

FOREWORD

The first seminar on Food-borne Parasitic Zoonoses was held on 14-17 November 1990 at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai Thailand, with emphasis on Impact on Agriculture and Public Health, was highly successful and there was unanimous consensus that such meeting be continued. Five years later, the second Food-borne Parasitic Zoonoses was convened at Khon Kaen, Thailand on 6-9 December 1995 which dealt with Current problems, Epidemiology, Food safety and Control and a day excursion to Vientiane, Lao PDR.

The participants of the 2nd seminar on Food-borne Parasitic Zoonoses were parasitologists, researchers and public health personnel from Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. The current public health status of Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam were among the major concerns as well as opisthorchiasis in Russia. These were presented in abstract forms and were not included in this Proceedings.

Recent advances in diagnosis of parasitic infections, cellular and molecular biology of food-borne parasites, prospects and pitfalls of vaccines for schistosomiasis were reviewed and discussed. Fish, Fish Safety and Fish Inspection were the main issues discussed particularly the Application of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point for the prevention of opisthorchiasis in cultured fish. Updated information on trichinellosis was also reviewed and discussed by the experts. Sessions on the epidemiology, prevention and control of food- and water-borne parasites included the role of technology transfer in parasite control in developing countries.

After the seminar, the Abstracts of the 2nd seminar on Food-borne Parasitic Zoonoses were made available on the Internet by Rick Speare. It is accessible via the World Wide Web and Gopher base of the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine, James Cook University.

There was consensus that the 3rd seminar be conducted in Bangkok, Thailand in the year 2000, on Food- and Water- Borne Parasitic Zoonoses in 21 Millennium.

Jitra Waikagul
John H Cross
Suvanee Supavej