



Weekly Report Hokkaido University Name Yukari Itakura

Note: Student must submit this report to the teaching staff at your university each week via e-mail and CC CVE office. Not necessary to report on holidays and weekends unless the training was being held.

Sept 9 (Sat)	No class
Sept 10 (Sun)	No class



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Sept 11 (Mon)	Had an orientation and my first class at KU. They gave us lectures about pig farm management. It was difficult with many technical terms, but very interesting. Thai friends are so friendly and kind that they help us all the time, and we got to have a good time together. After the class, there was a welcome party for us at Bangkok. I'm glad to get to know Thai delicious fruit "longan".
Sept 12 (Tue)	Visiting pig farms day. It was my first time to visit pig farms and I've never seen that many pigs all together. It was very interesting to see how pigs at various stage of growing are treated. Piglets were so cute! Our class had lunch together and we tried many kinds of Thai food. We enjoyed a lot. After coming back to school, discussion last till midnight...I got very tired.
Sept 13 (Wed)	Today, we didn't have class. We did a group study to get ready for the presentation on Friday. Thai students are not only friendly, but also they are hard-workers. I've been surprised by their attitudes towards learning and studying. They took us to a noodle restaurant for lunch. The Thai noodle was very good as always. I'm glad I like coriander.
Sept 14 (Thu)	We visited a pig farm again. This farm had a lot of problems including Foot-and-mouth disease, mycotoxin, and Porcine-epidemic-diarrhea. We saw many piglets suffering from PED. Discussion and preparation for the presentation took a lot of time. But still, it is always interesting to think what is the problem of the farm and what we should do to improve it, especially because we don't really have that kind of opportunities in Japan.
Sept 15 (Fri)	Presentation day. I think we did good on our presentation, and discussions were very interesting. Following that, we had a necropsy case. After that, we all went to eat shabu-shabu for dinner. It was a buffet style restaurant and similar to Japanese shabu-shabu, but little arranged to Thai way. They had sliced liver for shabu-shabu, and baby-corns, sun flowers to put into the pot together. After I got full, Thai friends were still eating! It made me happy to know that they love shabu-shabu and it is always fun to have meals with someone who eat a lot!
Sept 16 (Sat)	No class



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Sept 17 (Sun)	No class
Sept 18 (Mon)	Pig necropsy week has started. Since we didn't have any case of necropsy, we reviewed many diseases that can be problems in pig farms. Thai students know a lot about pig diseases and I need to study more! For lunch, we had Khao Soi, Thai noodle with mild creamy soup, which I really liked. Looking forwards to get to know more Thai food.
Sept 19 (Tue)	We didn't have any necropsy again. We did case studies through whole day. After school, we went to eat steaks for dinner. Because the class got finished earlier than usual, we still had time. What we decided to do was "eat" again! Thai friends know many good restaurants and they took us to a sweet restaurant. We enjoyed Korean style of kakigohri together. By the time I got back to the dorm, I was so tired that I fell asleep before I knew.
Sept 20 (Wed)	Group study day and no necropsy again. We went to a big shopping mall in Bangkok after school. There are a lot of Japanese restaurants and we enjoyed Japanese food at Yayoi-ken. The taste of Japan made me feel happy. We did some shopping and came back to Kamphaeng sean after 9pm. I fell asleep and locked out my roommate. Sorry Arisa...
Sept 21 (Thu)	Finally we had a necropsy case. But, since it was aborted fetus, we didn't really do necropsy. The necropsy room is the only room that has no air conditioner, it was very hot and sweaty. We collected some samples for lab works and had some discussion following the information from the farm. After everything got done, there was a very heavy sudden shower.
Sept 22 (Fri)	We did our presentation and discussion. I talked about PRRS in Japan. We have same diseases, but situation is different, so I think it is important and interesting to share these information with each other. Following the presentation, we had necropsy case. I did one by myself and it was a good experience. After that we departed for Ayutthaya! Fun weekend trip!



