

ISAE

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newsletter

Issue 44 • June 2014

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President's Piece

Dear ISAE members,

Welcome to the June 2014 edition of the ISAE Newsletter. For those of us in the Northern Hemisphere, summer has hopefully arrived and the academic year is closing or has closed, meaning a chance to re-charge batteries or focus more on research activities, as well as planning to attend the 48th ISAE Congress in Vitoria-Gasteiz! For those of you in the south, I hope your winter is not too harsh and that you can still find the time to migrate north!

Since our December Newsletter, ISAE Council have conducted an electronic Winter Meeting and discussed a variety of topics including such items as journal relationships, student representative elections, regional ISAE bank accounts and ISAE expert opinion to consultant bodies – many details of which will be forthcoming in other parts of this publication or at the AGM in Spain. As always, I encourage you to engage with Council on any of these and other issues of importance to you and the Society, either in the formal setting of the AGM, or throughout the year. Our contact details are easy to find (http://www.applied-ethology.org/isae_council.html) and we're happy to hear from you!

We have had a couple of changes within our organizational structure, so I need to welcome Lena Lidfors as the new Regional Secretary for the Nordic region and also welcome Sara Hintze as a new Student Representative. Thank you for taking on these roles and serving the Society, and many thanks also to the outgoing Satu Raussi and Jessica Hopkins for your time and efforts spent on ISAE's behalf. For those of you wanting to serve, just a reminder that we have **4 Council positions up for election at the AGM** – Membership Secretary, Procedural Advisor, Education Officer and Ethics Officer. If any of these interest you, then get in touch.

Also since December, we have welcomed 60 new (and a few former) members from 14 different countries across the world. For those of you who made it to either the Nordic meeting in January or the joint USA/Canada meeting in May, I hope your first experience of ISAE activities was a good one. Council gets to approve membership applications monthly, and it's one of my monthly highlights to read that application paragraph that gives us a little detail about who you are, where you come from and your applied ethology pathway. Membership of ISAE, as with any club or organization, brings with it a degree of responsibility, which is not always detailed in written word as a Code of Conduct, but exists within the Society's ethos. For me personally, I like to think that ISAE is an inclusive Society that welcomes, and rewards, those who come with an open and inquiring mind, integrity in your academic activity and an altruistic outlook in scholarly life. I would like its members to be good scientists, to be truly collaborative, to embrace diversity in all its forms, to appreciate substance over style, to treat all with respect and be receptive to lifelong learning. If this is not you, don't worry, remember we're inclusive and we won't turn you away!

Finally, I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Spain next month. The organizers have done a great job putting together what looks like a great conference program (<http://www.isae2014.com/scientific-program/>). There's an interesting Wood-Gush lecture lined up and a varied mix of plenary topics. As 2014 marks the 50th year since the original publication of Ruth Harrison's *Animal Machines*, there's a couple of plenaries dedicated to what was and what continues to be probably the seminal work in animal welfare. All-in-all, the 48th Congress should not be missed!

Best wishes,

Jeremy Marchant-Forde
President of the ISAE

Senior Vice President – Anna Valros

2014 48th Congress:

28 July – 01 August, Europa Convention Centre, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain

The other congresses are as follows:

- 2015 49th Congress, Japan (dates and venue to be confirmed)
- 2016 50th Congress, Edinburgh, UK (dates and venue to be confirmed)
- 2017 51st Congress, ?? *Make a bid!!*
- 2018 52nd Congress, PEI, Canada (dates and venue to be confirmed)

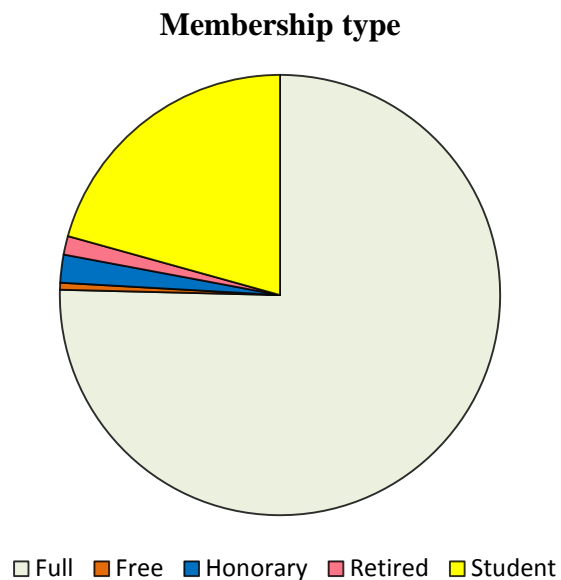
Thank you to the local organising committees of each of these congresses for taking on the responsibility of organising our annual meeting.

