

MARIO MATTONI

LANGUAGES

Italian: mother tongue
English: excellent, written and spoken
French: excellent, written and spoken
Spanish: technical reading

EDUCATION:

University: D.V.M. fully graduated at Università degli studi di Milano, Facoltà di Medicina Veterinaria, March 1983 (Italy)

High school: Liceo Scientifico Galileo Ferraris, 1975, Varese (Italy).

WORKING EXPERIENCE:

Italy, Ethiopia, Mali, The Gambia, Burkina Faso

SHORT TERM CONSULTANCIES/MISSIONS:

Kenya, Senegal, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Niger, Puntland, Somaliland, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde,

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Mario Mattoni is a veterinarian with over 25 years of working experience in animal production and reproduction management. He worked in several development and research driven projects, oriented toward crop/livestock integration, in mixed crop livestock/farming systems. More specifically he operated in the field of animal reproduction related to sustainable animal production in both temperate and tropical areas. Dr. Mattoni has a wide international experience based in Europe and in Developing Countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. His entire professional career has been carried out in conjunction with Western Universities and within the framework of International Research Centres. He has authored and/or co-authored several scientific publications on animal production and reproduction.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER:

At present he serves as Scientist at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the Department of Animal Production Epidemiology and Ecology.

November 2007 to present senior consultant for the FAO in the Southern Rift Valley Tsetse Eradication Project funded by the Japanese Government through the United Nation Thrust Fund for Human Security (UNTFSSH – GCP/ETH/072/UNJ),

June/July 2005 international expert for the final evaluation of the FAO project SUPPORT TO LIVESTOCK EXPORTS FROM THE HORN OF AFRICA (EXCELEX) (GCP/INT/811/ITA) project (Puntland, Somaliland and Ethiopia in Somali Region).

From July till November 1998 he carried out consultancies for University of Turin within the Project INCO-DC 1994/98, Contract ERBIC 18CT 960031 financed by the DG XII of the European Union.

From January 1999 till December 2007, Director of Centro Interdipartimentale Servizio Ricovero Animali (CISRA) The Centre serves as training centre and research facility for the faculties of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine of Università degli Studi di Torino.

From June 1992 till May 1998 he was stationed at CIRDES (Centre International de Recherche Développement pour l'Élevage en zone Sub-humide/ International Research Development Centre for Livestock in the Sub humid zones) as Technical Assistant of the Delegation of the European Union in Burkina Faso. At CIRDES he served as Head of “Unité de Zootechnie et Systèmes d'Élevage” (Burkina Faso-West Africa)

From January to May 1992 he worked at Ralston Purina, in the Research and marketing Department. Purina is an international established company dealing with animal feeding in Europe and Northern America. (Italy).

During 1991 he operated as free lance consultant (February to November) for two Italian Consulting Engineering, Zooconsult and Tech-Sada both invited to the restricted tender for the Pan African Rinderpest Campaign launched by the E.U. (Italy).

From October 1988 to December 1990 he served in the Sub-humid Program of CIPEA (Centre International pour l'Élevage en Afrique) as Head of Animal Health and Reproduction Section. (Mali -West Africa).

Prior to join the Sub-humid Program he spent four years at ILCA headquarters, two as International Staff (1987-88) and two as Research Associate (1985-1986) in the Ruminant Reproductive Physiology Project. He joined ILCA as Research Associate appointed by University of Milan, which was the scientific Institution identified by the Italian Government to supervise the joint programme financed by Italy. Within the same project he was subsequently recruited as International Staff of the Animal Health and Reproduction Unit, in Addis Ababa. (Ethiopia -East Africa).

From April 1983 to December 1984 he operated as Veterinary Surgeon for several Private Dairies and Farmers Associations in Northern Italy. Particularly he worked on reproduction and reproductive pathology of dairy cows focusing on application of Artificial Insemination. (Italy).

