



# 18th International Pig Veterinary Society Congress 2004 Hamburg

## Press release

Length: 3,568

## Pig health instead of pig disease

### World congress focuses on eradication programmes

(Hamburg) Eradication programmes will form one of the main areas of focus at the world congress of pig veterinarians, which will be held in Germany this year. This topic is addressed by a significant proportion of the international research papers submitted to the congress. These papers will be presented to the public for the first time at the end of June, reports Thomas G. Blaha, chairman of the congress's scientific committee. The aim of eradication programmes is to prevent pigs from becoming ill at all. "It is gratifying that research around the world is increasingly focusing on keeping animal stocks healthy," says Professor Blaha. This, he continues, is to everyone's advantage: pig breeders, pig farmers and the consumer. The congress will convene under the motto: "Healthy pigs for wholesome pork."



Prof. Dr. Blaha: "Gratifying trend in research"  
Photo: IPVS

### Certification as a means of strengthening consumer confidence

The congress, organised by the International Pig Veterinary Society (IPVS), will not just deal with the question of how to avoid disease. It will also look at ways in which the health of animal stocks can be clearly documented for the consumer and how swine breeding and finishing farms can maintain their disease-free status in the long term. "Of particular interest here are insights from the USA on Trichinella-free certification and the Danish experience with the reduction of Salmonella at stock level, for instance." There will also be reports on the progress of mange eradication, Professor Blaha announced.

### Special series of presentations for veterinary practitioners

For the first time in the history of the IPVS, this year's congress will include a session of presentations that will deal with topics of particular practical relevance. It bears the motto "Science Meets Practice" and is aimed primarily at practising vets. This so-called "Practitioner's Line" will not only include presentations from scientists, but practitioners and experts will also have the opportunity to hold in-depth discussions and exchange experiences across national boundaries. This event will be simultaneously translated into German and English.

### 1,000 international scientists

The IPVS is expecting at least 1,500 participants at the congress. These will include 1,000 international scientists and experts. The congress, held every two years, will convene for the 18th time and is being held in Germany for the first time since 1976. Alongside eradication programmes, the Hamburg congress will also focus on meat quality and food safety, animal welfare and environmental protection as well as the impact of globalisation on pork production.

### The congress programme

The 18th IPVS World Congress will be held between 27th June and 1st July 2004 in Hamburg. The congress traditionally starts on Sunday evening with a get-together meeting. On Monday, leading representatives from the scientific community, the EU commission and the World Organisation for Animal Health in Paris will provide an overview of the most important international trends. After this, the actual scientific programme and the "Practitioner's Line" will begin. For three further days, this program continues in up to six parallel sessions. Six high-level symposia on special topics have been integrated into the congress. On Friday, the last day, tours to important institutions for research, pig husbandry and animal disease control centers are on offer. Further information and registration: [www.ipvs.de](http://www.ipvs.de)

### Online documents

Press release: [http://www.ipvs.de/press/en/download/040213\\_pe.pdf](http://www.ipvs.de/press/en/download/040213_pe.pdf)

Photo "Prof. Blaha": [http://www.ipvs.de/press/en/download/040213\\_blaha.jpg](http://www.ipvs.de/press/en/download/040213_blaha.jpg)

### • IPVS-Veranstaltungs GmbH

Press Office  
Dirk Wildt  
Reichenberger Straße 124  
10999 Berlin, Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 30 695 343 57  
Fax: +49 (0) 42 265 536 22  
Email: [press@ipvs.de](mailto:press@ipvs.de)  
Internet: [www.ipvs.de](http://www.ipvs.de)