ESCCAP

EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC COUNSEL COMPANION ANIMAL PARASITES®

ESCCAP Sponsorship Proposal 2027–2029

THE free and independent parasite control resource for veterinary professionals

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1: Background

Founded in 2005, the European Scientific Counsel Companion Animal Parasites (ESCCAP) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation consisting of experts in the field of parasitology and public health from across Europe.

It was formed to address the need for a consistent European approach to parasite control in pets, a subject which has become ever more important due to the increased movement and transportation of pets within Europe.

2: Mission

ESCCAP is a free and independent parasite control resource for veterinary professionals.

Its primary function is to develop free, best-practice guidelines for the treatment and control of parasites in pet animals.

Its aim is to protect the health of pets, enhance the safety of the public and preserve the human–animal bond.

3: Structure

ESCCAP is a European organisation represented in nineteen different countries. Its secretariat is based in the UK.

The organisation has fourteen affiliated national associations with an ESCCAP member taking responsibility for each.

ESCCAP Directors

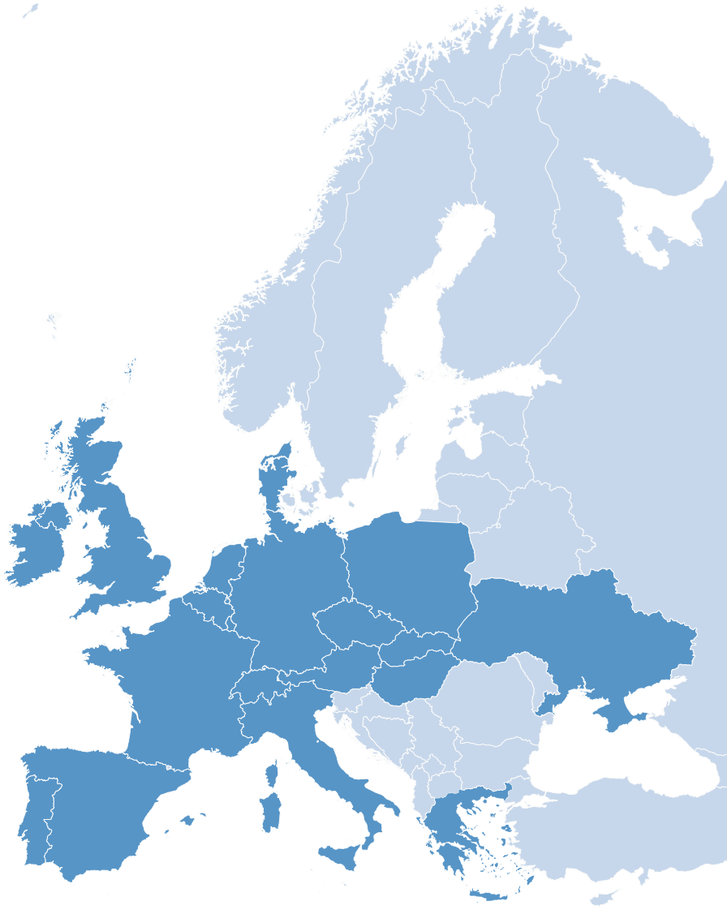
The ESCCAP board is made up of four directors elected from the membership. Directors manage the business of the organisation and are responsible for planning, implementing and promoting policies consistent with the aims and objectives of ESCCAP.

ESCCAP Members

ESCCAP members are all leaders in veterinary parasitology and veterinary public health who have been elected because of their expertise and ability to represent a country or region of Europe*. Members are responsible for promoting ESCCAP and its objectives and producing translations and adaptations of ESCCAP's guidelines in their own region.

National Associations

ESCCAP is represented across Europe by fourteen affiliated national associations representing nineteen countries. Each national association is self-funded and operates independently on a local level. ESCCAP provides ongoing support and guidance and encourages national associations to share news, ideas and resources. National associations may apply to ESCCAP for financial support, particularly for start-up funding.



ESCCAP Secretariat

Central to the organisation is the ESCCAP Secretariat which is based in the UK. Its coordinators deal with the day-to-day running of the organisation, overseen by the ESCCAP directors. The majority of the work is carried out by two independent contractors: Diane Richards and Ruth Pedder. Other experienced contractors are used during busy periods to provide a cost-effective and flexible workforce.