N.B. CIPEA and ILCA are two acronyms of the same institution, respectively for francophone and anglophone Countries.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **From February 2004 to present** scientist at Dipartimento di Produzioni Animali Epidemiologia ecologia della facoltà di Medicina Veterinaria dell'Università di Torino
- **November 2007 to present** international expert under the general supervision of the Chief, Animal Health Service, and under the direct guidance of the Animal Health Officer (Integrated Health Management) responsible for the project GCP/ETH/072/UNJ in AGAH, to provide guidance to the Ethiopian Government in the STEP project.
- **June/July 2006** international expert for the final evaluation of SUPPORT TO LIVESTOCK EXPORTS FROM THE HORN OF AFRICA (EXCELEX) PROJECT (GCP/INT/811/ITA) project (Puntland, Somaliland/Somali Region).
- **From January 1999 to present.** Director of CISRA (Centro Interdipartimentale Servizio Ricoveri Animali) which is the research station of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University Of Torino (Italy).
- **From June 1992 to May 1998.** Head of “Unité de Zootechnie et Systèmes d'Élevage” at CIRDES (Burkina Faso).
- **January to May 1992.** Employed by Ralston Purina International, Italian Branch.
- **From May to July 1991.** Free lance consultant for Zooconsult, invited to the restricted tender on sideline activities to be undertaken within the PARC launched in Ghana by the E.U.
- **From May to July 1991.** Free lance consultant for Tech-Sada, invited to the restricted tender on preparation and management of the PARC in Benin.

- **From October 1988 to December 1990.** Head of Animal Health and Reproduction Section of CIPEA in the Regional Research site for Subhumid Zones, which was based in Bamako, Mali.
- **From January 1987 to September 1988.** International Staff of ILCA for the Cattle Milk and Meat Thrust in the Animal Health and reproduction Unit. ILCA headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- **From January 1985 to December 1986.** Research associate at ILCA for the Ruminant reproductive Physiology Project (ILCA/University of Milan) and responsible for health and management of ILCA research herds at the headquarters. Aim of the scientific co-operation between ILCA and the University was to study the reproductive physiology of indigenous cows and their crosses in Ethiopia. This to define limiting factors to viable ruminant reproduction in order to set up suitable strategy for intervention.
- **From March 1983 to December 1984.** Private Veterinarian for dairy farms in Northern Italy, providing specialised veterinary care: clinical pathology, gynaecology, and assistance on management of Artificial Insemination.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- From February 2004 to present teacher and scientist at Dipartimento di Produzioni Animali Epidemiologia ed Ecologia Faculty and from January 1999 to present. Director of CISRA (Centro Interdipartimentale Servizio Ricoveri Animali): the research and training Centre of the Facoltà di Medicina Veterinaria -Università di Torino (Italy).

Responsibilities:

Teaching activity: **a)** in charge for Courses on Animal Husbandry and Production in the tropics (Veterinary and Agronomy Interfaculty Degree), **b)** responsible for the Courses on Animal Production in the University Degree on Wild Life Conservation and Animal Production.

Research activity: feeding regimes and management in both the peri-urban milk and meat production systems in sub-Saharan Africa. Responsible for a research development driven project in Burkina Faso on the use of urea treated straw in the peri-urban production systems.

CISRA. Verification and implementation of the annual and triennial activities approved by the Board of the Centre. Set up and control of the annual budget. Definition and implementation of both the Annual Operation Plan as well as the Triennial Development Plan. Supervision of personnel, and research implementation programme and facilities.

- From June 1992 to May 1998. Head of “Unité de Zootechnie et Systèmes d’Élevage” at CIRDES (Burkina Faso).

Responsibilities:

Co-ordinator of the programme financed by the E.U. on “Evaluation de la productivité et de la résistance aux maladies des bovins en milieu villageois”. Implementation of applied researches activities for development on:

- a) On farm and on station studies on reproductive performances of Zebu and Baoule cattle and their crosses. Particular emphasis was given to oestrus synchronisation,

identification of optimal time for Artificial Insemination and reproductive disorders as limiting factor to optimal reproduction.

- b) Evaluation of livestock productivity (cattle, sheep) within a given production system (urban, periurban, rural) to identify viable management techniques and adoption of appropriate breeds.
- c) Evaluation of the urban and periurban small ruminants husbandry system.
- d) Training courses for the National Veterinary and Extension Services on reproductive pathology, Artificial Insemination, and oestrous synchronisation techniques.
- e) Survey in Bobo-Dioulasso area to define prevalence of Tuberculosis and Brucellosis in traditionally managed herds
- f) Potential of dairy production in periurban areas of Bobo-Dioulasso..
- g) Supervision and management of the section's budget.
- h) Assist the DG of the Centre for the internationalisation of former CRTA into CIRDES.

Manager of the Research Station of the CIRDES. The station included about 140 hectares of improved and natural pasture, 250 cattle, 150 sheep, 1 laboratory (supplied with solar power) for evaluation and preparation of refrigerated/frozen semen for Artificial Insemination.