Assistant Secretary - Marije Oostindjer

This will be the second year that the two new ISAE awards, the Creativity Award and the New Investigator award, exist. I want to thank all of you who nominated someone, and I am looking forward to report the results of the nominations in the next newsletter.

Membership Secretary – Keelin O’Driscoll

Once again membership renewals have been going very smoothly, and the membership continues to grow. As of 23 June there are 585 members in the database, which is an increase on last years’ number of 547, and in fact the highest number since June 2010! 431 members have already renewed for 14/15, and renewals are still coming in steadily. The pie chart shows a breakdown of our membership by type. The membership numbers in each region is fairly stable; Table 1 shows how our current membership compares with last years’ and how it’s distributed across the regions.



| | June 2013 | June 2014 |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Australasia/Africa | 44 | 47 |
| Benelux | 34 | 39 |
| Canada | 53 | 63 |
| East Asia | 21 | 23 |
| East Central Europe | 11 | 10 |
| Latin America | 17 | 16 |
| Mediterranean | 30 | 27 |
| Nordic | 81 | 85 |
| UK/Ireland | 109 | 117 |
| USA | 103 | 111 |
| West Central Europe | 44 | 47 |

This year we will be allowing people until the end of June before non-payees are removed from the database, so there is still some time to renew. If you have any problems with payment please get in touch.

We have had 59 new members since the last newsletter. Please welcome to the society

| Name | Country | Name | Country |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Jasper Heerkens | Belgium | Pol Llonch Obiols | UK |
| Rachel Toaff-Rosenstein | USA | CAROL THOMPSON | UK |
| Thomas Reichlin | Switzerland | Brian Greco | USA |
| Jalil Ghassemi Nejad | Japan | Louise Carleton-Prangnell | UK |
| Lorelle Barrett | Australia | Clemence Nash | Canada |
| Jeremy Bailoo | Switzerland | Teryn Gilmet | Canada |
| Christopher Byrd | USA | Colleen Roehrig | Canada |
| Lisanne Stadig | Belgium | Dana Campbell | USA |
| Lindsey Hulbert | USA | Mhairi Roberts | Australia |
| Eva Van laer | Belgium | Mirjam Guesgen | New Zealand |
| Helen Proctor | UK | Catalina Medrano-Galarza | Canada |
| Rachele Malavasi | Italy | Tracy Burnett | Canada |
| Aikaterini Zachopoulou | UK | Mona L. V. Larsen | Denmark |
| Melissa Cornett | USA | Daniel Enriquez-Hidalgo | Ireland |
| Giuseppe Vezzoli | USA | Patricia Hester | USA |
| Maria V Veggeland | Norway | Lise Aanensen | Norway |
| Jessica Walker | New Zealand | Janja Sirovnik | Switzerland |
| Sophie BRAJON | Canada | Ali Witaifi | USA |
| Marta Sowinska | UK | Clare Ellis | UK |
| Mary Bonaparte-Saller | USA | Avi Sapkota | USA |
| Hillary Dalton | Canada | Ahmed Badr | USA |
| Stine Gronmo Vik | Norway | Daiana de Oliveira | Sweden |
| Karin Jaffe | USA | Natalie Waran | UK |
| Lana Kaiser | USA | Lina Roth | Sweden |
| Nienke van Staaveren | Ireland | Gonzalo Chavez | Chile |
| Rachel Chojnacki | Norway | Marlene K. Kirchner | Denmark |

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|--------|
| Michael Toscano | Switzerland | Yezica Norling | Sweden |
| Jessica Colpoys | USA | Sofie Viksten | Sweden |
| Hannah Larsen | Australia | Sonya Hill | UK |
| Santiago Palacio | Canada | | |

Communications Officer – Laura Dixon

There have been a number of new employment opportunities to be advertised since the last newsletter, which is always encouraging for those in our field. I've also been asked to advertise a number of interesting courses, conferences and seminars on animal behaviour and welfare which again indicates growing interest and opportunity.

