

The significance and evolution of the Veterinary Annals of the University of Murcia

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The word "Annals" represents a concept of great historical and academic significance. Derived from the Latin "annālis," which in turn comes from "annus" meaning "year," its roots trace back to ancient Rome. For centuries, it has been used to refer to historical records organized by year. Its connection to the concept of time and the importance of documenting past events are fundamental aspects of its etymology. As detailed chronicles of events and achievements, they stand as permanent witnesses to the work of an institution, preserving its legacy for future generations.

In the case of the **Veterinary Annals of Murcia (ANAVET)**, this journal not only documents the history of the Faculty but also symbolizes a commitment to academic excellence and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of veterinary medicine. Since its inception in 1985, ANAVET has fulfilled the essential function of being a historical record of the advances and contributions of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Murcia. This aspect is fundamental, as a journal with such a name precisely suggests the idea of a chronicle and documentation. Over nearly four decades, ANAVET has evolved alongside the institution it represents, reflecting the changes, challenges, and achievements that have marked its trajectory. Just as the Faculty celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2022, our journal is also about to reach a similar milestone, consolidating itself as an academic reference.

Periodicity and Continuity

One of the key characteristics of annals is their periodicity. Typically published annually, they represent a continuous commitment to updating and ensuring the relevance of the presented knowledge. In the case of ANAVET, this regularity has guaranteed a consistent window for sharing

research, projects, and academic achievements. Additionally, periodicity reinforces the sense of continuity, ensuring that each edition becomes a new chapter in a collective story.

Formality and Academic Rigor

The term "annals" also evokes connotations of seriousness, formality, and rigor. As a publication associated with a research and teaching institution, ANAVET has remained true to these principles, offering content that meets high academic standards. This includes specialized studies, reviews, and original articles that address topics relevant to veterinary medicine and related disciplines.

Specific Focus and Preservation of Knowledge

Specialization is another defining characteristic of ANAVET. Our journal has been dedicated to veterinary medicine, documenting advances in animal medicine, livestock production, public health, animal and human food sciences, food technology, food safety, and many other related areas. This specific focus ensures that readers find relevant and high-quality information, while also ensuring the preservation of knowledge generated within our academic community.

A Revitalization Strategy

Starting in 2020, a strategy was adopted to revitalize the journal, expanding its reach and appeal. The inclusion of the highest-rated works by students, both undergraduate and graduate, marked a turning point. Subsequently, innovation projects and outstanding presentations at the Student Congress were added. These initiatives have not only increased the diversity and quality of the content but have also served as a platform to give visibility to emerging talent.

This renewal has allowed ANAVET to remain current, attracting a wider audience and fostering the participation of national and international authors. Although some researchers may be inclined to seek high-impact publications, it is essential to recognize the value of our journal as a space for the dissemination of relevant research, especially that which reflects the interests and priorities of our institution.

Theme of the Current Issue

In this issue, the selected themes address a wide range of current and relevant topics. The collection of research presents a broad spectrum of subjects within the field of veterinary medicine, focusing on clinical, epidemiological, animal production, and public health aspects. Below is a concise summary of each theme:

Animal Health

- **Disease Diagnosis:** new diagnostic tools are being explored, such as the analysis of proteins in canine cerebrospinal fluid to identify diseases of unknown origin. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/562071>
- **Infectious Diseases:** bacterial pathogens in meat are being studied, and methods for their detection are being evaluated. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/623241>
- **Parasitology:** parasitic diagnoses are being addressed through clinical cases, seeking interdisciplinary solutions. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/623261>

- **Neurological Diseases:** diseases such as epilepsy in dogs are being characterized, seeking patterns and responses to treatment. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/574811>
- **Bovine downer syndrome in Lidia fighting bulls:** This complex condition affecting Lidia fighting bulls is analyzed, covering its potential causes, diagnosis, and treatment. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/618751>

Animal Production and Food Quality

- **Animal Welfare:** sexual violence against animals is being analyzed from a veterinary and ethical perspective. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/622091>
- **Food Quality:** heavy metals in fighting bull meat are being evaluated, and new applications for fishery by-products are being explored. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/602601>
- **Sustainable Production:** the benefits of nutraceuticals as an alternative to conventional additives in animal feed are being studied. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/628541>
- **Ethological and Morphological Selection Criteria for Spanish Fighting Bulls in Traditional Bullfighting Events:** this paper explores the behavioral (ethological) and physical (morphological) criteria used in selecting Spanish Fighting Bulls for traditional bullfighting events. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/623131>

Ecology and Conservation

- **Ecological Interactions:** predator-prey interactions are being evaluated through the analysis of fecal samples. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/628581>
- **Natural Resource Management:** a transhumance campaign is being characterized, evaluating its impact on the environment and rural economy. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/596511>

Education and Research

- **Veterinary Training:** the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in solving clinical cases and presenting research results at conferences is highlighted. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/623261>
- **The Legacy of Cristóbal Hernández Roca (1921-2011):** An Overview of the Clinical Material Donated to the Veterinary Faculty of Murcia: This presents a biography of Cristóbal Hernández Roca, highlighting his contributions and the significance of the donated clinical resources to the faculty's teaching and research programs. <https://revistas.um.es/analesvet/article/view/627661>

Looking to the Future

As we approach the 40th anniversary of our journal, the challenge lies in consolidating the achievements made and continuing to grow. This includes promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, adopting emerging technologies for knowledge dissemination, and expanding our network of contributors. It is equally important to continue attracting renowned researchers, as well as fostering the participation of young talent, thus ensuring the continuity of this work.

In summary, the studies cover a wide range of topics, from basic research on animal diseases to the application of scientific knowledge to improve animal production and biodiversity conservation. Additionally, the importance of training future veterinarians and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration is emphasized. This approach addresses the need to tackle current and globally relevant issues in veterinary medicine, reinforcing our mission to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and practice in this field.

ANAVET represents much more than a simple academic journal. It is a bridge between the past and the future, a testament to our Faculty's commitment to academic excellence, and a key tool for preserving and disseminating knowledge. As we celebrate nearly 40 years of existence, we renew our commitment to remaining a reference point in the field of veterinary medicine, contributing to the progress of this discipline and strengthening our academic community.

We invite all readers and authors to be part of this ongoing story, contributing their research and perspectives to continue enriching ANAVET.