



The Horse is an official Media Partner of the World Equine Veterinary Association (WEVA), a continuing education organization and not-for-profit charity.

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Postcard from Nigeria

An ever-growing organization, WEVA recently welcomed the Nigeria Association of Equine Practitioners (NAEP) to their membership of more than 30 equine associations worldwide. A list of member associations is available on the WEVA website, www.wevaonline.org.

“The challenges of equine practice in an emerging economy such as Nigeria are enormous, and this accounts for few veterinarians taking to equine practice,” explained Timothy A. Olusa, DVM, MVSc, NAEP general secretary.

Nigeria has an equine population of around 200,000, Olusa said, with many of those animals being used for polo.

“Most polo players are rich and they take fairly good care of their horses while some other individual owners, especially at suburban/rural areas, are just too poor to take care of their horses but love them notwithstanding,” he explained. “They use such horses and donkeys for transportation and farm work.”

By joining WEVA, Olusa hopes to incorporate more training for Nigerian equine practitioners and possibly obtain more specialized equipment to improve the level of care Nigerian horses receive.

“During the 2011 Congress at India I interacted with Anvil Foundation and Horse Dental Equipment, and both bodies showed interest in assisting NAEP to train our local farriers and vets respectively,” he said.

“I believe in the philosophy of one world, one health, one destiny,” Olusa relayed. “I initiated the formation of NAEP three years ago to improve the health and welfare of horses in Nigeria, and I believe the Association is on course. With (WEVA’s) much sought-after and appreciated support our objectives will be achieved.”—*Erica Larson*