

Professor José Manuel Sánchez-Vizcaíno

He was born in Murcia in 1951. He received his DVM and PhD at the Veterinary Faculty of the Universidad Complutense. Subsequently, he did his post-graduate studies in animal immunology and virology at Cornell University in New York. Upon returning to Spain he joined the National Institute of Agricultural and Food Research (INIA, Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agrarias y Alimentarias) performing the following functions: Researcher (1978-1980), Chief of Research Projects (1980-1985), Chief of the Animal Virology Department (1985-1988), Chief of the Animal Health Department (1988-1993) and Chief of the Animal Health Research Center (CISA, Centro de Investigación en Sanidad Animal) (1993-2002).

Since the year 2002 he is Full Professor of Animal Health at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, performing his teaching and researching labor in the Department of Animal Health at the Veterinary Faculty as well as director of the OIE reference laboratories for African swine fever and African horse sickness.

The Scientific contributions of Professor Sanchez-Vizcaino have notably contributed to the control and eradication of several animal diseases, among them the African Swine Disease, Horse Sickness and Classical Swine Disease. All of that thanks to the development of new methods and fast and sensitive diagnostic reagents, new epidemiologic strategies as well as the development of new vaccines.



He has many scientific publications in high international impact magazines. He is the author of various chapters in books with international prestige (African Swine Fever and Diseases of Swine, African Horse Sickness in the OIE handbook, Trends in Emerging Viral Infections of Swine...) and **digital courses dedicated to immunology and infectious diseases** as well as **sanitary simulations**. He has directed a great number of investigation projects and doctoral theses about animal infectious diseases.

He obtained the National Swine Investigation Prize ANAPORC 1990, the International Swine Prize "PORCO BRAVO 1999", the First Prize on Swine Health and Production (Produccion Animal 2000)and the Animal Health Prize 2007 "Los mejores de La Verdad 2007".

He has been condecorated with the "Encomienda de Numero de la Orden del Merito Agrario" (Order of the Agrarian Merit) (03/12/99) y "del Merito Alimentario" (Nourishing Merit) (05/05/03), the Military Service Cross with a white symbol (03/01/03) for his contributions in animal health and in controlling infectious diseases, as well as the CESFAC Medal (27/05/09), for Nourishing and Animal Health Merit in the category "Research and Development".

Recently, he was condecorated with the Medal of Merit of World Animal Health Organisation (OIE), for his exceptional contributions to veterinary science (24/05/09), and was invested Doctor Honoris Causa by the University of Murcia (22/04/10).

Professor Sanchez-Vizcaino has been collaborating since 1990 with the World Organization for Animal Health (**OIE**) and with **FAO** in various health missions for controlling infectious diseases and for technological transference in several European countries, in America and Africa. He has participated in a great number of scientific national and international commissions. He is an OIE expert on African Swine Fever Disease and African horse sickness (1991 to date), member of the National Committee of the Health Alert System (2201 to date), of the Assessing Scientific Committee of the Public Health Institute of the Madrid Community (2002 to date), Scientific Committee of the animal health and wellness commission of the European Food Safety Authority (**EFSA**) (2003-2006), Scientific Committee of the Spanish Agency of Food Safety (AESAs) (2003-2008) and member of Community Veterinary Emergency Team 2009 of European Union (January 2009).

His current scientific interest is centered in the study of epidemiology and preventive medicine of animal infectious diseases, and particularly in the development of new diagnostic techniques, new generation vaccines and new strategies for its control.