An evaluation of Türkiye livestock congresses (1968-2000)

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ABSTRACT

Eight livestock congresses were held between 1968-2000 under the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) leadership to improve animal husbandry in Türkiye. In these congresses, besides problems in the livestock sector, issues related to the production and consumption of animal products were also discussed. The aim was for the organizers and participants to be composed of different fields related to animal husbandry and thus address the issue from every perspective. The establishment of an autonomous "Ministry of Livestock" was demanded in all congresses. Problems and solution proposals regarding animal husbandry in Türkiye were scientifically discussed with veterinarians, producers, industrialists, consumers, and government representatives. As a result, this study, which was carried out to evaluate the issues addressed in Türkiye Livestock Congresses and contribute to the determination of the problems and solutions of the livestock sector, can shed light on the resolution of today's livestock problems.

Introduction

The first international meeting of veterinarians was held in Hamburg, Germany, on 14-18 July 1863, at the initiative of Professor John Gamgee to ensure cooperation in the prevention of epidemic animal diseases (15). It is known that the Ottoman Empire was informed about this first meeting and decided to send a representative (Veterinary Major Ahmet Efendi) to the second meeting to be held in Vienna in 1865. Participation in various international congresses has been observed since the meeting in Vienna (33).

In the founding years of the Turkish Republic, the fight against animal diseases and improving animal breeding were among the most significant problems. There were only two laws, one directive and two serum establishments in animal health at this time. In parallel with the decisions of the Izmir Economy Congress (1923), a five-year program was prepared for the reorganization of veterinary medicine, and it was put into practice as of 1925

(1, 23). During this period, agreements were made with neighboring and non-neighboring states, and congresses on epidemic animal diseases were held to export animals and animal products from Türkiye (26).

Established to support the efforts to overcome the world economic crisis (1929), the "National Economy and Savings Society" pioneered the holding of the Industry Congress in 1930 and the First Agriculture Congress in 1931. In these congresses, primary industry and agricultural experts discussed the problems and prepared reports outlining the ways of development. "Animal Husbandry" was among the topics that made up the agenda of the First Agriculture Congress (24, 31).

The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA), established by the law, numbered 6343 to implement and develop the veterinary profession in Türkiye, including the production and development of animal husbandry policies¹. In addition to the various scientific meetings, it has organized for this purpose,

¹ Official Gazette dated 18.3.1954 and numbered 8661.

TVMA has organized eight congresses, the first in 1968 and the last in 2000, focused only on animal husbandry (21). This study aims to analyze these congresses' contents and reveal their contribution to animal husbandry in Türkiye.

Materials and Methods

This historical study aims to evaluate eight animal husbandry congresses held between 1968-2000 under the leadership of the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association. The study material consists of the printed book of seven congresses and the congress file of the seventh Congress. In the study, the data obtained through document analysis, which is used alone or as an auxiliary method in qualitative research (17), was evaluated. The text was written using the retrospective method used in historical studies.

Results

Livestock congresses organized by the TVMA are examined according to the organization date. Information on the organizations arranging these congresses is presented in Table 1 chronologically.

First Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1968) (4): The First Livestock Congress of Türkiye was held between 13-15 February 1968 in Labor and Social Insurance Institution Hall, Ankara.

The congress was organized in five sessions lasting three days, and 11 papers and three commission reports (Production, Marketing, Organization) were presented and discussed. It was reported that 78% of the participants were small business owners. In addition, State Enterprises, State Economic Enterprises, Chambers of Agriculture, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Commodity Exchanges, Higher Education Institutions, the press, responsible official authorities, army representatives, some governors, mayors, senators² and deputies, and relevant Ministers attended. President Cevdet Sunay and Prime Minister Süleyman Demirel sent a message to Congress. 72% of the congress participants, which had 603 delegates, were animal breeders, 22% were representatives of official institutions, 4% were lecturers, and 2% were senators and deputies. Minister of Agriculture Bahri Dağdaş, Minister of Rural Affairs Turgut Toker, Minister of Public Health and Welfare Vedat Ali Özkan³ also attended the Congress. In addition, representatives of the Chamber of Agriculture, Chamber Commerce, Animal Husbandry Cooperative, of representatives of all sectors related to animal breeding and sales, pharmaceutical industrialists, technical personnel, and scientists from almost every province of Türkiye were in attendance.

Among the objectives of the congress are; 1discussing the issues related to animal husbandry open to the public, 2- promoting the sector with all its aspects, 3pioneering the solution of the problems.

Turkish Livestock Congresses (Year of Organized)							
I. (1968)	II. (1970)	III. (1972)	IV. (1974)	V. (1976)	VI. (1978)	VII. (1981)	VIII. (2000)
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
	(1968)	(1968) (1970) + + + - + + + + + + + +	I. II. III. (1968) (1970) (1972) + + + + - - + + + + + + + + + + + -	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

Table 1. Organizations that organize congresses according to years.

AUFVM: Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, UCCET: The Union Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye, TVMA-CC: Turkish Veterinary Medical Association - Central Council, VMS: Veterinary Medical Society, VMA: Veterinary Medical Union, ACV: Ankara Chamber of Veterinarians, UCAT: Union of Agricultural Chambers of Türkiye, KK: Köy-Koop

² Senator: A member of the Senate of the Republic is the legislative body that constituted the upper wing of The Grand National Assembly of Turkey (GNAT) when the bicameral system was in force between 1961-1980 in Turkey.

