12th WEVA Congress a Success

One of WEVA's fundamental objectives is to improve the welfare of the horse, which was a major theme of the 12th WEVA Congress, held Nov. 2-5, 2011, in Hyderabad, India.

More than 500 delegates from all corners of the globe journeyed to India to provide educational lectures and share the latest horse health advancements, many of which will be covered in the coming weeks on TheHorse.com. Topics including welfare, reproduction, locomotor pathology, neurology, ophthalmology, cardiology, respiratory, and muscle diseases were addressed.

Some highlights from the biannual event include:

- The WEVA presidential baton was passed from Tim Greet, BVMS, FRCVS, MVM, Cert EO, DESTS, Dipl. ECVS, to Ravi Reddy, BVSc, MRCVS.
- The Congress was opened by HRH Princess Haya, president of the Fédération Equestrian International, who emphasized the importance of equine welfare. She also presented an award to the owner of Pedalo, the winner of the WEVA Cup horse race held at the Hyderabad Race Club.
- The opening ceremony was highlighted by the presentation of several awards, including the WEVA/Merck Animal Health Welfare Award to Derek Knottenbelt, OBE, BVMS, Dipl. ECEIM, MRCVS; the Merial Applied Equine Research Award to Anthony Blikslager, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVS; and the WEVA Lifetime Achievement Award to Michelle LeBlanc, DVM, Dipl. ACT.

The next WEVA Congress will be held in Budapest, Hungary, in October 2013.

—Anne Courouce-Malblanc, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ECEIM, WEVA Secretary

Editor's Note: For additional coverage and photos, see TheHorse.com/19315.