

Hands-On Training on ‘Advanced Techniques of Internal Fixation of Fractures’ Organized by TEC ICAR-IVRI Pune for Veterinary Officers and Practitioners during 9–14 December 2024

As part of the 135th Foundation Day celebrations of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), the Training and Education Centre (TEC), ICAR-IVRI, Pune, organized an intensive six-day hands-on training programme on ‘*Advanced Techniques of Internal Fixation of Fractures*.’ Conducted from 9th to 14th December 2024, the programme was held in collaboration with the District Veterinary Polyclinic, Department of Animal Husbandry, Aundh, Pune, Maharashtra. The programme saw active participation from 18 veterinary professionals, including graduates, officers, and practitioners representing seven different states: Maharashtra (6), Kerala (4), Karnataka (3), Delhi (2), Tamil Nadu (1), Telangana (1), and Gujarat (1).

The inaugural session on 9th December 2024 was graced by Dr Pravinkumar Deore, IAS, Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, Maharashtra State, as the Chief Guest, and Dr Anil Deshpande, Deputy Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, IVBP, Pune, as the Guest of Honour. Dr HP Aithal, Station In-charge of TEC Pune and Course Coordinator, welcomed the dignitaries and participants, providing an overview of IVRI’s significant contributions to veterinary research, capacity building, and extension activities over its 135 glorious years of service. Dr Aithal also highlighted the Centre’s flagship programmes, particularly those designed to address the evolving needs of practicing veterinarians and farmers.

Dr Pravinkumar Deore, the esteemed Chief Guest of the event, commended TEC Pune for its dedicated efforts in organizing specialized training programmes tailored for veterinarians. He acknowledged the significance of these initiatives in enhancing the skills and knowledge of veterinary professionals, thereby contributing to the overall improvement of animal healthcare services. Dr Deore further requested TEC Pune to conduct similar hands-on training programmes on a regular basis for veterinary officers of the Maharashtra State Animal Husbandry Department on collaborative basis. He proposed that these trained officers could, in turn, serve as trainers, effectively creating a multiplier effect by disseminating their expertise to a larger number of veterinary officers across the state. This, he remarked, would ensure a widespread and sustainable impact, ultimately benefiting the entire veterinary ecosystem. Dr Anil Deshpande emphasized the relevance of practical training and shared insights on optimizing field-level applications of the techniques learned. Dr SK Das, Principal Scientist TEC Pune was also present on the occasion. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Sanghratna V Bahire, Scientist and Course Co-coordinator, and compering by Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist and Course Co-coordinator.

The training programme encompassed a structured curriculum comprising theoretical lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on sessions on diverse fracture fixation techniques. Key topics and techniques included: intramedullary (IM) pinning (normograde and retrograde techniques, cross pinning, tension band wiring, stack pinning), interlocking nailing, bone plating (dynamic compression plate [DCP] and locking compression plate [LCP]), and external skeletal fixation (linear, circular, hybrid, and epoxy-pin fixation). The topics also included bone structure and development, fracture classification and healing, timing and selection of fixation methods, bone

grafting, bone tissue engineering, arthritis and joint luxations, diagnostic imaging, pain management, anaesthesia for orthopaedic cases, and the use of orthotics and prosthetics in small animal orthopaedics.

The expert faculty included Dr HP Aithal from TEC Pune, and Dr Shalaka Chauhan (Professor) and Dr Satyawan Agivale (Assistant Professor) from College of Veterinary Sciences, Shirwal, Satara. Additional virtual lectures were delivered by prominent academicians, including Dr Rohit Kumar (Scientist), Dr Aswathy Gopinathan (Principal Scientist), Dr Rekha Pathak (Principal Scientist) and Dr Kiranjeet Singh (Principal Scientist and Head Division of Surgery) from IVRI Izatnagar; Dr Jitender Mohindroo (Professor) from GADVASU, Ludhiana; Dr Surbhi K Tyagi (Asst. Professor) from SVPUAT-Meerut; and Dr RV Suryawanshi (Asst. Professor) from COVS, Udgir, Maharashtra.

Dr SD Budhe, a distinguished Livestock Development Officer, accomplished entrepreneur, and renowned veterinary practitioner, shared his wealth of experience during the session. As an alumnus of a previous training batch, Dr Budhe offered valuable insights into how the knowledge and skills gained from such training programmes can be effectively applied in day-to-day veterinary practice. Drawing from his own clinical experiences, he provided practical examples and actionable strategies that highlighted the importance of continuous learning and innovation in the field of veterinary surgery in general and veterinary orthopaedics in particular. In addition, Dr Budhe delivered a motivational lecture that captivated the participants. His talk focused on the challenges faced by veterinary practitioners in the modern era and the need for adopting evidence-based practices to enhance the quality of animal care. He emphasized the role of entrepreneurial thinking in transforming veterinary services and encouraged participants to leverage their training to drive positive change in their professional career. Dr Budhe's session was not only informative but also deeply inspiring, leaving a lasting impact on all trainees.

On the eve of training, on 7th December 2024, a pre-training Orthopedic Health Camp was organized at the District Veterinary Polyclinic, Aundh, Pune. Inaugurated by Dr Balasaheb Gaikwad, Assistant Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, the camp facilitated the examination and treatment of 25 orthopedic cases in dogs and cats. These cases were utilized for practical demonstrations and hands-on training sessions during the training programme.

During the valedictory ceremony held on 13th December 2024, Dr SD Budhe and Dr Shalaka Chauhan, were the esteemed guests. Dr HP Aithal reviewed the training outcomes and emphasized the importance of continued education to remain abreast of advancements in veterinary orthopedic techniques. Certificates of completion were awarded to the participants, who expressed gratitude for the opportunity to acquire advanced knowledge and skills in fracture fixation. Participants conveyed confidence in applying these techniques to improve field-level treatment outcomes. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr SV Bahire and compering by Dr Amol Bhalerao.

The training programme effectively enhanced the technical proficiency of participants, reinforcing TEC's commitment to veterinary education and field-level capacity building. The initiative was met with enthusiastic feedback, highlighting its role in advancing veterinary orthopaedic practices.



Dr Pravinkumar Deore, IAS, Commissioner of Animal Husbandry (Maharashtra), addressing the participants during the inauguration



Group photograph of the guests, faculty and participants of the training



Dr Satyawan Agivale delivering lecture on joint affections



Participants in the class room



Demonstration of surgical techniques to participants



Participants ready for hands-on practice



Distribution of certificate to a participant



Orthopaedic Health Camp held on 7th Dec 2024 at District Veterinary Polyclinic, Aundh, Pune