

Dear Readers,

This June edition of the Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine (IJVM) holds many interesting and noteworthy articles.

The first written by Dr. Pozzi and Prof. Gardella Tedeschi delve into to the religious- ethical aspects of using animals within the domain of Judaism. Information spanning from the first chapters of the Bible and going through all the Five Books of Moses, and on to introducing the Jewish Oral Law as interpreted by learned Rabbis throughout the generations, is covered in this article. The article deals with all animals including working farm animals and to the slaughter of animals for consumption. Dr. Pozzi has written extensively on this subject and published a number of articles in the Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine. I welcome Prof. Bianca Gardella Tedeschi and thank her for her contribution to the article on the “Use of animals in Jewish Tradition”. Prof. B. Gardella Tedeschi is Associate Professor in Comparative Private Law, University of Eastern Piedmont. She concluded her Master of Laws at Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Mass. (U.S.A.), and then a Master degree in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Turin, Italy. She has dealt with private law, with a focus on gender equality, legal status of elderly people. A third field of research includes, within comparative religious rights, insights into Jewish law.

I regard this article as a valuable contribution from expert contributors and I suggest that our readers study this article.

A milestone article by Dr. Lublin describes the history of highly-pathogenic avian influenza in Israel. As he points out and emphasizes in the article “Avian Influenza has become the largest animal epidemic in the world”. This alone should makes this article of interest to all our readers especially taking into account the public health elements of this disease.

The team led by Dr. B. Perelman never lets us down with his interesting and relevant ideas. Definitely a veterinarian thinking “out of the box” and bringing novel solutions to many aspects of the poultry industry.

Dr. Abayli *et al.* describes the re-emergence of Bovine Ephemeral Fever in Turkey. This article investigates the genetic properties of the virus and highlights the close association that countries in the Middle-East have to the spread of important animal diseases such as this one. Furthermore, I wish to point out that the scope of the IJVM has been defined as covering the Mediterranean Basin, a scope which is well warranted and justified as demonstrated in this article.

Finally, of great interest is the first isolation of Canine Kobuvirus in India by Dr. Agnihotri, *et al.* The virus has not been demonstrated here yet but should be of interest to veterinarians in Israel.

All the very best to our readers. Your feedback on articles or any general comments regarding in the journal is welcome.

*Sincerely,*

*Dr. Trevor (Tuvia) Waner*

Editor-in-Chief, Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine