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■ Overview of Activities of Kasetsart University

In exchange with Kasetsart University, four 5th-year students were dispatched for seven weeks. Students learned veterinary medicine related to cattle, horses, wildlife and aquatic animals in the form of hands-on clinical training with credit exchange. The dispatched students were organized into small groups together with 6th-year Thai students and received clinical training in English. The 7-week clinical training with strict grade evaluation was a good experience to learn the differences and similarities in education and veterinary medicine between Japan and Thailand, and helped build close relationships with Kasetsart University students. In addition, the students established mutual understanding of differences in lifestyles and ways of thinking based on culture and history of the two countries, improved in English communication skills, and all the participating students gained valuable experience.

Student Exchange Program with Kasetsart University

The student exchange program with Kasetsart University is a program that took over the Re-Inventing Japan Project (Japan-Thailand Veterinary Education Cooperation: for the Sound Development of Asia) that was implemented during the five years from 2013 to 2017. Since last fiscal year (FY2018), the program has been implemented as a program that dispatches about five students for 6 to 7 weeks. In addition, for The University of Tokyo and Rakuno Gakuen University, which were affiliated with the abovementioned project, a program in which students from each university participate in clinical training at Kasetsart University has continued.

This year's dispatch program involved attending clinical training at 4 clinical units of Kasetsart University for 7 weeks from September 9 to October 25: 3 weeks for the large animal unit, 2 weeks for the aquatic unit, and 1 week each for the horse and wildlife units. In these practical training programs, faculty members at Kasetsart University evaluate grades, and

To Kasetsart University, from September 7 to October 27, 2019
From Kasetsart University, from January 4 to February 23, 2020

Hokkaido University accepts the report and certifies credits for advanced practices at the Hokkaido University based on the credit transfer table.

For students of Hokkaido University, it is possible to go beyond mere overseas clinical training by incorporating veterinary medicine for aquatic and wildlife, which are areas where practical education cannot be sufficiently conducted under the Cooperative Veterinary Education Program with Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine. We would like to offer veterinary education opportunities that can only be learned through this program. We also think it is important to share learning place and time with Kasetsart University students who are in close contact with clinical training groups. At Kasetsart University, even though our students are guests, they could become close to being a "classmate" in the framework of taking regular classes with strict grade evaluations the same as the Thai students at the host university, rather than visiting-type training for guest students. If our students can interact closely as classmates with Kasetsart University students, the students will be able to build better relationships as veterinary students of the same generation who will

be in the position of leading veterinary medicine in Asia in the future.

In addition, this program has a long dispatch period, and the presence of teachers from Hokkaido University is one week each at the start and end of the 7-week program, so we have a system in place to prepare students for practical training safely and meaningfully. Since April, when the dispatched students are determined, we have repeatedly provided opportunities to learn about risks associated with dispatch and practical training and how to avoid them by providing information to students and by holding seminars. We also incorporate other types of pre-dispatch preparation, including communication skills in English and presentations by students on veterinary medicine and safety management in Thailand.

Finally, this program is accepting six students from Kasetsart University for 7 weeks between January 6 and February 21 in 2020. In addition to faculty and staff, a support system carried out by students from this year's dispatch will be expected, and students from Kasetsart University will spend a meaningful time, learning not only veterinary medicine but also Japanese culture. We ask for your continued support and cooperation with this program.

To Kasetart University ①

Izumi KIDA (5th year)

I want to talk about an exchange student program to Kasetsart University for 7 weeks. I studied about aquatic animal (fish and shrimp) for 2 weeks, wild life for 1 week, large animal (cattle and horse) for 4 weeks. I want to write about academic part and non-academic part (especially about life in Thailand) I learned with Thai friends.

Aquatic unit

I learned about fish in my 1st week. First, I took some lecture and got a lot of knowledge about fish. Then I went to guppy farm and got necessary facts and information. We discussed about how to manage the pond, feed management, farm biosecurity and so on. Also, I could learn how to examine fish and find some external parasites.

In 2nd week, I learned about shrimp. There are 2 types of shrimp farms, nursery farm and grow up farm. I could visit both farms. They didn't have any problems at that time, so I could see everything what I learned in class. There is no opportunity to learn about aquatic animals. So everything was new and interesting for me and I could get a lot of knowledge in this unit.

Wild life unit

I studied about exotic animals in KU hospital for 1 day and took a lecture about Problem Oriented Approach. I saw medical examination of parrot (over grown beak), soft shell turtle (ate fish hook) and other cases. When the veterinarians had some time, they taught us how to retain rabbit, how to clean turtle shell.