For the website, the Employment Opportunities page gets viewed most frequently with Membership Sign Up and ISAE Meetings being second and third most popular pages. This is reflecting the membership renewal deadlines (thank you!) and the large number of regional conferences held in the past few months.

As always, a reminder to message me if you want an announcement sent to the membership or posted on the website. I'm also happy to accept various announcements, articles, conference reviews and so on for our future Newsletters.

ISAE Regional News

Australasia and Africa – Ahmad Tatar and Rebecca Doyle

The Australasian-NZ-African Region will be holding a regional meeting in Sydney on Wednesday 29th October 2014.

Our region will also be submitting a proposal to hold one or two sessions at the International Ethology Congress in Cairns in 2015 themed around applied ethology. Details on the congress can be found here: <http://www.behaviour2015.org>

If anyone wants more information about either point, they can email Rebecca: rebecca.doyle@unimelb.edu.au

Benelux – Liesbeth Bolhuis and Stephanie Buijs

New members

We have welcomed four new ISAE members in our region: Eva Van laer, Jasper Heerkens and Lianne Stadig (Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research – ILVO, Belgium) and Sanne Ott (KU Leuven, Belgium).

Inquiry and group discussion on Benelux ISAE

During the regional Meeting held on 10th of October 2013 (reported in one of the previous newsletters) we conducted an inquiry and organized short group discussions to get an impression of our regional members' ideas on future ISAE-Benelux activities. Below we give a short summary of the outcome.

Almost all attendants of the regional ISAE meeting answered our questionnaire (n=44, 96%). From the attendants 35% were ISAE members, 26% were non-members and 40% was considering membership (2 persons actually became members). We were very happy to learn that 80% of the attendants indicated that they would attend future meetings. The other 20% indicated they would probably attend future meetings. The majority of the respondents (77%) thought meetings should be organized every year, whereas 23% voted for every 2 years. Most attendants (93%) thought that one day was an appropriate length, whereas 33% indicated that a 2-day meeting would (also) be suitable. On average, our attendants felt that 59% of the meeting time should be devoted to presentations, 16% to informal networking possibilities, 10% to formal network possibilities and 16% to excursions of (nearby) research facilities or farms. It was recognized however that it is difficult to organize a short excursion to an animal facility due to hygiene protocols.

The group discussions revealed that people would like additional information on other attendants (and their research groups), so they would get a better idea of whom to approach to discuss specific topics or techniques. In addition, they felt that the Benelux ISAE should stimulate the organization of courses on animal welfare/behaviour and research methodology, not only for PhD. students but also for other researchers. The idea of having an on-line Benelux platform for announcing internship positions was put forward. Several groups indicated that an ISAE-Benelux newsletter with information on conferences, courses and lectures would be helpful, but there was a lot of variation in what was thought to be an appropriate frequency (from 2x a year to monthly). People varied in their opinion on the target audience for ISAE-Benelux meetings. Whereas some groups said they missed the attendance of people from NGOs and industry, others indicated that having a "scientific only" audience was very helpful for the conference. People missed the attendance of people working with lab, companion and zoo animals and felt the Walloon region and Luxemburg were underrepresented.

ISAE Benelux activities

In addition to regularly updating the Benelux webpage and posting news relevant for our regional members, every now and then we receive questions (e.g. from students seeking a suitable research group). We plan to organize a regional meeting in the autumn of 2014 or spring 2015 and are currently looking into possibilities for other activities based on the questionnaire and group discussion results.

East Central Europe - Radka Šárová and West Central Europe - Dr. Edna Hillmann

The main event in 2013 was the "Joint East Central and West Central Europe ISAE Regional Meeting" which was held in Skopje, Macedonia on October 8-10, 2013.