³ The speech of the Minister at the Congress was reported in a daily newspaper. (Cumhuriyet, "Beslenme yetersizliği çocuklarda %45 ölüme sebep oluyor" (14 Şubat 1968), 1, 7.)

Institution
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Turkish Chamber of Commerce and Industry / Union of Stock Exchanges of Türkiye
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Medical Association
Veterinary Medical Society
Veterinary Medical Society
Veterinary Medical Union
Veterinary Medical Union
Ankara Region Chamber of Veterinarians
Ankara Region Chamber of Veterinarians

Table 2. Türkiye First Livestock	Congress	Organizing	Committee.
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DVM: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

The congress emphasized that the livestock sector is the main factor in Türkiye's economy and development. However, it was reported that it had always been neglected and left behind in agricultural production. It was said that the sector had not been provided with an adequate organization in economic potential, nutrition, and health power. It was proposed to establish the "Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries, and Nutrition" and to include the following general directorates: "Animal Health Protection", "Livestock Development and Crediting", "Nutrition and Food Control", "Animal Breeding and Control", "Fisheries", "Animal and Animal Products Evaluation-Marketing and Control" and "Organization."

It was decided that the Congress would be held every two years.

The members of the organizing committee of the First Congress and the information of their affiliated institutions are presented in Table 2.

Second Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1970) (5): As it was decided in the first Congress, the "Second Livestock Congress of Türkiye" was held between 23-27 March 1970, again in the Labor and Social Insurance Institution Hall, Ankara, with the participation of 940 delegates. At the opening, the Ministers of Agriculture, Health⁴, Trade, and Labor and Bülent Ecevit gave a speech and emphasized the importance of animal husbandry. In the Congress, four commissions were established as 1-Organization; 2-Public Services Oriented to Livestock; 3-Economic Problems; 4-Technical Issues.

It has been emphasized that the share of livestock in national income is 30%; however, it could increase to 70-80%. It is stated that it can play an active role in preventing hidden unemployment by providing employment. It has been stated that adequate and balanced nutrition can be provided with animal products. The export share can increase. This sector with an enormous potential has to work with limited opportunities dispersed in different organizations. The participants unanimously agreed to request the establishment of a "Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries, and Nutrition," which will cover all institutions in the sector such as animal health, production, and consumption of animal foods, aquaculture, animal feed production. In addition, it was decided to open a new veterinary faculty. As chairman of the organizing committee, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Sandıkçıoğlu emphasized the importance of the issue in his closing speech as follows: "Livestock breeding is a great potential for the Turkish economy. Utilizing this potential is only possible if people at various levels, from the shepherd at the head of the animal to the housewife in the kitchen, from the youngest official to the minister on the job, work with complete understanding and confidence and consciously and succeed."

Third Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1972) (7): The Congress was held on 19-21 April 1972 in the General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (SHW) hall, Ankara. As in the first two congresses, 1100 delegates from all branches of the livestock sector, Minister of National Defense and Deputy, Prime Minister Ferit Melen, Minister of Agriculture Orhan Dikmen, and many deputies attended. Prof. Dr. Saim Kendir stated in the closing session of the Congress that two essential issues emerged. First, the producer was not organized in the livestock sector. The second was the lack of importance given to public services related to animal husbandry within the Ministry of Agriculture.

Regarding the first issue, it was stated that the breeders would be supported until they established their

⁴ The speech of Vedat Ali Özkan, Minister of Health at the time, was published as a newspaper article. (Cumhuriyet "Hayvancılık Kongresi'ni Sağlık Bakanı Özkan açtı: Her yıl 30 bin kişiyi kedi ve köpek ısırıyor" (24 Mart 1970), 1, 7.)

organizations. Regarding the other issue, it was emphasized that animal husbandry is an advanced branch of agriculture and even the agriculture industry. The share allocated to animal husbandry should be increased, and a *"Ministry of Livestock"* should be established.

Fourth Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1974) (8): The Fourth Congress was held on 6-8 May 1974 in the Faculty of Language, History, and Geography Conference Hall, Ankara. It is known that the participation is still high, with 982 delegates from 57 provinces. It is emphasized in the congress book that animal husbandry, which has been neglected for many years, has developed in recent years and that the congresses have contributed to the country's livestock and livestock policy. Thus, the Ministry of Agriculture was changed to the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Livestock.

The closing speech stated that animal husbandry is a part of the nation's natural resources. These congresses were organized to organize the Turkish animal breeders, raise awareness, increase animal production, and mobilize the country's most significant resource. In addition, Türkiye's animal wealth was stated, and the necessity of increasing animal production was emphasized. Based on the project, it was declared that there was no opposition to importing female material, but Türkiye should not become the animal market of other countries. The decision stated again that to solve animal husbandry's problems and ensure the integrity of its services, the "Ministry of Livestock, Nutrition, and Fisheries" must be established.

Fifth Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1976) (9): The Congress was held in the SHW Hall, Ankara, with approximately 1000 delegates between 26-28 April 1976. Prof. Dr. Kendir stated in his opening speech that a small number of papers would be presented at the Congress so that breeders could share their problems. He also expressed the problems related to animal feeds and emphasized the problems caused by importing milk powder and butter. He stated that economic policies are not sufficient, despite the measures on livestock in the Development Plans. Korkut Özal, Minister of Food, Agriculture, and Livestock, attended the Congress. In his speech, Özal stated that they considered the work done in other congresses; he described himself as "...not only in charge of an organization but also as the advocate of all livestock breeders in Türkiye ... ". In addition, he made the following evaluations regarding the problems mentioned in the previous Congress: 1- The application of the minimum price in animal products was implemented with a decree on January 16, 1976, and in fact, this is a fundamental policy in meat livestock rather than determining the minimum price; 2-Meat-Fish Institution was included in the Ministry of Food-Agriculture and Livestock for a solution regarding the disorganization of livestock establishments; 3- Crediting the farmers; 4- In order to spread artificial seeds for the improvement of animal breeds and to increase the breeding qualities of livestock in the country, "core management" will be encouraged; 5- The number of feed factories has been increased.