I attended the conference "Towards Rabies Elimination in Asia Pacific" held in Bangkok for 2 days. In our original schedule, we were going to study at elephant clinic. But they didn't have any patients so wild life team changed our schedule. I thought I knew about rabies, but I was completely wrong. There were a lot of things to learn in this conference. It was really interesting. I want to say thank you to wild life team.

I went to field trip 2 times, to Lopburi and Kanchanaburi. I saw a lot of monkeys living with human in Lopburi and sanctuary for wild life in Kanchanaburi.

Large Animal unit

I studied at horse clinic for 1 week, cattle clinic for 3 weeks. There was only one veterinarian in Thailand who could operate laryngeal hemiplegia and I saw the operation. I like to watch horse racing so I really enjoyed this unit.

We divided into small groups (3-4 students) and visited client farms every day. Students had to discuss about the cases and diagnosed. Veterinarians didn't tell the answer but they gave us some

advice and lead to the answer. It was natural for Thai students and they had the ability to think by their own. That was something that can't really be experienced easily in Japan, so I was able to gain many precious experiences.

Life in Thailand

I played basketball with veterinary students after class. They invited me to join them every time they play. They also invited me to their competition and let me play. I made many friends and really enjoyed playing basketball with them. Also, their cheering is sometimes crazy but very funny and heartwarming, I love it.

I traveled around Thailand on weekends. Thai friends asked me "Where will you go?" every weekends and told their recommend place, food and so on. When we went to Bangkok, Thai friends joined us and saw around city, went to shopping, drank together. We really enjoyed music, dancing and drinking. I made many Thai friends through this program and one of them is my best friend. He always worried about us like his daughter. We talked about a lot of things every day and now can talk about pretty much anything. I want to say thank you to him, of course, to all of Thai friends.

I really appreciate everything. Thanks to all of teachers, stuffs, students, I had a wonderful experience. I never forget this precious memories. Thank you so much.



Vet basketball team



The best bodies

To Kasetsart University ②

Mei SHINOHARA (5th year)

I joined IVEP, dispatch to Kasetsart University from 7 Sep. to 27 Oct., for seven weeks. In this program, I participated in clinical rotation for 6-year student in KU. The schedule of the practice is Aquatic unit for two weeks, Wildlife unit for 1 week, Large animal unit for 3 weeks, and Equine unit for 1 week.

Aquatic unit

I have fish unit and shrimp unit in this unit. I learned about management of water quality, prevention and treatment of diseases, infections diseases of aquatic animals. I also had opportunities to visit farm and talk about problem or improvement of management in the farms. In Japan, we don't have class learning about aquatic animals, so all of things I learned in this unit were new for me. Especially in shrimp unit, it was interesting for me to learn about shrimp because I didn't know even basic information about shrimp.

Wildlife unit

In this unit, I studied about medical treatment of exotic animals, human-monkey conflict, rabies and conservation of wildlife animals in national park. Speaking of wildlife animal in Thailand is elephant, but unfortunately, I couldn't practice in the elephant hospital in KU because there was no case while this unit. However, I could learn about many kinds of things that I couldn't learn in Japan like treatment of exotic animals or symbiosis with monkey. In rabies conference, I impressed to know the effort for eradication of rabies all over the world. The last day in this unit, I visited Salakpra wildlife sanctuary and studied about conservation of Banteng or other wildlife animals.



Field trip to Ropburi

Large animal Unit

I studied large animal at the hospital not only in Kampeng saen but also in Nongpho. At the hospital, I did physical examination of in-patient and if we had a surgery or treatment, I visited them. When I went to the farm, I had history taking from the farmer or talk about treatment plan with vet and group member. On the last day of weekdays, we always had case presentation that we

experienced in that week. There is not only case of cattle but also of goat or sheep and even in cattle I could see different species that we rarely see in Japan. When I focus on measures of preventing infections diseases, I felt the necessity of improving it anytime.

Equine unit

At first in this unit, I learned horse handling in demonstration farm. I had PE of in-patient in the hospital every morning and I also had chance to see a surgery. In our university, we don't have equine hospital and I had a few experience to learn about equine so this unit was very precious for me and I enjoyed so much. Also, I had to take oral examination in this unit. It was hard for me because I didn't have enough knowledge about horse and my English skills were also not enough.

What I was most impressed through this program is how high level of skills the Thai students have. In every unit, I felt they had much more clinical experiences rather than me and they always taught me many things. They also can speak English well especially technical words of veteran medicine. I really felt necessity of improvement of technical English skills. Further more, I surprised that they could make presentation very smoothly. Actually, it is hard task for me to make presentation because we rarely have time to make presentation in Japan. Through working with Thai students, sometimes until midnight, in this program, I think my skills of making presentation or searching evidence from papers improve a little.