The meeting was organized mainly by the East Central Europe Region in cooperation with the AWARE project. We received the financial support £1000 from ISAE which was used for travel grants for 5 students - Csilla Budai (Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Environmental Management, University of Debrecen, Hungary), Jana Dubcová (Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic), Mária Horváth (Institute of Animal Biochemistry and Genetics SAS, Slovakia), Katarína Pichová (Institute of Animal Biochemistry and Genetics SAS, Slovakia) and Mira Suwala (Institute of Genetics and Animal Breeding PAS, Poland).

The book of abstracts from this regional conference is available on ISAE regional web page: [http://www.applied-ethology.org/hres/13Dec13%20PROCEEDINGS_reg_ISAE_2013_in_Skopje\[1\].pdf](http://www.applied-ethology.org/hres/13Dec13%20PROCEEDINGS_reg_ISAE_2013_in_Skopje[1].pdf)

The next Joint East Central and West Central Europe ISAE Regional Meeting is planned for the year 2015.

USA - Maja Makagon and Canada – Nicolas Devillers

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 12TH NORTH AMERICAN MEETING OF THE ISAE

The 12th North American Regional Meeting of the ISAE was held May 30-31, 2014.

The meeting was organized jointly by J. Siegford, Michigan State University (Organizing Committee Chair), M. Makagon, Purdue University (US Region Secretary), N. Devillers, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Canada Region Secretary, and was hosted by the Animal Behaviour and Welfare Group, Dept. Animal Science, Michigan State University. Twenty-nine oral and 23 poster presentations were featured. A copy of the conference proceedings is available on the US Region's ISAE web page.



The band

Ninety individuals representing 30 departments from 21 institutions participated in the meeting. Participants included graduate and undergraduate students, faculty and various professionals working the field of animal behaviour. The meeting featured undergraduate and graduate-division oral and poster student presentation contests.



Brian Greco fielding questions after his talk

While all presentations were excellent, the following individuals distinguished themselves as the 2014 award winners:

| | ORAL PRESENTATION | POSTER PRESENTATION |
|---|---|---|
| Graduate Student Division | 1 st place: Jennifer Chen University of California, Davis | 1 st place: Ahmed Badr Ali Michigan State University |
| | 2 nd place: Brian Greco University of California, Davis | 2 nd place: Lauren Dawson University of Guelph |
| | 3 rd place: Hillary Dalton University of Guelph | 3 rd place: Mary Boneparte-Seller University of California, Davis |
| Undergraduate Student Division | 1 st place: Samantha Kaplan Michigan State University | 1 st place: Emily Liedtke Purdue University |
| | Runner up: Victoria Spreyer Michigan State University | Runner up: Amy Robinson-Junker University of Wisconsin-Parkside |



Student Winners

ISAE Student Reps

Dear ISAE student members,

It is again time for the annual ISAE congress, this time in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain. Jessica Hopkins has now resigned as senior student representative, Claes Anderson is the new senior student representative and Sara Hintze is the new junior student representative. We (Claes and Sara) will arrange a student get-together and continue the tradition that was initiated last year in Florianopolis, Brazil. Preliminary we will arrange a gathering on the Thursday evening (31st of July) after the workshops where we mingle, get to know new people and have a drink or two and some snacks. Following this we head into town for some pintxo-pote.

Kind regards,

Claes and Sara

Council Positions Available for Nominations

- Membership Secretary
- Procedural Advisor
- Education Officer
- Ethics Officer

For more information on these positions, see our Procedural Guidelines: http://www.applied-ethology.org/procedural_guidelines.html

You may nominate yourself or another person but please ensure you have that person's permission for nomination. Nominations should include the qualifications and suitability of the nominee for the council position.

