

## *Sir Arnold Theiler Memorial Lecture 2006*

### *CURRICULUM VITAE*



### **Dr Brian Perry**

Brian Perry *OBE, BVM&S, DTVM, MSc, DVM&S, FRCVS* is a British citizen and veterinary surgeon by profession. His long and distinguished research career has focused on the resolution of animal health issues affecting developing countries, in particular through integrating quantitative veterinary epidemiology and agricultural economics to inform policy on animal health and poverty reduction. Currently he is Team Leader of the research on Animal Health and Food Safety for Trade at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi, Kenya, one of the 15 global research institutes comprising the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

Dr. Perry grew up in a farming family in Norfolk, UK, and graduated as a vet from Edinburgh University in 1969. After a period in general veterinary practice, he specialised in tropical veterinary medicine (gaining a Diploma of Tropical Veterinary Medicine and later a Master of Science, both from Edinburgh University). He then spent 10 years living and working in Ethiopia, Colombia and Zambia on animal disease control projects, defining the major disease constraints to livestock productivity, and better understanding their dynamics, impact and control in different settings.

In 1982 he was recruited as the veterinary epidemiologist to the newly-created Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in Blacksburg, Virginia, USA. There he initiated courses in veterinary epidemiology, protozoology, public health and tropical animal diseases, and conducted research into Potomac horse fever, rabies and improving animal health information systems. In 1985 he was awarded tenure at the University and promoted to Associate Professor. In 1987 he was awarded a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery by his *alma mater*, Edinburgh University. In 1987 he returned to Africa as the veterinary epidemiologist at the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD), Nairobi, Kenya, where he led the newly created Epidemiology and Socioeconomics Programme. His research initially focussed on the dynamics, impact and control of the tick and tsetse-transmitted infections of Africa livestock. ILRAD became ILRI in 1995, and his research expanded to include other diseases and continents. He has specialized in methodologies to determine the impacts, both biophysical and economic, of diseases and of alternative strategies and policies to control them, with particular emphasis on how animal disease control can contribute to development and poverty reduction. He also undertakes strategic planning and facilitation workshops, and uses probing interview techniques (“hard talk” style) as a science communication tool.

Dr. Perry has published more than 230 scientific articles in refereed journals, books and proceedings. He is a past Chairman of the International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE), and for 15 years was on the editorial board for *Preventive Veterinary Medicine*, the international flagship journal for veterinary epidemiology and economics. He has consulted to projects in many countries, including Australia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay, Egypt, Mozambique, Nigeria, Zimbabwe,

South Africa, Thailand, Philippines and Laos. He speaks Spanish and Swedish fluently and has a working knowledge of French. He has served on expert committees of the FAO and the World Health Organisation (WHO). He was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1995 for “meritorious contributions to learning in the field of veterinary epidemiology”. In 2002 he was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the Queen’s New Year Honours for “services to veterinary science in developing countries”. In 2004 he won the International Outstanding Scientist Award from the Washington-based CGIAR.