In response to the minister's speech, the delegates took the floor and convincingly expressed their objections with numbers. Examples of these objections are the importation of butter and milk powder; the intensive dairy project's difficulties for the last three years were explained. It has been proposed to establish a "Ministry of Livestock" and gather livestock services there.

In the last session of the Congress, two important proposals were made by the delegates. The first is about the "Livestock Federation," and the other is the "Organization and form of organization." In addition, it has been reported that a poultry congress will be held every year as a continuation of the animal husbandry congress. And, it was stated that the "Poultry Association" would be established, and the "Poultry Journal" would be published. As a result of the negotiations held in the last session, establishing a broad-based "Livestock Federation or Association" was accepted. The committee that would make the preliminary preparations was elected by unanimous vote.

Sixth Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1978) (10): The Congress was held on 16-18 May 1978 in the SHW Hall.

In the preface of the Congress booklet written by Sadi Aral, it was stated that in the livestock congresses held for the last ten years, all the components of the livestock industry, namely the producer, consumer were expressed and socio-economic problems in the rural areas mentioned. It has been emphasized that the solution proposals taken in the congresses were included in the development plans and government programs. Each Congress exceeds the dimensions of the previous one, and "The Turkish animal breeder and breeder's own free and loud voice has reflected the public under the authority and responsibility of the Turkish Veterinarians community ... " It was emphasized that the problems related to feeds, credit and financing, health, marketing, and organization in animal production could not be solved by taking sufficient consideration by the authorities. The Congress stated that it would be evaluated whether these problems were taken into account by the political power. In addition to these problems, a new animal health policy should be determined; It has been stated that the producer sells his product for nothing, and the consumer cannot benefit from it because it is sold at a very high price. Aral reported that the "Ministry of Livestock," mentioned in the last five livestock congresses, has not been established yet.

Seventh Livestock Congress of Türkiye (1981) (11): The only Congress whose congress book was not published⁵ was held in SHW Hall on 2-4 December 1981 under the coordination of TVMA, in cooperation with Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ankara Region Chamber of Veterinarians and Veterinarians Association. The letter, dated 23.02.1981 and numbered 700/200 on the organization of the Congress, was sent to the relevant institutions with the signature of TVMA Central Council President Dr. M. Yücel Akıncı. "Ragıp Saguner, Muammer Bülent Birol and Muzaffer Çınkıloğlu" were assigned with the letter dated 15.04.1981 and numbered 700/213 for the organization of the Congress. According to the response letters from the institutions, Ankara Region Chamber of Veterinarians Ankara VHO representative Agah Dikmen, İsmail Tanık from the Veterinary Medical Association, Assoc. Dr. Ergun Özalp and Bünyamin Gerger as the Council Representative.

It was emphasized that the provincial administrators and Veterinary Affairs Directorates should be assisted in the selection of delegates in order to carry out beneficial studies and obtain positive results in the Congress. In order to explain the importance of the sector for the country to the public, it was requested to make use of the mass media at all levels and announce that all veterinarians present in the region are invited to the Congress⁶.

TVMA also sent a letter⁷ to 67 provincial governorships in Türkiye and requested that the delegates who would attend the Congress be selected partners or members of organizations such as livestock unions, associations, and cooperatives in animal husbandry and production.

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Prof. Dr. Sabahattin Özbek, and Deputy Prime Minister Turgut Özal attended the meetings on the first day. However, as it is understood, there was no official participation in the following sessions of the Congress.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ersoy Canküyer pointed this situation as blow:

"... animal producers from all over our country are present in the hall; the problems of animal husbandry are discussed with all aspects and dimensions here, but no officials related to animal husbandry have been found, except for the first session."

More than 500 delegates from all provinces were present at the Congress, and some breeders stated that "... we animal breeders have been left to our fate ..." Breeders stated that veterinarians also had difficulties just like them, and they could solve these acting together. Halil Ayvazoğlu, the breeder and dairy business owner from Kars, stated that the academicians and the theorists of the subject and those faced with the problems should be talking at Congress.

In the economic commission report, in order for livestock to fulfill its economic function measures, and suggestions were listed such as below:

Incentive, fight against animal diseases, feed problem, acceleration of breeding by artificial insemination, use of credit, marketing, cooperatives, consumer protection, smuggled meat problem, resource problem due to lamb slaughter, the organization of breeders and producers. As a result, the necessity of establishing a Ministry of Livestock was emphasized.

In the Report of the Technical Commission, it was stated that the development plans had no response and implementation in the field. Animal husbandry problems were summarized under five headings as:

I. Animal breeding, II. Meadow, pasture, and forage, III. Protection of animal health, IV. Processing, evaluation, and marketing of products and V. The private and public sector organization.

It was also stated that animal husbandry improved remarkably in the last ten years despite all the negativities.

Eighth Livestock Congress of Türkiye (2000) (13): The Congress, organized by the TVMA Central Council, was held in Ankara on 22-23 June 2000 at the SHW Hall with more than 700 delegates.

In this Congress, all problems were expressed, concrete solution proposals were presented to the public and private sector, and the development plans of the political power were guided.

TVMA Council President Nesrin Alpaslan emphasized that the Livestock Congresses did not sufficiently achieve their goals to embrace all relevant sectors and shed light on the development plans and government programs prepared for its development. She stated that credit, financing, feed, health, and organization deficiencies in animal production could not be solved. Also, it was emphasized that the solution is only "*In the union of animal producers and industry, who deal with their problems, find solutions, and demand the return of their work and labor.*" At the Congress, papers on pets, cattle and sheep, horse breeding, aquaculture, beekeeping, and poultry breeding were presented in six sessions and

⁵ It was determined that this file was given to the "Veterinary Medicine History Museum" by Dr. Mehmet Yücel Akıncı. (Dinçer, F. (2018). "Legendary President" Dr. Mehmet Yücel Akıncı (March 2, 1940 - January 5, 2018) Interior: On the first anniversary of his death, Dr. Mehmet Yücel Akıncı Memorial Booklet, p. 19-20, Ankara

⁶ Turkish Veterinary Medical Association's letter dated 20.09.1981 and numbered 700/48.

⁷ Dated 18.09.1981 and numbered 700/47.

one panel. At the end of the sessions, the participants presented their ideas.

In the speeches made on the first day of the Congress, the Ministry's lack of participation and indifference was criticized. It was emphasized that animal importation in 1994-1995 played an essential role in the worse course of animal husbandry. As a result of these criticisms, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (1999-2002), Hüsnü Yusuf Gökalp, participated in Congress on the second day and gave the opening speech.

Papers, conferences, and panel information presented in eight congresses are given in Table 3. Congressional commissions are presented in Table 4. The Ministry of Agriculture, which was established in 1924, took its current form in 2018. The changes in the Ministry's name are presented in Table 5.

Table 3. Proceedings presented at the Congresses.

	Presenter	Presentation Title		
	Prof. Dr. Cumhur Ferman / *	Industry and Livestock in the Development of Türkiye		
	Prof. Dr. İsmail Türk / Faculty of Political Sciences	Agriculture and Livestock in the Development of Türkiye		
	Hayri Başar / *	Current Commercial Occupational Problems of Turkish Livestock		
	Ragip A. Saguner / *	New Views on Marketing of Animal and Animal Products		
	Üzeyir Eren / Ministry of Agriculture, General Directorate of Veterinary Affairs Consultant	<i>Our Livestock in Foreign Trade and Its Situation</i> <i>Against the Common Market</i>		
I.	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Süleyman Kara / Animal Science and Research Institute	Livestock in Türkiye's Nutrition		
(1968)	Prof. Dr. Selahattin Batu / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Zootechnical Measures to be Taken in the Development of Animal Husbandry in Türkiye		
	Prof. Dr. Hasan Başkaya / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Animal Health Services in the Development of Our Animal Husbandry		
	Prof. Dr. M. Mihri Mimioğlu / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Parasitic Diseases as an Important Factor that Hinders the Development of Animal Husbandry in Türkiye		
	Prof. Dr. Latif Berkmen / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Prof. Dr. Zeki Tolgay / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	The Importance of Animal Nutrition and Food Control and Technology in Community Nutrition		
	Prof. Dr. Sabri Dilmen / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Feed and Animal Nutrition Problems in Turkish Livestock Industry		
	Ertuğrul Gökgün / Konya Chamber of Veterinarians	Economic importance of animal husbandry, economic and social consequences of pasture destruction		
	İbrahim Kutlutan / Turkish Standards Institute	Standardization in the problem of developing our livestock		
	* / Union of Agricultural Chambers of Türkiye	Development of animal feed resources		
	Nevzat Uludağ / Lalahan Animal Science Research Institute	Research and education problems in animal husbandry in Türkiye		
	Nevzat Uludağ / Lalahan Animal Science Research Institute	Problems in Türkiye Animal Husbandry		
п	* / Istanbul Commodity Exchange	Concentration and modernization in the meat industry		
II. (1970)	Şükrü Sıdal / Union of Chambers of Agriculture of Türkiye	Livestock movements marketing and smuggling		
	* / Lalahan Animal Science Research Institute	Merino-mohair problems in Türkiye		
	Prof. Dr. Ömer Ertürk / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	The fight against epidemics and its importance in the development of livestock		
	Feridun Taşman / *	Model and organization study in laying poultry for foreign marketing in Türkiye		
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Osman (Nuri) Koçtürk / Turkish Veterinarians Union	Animal protein sources and food control problem in Turkish people's diet		
	Aydemir Aşkın / Izmir Chamber of Commerce	Exports of animal and animal products at domestic prices		