Please send all nominations and direct any questions to the Secretary, Jean-Loup Rault (jean-loup.rault@unimelb.edu.au)

Employment Opportunities

PhD: Pig Behaviour and Welfare

Location: Ghent University, Merelbeke, Belgium

Contact: Frank Tuytens, frank.tuytens@ivo.vlaanderen.be

Postdoc: Farm Animal Care and Well-being

Location: Iowa State University, Iowa, USA

Contact: Anna Johnson, johnsona@iastate.edu

PhD: Canine Ethology

Location: Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway

Contact: Ruth Newberry, ruth.newberry@nmbu.no

Postdoc: Companion Animal Welfare

Location: Purdue University, Indiana, USA

Contact: Candace Croney, ccroney@purdue.edu

Doctoral student: Rabbit Welfare

Location: University of Bern, Switzerland

Contact: Hanno Würbel, hanno.wuerbel@vetsuisse.unibe.ch

PhD: Poultry Behaviour and Welfare

Location: University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Contact: Stephanie Torrey, storrey@uoguelph.ca

PhD: Pig Welfare

Location: Teagasc, Ireland

Contact: [See details](#)

Faculty Position: Animal Well-being

Location: Purdue University, IN, USA

Contact: [View details](#)

Poultry Position

Location: University of California, Davis, USA

Contact: J.W. Oltjen, jwoltjen@ucdavis.edu

PhD: Cattle Behaviour

Location: New Mexico State University, New Mexico, USA

Contact: Rick Estell (estell@nmsu.edu) or Andres Cibils (acibils@nmsu.edu)

PhD: Dairy Cow Welfare

Location: University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Contact: Derek Haley, dhaley@uoguelph.ca

New Laying Hen Welfare Book

Welfare and Stress Management in Laying Hens

Authors: F. Boldaji and A. Tatar

First Edition

Publication date: Feb 2014

Size: 17x24 cm

Price: 70,000 Rials

Pages: 80

ISBN: 978-964-8060-36-8

Summary: Animals and especially poultry welfare is a novel science in Iran. In the last decade, some researches and societies established categories in Iran for the protection of animals against cruelty and pain.

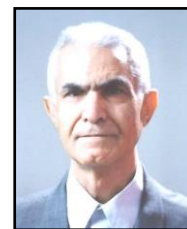
Due to a lack of books in this matter, this book focused on laying hens welfare was published.

The book includes 5 chapters:

- 1- Role of stress factors on performance of laying hens
- 2- Stress factors related to competition in flock
- 3- Stress factors related to nutrition
- 4- Diseases and other stress factors
- 5- Mechanism of stress factors action in body

About the authors:

Dr. Fathollah Boldaji is a professor in Agricultural Biochemistry and Nutrition. He was born at 1933 in Ramhormoz, Iran. He received his B.Sc in animal science from Jondi-Shapour University in Ahwaz, Iran at 1958. After that, he went to Arizona University, USA and received his M.Sc and Ph.D at 1965 and 1969 respectively. Then he came back to Iran and had 45 years research and teaching in Jondi-Shapour and Gorgan Agricultural University. He published 3 books and has several papers in the animal science field. Now, he is retired and has had collaboration with Gorgan Agricultural University until now.



Dr. Ahmad Tatar is an assistant professor in poultry nutrition. He received his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in animal nutrition in 2006 and 2012 from Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Gorgan, Iran. After that, he went to Ramin University Agricultural and Natural Resources of Khouzestan, Iran as an academic member. Also, he is the Australasia and Africa regional secretary of ISAE with Rebecca Doyle (AUS) since 2012. He was the 2008 and 2010 recipient of the World Poultry Congress (Australia) and European Poultry Conference (France) grant as youth program. Also, he was granted the Iranian top Ph.D student title in 2012.

Regarding his scientific activities he published two books (in Persian), registered two patents in animal feed additives, published 3 international papers in refereed journals, 40 presented papers at international conferences, 28 papers at national conferences and published 13 papers in Iranian popular press magazines.



Animal Welfare Symposium 2014

Humane Endings - In Search of Best Practices for Euthanasia, Humane Slaughter and the Depopulation of Animals

02-05 November 2014, Rosemont, Illinois, USA

This symposium will take a comprehensive look at existing best practices for euthanasia, humane slaughter and depopulation across animal species, while exploring research and innovation in the name of continuous improvement. A by-invitation half-day workshop focused on international harmonization of recommendations will follow the 2.5-day event.

