



Biography Freddy HAESBROUCK

Freddy Haesebrouck is a veterinarian and PhD from Ghent University, Belgium. In 1988 he became professor in veterinary bacteriology and mycology, and since 1993 he has been head of the Department of Pathology, Bacteriology and Avian Diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Ghent University. The expertise of his research group relates primarily to the study of bacterium-host interactions, taxonomy and antimicrobial resistance in bacteria of veterinary and zoonotic importance. The taxonomic line of research is used as an auxiliary to the study of bacterium-host interactions and antimicrobial resistance: characterization of bacteria that cause disease in animals, characterization of zoonotic bacteria and identification of the microbiota of animals. The main bacteria studied include *Helicobacter* spp, *Salmonella enterica*, *Staphylococcus* spp, *Campylobacter* spp, *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* and *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*. A wide variety of methods are used: *in vivo* experiments in laboratory animals as well as in the natural host, *in vitro* cell culture experiments, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, site-directed mutagenesis, transposon mutagenesis, (real time) PCR, cloning and sequencing.