	Prof. Dr. H. Saim Kendir / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Meat production and problems in Türkiye
III.	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Orhan Alpan / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Milk production and problems in Turkiye
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Servet Şenel / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Feed and animal production relations
	Ziya Dalkılıç / Aktavuk Farm	Egg production and problems in the Turkish economy
	Dr. İsmet Baran / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Dr. Fethullah Koç / Ankara Chamber of Veterinarians	Aquaculture and problems
(1972)	Dr. Faruk İmeryüz - Dr. Şefik Müftüoğlu / Lalahan Animal Science Research Institute	Wool and mohair production problems in the Turkish economy
	Ragip Saguner / Deputy Secretary General of the Union of Stock Exchanges of Türkiye	Livestock economy and policy
	Halil Örün - M. Necip Yılmazer / General Directorate of Veterinary Affairs Branch Manager	Training of the breeder and breeder
	Zeki Yücetürk / Secretary General of the Union of Turkish Agricultural Chambers	Fundamental problems of livestock breeders in Türkiye
	Mahmut Yasankul / National Productivity Center Agriculture Specialist	Animal products production and feed relations
	Necati Ölez / MFAL Deputy Head of Feed Registration and Control Affairs	Marketing of Animal and Animal Products
IV. (1974)	Ömer Lütfi Hekimoğlu / UCAT Livestock and Aquaculture Branch Manager	Common Market and Animal Husbandry of Türkiye
(1974)	Prof. Dr. Afif Sevinç / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Breeding and main problems of animal husbandry in Türkiye
	Hidayet Karaer / MFAL General Directorate of Veterinary Affairs	The negative effects of epidemic animal diseases on our economy and foreign trade and the measures to be taken
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. İsmet Baran / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Possibilities to utilize the potential of our fisheries
	Dr. Sadi Aral / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Organizing in the livestock sector
	Ömer Lütfi Hekimoğlu - Dr. Yücel Akinci / UCAT Secretary General	Economic problems of livestock in Türkiye and solutions
17	Prof. Dr. Orhan Alpan, Dr. Nevzat Uludağ, Dr. Fethullah Koç / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Milk production problems and solutions
V. (1976)	Mahmut Yasankul / National Productivity Center Agriculture Expert Ragip Saguner / Trade Exchanges Association Rafet Yavuz / *	Meat production and fattening problems and solutions
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Servet Şenel, Dr. Necati Ölez, Erdoğan Erünal	Problems and solutions related to feed production
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Osman Koçtürk / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	The future of animal husbandry, national nutrition problems, the effects of economic and ecological change on the diet of our people in the industrialization process of Türkiye
VI.	Prof. Dr. C. Nadi Aytuğ / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Animal health services, Veterinary Medicine and public relations in animal production
(1978)	Ömer Lütfi Hekimoğlu / UCAT Livestock Counselor Prof. Dr. Mahmut Akkılıç / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Feed and production relations in livestock
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rafet Arpacık / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Animal breeding and breeding and health problems created by importing breeding animals
	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Osman Koçtürk / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Democratic people's cooperatives, Village-Urban settlement and livestock industry
	Prof. Dr. Orhan Alpan - Dr. Sadi Akgün / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	General Education and Basic Problems in Milk Production and Consumption in Türkiye
VII	Assoc. Prof. Dr. F. Tahir Aksoy - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nejat Aydın / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	General Structure of Modern Poultry and Problems of Turkish Poultry
VII. (1981)	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sadi Aral - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ersoy Canküyer / Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Butchery Animal and Meat Production Problems in Türkiye
	Hakkı Tan / *	Increasing the Efficiency of Public Services for Animal Husbandry
	Dr. M. Muammer Bügü / *	Animal Health

	Prof. Dr. Doğan Aslanbey (President) Dr. Ediz Hun (Parlamenter) - Dr. Gürbüz Ertürk (Veterinarian) - Dr. Burhan Hacıislamoğlu (ATAHI - Representative) - M. Akif Bilici	Pets and Problems for Animal Lovers (Session 1)
	Prof. Dr. Sadi Aral (President) Prof. Dr. Mehmet Evrim - Prof. Dr. Ahmet Altınel	Cattle and Sheep Breeding (Session 2)
VIII.	Turgut Gökçe / Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Dr. Sabri Keskin / TDMFIPA Levent Genç / UCAT Semih Tuna / Turkish Breeders Association	Problems of Cattle, Sheep and Goat Breeders - Panel
(2000)	Dr. Erol Demirtel (President) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Çelebi - Nebi Aksal - Sadettin Atığ Assoc. Prof. Dr. Deniz Seyrek İntaş - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kamil Seyrek - Bahadır Gödek	Horse breeding and its problems (Session 3)
	Prof. Dr. Gülten Köksal (President) Prof. Dr. Selçuk Seçer - Binhan Ganioğlu	Fisheries and Problems (Session 4)
	Volkan Gürpınar / *	Beekeeping and Its Problems - Conference (Session 5)
	Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ergün (President) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erol Şengör - Veli Can Çelik	Poultry Breeding and Its Problems (Session 6)
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*: Unspecified (presenter name or institution) UCAT: Union of Chambers of Agriculture of Türkiye, ATAHI: The Association of Turkish Animal Health Industry, TDMFIPA: Turkish Dairy, Meat, Food Industrialists and Producers Association, MFAL: Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock.

Table 4. Commissions and Members of Congress (Titles and names of persons are mentioned in the congress books).