Not only in class but also in daily life, Thai students always cared and helped us. If we had problem even a little and talk about it to them, they gave us much more advice rather than we expected. I couldn't do well without them and I really moved their amazing hospitality. I can't thank them enough. When they have time to come to Japan, I'd like to do anything for them like they did for me. In every weekend, I traveled many part of Thailand and enjoyed Thai culture. I felt kindness of Thai people everywhere I traveled. I spent great days supported by many people, and seven weeks staying in Thailand had passed immediately. Through this program, I could see myself objectively based on different cultural background in both academic part and non-academic part. I gained many kinds of things as much as I can't write all of them here. I'd like to appreciate for everyone that gave me this precious opportunity and supported this entire program.



After presentation with group members

Keisuke MAEZONO (5th year)

At the aquatic Animal Unit, the first thing that was taught was about water quality management. For such aquatic animals, water quality management is of the utmost importance, and we examined and presented many items such as pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen and ammonia content. I learned that maintaining appropriate water quality conditions can lead to the best prevention. In addition, about the shrimp or fish taken from the farms, we examined abnormal findings and detecting the viral genome by PCR, we diagnosed possible diseases. In Japan, there is almost no opportunity for ourselves to carry out the process from observation to diagnosis. I felt there is still a lack of ability to think about what tests are necessary and what is derived from the results. At Hokkaido University, there is a lecture on fish and shrimp in "fish pathology", but I only learned about infectious diseases that are mainly susceptible to fish. However, in a lot of classes in Thailand, I learned about not only the diseases of fish, also the factors that cause them. I can deeply understand the proper management conditions of the breeding farm such as water quality and food management. From that, I felt how important the marine products industry is in Thailand. At the same time, I can see that the animals to be treated are diversified depending on the country background, and roles of veterinarians could broaden.

At the Exotic Animal Unit, we participated in a medical practice at the campus animal hospital. In addition to rabbits, guinea pigs, and hedgehogs, there were a wide variety of animals that could not be seen in Japan, such as eclectus parrot which had overgrowth maxilla and soft-shell turtle that swallowed a fishhook. In order to deal with such a variety of animals, I felt that it was very important to have knowledge that would allow us to guess diseases which the animal is easy to cause, from animal species and given signalments. I learned a method called POMR as a process to lead the diagnosis, and did the diagnosis based on it. I felt that there was a need for veterinarians to have appropriate knowledge and provide medical care and guidance to owners in order to respond to the recent increase in demand for exotic animal breeding.



Monkeys gathering at the garbage dump

A town that made me think about various problems between human and monkeys.

At the wildlife unit, we went to temples and towns where many monkeys live, and learned about the conflicts between people and wildlife. At a certain temple, a large amount of garbage was thrown away on the ground, and there was a scene where monkeys gathered for food. In Lopburi, monkeys lived everywhere in the town. There were the fences to prevent monkeys from entering, buildings destroyed by monkeys, people giving monkeys a large amount of fruits. It was a

The cattle unit was divided into four teams for one week each at a demonstration farm in the

university, at the university hospital, and Nong pho campus. At the demonstration farm, we had an assignment to do presentation about looking for problems in the farm and present them as a group. Our team enumerated biosecurity issues and considered improvements based on international standards. In Japan, biosecurity guidelines are strictly provided by the breeding hygiene management standards established under the Livestock Infectious Disease Prevention Law. Therefore, we also gave a comparison of Japanese farms, Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine as an example. By recognizing biosecurity in other countries, I reaffirmed Japan's high awareness of prevention of epidemics, where there are few opportunities to feel in Japan.

At university hospital, we conduct physical examinations and observed surgical for cattle and sheep cases that are carried every day. When we visited farms outside, we could see many cases of cattle such as mastitis, placenta stagnation, ketosis, hoof disease etc. I went to clinics and farm visits with



Treatment for uterin torsion

Thai students. One thing that surprised me was that students actively conducted physical examinations and blood collections themselves, and based on the results, they did not just go through the teacher. This means that all Thai students were willing to start discussions. I felt that I was able to carry out physical examinations smoothly because I was able to conduct physical examinations of large animals that I could not experience enough in Japan.

The most memorable case in a Nong pho is a cow with a uterine torsion. The rectal examination showed cervical opening and torsion of the uterus. The treatment was to eliminate the torsion of the uterus by holding the mother with a wooden board and rolling it in the torsion direction with the uterus fixed while the mother was laid down. The fetus died at the time of the examination, and after reducing the torsion, the chain was wound on the fetus and the fetus was delivered by three people. It was a very valuable experience because I could actually help palpate the uterus and remove the fetus.

