Québec Veterinarian Awarded for his Contribution to the Advancement of Poultry Medicine

OTTAWA, Ont. – Dr. Daniel Venne has been honoured with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association’s (CVMA) Industry Award for his contributions to the improvement of poultry health, welfare, and production.

“Dr. Venne devotes his energy to preventative poultry medicine,” endorses Dr. Stewart J. Ritchie, President of Canadian Poultry Consultants Ltd. “It is important to recognize persons with Dr. Venne’s skill set and energy because it is rare to find someone who so generously shares their knowledge and time, and so willingly participates in continuing education locally and abroad.”

Dr. Venne worked summer jobs in many poultry production areas, from washing barns to slaughter plant work, before becoming a veterinary student. He received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1990 and a Master of Science in Pathology and Microbiology in 1993 from the University of Montréal.

Dr. Venne is licenced to practice in Québec and New Brunswick, is a Diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians, and is actively involved in several veterinary organizations including years on the executive board of l’Association des vétérinaires en industrie animale du Québec, as a member of the professional inspection and drug committees of the L’Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec, and currently serving as co-director of the Canadian Association of Poultry Veterinarians. Dr. Venne was also the veterinary services director for Scott Hatchery in Québec, the Science Vice-President for Selected Bioproducts, and a veterinarian for Shur-Gain Inc.

“I heard Dr. Venne use his engaging personality to present original field oriented research and discuss poultry health issues for years at the annual American Association of Avian Pathologists meetings,” explains Dr. Bruce Stewart-Brown, Senior Vice-President of Live Production and Technology Innovation at Perdue Farms, Inc. “His knowledge of poultry medicine, nutrition, and production is impressive, and his understanding of avian physiology and pathology is remarkable. Dr. Venne is a pioneer in avian clinical pathology and significantly impacted our field by providing us additional tools to improve poultry health, welfare, and productivity, while helping us reduce antibiotic use.”

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Dr. Venne has made almost 100 presentations across Canada over 29 years and has lectured at scientific meetings and applied veterinary workshops in Canada, the United States, Australia, Latin America, Africa, and Europe. He is co-editor of the most widely distributed illustrated poultry pathology manual, his seminal work on poultry biochemistry is widely recognized, and he has lectured at the University of Georgia as part of the highly reputable Master of Avian Medicine programme.

“I first heard Dr. Venne speak in 2008 at the WestVet 16 Meeting of Poultry Clinicians and Pathologists,” says Dr. Jenny Nicholds, Clinical Associate Professor of Avian Medicine at the University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine. “He was diving into biochemistry; acid base and electrolyte balance, to try and explain all-vegetable chicken feeding challenges. One might think that is not unusual, given that Dr. Venne is a veterinary professional, however, in poultry medicine, veterinarians rely heavily on necropsy, followed by diagnostics. Acid-base and electrolyte evaluation in a poultry flock was unheard of. Three years later, a North Carolina State University research group published blood chemistry and gas reference ranges for chickens, using the i-STAT machine. Meanwhile, Dr. Venne was already using the i-STAT to generate his own database for the bird populations he worked with, applying that information to diagnose and treat clinical poultry cases. I subsequently continued to attend his talks as often as possible and consulted him on cases regularly.”

Dr. Venne is also an international consultant on commercial poultry production biochemistry applications and advises companies such as Zoetis. His interests are judicious antibiotic use, lesion scoring and biochemical profiling, nutrition, reproductive performance, and assessing brooding management, immunity, and vaccinations with thermography.

“I am privileged to have worked with Dr. Venne on poultry cases with suspected metabolic disease, and to have had his aid while working through my own challenging cases,” concludes Dr. Nicholds. “Dr. Venne is always willing and eager to share his knowledge and help. I am proud to say we have hosted Dr. Venne twice to teach students. He is a poultry medicine pioneer and should be recognized for his contributions.”

The CVMA Industry award publicly acknowledges and celebrates the role of industry in veterinary medicine. This award is presented to a veterinarian for their contributions of to the advancement of veterinary medicine.

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The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) is the national and international voice for Canada’s veterinarians, providing leadership and advocacy for veterinary medicine. Each year, CVMA proudly recognizes individuals and groups for their outstanding contribution to veterinary medicine. Visit canadianveterinarians.net to learn more about the CVMA.

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