Congresses	Commissions*					
I. (1968)	1- Production Problems Commission Prof. Dr. Selahattin Batu Prof. Dr. Mehmet Aybay Emin Arıtürk Dr. Sait Abuşoğlu Nevzat Uludağ Asım Güven Muzaffer Özay Burhan Yamanoğlu Sadettin Karacabey	2- Marketing Issues and Industry Commission Burhan Maner Prof. Dr. İsmail Türk Ragıp Saguner Assoc. Prof. Dr. H. Saim Kendir Assoc. Prof. Dr. Orhan Alpan Üzeyir Eren Ömer Hekimoğlu Şehamettin Eğriçınar Mustafa Ceylan Kemal İyigün	3- Planning and Organization Commission Prof. Dr. Mihri Mimoğlu Salih Gül Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çahit Yalçın Alim Ersoy Osman Ünverci M. Haciömeroğlu Mustafa Başdurak Rasim Yücebaş Veli Seyisoğlu Ziya Ünal Adil Güven			
II. (1970)	1- Organizing Commission**	2- Public Services Commission for Animal Husbandry**	3- Economic Problems Commission**	4- Technical Issues Commission**		
III. (1972)	1-Meat Production Problems Commission Ömer L. Hekimoğlu Rafet Yavuz Necati Ölez Hüseyin Özçelik Adil Musa Savran Zaman Sarısu Nihat Eğilmez	2- Milk Production Commission Nevzat Uludağ Mahmut Yasankul Burhan Yamanoğlu Halil Ayazoğlu Necmi Pirimoğlu Abdullah Yüce Osman Özbek	3- Chicken and Egg Production Commission Mahmut Akkılıç Ertuğrul Gökgül Metin Berk Ziya Dalkılıç İbrahim Bağlı Cevat Seklice	4- Wool and Mohair Production Commission Nurettin Utkanlar Mehmet Örkiz Necmettin Ertuğrul Sabahattin Göktan Cahit Asilsoy Emir Tokoğlu Osman Yüksener	5- Fisheries Specialization Commission İsmet Baran Utku Ergül Nurettin Karataylı Sezai Karamuhaoğlu Mustafa Başbudak Haluk Erguven İmat Sevinçler	6- Feed and Animal Production Relations Commission Sadettin Karacabe Yavuz Mergen Yavuz Akdevelioğlu Nazif Balta Halis Bağrıaçık Celal Yeltekin Şemsettin Demirhan

IV. (1974)	1- Diseases and Breeding Commission Prof. Dr. Orhan Alpan Prof. Dr. Orhan Düzgüneş Meliha Gürelli Ekrem Advan D. Ali Güven Halil Ayvazoğlu Hidayet Karaer Ali Paşa Bak Yusuf Ekinci	2- Marketing Commission Prof. Dr. Cahit Yalçın Necati Ölez Prof. Dr. Turan Güneş Haydar Alpay Ziya Dalkılıç Osman Okumuş Osman Özbek Mehmet Özdemir İbrahim Boyacı	3- Organizing Commission Prof. Dr. İsmail Türk Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayhan Eliçin Hasan Ertan Nihat Çelik Nuri Midillili Sami Türkmen İbrahim Efe Ali Şahap Gürelli Adnan Ertanık	4- Animal Production and Feed Relations Commission Assoc. Prof. Dr. H. Servet Şenel Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmet Erkuş Dr. Nevzat Uludağ Ziya Arıkök Yavuz Akdevelioğlu, M. Şahabettin Önal Osman Kınık	5- Price and Financing Commission Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Bülbül Dr. Yücel Akıncı İrfan Şahin İzzet Sabuncuoğlu Necmettin Pirimcioğlu Hüseyin Özçelik Z. Abidin Ünal Yılmaz Özbükücü Erol Şanal	6- Animal Products Industry Commission Prof. Dr. Zeki Tolgay Prof. Dr. Kemal Göğüş Rafet Yavuz Şerafettin Eğriçay Recep Çalı Nihat Eğilmez İzettin Yaşbek Mustafa İpekçi Osman Yükselener
V. (1976)	1- Economic Problems Commission Ömer Lütfi Hekimoğlu Meliha Gürelli Halil Ayvazoğlu Murat Hınıslıoğlu, Yüksel Erdoğan Osman Polat	2- Feed Production and Problems Commission Assoc. Prof. Dr. H. Servet Şenel Dr. Necati Ölez Erdoğan Erünal Azmi Bora A. Şahap Gürelli Çetin Özer Mehmet Toprak Taner Tekin Dr. Uğur Büyükburç Prof. Dr. Kamil Doğan Ahmet Can Adem Karaelmas Assoc. Prof. Dr. İhsan Özkaynak Osman Önder Cahit Ovalı Necmi Yarar Hakkı Çorakçı	3- Meat Production and Livestock Commission Baki Oral İbrahim Büyükkavas Kemal Özkütük Rafet Arpacık Mahmut Yasankul Rafet Yavuz Fikret Özkartal Macit Özhan Haydar Alpay Nihat Eğilmez Necmettin Gürseven	4- Milk Production Commission Sadettin Karacabey Prof. Dr. Orhan Alpan Dr. Nevzat Uludağ Dr. Fethullah Koç S. Hacıpaşaoğlu Ş.A. Çelik M. Onar A. Üstündağ N. Yılmaz A. Kesik V. Akyıldız E. Erdenışık		
VI. (1978)	1- Production Commission Baki Oral Arif Şahin Rafet Arpacık Ersoy Canküyer Mustafa Macaroğlu Halis Bağrıaçık Lokman Uyanık Mehmet Evrim	2- Marketing Commission Ömer Lütfi Hekimoğlu Şakir Tuncer Eşref Yamak Fikret Özkartal Çetin Eşcan Osman Özbek Fahri Kaynak Şahabettin Ünal Muzaffer Eken Sıddık Çanakçı	3- Organizing Commission Ali Güven Aydın Evren Halil Örün Adnan Ertanık İbrahim Topalak Halil Ayazoğlu Şahnazar Önen Aydoğan Atilla	4- Animal Health Commission C. Nadi Aytuğ Ahmet Mimbay Nejat Aydın Sabahattin Tuğay Seyfi Yeğenoğlu Recep Çalı Arif Şahin		
VII. (1981)	1- Technical Commission Orhan Alpan Şefik Müftuğlu Reşat Öznacar Fikri Özder Haydar Sancağ Mithat Bingöl Sabahattin Gezer Ali Yazıcı	2- Economic Commission Ersoy Canküyer Mehmet Taşdemir Hakkı Hımıslıoğlu Tahsin Diker Ahmet Küçükyıldız Sadi Aral Sıddık Çanakçı Savaş Unal	3- Anıtkabir (Mausoleum) Visiting Commission Mehmet Taşdemir Tahsin Diker Hayati Çağlayan Fuat Çiftçioğlu			

(2000)

*: The title and institution information of the members are given in the congress book and file. **: It is not given in the congress book. In addition, this information could not be found in other references. UCAT: Union of Chambers of Agriculture of Türkiye, ATAHI: The Association of Turkish Animal Health Industry.

