

Notes
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As responsible for edition and production of Scientifur right from the beginning in 1976, your editor welcomes you into the new Millennium and as reader of SCIENTIFUR vol. 24. It was long before personal computers and advanced photo copying machines were available, so everything was written on stencils and printed as stenciled reports. My secretary at the time (Ellen Andersen) had a really tough job typing the very often terribly "Gunnar Jørgensen-Danish-English". But we made it, and had many nice letters from satisfied readers. Later on we went on to type the text in columns with the layout work done by the editor. Until 1986 the work was done with scissors and glue, then with scissors and wax (where you were able to move the text around). Ask my wife how she felt all the weekends when the tables in our private home were filled up with scraps of paper and tubes of glue. Not until 1991 when the new girls Dorthe and Hanne took over the typing, and the personal computers in scientific offices were standard equipment, the system now used, i.e. the modern word processing systems, has made everyday life much easier for the editor. This is especially thanks to Dorthe, who has in recent years done all the typing and layout entirely by herself.

The first issue of SCIENTIFUR appeared in November 1976 as a sort of report and abstracts from the FIRST INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS IN FUR ANIMAL PRODUCTION, held in Helsinki, Finland. Hence the 25th anniversary of SCIENTIFUR in reality starts in connection with the VII Congress in Kastoria, September 2000.

The history of SCIENTIFUR can be further studied on the IFASA WEB-sites at the address:

<http://www.IFASANET.ORG>

In November 1999, the SCIENTIFUR INDEX covering more than 8000 titles of scientific reports regarding fur animal research and production became available on the IFASA WEB-site. This easily accessible and comprehensive source of information regarding fur animal production should give rise to many visitors on the WEB-site, the service is free of charge. IFASA welcomes you all.

As advertised in SCIENTIFUR during 1999, the VII INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS IN FUR ANIMAL PRODUCTION, will be held in KASTORIA GREECE 13-15 September 2000. If you have not already sent in your application for participation, it is at the eleventh hour. You will find the address at page 84 in this issue of SCIENTIFUR.

As you will see, the congress fee is \$ 200 for IFASA members and \$ 250 for others, a reduction covering 2 years' membership fee to IFASA. The subscription price for SCIENTIFUR is NOK 500 for IFASA members and 600 for others, and be sure that the coming services on the INTERNET will also be priced in relation to membership or not. Therefore why not become an active member of the family. Apply for membership at the Oslo address or via E-mail. Members who have not paid the membership fee for 1999 or earlier, will only receive an invoice on request to the secretariat in Oslo.

The year 2000 will not only be the year of the VII congress, but also the year when app. 25% of the information in SCIENTIFUR will be available at the IFASA WEB-site. This is an experiment and should be a valuable background for discussing the future of SCIENTIFUR at the KASTORIA CONGRESS. It is very important that as many as possible of you evaluate the problem and give your message, hopefully in written form, to the board of IFASA or as letters to SCIENTIFUR. However, also during the meeting in the membership group during the congress this will be an important point for discussion as basis for a later decision by the new board also elected by the membership during the VII congress.

Here in January invoices regarding the year of 2000 will be sent out. We ask as many as you as possible to pay via the attached giro-coupon or via credit cards. Remember that payment by checque regardless of currency will have to be added NOK 70 equal to 10 US\$. All prices are unchanged from the previous years.

See you all in KASTORIA.

Best regards

Your Editor
Gunnar Jørgensen