Throughout my stay in Thailand, Thai students were very kind and helped me in all aspects, not only about classes, but also about food and sightseeing. When I was not able to understand in class, or when I was stuck with a presentation, they explained with smile, and took me to recommended shops by car every day at lunch. During sightseeing, they looked at how to get to their destination, and they



With friends at aquatic animal unit

picked us up and sent them to the town when we could not catch a taxi at late night. Thanks to my warm and friendly friends in Thailand, our stay for lasted seven weeks has ended in no time, but it was a wonderful and valuable experience that I learned and experienced many things. It was a wonderful life. I would like to thank all the teachers and staff at Hokkaido University who supported us, and all those involved in Thailand who helped our stay.

Kino SAKAI (5th year)

I participated in the International Vet Exchange Program (IVEP) and went to study in Kasetsart University, Thailand. I report what I learned and felt in this program. I stayed in Thailand for 7 weeks, aquatic unit for 2 weeks, wildlife unit for 1 weeks, large animal unit for 3 weeks and equine units for 1 weeks.



A juvenile of shrimp

In aquatic unit, I mainly learned about shrimps, sea water and freshwater fishes. Students must study aquatic because Thailand is famous to produce shrimps and fishes. I have less knowledge about aquatic animal, and it is new for me that shrimps have 8 growth stage and osmoregulation is different between freshwater and sea water fishes even if this information is basic. I surprised owner sometimes have 2 species in the same pond and they are kept with fishes in the same pond. I learned how to check the physical examination of aquatic animals, feed and management of water quality and I also examined the real case in the real farm to check the suitable keeping.

In wildlife unit, I studied exotic animal, conflict between monkey and human, rabies, protection of the wildlife in the national park. I learned about how to examine the exotic animal by using Problem oriented approach (POA). I saw many conflicts between monkey and human like monkey eat the garbage human through away and monkey broke the houses or telegraph poles. It is special opportunity for me to attend the IABS conference about rabies. Worldwide practice and theory towards rabies amaze me many times. In the conservation center, I learned about how to protect, breed and return the banteng to the wild. Car riding on the bumpy road to the camera in the park is dangerous but exciting my memory. Many animals like elephants, deer and monkey were in the video.



Incision to remove death calf

I studied large animals in demonstration farm, hospital in campus and Nongpho for 1 week in each place. Students found the problems in demonstration farm by themselves and considered how to analyze the date, prevent, control and discussed with teachers. At the hospital in the campus, I could see the cases like caesarean section of the dead calf from mother, amputation of the sheep hind limb which had necrosis, infantile inguinal hernia. I surprised owner brought large animal to the hospital as same as small animal. I can saw many

cases about mastitis and endometritis in farm visiting. Students were willing to check the physical examination or CMT test plus found the pathogenesis. I felt the economic disparity for the different size of each farm. In Nongpho area, vet mainly manage the breeding as herd management. I had many opportunities to do rectal palpation and I could improve my skill. In addition, I saw vagal indigestion because of pregnancy, uterine torsion and intussusception. I didn't think I could meet many cases like this. I had a valuable experience that I could practice in the real cases I saw in the textbook. I had an opportunity to inject the FMD vaccine into the all of the cows in the farm. I felt the difference of correspondence between Japan and Thailand.

In equine unite, I studied the basic physical examination and how to treat the diseases. Most of horses in the hospital had laminitis, some horses have laminitis at whole legs. I could learn how to do gastrolavage, dosing also I could see the surgery of laryngeal hemiplegia by laryngeal prosthesis, the treatment of colic and the check of pregnancy.



At the airport

Students in Thailand are very hardworking and make a commitment to the task in every units. I was surprised there were a lot of memo when I saw their lecture handout. Students can consider what they do next, how they can treat the cases and how to approach it because there are many opportunity to consider and find the problem by themselves. For every Friday case presentation, students searched for long time every day and made over 60 slides presentation. Enthusiastic and hardworking of thai students made me more enthusiastic than in Japan.

I was surprised at the kindness and hospitality of Thai people during staying in Thailand. Everyday students took us to the lunch, dinner and playground. They also followed my bicycle with lighting by car at night. They helped us to understand the lecture and translate Thai into English. They helped us to plan the weekend trip and sometimes played with us. They supported us every time! I cannot thank them too much. I really appreciate their kindness and hospitality.

Finally, I want to express my thanks to many people who were involved in this program. I could gain the many experience than I have thought, and I could develop as a person internally and academically through this program. I want to make the most of what I have learned.