Year	Old name	New Name	Law No (OG Date / Number)
1920	-	Ministry of Economy	3 (02.05.1920 /?)
1924	Ministry of Economy	Ministry of Agriculture	432 (07.04.1924 / 68)
1928	Agriculture and Trade Ministries	Ministry of Economy	1200 (21.01.1928 / 793)
1931	Ministry of Economy	Ministry of Agriculture	1910 (30.12.1931 / 1989)
1974	Ministry of Agriculture	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock	4/92 PR Decree (26.01.1974 / 14780)*
1981	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	2384 SK (17.02.1981 / 17254)
1983	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Affairs	Decree Law No. 183 (14.12.1983 / 18251)
1991	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Affairs	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	Decree Law No. 441 (09.08.1991 / 20955)
2011	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock	Decree Law No. 639 (08.06.2011 / 27958 Mkr)
2018	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	No. 1 PR Decree (10.07.2018 / 30474)

Table 5. Changes in	the name of the Ministr	y of Agriculture between	1920 and 2018.

*The text of the Decree was not found in the relevant Official Gazette, and it was determined that the name of the Ministry was mentioned for the first time in the publication title of the Official Gazette dated 12.02.1974 and numbered 14797, and since the OG dated 15.02.1974 and numbered 14800, the Minister (Ahmet Nusret TUNA) was named as the Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock.

Discussion and Conclusion

It is seen that each of the eight congresses (1968-2000) that constitute the subject of the study has a quality that reveals the situation of Türkiye's animal husbandry and keeps a projection for the future. In each Congress, papers describe Türkiye's animal husbandry with numerical data. For this reason, it is thought that the study can guide future research in the history of veterinary medicine and animal husbandry.

TVMA organized four "Conventions," the first of which was in 1998, apart from the Turkish Livestock Congresses. Although these conventions can be seen as the continuation of the livestock congresses, it was declared that "The First Convention of Turkish Veterinary Medicine is the first and most important meeting organized to discuss the past, present, and future of our profession throughout our professional history" (12). In this case, it can be said that conventions are not a continuation of congresses.

Boratav (16) said that, after 1962, economic policies were based on planning and public investments were made according to five-year plans. However, urbanization, which started in this period and exceeded even the level of industrialization, had a significant impact on agriculture and animal husbandry activities. The base price determination and support policies of the state, which were followed during the development plans period, contributed to the positive development in the economy. It can be said that the issues highlighted in these Congresses and the decisions taken in the Development Plans were also effective in the economic recovery of the country in this period. It has been emphasized that agriculture and animal husbandry are the two traditional sources of income for its economy. The ratio of products of animal origin among agricultural products is 30%. The importance of this situation in terms of Planned Development is emphasized. It has been reported that there will be a significant increase in value in both domestic and foreign trade if necessary, arrangements are made for the second development plan period. The development plans and the special commission reports also emphasized problems parallel to these issues. It was stated that the necessary steps for the targets were taken to a large extent. It has been reported that cattle and chicks imported for breeding purposes cause large-scale epidemics containing diseases not seen in domestic breeds. Therefore, animal importation is objectionable (19). However, when the reports of the development plans and special specialization commissions were examined, it was determined that the animal husbandry issue was discussed in more detail until the 4th Development Plan was prepared in 1983 (20). This situation recalls that there may be a relationship between the fact that no congress was held from 1981 to 2000 and that it was not transferred to those plans healthily. Why Congress could not be held for about 20 years is also a matter that needs to be addressed and discussed separately.

The commission reports drew attention to issues parallel to the Congress. When all Congresses are examined as a whole, it can be stated that the papers were prepared to find solutions to the problems of the country's livestock due to their interconnectedness and importance. It was determined that the same detailed study was not carried out in the later development plans. It can be said that the papers presented at the Congresses and the determined principles are taken into consideration in the public opinion and the works of the State Planning Organization (SPO).

Issues such as lack of personnel in the fight against sustainable long-term projects for the diseases, development of animal husbandry, and improvement of pastures, which are mentioned in the Congresses, are included in the development plans commission reports as suggestions and measures. In the Commission reports of the Fourth Convention organized by TVMA in 2018, it was emphasized that "government programs, political party programs, Agricultural Law, Agricultural Strategy Document, EU Common Agricultural Policies, World Trade Organization rules" and policies "to give direction to agriculture and animal husbandry" were put forward. However, it was stated that "long-term and continuous policies" could not be fully reflected in production (30). Issues such as the fact that the supports in the field of animal husbandry are below the target, the negativities brought by imports, the opening of pasture and agricultural areas for development can be interpreted as a system or understanding that can cope with the problems faced by animal husbandry in the long term.

