



**REPORT ON THE STAGE 1 REVISIT TO THE
FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE,
SELCUK UNIVERSITY, KONYA, TURKEY**

8 & 9th May, 2013

EXPERT GROUP
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1. Introduction, background

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Selcuk University, Konya (FVMSK) was founded in 1982 and since 1992 it is working in the newly erected campus in the outskirts of Konya. The school has always been internationally oriented, it became member of EAEVE in 2000 and two years later it asked for a visitation, so the FVMSK was the first veterinary faculty evaluated in the framework of the European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training.

The next evaluation took place between 26th and 30th October, 2009. The visiting team identified several strong and some weak points at the faculty. The European Committee on Veterinary Education (ECOVE) confirmed three major (category 1) deficiencies at its session on the 2nd and 3rd February, 2010:

1. Case load was insufficient
2. Isolation facilities were inadequate
3. Animal Welfare problems as recorded by the Visiting Team

To the request of the FVMSK a revisit was carried out on the 3rd and 4th March, 2011. The revisiting team acknowledged that one major deficiency had been rectified; the isolation facilities of the FVMSK met the requirements, and they found however, that the other two deficiencies were still present. ECOVE concluded the same result on its meeting on the 12th and 13th April, 2011:

1. Insufficient case load in the clinical department, especially concerning companion animals
2. Problems concerning animal welfare

The FVMSK made great efforts to rectify the deficiencies and after sending a detailed interim report asked for revisit. The revisit took place on the 8th and 9th May, 2013.

Program of the revisit

- Meeting with the Dean and the Faculty Management:
 - Prof. Dr. Ahmet Guner, Dean,
 - Prof. Dr. Ismail Sen, Vice Dean,
 - Prof. Dr. Mustafa Arican, Head of EAEVE commission,
 - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aydin Guzeloglu, Vice Dean,
 - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ercan Kurar, Member of the EAEVE commission.
- Discussion on the elimination of deficiencies with the Vice Deans
 - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aydin Guzeloglu,
 - Prof. Dr. Ismail Sen
- Visit at the Small Animal Clinic
- Visit at the Large Animal Clinic
- Visit at the farm, discussion on farm management
 - Asst. Prof. Dr. Esat Sami Polat

- Discussion with 4th and 5th year students
- Meeting with the Rector Prof. Hakki Gökbel and the faculty management

According to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of the EAEVE and the Guidelines to revisits, the team had to focus on the major deficiencies identified by the ECOVE.

2. Examination of former deficiencies identified by ECOVE

2. 1. Insufficient case load in the clinical department, especially concerning companion animals

2.1.1. Findings

The faculty made considerable efforts since the revisit in 2011 to increase the case load (Table 1), which resulted increase in the number of the hospitalised cases (Table 2), as well. The number of cases is well registered in the computer system of the clinics, and it gives access to the students to follow the cases. The increase of the case load was welcomed by the students.

2.1.1.1. Food producing animals

The FVMSK made contracts with several practices and farms in and around Konya in order to increase the caseload. Konya is a traditional farm animal breeding area, where the number of large and small ruminants increased in the recent years thanks to the support policy of the government, which is reflected in the increased case load of the school. The clinics are working more and more as referral clinics and the growing reputation of the FVMSK can hopefully further increase the case load in the next years (Table 1 and 2). The number of cases was increased by intensive field visits, too (Table 3).

2.1.1.2. Companion animals

The case load of companion animals also increased in the recent years (Table 1 and 2). The development and the updated equipment of the Small Animal Clinic together with the expertise of the teaching have attracted more patients and this clinic is also working as a referral one. The case load of companion animals was increased by intensifying the connections with a dog shelter; students regularly visit it under the guidance of teachers, examine and treat the animals (Table 3).

2.1.1.3. Horses

Such a development was not evident in the case of equine patients. Since 2010 there was a slight increase in 2011 but it declined in 2012 again. The figures of 2013 are promising; in the first four months of the year there were 14 cases. The number of the horses in the Konya area is very low; there are only about 600 horses in the State of Konya and there are altogether 2254 in the larger region. In this area there are also 6520 donkeys but they are generally not taken to clinics (Table 1). As a result of collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, horse breeding centres and the Turkish Jockey Club, the number of cases in extra campus training has been increased (Table 3).