- January to May 1992, employed by Ralston Purina International, Italian Branch.

Responsibilities:

Implementation and supervision of research activities on animal nutrition, specifically on nutrition/reproduction interaction and metabolic disorders. Development of adapted animal chow.

- From May to July 1991 free lance consultant for Zooconsult, invited to the restricted tender on sideline activities to be undertaken within the PARC launched in Ghana by the E.U.

Responsibilities:

Assist the company to prepare the feasibility study on the basis of the guidelines defined in the tender:

- a) need for the privatisation of the Veterinary Services
- b) assist the Pharmacy Board and Drug Committee on drug classification and management
- c) assessment of needs for Government Veterinary Officers employment

- From May to July 1991 free lance consultant for Tech-Sada, invited to the restricted tender on preparation and management of the PARC in Benin.

Responsibilities:

Define the general strategy to implement the PARC:

- a) Identification and distribution of operative body areas.
- b) Organisation of veterinary services for the campaign.
- c) Assistance and organisation of diagnostic facilities within the area of intervention
- d) Supervise and ensure proper vaccination procedures
- e) Verification of the efficacy of the campaign (antibodies monitoring) and organisation of eventual further needed interventions.

- From October 1988 to December 1990, Head of Animal Health and Reproduction Section of CIPEA in the Regional Research site for Subhumid Zones, which was based in Bamako, Mali.

Responsibilities:

Head of section. The section was involved in a “Milk production monitoring study” which was jointly carried out by CIPEA and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.

Aim of the project was:

- a) Identify and study the different agricultural/livestock production systems available in a belt of 75 km around Bamako.
- b) Produce guidelines to introduce viable methods (improved nutrition, and genotypes, better health care and management control...) to improve milk production. The study was carried out through a survey on population of 2500 heads and produced informations on:
 - major constraints to sustainable ruminant reproductive performances
 - natural genotypes resistance to diseases and genotypes/diseases/ environnement interaction
 - viability and of Artificial Insemination
 - tsetse flies challenge and trypanosomosis prevalence potential for milk production

Supervision of local professional staff (veterinarians) and support staff (laboratory technicians).

Financial management of the section.

Responsible at Sotuba Research Station (Ministry of Agriculture) for a study on characteristics of oestrus cycle in indigenous cows and their crossbred to assess basic reproductive parameters.

Co-ordination and control of technical assistance given by CIPEA to Private dairies and farmers associations to monitor herds productivity.

In charge of scientific co-operation between CIPEA and subregional partners institutions: International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC, The Gambia) and Centre Recherche sur les Trypanosomoses Animales (CRTA, Bobo-Dioulasso).

- From January 1987 to September 1988 International Staff of ILCA for the Cattle Milk and Meat Thrust in the Animal Health and reproduction Unit. ILCA headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The main goal of the section was to identify relevant constraints to efficient reproductive performances in both, bovine and small ruminants. Investigations were carried out on farm and on station, jointly with the Ethiopian National Agricultural Research Services.

Responsibilities:

Epidemiological survey to identify prevalence of major causes of poor fertility, with specific reference to infectious diseases, reproductive disorders and poor management. Within the project ELISA techniques were used to study hormonal profiles and prevalence of infectious diseases. Aid

to the breeding programs: oestrous synchronisation and heat detection, for farmers associations in the Ethiopian Highland in order to introduce AI techniques. Technical co-operation and support to the Ethiopian Dairy State Farms in the central part of the Shoa region. Set

Supervision of Junior Research Associate and local support staff. Set up and management of a research station in Debre Berhan, located about 120 km North of Addis Ababa: organisation of laboratory, office space, stores, paddocks.

- From January 1985 to December 1986 research associate at ILCA for the Ruminant reproductive Physiology Project (ILCA/University of Milan) and responsible for health and management of ILCA research herds at the headquarters. Aim of the scientific co-operation between ILCA and the University was to study the reproductive physiology of indigenous cows and their crosses in Ethiopia. This to define limiting factors to viable ruminant reproduction in order to set up suitable strategy for intervention.

Responsibilities:

Technical support to the preliminary activities of the project. Set up of the laboratory comprehensive of : biochemistry, parasitology, histology and hormonal analysis section.

Identification of the livestock target population and the study area of the project.

- From March 1983 to December 1984 Veterinary Surgeon for private dairy farms in Northern Italy, providing specialised veterinary care: clinical pathology, gynaecology, and assistance on management of Artificial Insemination.