*see Appendix 1

4: Activities

ESCCAP's activities can be grouped into four main categories: publications, promotion, events and collaboration. A comprehensive, quarterly newsletter is distributed to members and sponsors containing detailed information about ESCCAP's activities, news, event details and national association updates.

Publications

Guidelines

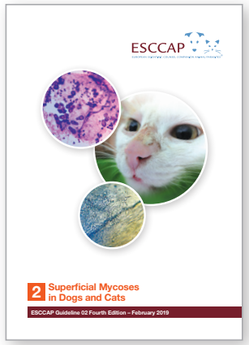
ESCCAP's primary function is to create best-practice guidelines for the treatment and control of parasites in pet animals. The guidelines provide the veterinary professional with free, independent, up-to-date and scientifically robust advice on the most effective control, management and treatment of parasites in companion animals.

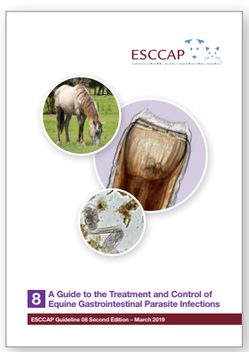
Guidelines can be accessed and downloaded from the main ESCCAP website at **www.esccap.org**

The guidelines are reviewed annually and updated as required. Additional guidelines are created if there is a demand.

Guidelines are translated and adapted for local use by ESCCAP's national associations and are currently available in twelve different languages.

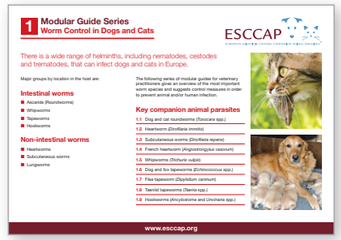
Feedback and evaluation of how the guidelines are used and perceived is important to the organisation. National associations carry out surveys to assess awareness of both ESCCAP and its guidelines among veterinary practices and report their findings to the annual meeting and in the quarterly newsletter. Members share information and promotional materials to ensure that a consistent message is conveyed.

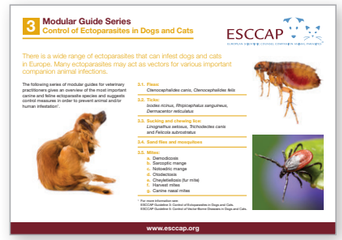


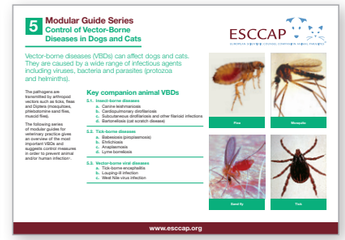


Modular Guide Series

ESCCAP is creating a series of modular guides which are concise, quick-reference cards based upon the full guidelines.

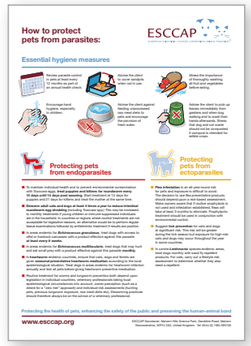


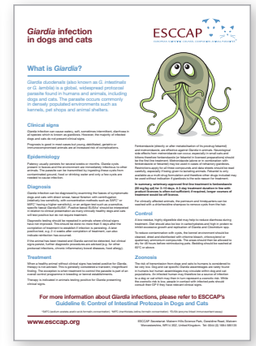


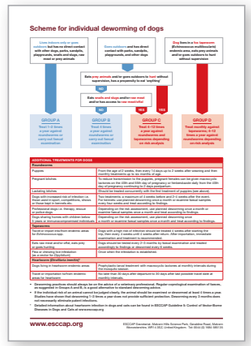


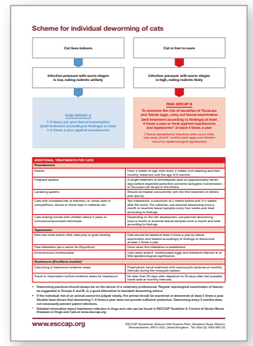
Fact Sheets

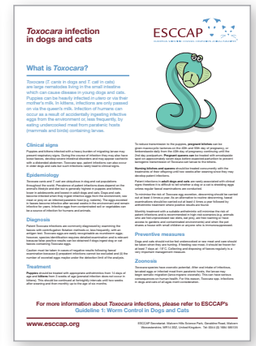
ESCCAP also publishes one-page fact sheets on a variety of subjects. There are currently seven in circulation with further topics planned.











