doctoral thesis entitled “Characterization of immune responses to porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2) infection and vaccination in pigs”, directed by Dr. Enric Mateu and Dr. Joaquim Segalés. (+)

**Lecture of research work on Swine influenza**

Next 16th July, Tufária Mussá (PhD student of the CReSA) will carry out the lecture and defense of the research work entitled “In vitro study of Swine Influenza Virus (H3N2) and TLR agonists interaction with porcine bone marrow derived dendritic cells”, directed by Dr. Maria Montoya. (+)