**AT THE FRONT PAGE**

**Call to researchers proposing experiments to be conducted in the CReSA facilities**

The Network of Animal Disease Infectiology Research Facilities (NADIR) invites the research Community for proposals to bid for funding to carry out projects within the facilities participating in the network. Proposals may be submitted by any European research laboratory or consortium of laboratories (public or private).

Europe possesses several experiment facilities holding the level 3 of bio safety, which is required to study the large majority of zoonoses, emerging diseases and a number of other animal infectious diseases. Through this call, NADIR will provide access to researchers proposing experiments to be conducted in the different network facilities.

Access users will benefit from access free of charge. The NADIR will cover both facility costs and the research group(s) travelling expenses to the selected facility according to the submitted protocol.

Projects conducted in CReSA can involve research on any of the livestock species (cattle, pigs, chickens, goat, sheep) and may use live animals including laboratory species (e.g. mice) or cell lines. Applicants should note that a collection of cell lines is available through the NADIR project, which is available to the research community (see www.nadir-project.eu). Priority will be given to projects focused on a disease or pathogen requiring BSL3 containment but protocols requiring specialized infrastructure at a lower level of confinement are also acceptable. (+)

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Pigs used as a model for studying human tuberculosis, for the first time**

The Unitat de Tuberculosi Experimental (UTE), Institut per a la Investigació en Ciències de la Salut Germans Trias i Pujol (IGTP) has developed a new experimental model in minipigs for Mycobacterium tuberculosis, in collaboration with the CReSA. The mini-pig model highlights new aspects that could be a key to a better understanding tuberculosis infection control in humans. (+)

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**PROJECT**

**Experimental infection of European breed sheep with Rift Valley fever virus**

CReSA carried out for the first time an experimental infection of sheep with Rift Valley fever virus (RVF) in the level-3 biocontainment facilities of this center in 2009. Subsequently, CReSA takes part at ENCRAD (European Network for the Coordination of Rift Valley fever Animal experimentation and Diagnostic). (+)
VISITED US

JARC representatives of the pig sector visited CReSA

Last July 29th, representatives of Joves Agricultors i Ramaders de Catalunya, (JARC, young farmers of Catalonia) arranged a meeting with researchers of the CReSA with the aim of discussing different pig health problems. (+)

CONGRESSES AND SEMINARS

A total of 118 veterinarians and human health professionals attended the 1st Conference on Zoonosis and Emerging Diseases. Different aspects related to the avian, swine and human influenza were discussed (+)

CONGRESSES AND SEMINARS

CReSA Bluetongue seminar

Last 19th April 2010, CReSA promoted a technical seminar entitled Advances in fight and prevention of Bluetongue, included in the Annual Plan for Technological Transfer (PATT) 2010 of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Action (DAR) of the Generalitat of Catalonia. (+)

CONGRESSES AND SEMINARS

CReSA seminar on avian diseases

Last July 19th 2010, CReSA promoted a technical seminar entitled "Scientific advances and current situation of diseases with economic impact: avian flu and campilobacteriosis", included in the Annual Plan for Technological Transfer (PATT) of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Action (DAR) of the Generalitat of Catalonia. (+)

PUBLICATIONS

39 scientific papers of the CReSA during the first semester 2010

The scientific output of the CReSA researchers during this period resulted in 39 publications included in the Science Citation Index (SCI); and majority of them are related to swine diseases. (+)

DOCTORAL THESIS

Defence of doctoral thesis on porcine circovirus

Last 13 July 2010 (Tuesday), Carolina Rodríguez Cariño, PhD student of the CReSA, defended her doctoral thesis entitled "Ultrastructural studies on Porcine Circovirus type 2 (PCV2) infection" directed by Dr Joaquim Segalés. (+)

SCIENCE IN SOCIETY

CReSA is granted by the FECYT for carrying out activities of divulgation

The CReSa has been granted by the Spanish Foundation for the Science and Technology (FECYT) to carry out activities of divulgation for general public within the Program of scientific culture and of the innovation 2010. (+)