Publications currently available...

	Guideline	Modular Guide Series
1: Worm Control in Dogs and Cats	GL1	MG1
2: Superficial Mycoses in Dogs and Cats	GL2	
3: Control of Ectoparasites in Dogs and Cats	GL3	MG3
4: Parasitological Diagnosis in Cats, Dogs and Equines	GL4	
5: Control of Vector-Borne Diseases in Dogs and Cats	GL5	MG5
6: Control of Intestinal Protozoa in Dogs and Cats	GL6	
7: Control of Parasites and Fungal Infections in Small Pet Mammals	GL7	
8: A Guide to the Treatment and Control of Equine Gastrointestinal Parasite Infections	GL8	
9: Parasite Control in Travelling and Imported Pets	GL9	

Fact Sheets

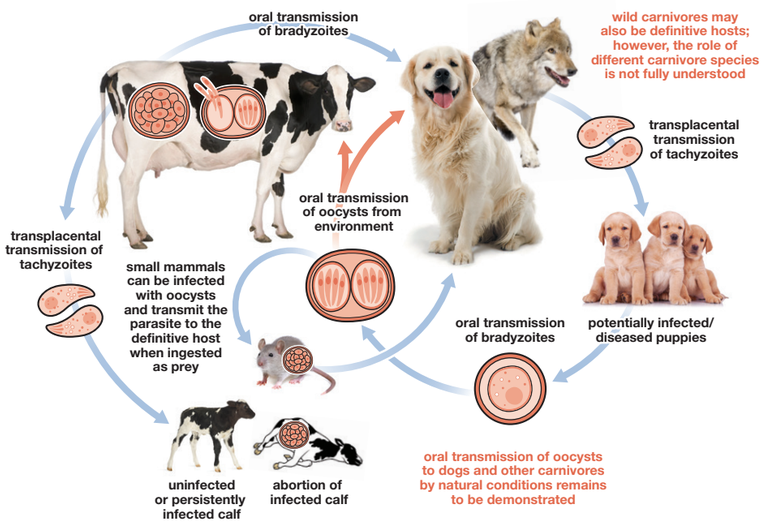
- **FS1: How to protect pets from parasites**
- **FS2: Points to consider when importing a rescue dog from abroad**
- **FS3: *Giardia* infection in dogs and cats**
- **FS4: Raw meat-based diets**
- **FS5: Scheme for individual worm management in dogs**
- **FS6: Scheme for individual worm management in cats**
- **FS7: *Toxocara* infection in dogs and cats**

Life Cycles

ESCCAP produces illustrated life cycles for companion animal parasites. By the end of 2024, there were thirty-four life cycle images on the ESCCAP website.

Parasiticide Therapy Tables

Parasiticide licensing varies from country to country and ESCCAP's national associations provide information on their local websites about the formulations available in their particular region.

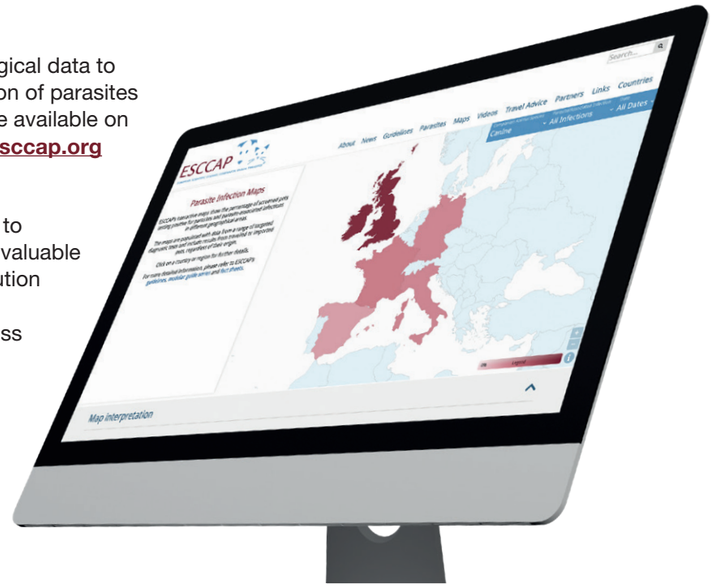


Maps

ESCCAP Europe collates epidemiological data to produce maps showing the distribution of parasites and related diseases. These maps are available on the main ESCCAP website at **www.esccap.org** and in the relevant guidelines.

