

LEUKOSIS COMMITTEE REPORT

1970-71

The Leukosis Committee directed its principal effort to the organization and conduct of a special symposium on Marek's disease control. This symposium was held on July 19, 1971 in conjunction with the AVMA/CVMA meeting in Detroit. Seventeen original scientific reports plus 3 invited papers on perspectives were presented. It is planned that these papers will be published as a special issue of Avian Diseases and our committee is presently cooperating with Dr. Grumbles to facilitate and expedite this publication.

Needless to say, this undertaking has required considerable effort from all committee members. Also, the cooperation of the AVMA Poultry Section officers, the AAAP executive board and Dr. Bagley have all been gratifying. The committee hopes that this symposium will have lasting value and may establish precedents for future symposia.

Other activities included participation in the preparation of a "Fact Sheet" on Marek's disease vaccine. This circular was prepared by the Consumer Liaison Committee and released by Dr. Bagley to the poultry industry media.

Also, our committee attempted to respond to an apparent need for greater quality control standards for Marek's disease vaccine manufactured on intra-State licenses by drafting a letter to State Regulatory Officials urging action to achieve this goal. This letter was submitted to Dr. Bagley in March 1971 with our recommendation for immediate release. The matter, however, is still under study.

Finally, Dr. Calnek with the help of others prepared a subcommittee report on methods for the assay of the turkey herpesvirus vaccine for Marek's disease. This report was designed to update the workshop report of the 1969-70 committee on Methods in Marek's disease research (Avian Dis. 14:820-828) on this highly important area. The report was presented at the symposium and will be published in the proceeding but is attached here for those wishing to implement these recommendations without delay.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. Witter

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