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Sept 23 (Sat)	No class
Sept 24 (Sun)	No class
Sept 25 (Mon)	First day of the poultry unit. We had a lecture about poultry management in the morning. After lunch, we went to a broiler farm. It was my first time to visit a chicken farm. There were so many chicks that the floor looked like it was filled with them, and obviously they were so cute!
Sept 26 (Tue)	We visited another broiler farm in the morning and again there were many chicks. After walking and looking through inside the farm, we brought back some dead chickens to the university and did necropsy. We took some organs for bacterial culture and now are waiting for the following results. After the class, we discussed about management of the farm we visited today and worked on making presentation. Our first work without any Thai students' help.
Sept 27 (Wed)	Visited a hatchery. Biosecurity was stricter than any pig or poultry farms that I visited in Thailand. But still I think it should be improved compared with biosecurity we see in Japan. We practiced the egg breakout analysis, which was candling breakout analysis and pipped egg breakout. Some eggs were contaminated with bacteria or fungi, or dried completely. We also did the evaluation of 1day old chick quality. We had to euthanize chicks without anesthesia and I felt bad for that.
Sept 28 (Thu)	We helped the international rabies conference and opening ceremony of Princess Chulabhorn International Conference Centre. A lot of work and time had been taken to get everything ready to welcome the princess. We had to wait almost for 10 hours. It was a great opportunity for me to get to know how much she is respected and loved by Thai people



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Sept 29 (Fri)	I participated in the international rabies conference and received some lectures. Although we don't have rabies in Japan, rabies is still one of the most concerned zoonosis in the world including Thailand. I found it very interesting that one of the team gave us a lecture about potential therapeutic options in rabies.
Sept 30 (Sat)	We have a class from 8:30 in the morning. We did the gut health analysis to evaluate the immunosuppression in chicken. Each student had their own chicken and I got to remember the anatomy of chicken from deep inside of my head. After lunch, we performed the egg breakout analysis again. Now, I am professional in crocking eggs and telling which day the chicks died.
Oct 1 (Sun)	No class
Oct 2 (Mon)	In the morning, we did the evaluation of egg quality using the egg analyzer. After lunch, we had presentation about vaccination for poultry diseases. Each of us had been given a poultry disease and presented about the disease, gross lesion, and vaccines. I did fowl cholera and duck plague and I feel confident now after finishing my presentation.
Oct 3 (Tue)	Visited a layer farm. It was a quite big one but a family business. The owner of the farm had a great attitude and I could feel how much she is caring about her chickens. It was very interesting for me to see around the farm and to know her idea about management of chickens. And also, I got to see some abnormal eggs such as eggs with soft shells, rough-surfaced sells, or no shells for the first time.
Oct 4 (Wed)	We gave a presentation to Thai students, which was about the broiler farm we visited last week. I think we did good job. After that we joined Thai students for the gross lesion discussion in poultry diseases. After the class, we went to Sadao market and had fun hanging around.



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Oct 5 (Thu)	Practicing and preparing the presentations for tomorrow “real” presentation for Dr. Narin class. After we did our presentation, all of us had to fix the slides to make it better and it took until midnight.
Oct 6 (Fri)	We all survived the presentation and were so happy to finish the “hard” poultry unit. Since the class was done by 1:30pm, we went to have lunch together. Khao Soi is always delicious, but the one we ate after survival was 100 times more delicious than usual. After lunch, I took a van for Bangkok to go to Pattaya with Masaki.
Oct 7 (Sat)	No class
Oct 8 (Sun)	No class
Oct 9 (Mon)	The first day of fish unit. We had some lectures about fish management. Since we got assigned to read a paper and present it on Thursday, we did some research and preparation until midnight.
Oct 10 (Tue)	We went to a fighting fish farm, which we call Beta in Japan. Beautiful male fighting fish were separated and kept in bottles one by one. There were more than 10,000 bottles. Even more, the “floor” was made of the bottles and we could walk on it. It was very interesting! And midnight work again...
Oct 11 (Wed)	We had time to do the rest of the research and preparation in the morning. And we gave a presentation about the fighting fish farm that we visit yesterday. After lunch, we had a case. It was a arowana, and because it was a pet, we saw our teachers treat it with some antibiotics and steroids. It was an interesting opportunity for me.