The AVMA invites submission of abstracts for review for presentations and posters to be delivered at the symposium. Abstracts should clearly relate to euthanasia, humane slaughter or depopulation, or the harmonization of voluntary guidance and regulations for these activities. Examples of submissions of interest include recent research findings; reviews of research in a defined area; discussions of voluntary or regulatory oversight; and efforts or methods for harmonizing recommendations, nationally and internationally.

<https://www.avma.org/Events/Symposiums/Pages/2014-Humane-Endings-Symposium.aspx>

Sentience Mosaic Online Debates

There are monthly virtual debates on the Sentience Mosaic, a website dedicated to promoting the science of animal sentience to scientists, academics and students.

Upcoming debates:

Fish welfare in the laboratory: Is sentience considered?

14 July, 3pm (UK time)

With Dr Clare Andrews and Dr Ignacio Vinuela-Fernandez

Join the debate:

<http://www.animalmosaic.org/sentience/Debates/upcoming-debates/default.aspx?page=0&sentientopic=&globalissue=&date=&debate=tcm:46-39353>

Reptiles: What do we know about their sentience and cognition?

29 August, 4pm (UK time)

With Professor Gordon Burghardt and Professor Vladimir Dinets

Join the debate:

<http://www.animalmosaic.org/sentience/Debates/upcoming-debates/default.aspx?page=0&sentientopic=&globalissue=&date=&debate=tcm:46-39254>

Course on Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law

St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, 07-19 Sept 2014

Through a combination of lectures, videos and discussions, this course is designed to give attendees a solid background in animal welfare science, ethics and law. Past attendees have included veterinarians (working in practice or for government or animal charities), animal welfare researchers and students, and animal charity workers/campaigners, and have come from a wide variety of countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, the UK and the USA. Veterinarians registered for the RCVS Certificate In Advanced Veterinary Practice (Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law) will find this course essential in helping them prepare for their exam.

For further details, go to the web site: www.cawsel.com . Early-bird registrations close on 30 April, 2014. Enquiries should be sent to Rose Padmore or Madalina Marincas: events@opening-doors.org.uk

Animal Behaviour and Welfare MOOC

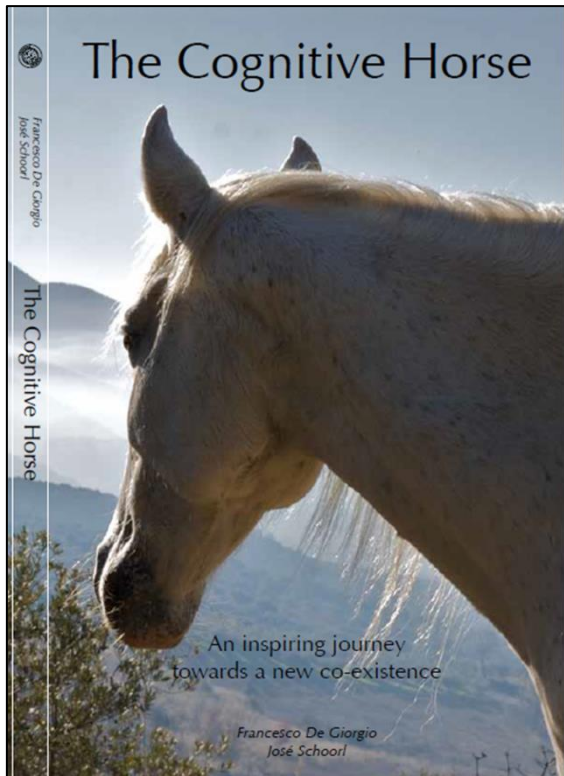
A Massive Open Online Course in Animal Behaviour and Welfare will start on the 14th July delivered by academics from the University of Edinburgh and Scotland's Rural College (SRUC).

In this animal behaviour and welfare course, you will learn about animal welfare and why it matters, develop an understanding of some of the main welfare issues animals have to cope with as well as gaining an insight into the behavioural needs and the emotions of dogs, cats, farmed animals and captive wildlife.

See <https://www.coursera.org/#course/animal> for more details.