A new online tool has been launched to provide veterinary professionals with valuable insights into the geographical distribution of parasites and parasite-associated infections in companion animals across Europe. The maps display data from targeted diagnostic tests, showing the percentage of positive results in screened dogs and cats. Users can filter results by country, region, species, parasite, and time period.

https://www.esccap.org/parasite-infection-map/



Promotion

ESCCAP communicates through a wide range of channels to reach its audience including printed materials, press outreach, media engagement and digital platforms.

Printed Media

At meetings and conferences, ESCCAP uses banners, posters and on occasion printed publications to highlight its work. Targeted press releases secure coverage in veterinary media and ESCCAP's national associations regularly publish articles in their local press.

TV and Radio

Representatives are frequently invited to share their expertise in TV and radio interviews, raising public awareness of parasite control.

Websites

The **main site** at **www.esccap.org** features news, information, advice, downloadable resources and links for veterinary professionals.

The **events site** at **www.esccapevents.org** is dedicated to ESCCAP's scientific conferences and is adapted for each event with schedules and materials.

The **national sites** are accessible via the main website, providing country-specific information, translated resources, news and contact details.

Website activity is monitored and analysed to track visitors, traffic and popular topics, helping to guide future communications.

Digital and Social Media

ESCCAP maintains an active presence on Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube, sharing weekly updates, news and resources to engage with veterinary professionals and the wider community:

www.facebook.com/ESCCAPEurope

www.youtube.com/channel/UC79I3U1IXTtlqe-13LoBbqg

www.linkedin.com/company/esccap-european-scientific-counsel-companion-animal-parasites

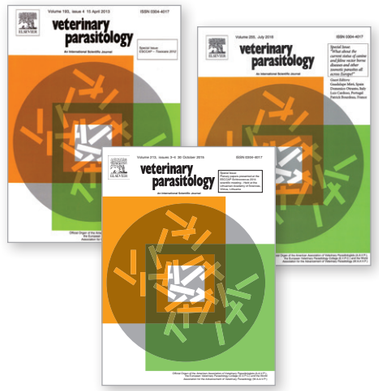
Email Communications

Subscribers receive regular news bulletins, primarily to highlight new resources and publications.

Events

ESCCAP attends high-profile conferences and events throughout the veterinary calendar to promote its message and connect with potential members and partners. Post-event summaries are published in the quarterly newsletter and abstract booklets are uploaded to the ESCCAP website.

Following ESCCAP-hosted conferences, plenary sessions have been published in special issues of the Veterinary Parasitology journal. Special issue papers have also been made available as open access via the Science Direct website.



ESCCAP has hosted or participated in the following meetings:

Toxocara2012

2014 Echinococcus

Vector-borne Diseases2016

On a local level, national associations regularly participate in presentations promoting the work of ESCCAP at veterinary/ medical conferences, seminars, workshops and postgraduate courses. Representatives attend pet events aimed at the general public to **encourage responsible pet ownership and regular parasite prevention and control**. National associations also work very closely with veterinary schools making sure that veterinary and veterinary nurse students are aware of ESCCAP resources as part of their training.

Collaboration

ESCCAP welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with other organisations within the fields of veterinary and human medicine, sharing best practice and ensuring that a consistent message is conveyed.

The organisation is focused on fostering these relationships in order to tackle serious emerging parasite control issues faced by an expanding and more itinerant Europe.

The aims and objectives of ESCCAP are supported by:

- The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists (AAVP)
- The European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases (ABCD)
- The American Heartworm Society (AHS)
- The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC)
- The European College of Veterinary Dermatology (ECVD)
- The European Veterinary Parasitology College (EVPC)
- The Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations (FECAVA)
- LeishVet
- The National Center for Veterinary Parasitology (NCVP)
- The Tropical Council for Companion Animal Parasites (TroCCAP)
- The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA)

5: Future Plans

New Guidelines

The addition of a guideline on the principles of safe and effective antiparasitic therapy will result in ten core ESCCAP publications.

The next three years will also see the further development of the modular guide series: user-friendly, easy-access summaries of the core guidelines that will be available online.

Translations and Adaptations

ESCCAP funds can be used to assist national associations with the translation of ESCCAP publications in order to expand the organisation's coverage of Europe.

