

2nd COMBAR TRAINING SCHOOL “Advances in the field diagnosis of helminth infections and anthelmintic resistance in ruminants” CREMOPAR (Eboli, Salerno), 12-14 June 2019

Turning theory into pure practice was one of the main aims of the 3-day training school of the COMBAR Working Group “Improving diagnosis”. This objective was fully achieved thanks to the great effort of Laura Rinaldi, Giuseppe Cringoli and the whole Parasitology group from the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Production of the University of Naples Federico II, together with renown international experts from Germany, Slovakia, Belgium, Portugal and North Macedonia. The course was carried out at the Regional Centre of Monitoring Parasitic Infections in Livestock (CREMOPAR), located in Eboli, in the Salerno province. This Centre plays a key role for the agricultural development in the region and counts with modern laboratories to perform diagnosis and research on parasitic diseases in farm animals. During those days, the experts presented the last advances on diagnosis and management of helminth infections and anthelmintic resistance in ruminants. All participants had the unique opportunity to perform different diagnostic methods in the lab such as Faecal Egg Count/Faecal Egg Count Reduction Tests (FEC/FECRT), Mini-FLOTAC, coproculture techniques and Egg-Hatch-Test under close guidance from the experts and to discuss every single detail of the protocols, application and interpretation of results. A visit to a local sheep farm to put in practice on-farm detection of AR and good anthelmintic treatment practices was a highlight that enriched the training course. Not only did we have the chance to enhance our knowledge on parasitology through the lectures and valuable exchange among the participants, but we could also find time to visit the magnificent Paestum Temples and to enjoy the great Italian landscape and culinary specialities under a very pleasant and friendly atmosphere.

I would personally like to thank the organizers for their engagement and cordiality, which made this an outstanding experience.

Bern, 16 July 2019

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