

The veterinary medicine profession constitutes a fundamental asset in the protection of the economy of livestock producers, as well as public health

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Doctors in veterinary medicine are a fundamental asset in order to attain alimentary self-sufficiency, and protect the economy of livestock producers, public health, and the environment, pointed out the director in chief of the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA), Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga, during the inauguration of the 2020 National Convention of the Mexican Colleges and Societies Federation for Doctors in Veterinary Medicine A.C. (FedMVZ).

Representing the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, Víctor Villalobos Arámbula, he noted that sanitation is essential to attain alimentary self-sufficiency, which beyond good intentions, is a presidential mandate, to which "we all must answer, responsibly and efficiently".

He expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture, for the contribution made by veterinary professionals to the national livestock and economical growth, because "each time that you stop a pest or exotic disease from entering the country, you safeguard Mexico's livestock wealth".

"By controlling diseases like tuberculosis and brucellosis, you protect public health, and by caring for the animals, you promote their wellbeing and preserve the environment", he said.

He also pointed out that Senasica has formed an army over 800 official medical doctors and over five thousand doctors in veterinary medicine, endorsed by the Agricultural Organization, who have an ever-growing job, making it necessary to guarantee that they have the required knowledge that allows them to breed healthy, productive and profitable animals, for the benefit of consumers and all producers in the country.

The FedMVZ, he pointed out, has been a strategic partner in the standardization of this knowledge, helping Mexico stand out as a trustworthy

country in sanitary matters, which has resulted in Mexican producers reaching more and better markets around the world.

The General Livestock Coordinator for the Secretariat of Agriculture, David Monreal Ávila, invited Mexican doctors of veterinary medicine to join in the efforts of the Mexican Government of building the peaceful and developed country that the Mexican society demands.

He emphasized that, for the first time in history, the agriculture and animal husbandry sector has become the main revenue generator in the country, with a favorable balance of trade of nine thousand million dollars.

On the other hand, he said, it is in rural areas where poverty is most prevalent, and that the big challenge is "to have those who have the least become a link in the chain of success and economic growth".

He invited the attendees at the Convention to ponder about the state of affairs and find different options that help all Mexican families achieve a situation of wellbeing.

During the inauguration of the Convention, the new members of the FedMVZ board of directors were sworn in, led by José de Jesús Palafox Uribe, who mentioned that they are currently teaching a Diploma course about veterinary survey, as the background to create the National Commission of Veterinary Medicine Arbitrage, which will help settle disputes related to the actions of the professionals in animal care.

He expressed that doctors in veterinary medicine intend to continue cooperating with the Mexican Government to establish the public policies that are needed to achieve the set objectives, especially those directed at attaining alimentary self-sufficiency.

The FedMVZ outgoing president, Edmundo Villarreal González, indicated that during the three years he led the organization, they signed agreements with several teaching institutions, producers' organizations, and Secretariat of Agriculture organisms, like the Senasica and the General Livestock Coordination, which helped to provide 128 training courses, making the Federation the main training entity of the profession, and Mexican veterinarians as distinguished allies in the growth and development of producers.

The township of Zacatecas and the FedMVZ signed an agreement to train those doctors in veterinary that are part of the township, promoting programs that foster growth, health and wellness as an effort to contribute to the work carried out by the three levels of governmental in order to attain alimentary self-sufficiency, explained the town's mayor, Ulises Mejía Haro.

The Rural Secretary of Zacatecas, Adolfo Bonilla Gómez, who attended on behalf of the Governor, Alejandro Tello Cristerna, announced that local producers have set the objective of changing in 2025 the sanitary status of bovine tuberculosis from Accreditation preparatory to Modified accredited, with the help of Senasica.

He pointed out that they are also working with their producers to strengthen the procedure of putting ear tags and traces in animals, and have also reinforced local regulation so heavy fines and sanctions can be imposed to those that commit irregularities transporting, feeding or stocking cattle.

Later on, Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga, in the lecture: National Sanitary Situation: Participation of veterinary professionals, indicated that the joint efforts of producers, institutions and veterinarians has helped Mexico achieve a privileged sanitary status, as from the 117 animal diseases that exist in the world, 75 are not present in the country.

México, he added, has a world-class sanitary service, that is constantly evolving, because “today’s threats are not the same as the threats for tomorrow”.

The country’s sanitation is recognized as one of the five strongest in the world, being free from the six more devastating animal diseases, he concluded.

The General Director of Animal Health from the Senasica, Juan Gay Gutiérrez, talked about the importance of having mandatory notification of diseases and exotic and endemic pests in land and water animals, in order to protect animal-sourced food production.

In attendance were the President of the National Confederation of Livestock Organizations (CNOG), Oswaldo Cházaro Montalvo; the director of the Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry Department from the UNAM, Francisco Suárez Güemes; the President of the National Technical Advisory Council for Animal Health (Conasa), Eduardo Posadas Manzano, and the Director of the Autonomous University of Zacatecas, Antonio Guzmán Fernández.

There were also in attendance the Director of the National Meat Council (Comecarne), Macarena Hernández Márquez; the General Director of Wildlife from the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources, María Palma Irizarry, and the President of the Veterinary Pharmaceutical Industry, Laura Arrieta Espinosa.