ESCCAP's Parasite Infection Maps

Following the success of the published maps showing the geographical distribution of parasites and parasite-associated infections in companion animals across six European countries, ESCCAP would like to roll out these maps to the whole of Europe.

The map data is very useful to both veterinary professionals, pet owners and the wider public, in helping to better understand the occurrence of animals in a given practice area which may be infected with, or had contact with, a particular parasite.

6: Sponsorship Packages

Sponsorship is essential for the continuation and growth of ESCCAP and sponsors should be assured that their support is truly valued. ESCCAP enjoys the support of six major pharmaceutical sponsors and a diagnostic company, each with different objectives and constraints, which demonstrates both the independence and endurance of the organisation.

European Level Sponsorship

ESCCAP welcomes support on three different levels

Ruby Sponsors:
€40,000 per year

Sapphire Sponsors:
€21,000 per year

Donors:
minimum of €6,000 per year

Sponsorship is agreed on a **three-year term** which is renewed automatically on an annual basis within this period. Invoices are raised in August for the following year's subscription.

The table to the right outlines how your organisation can become involved and the opportunities available to you at a European level.

Additional opportunities arise periodically such as invitations to all sponsors for support at conferences, events and maintenance of ongoing projects such as mapping and educational videos.

	Ruby	Sapphire	Donor
Invitation to the annual ruby sponsors' open meeting with ESCCAP directors and members	✓		
Involvement in the ruby sponsors' review procedure for ESCCAP guidelines prior to their finalisation	✓		
Opportunity to communicate opinions and ask questions throughout the sponsorship period	✓		
Access to guideline revision timelines with the opportunity to comment	✓		
Access to the latest data on zoonoses threats in specific countries	✓		
Opportunity to sponsor special events and projects	✓		
Access to relevant ESCCAP documents through secure online storage account for ruby sponsors	✓		
Invitation to the annual sponsors' dinner with ESCCAP directors and members	✓	✓	
Invitation to the ESCCAP Forum event at ESCCAP meetings	✓	✓	
Quarterly newsletter with full updates on national association activities	✓	✓	
Corporate logo along with sponsorship level on all published ESCCAP Europe materials and presentations	✓	✓	
Corporate logo along with sponsorship level on the main ESCCAP website www.esccap.org together with a link to the sponsor site	✓	✓	
Corporate logo and recognition as a sponsor of the original guidelines on all subsequent translations	✓	✓	
Supply and use of the ruby/sapphire sponsor recognition seals*	✓	✓	
Access to all ESCCAP Europe published information for use and distribution	✓	✓	
Notification of all companies supporting or intending to support ESCCAP national associations	✓	✓	
Opportunity to see ESCCAP guidelines prior to their finalisation in order to approve use of corporate logo	✓	✓	
Corporate name listed in the annual report	✓	✓	✓
Corporate name listed in the quarterly newsletter for directors, members and ruby and sapphire sponsors	✓	✓	✓
Corporate name listed on the ESCCAP website	✓	✓	✓

*see Appendix 2

Local Level Sponsorship

The information below outlines how your organisation can also become involved with national association sponsorship. Local level sponsorship enables national association groups to:

- Translate guidelines into the local language
- Produce guideline adaptations in line with the local situation
- Make adaptations available for use by other national associations
- Produce up-to-date local therapy tables for anthelmintic and ectoparasiticide use
- Produce and translate brochures, veterinary waiting-room posters and flow charts
- Disseminate publications and information to veterinarians, veterinary technicians and their organisations, the general public, pet owners, health authorities and medical professionals
- Organise continuing professional development courses
- Spread the ESCCAP message to school children to raise awareness of zoonotic diseases
- Write articles for national and international veterinary and companion animal journals
- Publish press and media releases
- Maintain a website in the local language containing general information, guidelines, therapy tables, maps, brochures, publications, links etc.
- Expand upon website availability through social media, Q&A sessions and film
- Display sponsor's corporate logo on the website, at national events and local presentations
- Participate in national conferences, exhibitions and working groups to promote the work of ESCCAP
- Arrange regular meetings between ESCCAP parasitologists and sponsors to discuss collaboration and to give advice and ideas to the local ESCCAP organisation
- Share printing costs of brochures, guidelines etc.
- Carry out national surveys to analyse ESCCAP awareness within the veterinary profession