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Oct 12 (Thu)	Presentation day. It was good to listen to other presentations and to know various information about aquaculture. I talked about nanotechnologies applied to aquaculture. I could see many potential functions of nanotechnologies even there are still problems to be concerned.
Oct 13 (Fri)	No class
Oct 14 (Sat)	No class
Oct 15 (Sun)	No class
Oct 16 (Mon)	Shrimp week. We had some lectures about shrimp management. It is almost first time for us to learn about shrimp and its management. The role of veterinarian in Thai aquaculture is more important than in Japan. We got assigned to do presentation about water quality and prepared for that after class.
Oct 17 (Tue)	Gave presentations and discussed about each parameter to evaluate the water quality for shrimp culture. After lunch, we had a case. It wasn't a shrimp case, but a snake head fish. The fish was gasping air and they had wounds on the body. We found many kinds of parasites and bacteria such as scyphidia and <i>Flavobacteria columnaris</i> . We will follow the laboratory results and present this case on Friday.
Oct 18 (Wed)	Laboratory practice day. Performed real-time PCR for <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> . Since it has been a quite long time for me to grab a micro-pipet and do some lab-work, I felt fresh and I had a fun time. Because we had a quite long break for lunch, we went out and enjoyed delicious duck together.



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Oct 19 (Thu)	Visited a shrimp farm. This farm visit was one of the experience that I had been looking for, because I would never have that kind of opportunity in my country, and we import a lot of shrimp from Thailand. The ponds were huge, but it was too hot for us human without any shades. We got to see how shrimp that we eat in my country were being managed. It was interesting.
Oct 20 (Fri)	Presentation day. We, Japanese students gave a presentation about the necropsy case that we performed on Tuesday. I think we are getting used to making slides and presenting it in English. It always good and also happy to find some our improvement in here!
Oct 21 (Sat)	No class.
Oct 22 (Sun)	No class.
Oct 23 (Mon) Chulalongkorn Memorial Day	No class.
Oct 24 (Tue)	Case conference. We attended the case conference to see Thai students presenting. Since we had seen their dedication to prepare for this conference and we knew how much time it took, I was happy that they did great on their presentation.
Oct 25 (Wed)	No class.



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Oct 26 (Thu)	No class.
Oct 27 (Fri)	No class.
Oct 28 (Sat)	No class.
Oct 29 (Sun)	No class.
Oct 30 (Mon)	First day of bovine unit. We started another half of the semester, welcoming one of the RGU students to our group. After the orientation, we went to the demonstration farm in the university and looked around to find topics that we can discuss to improve the cow performance.
Oct 31 (Tue)	Since we have decided to analyze the relationship between lameness and reproductive performance in cows, we checked the locomotion score for each cow in the farm. Sometime it's hard but it has been fun to do this small "study" by ourselves.
Nov 1 (Wed)	We practiced the rectal palpation throughout the morning. We are assigned to find out the state of ovary if it had follicles, corpus luteum, or nothing in 13 cows. I've never had an opportunity to do the rectal palpation this much. It is still not easy for me to know the condition of ovary by touching it without seeing, but it was a great experience.



