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ADVANCES IN THE CONTROL OF THEILERIOSIS

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PREFACE

Approximately five years have elapsed since the Conference on "Tick-borne Diseases and their Vectors" (Wilde, 1978, University of Edinburgh) was held at the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine in Edinburgh. Theileriosis was one of the main topics at that Conference and some 20 scientific presentations were given. Also in the same year a Workshop on "Theileriosis" was held at the Kenyatta Conference Centre in Nairobi (Henson & Campbell, 1977, IDRC, Ottawa). Both of these meetings provided a valuable updating of theilerial diseases, and the Proceedings have been a constant source of reference for scientists in the ensuing years. The meetings played a significant role in setting the scene for a number of important advances which have been made since then.

In February of this year, attention was focused on these advances when nearly 200 scientists from over 30 countries were assembled at the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases in Nairobi for the international conference on "Advances in the Control of Theileriosis". The interest and concern shown in this subject has now grown to the extent that more than 70 scientific presentations were given over the course of a very busy week. An important facet of the Conference was the attention given to the control of Theileriosis, since this must be the ultimate aim of all those involved with the disease. Control will be difficult. The Conference made it clear that an understanding of the epidemiology, the ability to manipulate the organisms *in vitro*, and elucidation of the mechanisms of immunity, may be prerequisites to developing rational chemotherapy and immunization programmes. Effective control will be achieved only by establishing a balance between livestock management, tick control, chemotherapy and immunization. The relative emphasis given

to each factor will vary under different conditions and in different situations. Having weighed up all the options, consideration must then be given to the cost of proposed programmes and the benefits likely to accrue.

We are pleased to present these Proceedings with the knowledge that they cover all the many aspects discussed above. We trust, therefore, that this volume will find a place on the bookshelf of the immunologist and the donor agencies; the entomologist and the administrator; and the veterinarian and the farmer.

June 1981

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Thanks are also due to all those who attended the Conference and to those who presented papers. The typing of these papers was carried out by Mrs. J.A. Stevenson and we are pleased to express our gratitude for the efficiency and accuracy with which this work was conducted. We also thank Dr. P.G.W. Stevenson for help in editing the Proceedings. The Organising Committee is also pleased to acknowledge the help and support supplied by I.L.R.A.D. and its staff, in particular Mrs. R. Ndumbu who bore the load of the secretarial work.

A final word of thanks is due to the Publishers, Martinus Nijhoff, for their cooperation and help in bringing the Conference to a successful conclusion with the publication of these Proceedings.