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Professional background

I graduated in veterinary medicine (DVM) in Stockholm, Sweden in 1968. Early on I specialised in tropical veterinary medicine, and received the Diploma of Tropical Veterinary Medicine (DTVM) and MSc at the Edinburgh Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh, Scotland (1967 and 1975, respectively). After a few years of ``locums`` in Sweden (including both large and small animal practices and meat inspection), I worked in East Africa doing research in Kenya (1969) followed by two years in Tanzania as a district and regional veterinary officer and as an AI vet, serving the Chaga people on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro. Later I worked as a veterinary laboratory officer in the Dep. of Epizootiology (1972), in the Dep. of Pathology (1972-74) and since 1978 with the Dep. of Parasitology (later within the Dep. of Virology, Immunobiology and Parasitology) at the National Veterinary Institute (SVA) in Uppsala, Sweden. The work has included routine diagnostic work and research including some teaching in different fields of veterinary medicine, mainly Parasitology. My interest in the *Sarcoptes scabiei* epizootic which first hit the naïve and vulnerable wild red foxes in Sweden (1974-75) and later spread to the wild lynx and the domestic dogs, led to a PhD (1995). During this work on sarcoptic mange I developed serological antibody tests (ELISA) for several animal species (including tentatively dromedaries) including the first commercial diagnostic antibody-ELISA for dogs in the world. My interest in camels started in the early 1980ies (1982-89) when I was engaged as a veterinary consultant in a joint Somali-Swedish program on dromedary camels. Now a camel `addict`, I continued working with dromedaries mainly in Kenya where I led a few research programs e.g. on sarcoptic mange and coccidiosis. The involvement with camel research in Kenya is ongoing.

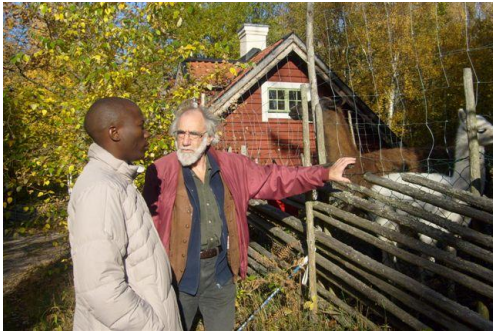
The engagement in camels brought me to several places, countries where camels are important, on different missions. Apart from working several years in Somalia and Kenya, time was spent in Jordan, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Ethiopia, Sudan, Mauretania, Kazaksthan, Rajasthan in India, France, the Canary Islands (Spain); everywhere having the opportunity to learn more about the camels and the people involved.

Some years ago I took part in a research project on the cause of diarrhoea in neonatal camel calves with emphasis on pathogenic gastro-intestinal protozoa. This research took place in Northern Kenya, 2003-2006, sponsored by SIDA-SAREC, Sweden.

During 1998 – 2001 I led a research project on sarcoptic mange of dromedary camels also in Kenya and sponsored by SIDA/SAREC

The growing interest outside South America of the South American Camelids (SACs) including my country, Sweden and the scarcity of knowledge concerning the husbandry and veterinary aspects of these species, led me to study llama behaviour and husbandry in a `down to earth` way by keeping my own herd in my home compound. I am involved since several years as consultant (veterinary) in the growing alpaca and llama industry in Sweden. The latter has involved teaching and research (see attached full CV).

In my CV you may find that I am the author of three books, 7 chapters in different books and >250 articles in international, regional and national journals and conference papers.



Showing a friend my llamas at home

Reasons for running for re-elections for the EC of ISOCARD:

I have represented the South American Camelids (SACs) as a member in the EC since 2009. I fear that it takes more years and efforts to succeed in attracting researchers and others, academically working, engaged and involved with these camelids, to become members of ISOCARD and thus promote scientific exchange among researchers and students of all Camelids. Most of the present members and the founders of ISOCARD were and are only involved with the camels of the old world i.e. the dromedaries and Bactrian. I have since 2009 attended several alpaca and llama national and international meetings, seminars and conferences, to inform about ISOCARD (by presenting papers, informative posters and to make liassons; see full CV). This I wish to continue a next term i.e. 2009-2015 in the EC of ISOCARD representing the SACs. Most of us would very much benefit from scientific exchange with SAC researchers and vice versa.

There are many other issues to address;

e.g. to attract funding to ISOCARD so that the association could be represented internationally more, to have economic resources to stimulate young camelid researchers in their research e.g. by funding their participation in camelid seminars, meetings etc. to stimulate their scientific efforts by establish prizes for the best research article written during ``the year`` etc. etc.