

**EAAP 2004**

**55<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR ANIMAL PRODUCTION**

**PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME**

**Bled, Slovenija  
September 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

*Invitation*

The Slovenian Animal Producers and Institutions feel deeply honoured to host the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production in Slovenia, in Bled, from September 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The scientific programme covers the latest development and scientific results in animal science which will be presented in 40 Sessions, 9 Workshops and Courses and will be enriched by several Conference Tours and Excursions and interesting Accompanying Persons' Programme with the aim to show the participants the livestock production, landscape and culture of Slovenia.

The Republic of Slovenia lies at the heart of Europe, where the Alps and the mysterious Karst meet the Pannonian plains on one, and the Mediterranean on the other side. It has therefore a great variety of climatic, soil and landscape conditions, which dictate various livestock production types, animal species and breeds, best adapted to different environmental conditions. Ecological, ethological, and ethical norms, together with well respected agricultural tradition, result in typical, much appreciated Slovene livestock products which will be presented on special exhibition and show of customs and folk culture during the EAAP Meeting 2004.

Although Slovenia is regarded as one of the smallest states in Europe, it was strong enough to gain its independence in 1991, and is now considered to be one of the most successful transitional countries. In Slovenian agricultural economy, animal production has a primary role. The country's agro-environmental programme supports sustainable development, and stimulates the maintenance and endorsement of such animal production methods that guarantee a sustainable utilization of natural resources, preserve biodiversity of animal species, variety of breeds and methods that protect natural landscape.

The network of Research and Extension Institutions (like Universities, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Agricultural and Forestry Chamber with its local Extension Centres) is present all over the country, and the Slovenian Breeders' Association through the national and local Associations promotes the development of the animal production systems by coordinating, implementing and supervising the activities of genetic improvement and livestock production in the country. Today, the main goals of all segments in Slovenian animal husbandry is a stable production of quality food, providing highly demanded food safety, and suitable income for those involved in this important economic activity, the goals which can be achieved only by a higher level of appropriate education and knowledge. And because the EAAP Annual Meetings represent the highest level of scientific meetings in this field, we are honoured that the 55<sup>th</sup> EAAP Meeting will be held in Slovenia, the beautiful country on the sunny side of the Alps.

During the days of the congress, we will not offer you only an interesting scientific programme, but also show you the unique Slovenian hospitality, the "Slovenian" way of life, and a possibility to taste the unique Slovenian products.

Ladies and gentleman, dear colleagues, it is our pleasure to invite you to participate at the 55<sup>th</sup> EAAP Meeting, which will be very interesting and enjoyable for everyone.

The Organizing Committee