ESCCAP Sponsors 2025

Ruby Sponsors

Elanco · IDEXX · MSD Animal Health · vetoquinol (Achieve more together) · zoetis

Sapphire Sponsor

Boehringer Ingelheim

Donor

Ceva

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Diane Richards
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Ruth Pedder
ruthpedder@esccap.org

Registered in England and Wales
ESCCAP Registration Number: 5821601

Appendix 1: Member Profiles

ESCCAP Directors

Dr. Ian Wright

ESCCAP Chairperson & Director

Ian Wright has a master's degree in veterinary parasitology and is a practising veterinary surgeon and co-owner of the Mount Veterinary Practice in Fleetwood. He carries out in-practice research into intestinal nematodes and tick-borne diseases.

Professor Luís Madeira de Carvalho
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Animal Health,
University of Lisbon, Portugal

ESCCAP Finance Director
ESCCAP Member for Portugal

Luís Madeira de Carvalho is a professor of parasitology at the University of Lisbon. He teaches general parasitology, helminthology, parasitic diseases and wildlife diseases. His specialist areas of research include companion animal parasites, parasitic diseases, small animal parasitic zoonoses, equine parasites, ruminant gastrointestinal parasites and wildlife diseases.

Professor Jakub Gawor

ESCCAP Liaison Director
ESCCAP Member for Poland

Jakub Gawor is a retired professor of veterinary medicine, specialising in parasitology. His specific scientific interests are the diagnosis, prophylaxis and control of parasitic diseases in small and farm animals and parasitic zoonoses particularly toxocarosis and alveococcosis.

Dr. Emilie Bouhsira
École Nationale Vétérinaire, Toulouse (INP), France

ESCCAP Guideline Director

Emilie Bouhsira is an associate professor in parasitology at the National Veterinary School of Toulouse, France. She is also a Diplomate and Vice-President of the European Veterinary Parasitology College (EVPC). Her research mainly focuses on vector-borne agents, especially flea-borne pathogens and agents transmitted by the stable fly *Stomoxys calcitrans* and resistance to insecticides in fleas and flies. She has more than 15 years' experience in the design and realisation of clinical studies aiming at determining the efficacy of ectoparasiticides against fleas, flies, sandflies and mosquitoes in cats and dogs. She is also the organiser of an international continuing education course dedicated to medical and veterinary entomology and supported by ESCCAP France (**www.entomologysummercourse.com**).

ESCCAP Members

Dr. Rolf Nijsse
Department of Infectious Diseases and Immunology, Utrecht University, Netherlands

ESCCAP Member for Benelux

Rolf Nijsse graduated as DVM in 1996 from Utrecht University. After working in different small animal clinics, he started teaching veterinary technicians at Groenhorstcollege Barneveld. After seven years, he started working on small animal parasitology at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University. He combines teaching wetlab courses, lecturing, working for the veterinary microbiological centre and research. He completed his PhD on *Toxocara* infections in dogs, cats and foxes in 2016.

Professor Gilles Bourgoin
National Veterinary School of Lyon, France (VetAgro Sup)

ESCCAP Member for France

Gilles Bourgoin graduated in veterinary medicine from the National Veterinary School of Lyon, France (VetAgro Sup) in 2004 and obtained a PhD in ecology from the University of Lyon in 2008. Since then, he has been an Associate Professor of Parasitology at VetAgro Sup and the Laboratory of Biometry and Evolutionary Biology (LBBE) at the University of Lyon. He is head of the Clinical Department of Preventive Medicine for Companion Animals at VetAgro Sup, a member of the SNGTV parasitology group and a member of the French animal health groups on 'antiparasitics in companion animals and environment' and 'antiparasitic resistance in production animals and equines'. His research topics include the eco-epidemiology of parasitism in domestic and wild animals and on resistance to antiparasitics, particularly at the interface between domestic and wild fauna.

Professor Christina Strube
Institute for Parasitology, University of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, Germany

ESCCAP Member for Germany

Christina Strube is a full professor and director of the Institute for Parasitology at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Hannover. Her research focuses on veterinary public health, addressing the health of both animals and humans. Her key research areas include ticks and tick-borne diseases as well as zoonotic roundworms. Her broader research encompasses parasite epidemiology, including the evaluation of parasite infection dynamics, domestic animal–wildlife–human interfaces and the improvement of detection methods.

