

HOFMEYR, CHRISTIAAN FREDERCK BEYERS (August 15, 1916, Pietersburg, South Africa – January 14, 2004, Pretoria, South Africa) *Veterinarian; Surgeon*. Son of Christoffel Hofmeyr and Elizabeth Magrieta (née Uys) Hofmeyr. Married Augusta Benda Munro, 1942.

EDUCATION : University of Pretoria, 1938: BVSc; University of Pretoria, 1965: M.Med.Vet (Chir); University of Pretoria, 1967: DVSc (*cum laude*).

CAREER : 1939 – 1942, state veterinarian in Umtata and Rustenburg; 1942 – 1957, private practice in Pretoria, South Africa; 1950 – 1957, contracted as part time veterinarian by National Zoological Gardens, Pretoria; 1958 – 1968, Professor of Surgery and Head of Department of Surgery at Onderstepoort Faculty of Veterinary Science of University of Pretoria; 1969 – 1981, Dean of Onderstepoort Faculty of Veterinary Science.

CONTRIBUTIONS : In 1945, as state veterinarian, discovered occurrence of bovine besnoitiosis in South Africa; pioneer in discipline of diseases of zoo animals in South Africa; internationally recognised for surgical expertise and academic excellence; main motivator for successful incorporation of Onderstepoort Faculty of Veterinary Science in University of Pretoria in 1973; introduced, at Faculty, postgraduate specialist M.Med.Vet degrees in 18 different disciplines and a diploma course in Veterinary Nursing.

HOMAGES AND DISTINCTIONS : Awarded the following: 1981, Gold Medal of South African Veterinary Association; 1993, Gold Medal of South African Academy for Science and Art; 1980, special honorary professorate and doctorate by University of Asunción; 1990, DVSc (*honoris causa*) (Prof Dr h.c.) by University of Pretoria. He also served in the following prestigious positions: President of South African Biological Society; Honorary member of International Association of Biometrics; Member of Council of South African Academy for Science and Art; Academy member of South African Academy for Science and Art; Vice President of South African Veterinary Association; Member of Council of Medical University of South Africa.

WRITINGS : Author or co-author of about 100 scientific publications – no published reference available; Hofmeyr, C.F.B., 1945. Globidiosis in cattle. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Medical Association*, Vol. 16, pp102-109; Hofmeyr, C.F.B., 1956. Two hundred and eighty-four autopsies at the National Zoological Gardens. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Medical Association*, Vol. 27, pp263-282; Hofmeyr, C.F.B., 1967. Surgery of bovine *impotentia coeundi*: (ii) Short, contracted and immobilised *musculi retractores penis*. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Medical Association*, Vol. 38, pp395-397; Hofmeyr, C.F.B., 1968. Surgery of bovine *impotentia coeundi*: (v) Surgical conditions of the praeputial skin and prolapsed lining (excluding stenosis proximal to the orifice). *Journal of the South African Veterinary Medical Association*, Vol. 39, pp93-101; Hofmeyr, C.F.B., 1990. Dieredokter – verhaal van mens en dier (in Afrikaans). Pretoria: B.& B. Uitgewers, PO Box 74521, Lynnwoodridge 0040.

REFERENCES/OBITUARIES: : Obituary, *VetNews* (Newsletter of South African Veterinary Association), April 2004, p35; Obituary (in Afrikaans), *Tshwane-Beeld*, 11 February 2004, p8; Motivation for award of Gold Medal of South African Veterinary Association (in Afrikaans), 1981. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Association*, Vol. 52, pp341-342.