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Nov 2 (Thu)	Since our another topic is mastitis, we performed teat-end score test for each milking cow, which was of course the first time for me. We studied from some reference papers and checked the milking process in this farm and also observed cow behavior to find if there was any problem. We had dinner with Aoshima sensei at our favorite shabu-shabu restaurant.
Nov 3 (Fri)	Presentation day. I have been given many presentations since I came to Thailand, and now I don't feel any worry or hesitation in presenting in front everyone in English. After presentation, Thai friends took us to Loy Krathong festival. We enjoyed food and games like Japanese "matsuri". We floated Krathong in river and it was beautiful. It was good to join Thai traditional festival.
Nov 4 (Sat)	No class.
Nov 5 (Sun)	Exam day for Dr. Narin. Each exam had 60 questions which was shown on screen for 30 seconds and we had 4 chances. We needed to pass otherwise we had to dance in front of everyone. No one passed for the 1 st and 2 nd one, and only one Thai student passed at 3 rd . So, we decided to practice dancing (actually since yesterday and we all can dance "koi dance" now). But it was good that finally I passed at 4 th chance. Playing badminton and shabu-shabu after exam was so much fun!
Nov 6 (Mon)	Second week of bovine unit. Our group was staying at the hospital waiting for cases. We had a case of persistent urachus. The cattle had a very big berry, which doctor said urine has been leaking and accumulated inside the abdominal cavity. When she opened her abdominal cavity, there was a large amount of urine coming out and her berry became normal size after the surgery.
Nov 7 (Tue)	Went to several farms with doctor. We had a case of hardware disease. The cow that was suspected to have hardware disease show high heart rate and unclear heart sound. She wouldn't lay down even when we tried to make her to, and metal detector indicated positive. I got an opportunity to put a magnet into the cow. We will be following the result.



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Nov 8 (Wed)	Went to several farms with doctor again. One of the cases was dystocia cow. The cow had the uterine torsion with fetus in abnormal presence. To help the cow, we performed the rolling method and force extraction. I think it is not easy to have a chance to experience this. It was very interesting.
Nov 9 (Thu)	Today's most interesting case was a calf with anal atresia. I saw this case for the first time. The calf was 4 days-old and straining all the time. Doctor said this trait can be inherited to offspring, so it is important to educate owners not to use the cattle that used to have anal atresia in order to prevent this to happen.
Nov 10 (Fri)	I saw male zebu for the first time. It was really big and so powerful. I'm happy to have a chance to see it! For the afternoon, we gave presentation as always. We talked about the case of dystocia from Tuesday. After that we had so much fun playing badminton.
Nov 11 (Sat)	No class.
Nov 12 (Sun)	No class.
Nov 13 (Mon)	First day of wildlife unit. We had a practical training for exotic animal in Bang Khen campus. We got many cases of various kinds of animals and I was so excited. We had turtles, rabbits, hamster, guinea pig, snake, tree shrew, sugar glider, and carp, or maybe more. I have never analyzed the x-ray of turtles. It was fun.
Nov 14 (Tue)	The second day in Bang Khen campus. There is a slow loris at the hospital. Because of its characteristics of nocturnality, you rarely have a chance to see the animal moving, since at zoo usually it is kept in dark. I was so happy to see this animal so close and in detail.



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Nov 15 (Wed)	Wild life unit at Kamphangsaeen campus. We had a case of elephant that had a bone fracture at its foot. We took x-ray and treated the wound. The elephant was so friendly that I had a chance to touch in the mouth, which I felt soft and warm. Good day.
Nov 16 (Thu)	In the building for elephants, there is a skeletal specimen of elephant. It helped me to understand how teeth grow in elephants. They have a different way from the way that most of other mammals have, in getting new teeth. For elephants, new teeth are coming from deep inside of the mouth and replaced horizontally, while ours are vertically. Interesting.
Nov 17 (Fri)	Elephant endotheliotropic herpes virus meeting in Hua Hin. Many elephant researchers mainly from Southeast-Asia and US participated in this meeting. Since we have not many elephants only in zoo in Japan, Japanese veterinary education doesn't focus on elephants. It was interesting to know the disease in elephants.
Nov 18 (Sat)	After participating in the brain storming for elephant endotheliotropic herpes virus, we had an opportunity to visit Kunburi national park. We got to see several Asian elephants and gaurs, and that was great, but a little sad because it was very far to see well. But overall, I think I really enjoyed the wildlife unit.
Nov 19 (Sun)	No class
Nov 20 (Mon)	First day of the bovine unit in Nong pho. We separated into small groups and went to farms with doctors. We had some diarrhea cases in calves. It was my first time to see this kind of case. I had to pull out my knowledges from the past for the differential diagnosis.
Nov 21 (Tue)	3 farm visits for rectal palpation and pregnancy diagnosis and 1 following case. Not only checking the status of ovary and uterus, but also the skill to find out the status of pregnancy is very important and necessary. We reviewed what we would find in which stage of pregnancy. I need more practice. P' Num recommended us to have frog for dinner and of course, we had no choice but to follow her suggestion.