Professor Elias Papadopoulos
School for Veterinary Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

ESCCAP Member for Greece

Professor Papadopoulos is head of the Laboratory of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases and the Department of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases and Pathology at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. His research interests include various aspects of animal parasitic diseases such as vector-borne diseases, epidemiology, evaluation of treatment protocols and the efficacy of antiparasitic drugs.

Dr. Éva Fok

ESCCAP Member for Hungary

Éva Fok is a retired senior researcher from the Department of Parasitology and Zoology at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Budapest. During her time at the university, she carried out research on helminthology and lectured in parasitology. Her particular fields of interest include larval toxocarosis, dirofilariosis, helminth parasites in pets and diseases of carnivores (mainly dogs and cats). Since her retirement as a practicing veterinarian, she has remained in contact with animal owners and veterinary colleagues and promotes the work of ESCCAP when delivering professional lectures.

Professor Ezio Ferroglio
Department of Veterinary Science, University of Turin, Italy

ESCCAP Member for Italy

Ezio Ferroglio is full professor of parasitology and parasitic diseases and Director of the Department of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Turin in Italy. His main areas of research include the diagnosis, epidemiology and pathogenesis of parasites and vectors that affect domestic and wild animals, with an emphasis on zoonoses.

Dr. Martina Miterpáková
Institute of Parasitology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Košice, Slovakia

ESCCAP Member for Slovakia & Czechia

Martina Miterpáková is a senior researcher and head of the Laboratory of Veterinary Parasitology at the Institute of Parasitology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. Her main research interests include the epidemiology and control of parasitozoonoses, with an emphasis on canine dirofilariosis, along with the diagnosis of parasitic infections in domestic and wild animals. She participates in continuing educational activities for veterinary practitioners.

Professor Guadalupe Miró Corrales
Veterinary College of Madrid (Universidad Complutense), Spain

ESCCAP Member for Spain

Guadalupe Miró graduated from the Madrid Veterinary School where she also completed her PhD thesis. She now holds a permanent position as Full Professor in Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases at the Animal Health Department (Universidad Complutense of Madrid). She is a Diplomate of the European Veterinary Parasitology College (EVPC). She is Director of the researching group and diagnosis laboratory of pet parasites (PetParasiteLab) at the UCM. Currently, she is in charge of the Consultant of Infectious diseases at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the Madrid Veterinary School with a special focus on infectious diseases of small animals. Her areas of research specialisation are vector-borne diseases of pets, mainly canine and animal leishmaniosis and shelter medicine involving the epidemiology and control of zoonotic diseases. She is a member of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP), the International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases (ISCAID) and the Spanish Society of Parasitology (SOCEPA). She is also a founding member of the LeishVet group (President 2008–2023), Spanish representative of ESCCAP and a member of the leading Spanish Associations of Veterinary Practitioners' (AMVAC and AVEPA). Her scientific output consists of numerous peer-reviewed scientific articles and is author/co-author of several books in the field.

Professor Caroline F. Frey
Institute of Parasitology, University of Bern, Switzerland

ESCCAP Member for Switzerland

Professor Caroline Frey is Co-Director of the Institute of Parasitology at the Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Bern, Switzerland. Her primary research interests focus on zoonotic parasites and veterinary public health. Her broader research covers various aspects of parasitic infections across multiple animal species, with the aim of improving animal health and welfare while supporting sustainable animal production.

ESCCAP Members

Professor Hany Elsheikha

ESCCAP Member for UK & Ireland

Professor Hany Elsheikha is a leading expert in veterinary parasitology and Chair of Interdisciplinary Parasitology at the University of Nottingham. A Diplomate of the European Veterinary Parasitology College, he is internationally recognised for his groundbreaking research on host-parasite interactions and the development of novel antiparasitic therapies. He is also a pioneer in applying photonics and spectroscopic technologies to parasitology, advancing non-invasive diagnostics and real-time parasite detection. His innovative approaches have opened new frontiers in understanding parasite biology and improving disease control. Professor Elsheikha has authored or edited nine influential books, including three of the top-selling titles in parasitology, published over 400 articles and continues to shape global understanding of parasitic diseases with significant public health relevance.

Professor Vitaliy Kharchenko
Department of Parasitology, I.I. Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology,
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

ESCCAP Member for Ukraine

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Appendix 2:
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