



ORAL PRESENTATION ABSTRACT

2.3. "Chicken Plastination to Assist with the Teaching of Avian Anatomy". "La Plastinación de Pollos para Ayudar en la Enseñanza de la Anatomía Aviar".

Wilma Olivier, Lezaan Roux

Department of Anatomy and Physiology, University of Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa.

In Veterinary Anatomy, various species are studied. Unfortunately, it is not possible to spend as much time as needed with the dissection of each species. When dissecting the chicken, the students dissect a fresh specimen and the dissection only takes place during one four-hour practical. To try and capture every aspect of the chicken, the plastination of a couple of chickens and their various organs took place. Firstly, the specimens were fixed in 10% formalin for seven to ten days, depending on the specimen. Various acetone baths were used for dehydration over a period of six weeks. Impregnation took place over a period of three weeks in S10. The specimens were cured with S6. A peristaltic pump was used in some of the phases to make sure the intestines are rinsed properly and the chemicals penetrated the whole specimen as needed. In the curing phase of the "Digestive and reproductive tracts of the female domestic bird" a compressor was used to open the duodenum as well as the small intestines. The specimen was plastinated and labelled. Three chicken hearts in different stages were dissected (one intact, one from the front, one from the back). A muscle dissection was done on a whole chicken with its intestines intact. When the dissection was complete, the chicken was cut in half with an oscillating saw and placed in S10. While dissecting, the chicken was kept in acetone. Another adult chicken was used for a skeleton. All the meat was removed and the skeleton placed in formalin to fix. After a week, the skeleton was placed in acetone for dehydration. The whole idea with this skeleton was to show how the actual tendons and muscles keep the skeleton together. The "Ovary and reproductive tract of the female domestic fowl" was one of the other aspects covered in this project. Now the students can at their own time view the chicken more intensely.