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Nov 22 (Wed)	Some farm visit for rectal palpation and cases. I followed the same diarrhea case as Monday. Even though she was getting better this day, the owner decided to send her to the slaughter house, because her prognosis is not good. This is the difference between small animal and livestock animal... And after we came back, we enjoyed badminton!
Nov 23 (Thu)	Our group visited farms in Kanchanaburi. But there was no case and only farm visit. So, I had a great opportunity to practice the rectal palpation. I still need time to get my answer, but now I can find almost the same status of uterus and ovary as the doctor. Improvement!
Nov 24 (Fri)	No class
Nov 25 (Sat)	No class
Nov 26 (Sun)	No class
Nov 27 (Mon)	First day of equine unit. Each group was assigned to take care of one case. our case was a pony that had laminitis. In the afternoon, we had a practical lecture about physical examination and other basic skill such as injection, collecting blood, o nasal gastric intubation. I like horses. I wish I didn't have an allergy to them.
Nov 28 (Tue)	Took care of our pony. We washed her with shampoo and brushes and she became clean and fluffy. We performed x-ray to see her feet and found out that she is getting better. And we had a necropsy case under the blue sky in the green grass field with dogs running around.



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Nov 29 (Wed)	We did some self-study about lameness and discussed about its mechanism, diagnosis, treatment, and so on. After we finished the all works, we had a good time playing table tennis. I wish we had an environment to play sports in our faculty in Japan too.
Nov 30 (Thu)	After taking care of our pony as our routine work, we had a lecture about some cases in horses. We have not learned much about clinical cases in horses, so it was interesting for me. We practiced table tennis again and my skill is becoming better.
Dec 1 (Fri)	No class.
Dec 2 (Sat)	No class.
Dec 3 (Sun)	No class.
Dec 4 (Mon)	We visited the military farm. There were so many horses running around and it was fun to see. I had a chance to practice teeth trimming but it needed power and was quite difficult. Teeth trimming is needed for a horse to be able to eat properly. Also, we did lameness scoring by making horses trot. It was much more difficult than that of cattle.
Dec 5 (Tue)	No class.



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Dec 6 (Wed)	In the morning, I had a lecture about cardiology in large animals. We reviewed anatomy, mechanism, and function of the heart in large animals. After that we actually practiced the electro-cardiogram using horse and tried to see the difference between small animals.
Dec 7 (Thu)	In the afternoon, we had an oral exam for equine. It was like a case discussion and we talked about tripanosoma. It took three hours, so I got very tired, but it was interesting to discuss such a case that had actually happened.
Dec 8 (Fri)	In the morning we had an exam for bovine unit. I think I did fine. Especially oral part was good. I got to review what I learned in this unit. And in the afternoon, we had the final presentation for both Thai and Japanese teacher. Since I've learned too many things, it was a little bit difficult to combine everything in one presentation. I want to thank everyone who has supported us for this program.
Dec 9 (Sat)	No class.
Dec 10 (Sun)	No class.
Dec 11 (Mon)	No class.