Table 1. Case load (consultations)

Species	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013*
Bovine	568	542	545	1142	934	332
Ovine, caprine	161	224	394	348	221	125
Porcine	0	0	0	1	1	0
Equine	72	144	25	35	18	14
Poultry	30	0	0	0	0	0
Canine	1664	1727	1277	1941	1720	563
Feline	431	414	551	703	699	242
Exotic	34	70	35	68	51	15

* between 1st January and 30th April, 2013

Table 2. Case load (hospitalisations)

Species	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013*
Bovine	127	87	78	152	96	58
Ovine, caprine	161	143	50	10	3	0
Porcine	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equine	35	105	20	3	1	0
Canine	424	290	200	296	312	136
Feline	168	96	99	74	74	32
Exotic	0	0	0	0	0	1

* between 1st January and 30th April, 2013

The FVMSK successfully increased the case load by farm visits (Table 3).

Table 3 Cases seen in farms

Species	2011	2012	2013*
Bovine	3208	4334	4106
Ovine, caprine	232	1808	716
Equine	0	0	79
Canine	663	945	298
Feline	372	0	358

* between 1st January and 30th April, 2013

The increased case load considerably increased the ratios:

Table 4 Ratios

	2011	2012	Average	EAEVE
Number of graduates	136	93	114.5	-
R11	10.96	12.43	11.70	0.993
R12	25.29	66.04	45.67	7.786
R14	0.26	0.19	0.23	2.611
R16	19.44	26.01	22.73	43.697
R16 (including extra campus cases)	27.05	36.17	31.61	

2.1.2. Comments

- 2.1.2.1. The FVMSK made considerable efforts to increase the case load.
- 2.1.2.2. The case load of food producing animals are well above the average number of the approved veterinary schools in Europe.
- 2.1.2.3. The case load of companion animals does not reach the European mean value but high enough.
- 2.1.2.4. The equine case load is very low; it is less than 10% of the average of the approved schools; however the extra campus training started recently has already increased it. The equine case load is unlikely to be increased very much since the horse population of the area is also low.
- 2.1.2.5. The case load is not sufficient to increase the number of students.

2.1.3. Suggestions

- 2.1.3.1. A continuing effort to increase the companion animal case load is suggested.
- 2.1.3.2. The visiting team recommends the faculty to buy some horses in order to teach the examination and treatment of horses. According to the opinion of the visiting team, the case load of food producing animals can compensate the low figure of the equine cases.
- 2.1.3.3. Involvement of horse farms in teaching is encouraged.
- 2.1.3.4. The number of students per class should be limited in order to improve the level of training.

2.2. Problems concerning animal welfare

2.2.1. Findings

- 2.2.1.1. The visiting team examined the facilities of the Large Animal Clinic, the Small Animal Clinic and the faculty farm. All the facilities were clean, well maintained, the conditions (space, bedding, feed and water supply, ..) were optimal for the animals. No deficiencies regarding animal welfare were identified.
- 2.2.1.2. The animal welfare situation of the faculty was audited by the National Animal Health Sector on the 24th April, 2013. Their report is attached.

2.2.2. Comments

The problems concerning animal welfare have been rectified.

2.2.3. Suggestions

None.

3. Conclusions

The visiting team was impressed by the efforts taken by the management of the faculty in order to rectify the two major deficiencies identified by ECOVE. Although the number of equine cases is under the average value of the approved schools, understanding the limited number of horses in the area, the team thinks that it is compensated by the high number of cases of food producing animals; however sufficient number of horses is needed to the faculty to teach basic methods of equine practice. The present case load does not support any increase in the number of students.

4. Acknowledgements

The team would like to thank for the kind hospitality and the excellent preparation of the visit.

Vienna, 10th June, 2013

Prof. Pierre Lekeux
Chair of the visiting team

Prof. László Fodor
member of the visiting team

DECISION BY ECOVE. FULL APPROVAL