To be successful in the fight against diseases, it was emphasized that the quality of the practical training of veterinarians and allied health personnel should be increased (19). Despite all the shortcomings, it can be said that efforts are made to solve the problems with the suggestions exported in the development plans from the large-scale reports prepared during the congress periods. In the Congresses held between 1968-1981, it was mentioned that there was a shortage of personnel for carrying out veterinary medicine services in the field. Meanwhile, in the Veterinary Medicine Conventions organized by TVMA (1998, 2002, 2010, and 2018) and other professional meetings, the excessive increase in the number of veterinary faculties and the lack of quality in education and training problems are highlighted (27-30). It can be said that the first Five-Year Development Plan was prepared in 1963, and the scientific congresses organized by the ministry, the relevant sector representatives, and professional organizations tried to eliminate the deficiencies. Therefore, the eight Livestock Congresses contributed significantly to achieving these goals.

It is known that scientific studies on aquaculture in veterinary medicine started in the 1940s in Türkiye. Within the scope of Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, an aquaculture course was included

in the curriculum in 1948; in 1967, the "Aquaculture, Fisheries and Game Animals Chair" was established (18). In the following period, "Fishery Research Institute" was established in Samsun in 1969 (22). In addition, during the establishment of Bursa (Uludağ) University Veterinary Faculty (1978), the establishment of "Bursa University Fisheries Institute" was one of the priority issues (25). Simultaneously with all these studies, at first (1968), second (1970), third (1972), and fourth (1974) Congresses, it was suggested to establish the "Ministry of Livestock-Fisheries and Nutrition" which would include "General Directorate of Fisheries." "Water products, Fisheries and Game Animals Chair" was closed in 1981 with The Council of Higher Education (Yüksek Öğretim Kurulu YÖK). Its re-establishment came to the agenda in the early 2000s, in the process of harmonizing with the European Union laws. Addressing this situation in the congresses shows that the professional veterinary medicine organizations are aware of the importance of fishery products for Türkiye. Awareness-raising efforts at the government and the public level started long before the European Union (EU) directives.

The statement of Prof. Dr. Mehmet Sandıkçıoğlu in the closing speech of the Second Congress (1970) "... from the shepherd herding the animal to the housewife in the kitchen ..." overlaps with the statement of the EU today "from the barn to table/farm to fork" (14) and shows that the importance of the issue was understood about 50 years ago.

Again, the Second Congress (1970) also stated that a second faculty should be opened to train veterinarians that Türkiye needs. In the news published in 1961 in "Journal of the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association," it was reported that an attempt was made to establish the second faculty in İzmir (2). With the transition to the planned period in the economy in the same year, it was decided to open the second veterinary faculty in Elazığ in 1967, and the faculty started education in November 1970 (32). This situation can be evaluated as proof that Congresses consider the problems in all fields of veterinary medicine and keep the pulse of the society.

In the study, although it was stated that a Ministry of Livestock should be established to solve the problems in the field of animal husbandry in each congress outcome statement, an autonomous ministry was not established, as seen in Table 5. However, the word Livestock was included in the amendments made in 1974 and 2011. The reorganization in the field of veterinary services after 1980 and the abolition of the general directorates of veterinary affairs, the abolition of subsidies in the field of animal husbandry, and the termination of specialization training caused severe problems in both animal husbandry and veterinary services (3, 6, 19, 20). Between 1996-2000, which includes the Seventh Development Plan, there is a

statement that "*The Undersecretariat of Livestock will be established under the Prime Ministry to carry out all necessary studies for the development of animal husbandry, with special attention to.*" However, it has been determined that although the issues specified in the congresses were included in the Development plans, they were not implemented in the field, as in the case of the Undersecretariat of Livestock (Table 5).

When we look at the institutions organizing the Congresses, it is seen that almost all institutions involved in veterinary medicine and animal husbandry and the production and consumption of animal products participated in the organization of congresses in different periods (Table 1). This table shows us that these eight congresses held between 1968-2000 were embraced and supported by the public, supported by broad participation from different sectors. It has been determined that the last Convention held by TVMA in 2000 was attended by bureaucrats from the relevant ministries, not politicians. This situation may indicate that politicians' interest in the issue has decreased.

Evaluating the population growth and animal production data in the 8th Congress Declaration emphasized that 40 g of animal protein required per person per day could not be met shortly. According to the FAO, daily protein intake was determined as 38 g. In the 6th Development Plan Sub-Commission report published in 1988, the importance given to both veterinary medicine and animal husbandry was emphasized. It was stated that animal husbandry should be arranged to meet the needs of today and tomorrow (3, 6, 20).

In 7 congresses held until 2000, issues related to the breeding of farm animals were discussed. It is seen that pet animals and stray animals, whose breeding and ownership increased in Türkiye as in the world, were addressed in the eighth congress held in 2000, and the problems were evaluated within the framework of environment and animal ethics. It is accepted that unplanned, inadequate, and wrong policies are the basis of the problems experienced after 1980 in the field of livestock. It can be said that the eight congresses examined within the scope of the study contributed to the determination of current problems, the formation of the proper planning and policies for the future by bringing together the authorized and responsible persons in the scientific framework.

As a result, it can be said that the congresses evaluated within the scope of the study provided the opportunity to discuss the problems and solution suggestions related to animal husbandry in Türkiye with a broad audience including veterinarians, producers, industrialists, consumers, and state representatives, and produced and shared scientific and currently valid information to solve these problems.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declared that there is no conflict of interest.

Author Contributions

ŞS and AM conceived and planned the study. AY and ŞS designed the study. All authors conducted literature review and writing the manuscript. All authors contributed to the interpretation of the results. All authors provided critical feedback and helped shape the research, analysis and manuscript.

Data Availability Statement

The data supporting this study's findings are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Ethical Statement

This study does not present any ethical concerns.

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