New Book: The Cognitive Horse

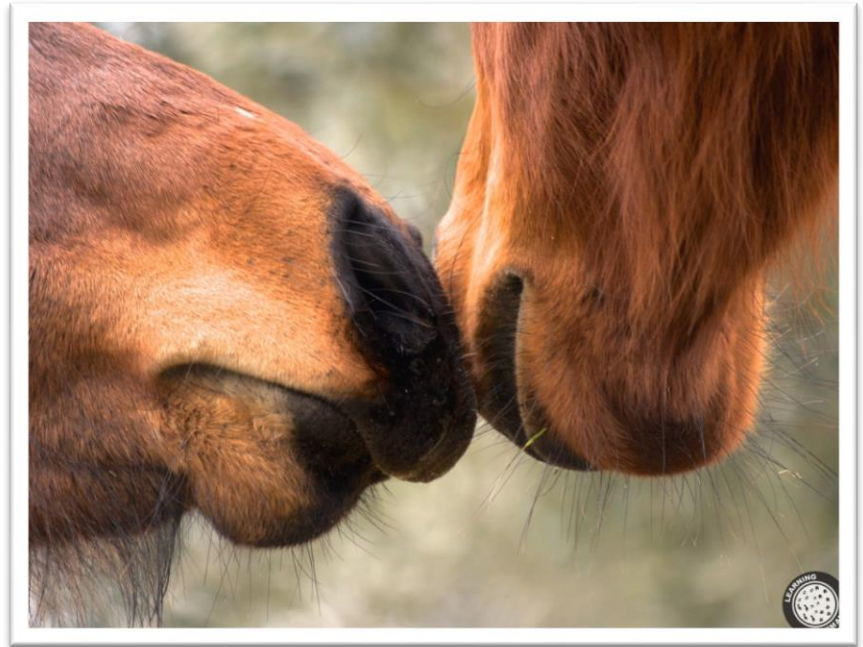
Authors: Francesco De Giorgio and José Schoorl



This book is not a manual. There are plenty of manuals about horses and about their usage, training, and conditioning. The words in this book are dedicated to horses as sentient and sociocognitive living beings, to their world of perception, their acquisition of knowledge, their understanding of the environment, and their social abilities towards each other and towards humans. This focus is necessary, because until now, following the conventional paradigms, horse behaviour has been mostly explained in the context of behaviourism and classic ethology. These interpretations have marked the way we look at horses and how we explain their behaviour, both in their co-existence with each other and in their relationship with human beings. In daily life, many things are erroneously taken for granted, creating the many misunderstandings that horses encounter daily with people all over the world, and vice versa. The way horses live in their social context, how they learn from it, and how they elaborate information from their surroundings and interactions are still thoroughly devalued, causing a lack of proper understanding of their well-being.

The book is divided into three parts, each addressing the cognitive horse from a different angle. The first part, *The Invisible Horse*, explains how our human beliefs and assumptions have an impact on our perceptions and how that plays a part in making the horse “invisible” as a cognitive animal. It also shows how the large number of elements that support the current universal idea we have of horses makes it more difficult to allow for the observation of relationship dynamics from a different perspective. The second part, *A Life Without Tension*, introduces the concepts of equine zooanthropology. It describes what happens when a horse grows up in a socio-cognitive context and what it means for the interaction between horses and for the horse-human interaction when these abilities are taken into account. Practical examples are given of horses and their owners who find their way ‘back’, together, to a reciprocal relationship. In the last part, *Growing Together*, the human elements are described, and the awareness that is necessary, to be able to understand the dynamics that are involved in the relationship between horse and human where the cognition of both is taken into account.

It talks about letting go the habits and thought-mechanisms that create many expectations in our interaction with animals. It also helps to understand where the control issue starts, and how we can go back from a need for control to the perception of contact. With that, it will explain the benefit of developing an eye for detail, and creating a better awareness of our senses again. Sharing moments and experiences with horses needs room for expression, as understanding of both the nuances in the relationship dynamics and in behaviour. Herd dynamics, and every unique equine-human relationship, are not defined with hierarchic protocol, but depend on the surroundings, on inner motivation, on the social context, on previous experiences and many other elements. This makes every relationship a life-long journey of shared experiences and discovery.



ISAE Council

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