

OBITUARY

Flavio Massone

Professor Flavio Massone (DVM 1967) passed away on March 29th, 2021, from complications related to COVID 19. He was 80 years old.



(Professor Flavio Massone. Courtesy of Ana Luiza Massone)

It is with profound grief that the Brazilian anesthesiology community has lost a pioneer of our specialty in our country. Professor Flavio Massone is an icon for all generations of Brazilian anesthesiologists, responsible for raising the discipline of Veterinary Anesthesia to the status of specialty in our country. After obtaining his DVM degree at the University of São Paulo (USP) in 1967, he initiated his career as a faculty member at the São Paulo State University (UNESP), Botucatu campus, in December 1969. Professor Massone was one of cornerstones on which the School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science in Botucatu was built. In 2012, he was granted the title of Professor Emeritus at the same school. Through the generations of Brazilian Anesthesiologists that were mentored and inspired by him, his legacy is the consolidation of Brazil as a center of excellence in research/practice of veterinary anesthesia. His departure leaves a gap that is being felt nationwide. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and one son (one of them became a physician anesthesiologist) and three granddaughters and two grandsons.

- Francisco José Teixeira Neto
- Antonio José de Araújo Agiar
- Stelio Pacca Loureiro Luna

Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária Zootecnia, UNESP, Campus de Botucatu, SP, Brazil

Professor Flavio Massone was born on 6 February 1941 in Cairo, Egypt. His family moved to Brazil in 1952 where Professor Massone graduated from the University of São Paulo, the most well-known Brazilian School of Veterinary Medicine, in 1967. He obtained the master's degree in veterinary medicine from the Federal University of Minas Gerais in 1974 and completed his PhD in pharmacology from the University of São Paulo in 1981. Two years later, he earned the highest Brazilian degree of superior quality in teaching and research from the São Paulo State University. The same university conferred the title of Professor Emeritus to Professor Massone in 2012.

In 1969, Professor Massone became a professor in the Faculty of Medical and Biological Sciences of Botucatu, currently named Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science of the São Paulo State University (UNESP). Professor Massone taught, advised and inspired for 39 uninterrupted years. He was a pioneer in offering the first discipline of Veterinary Anesthesia in Brazil. Throughout his career, he mentored several veterinarians and researchers who now work at main Brazilian universities. Certainly, Professor Massone was also an example for numerous clinicians in arousing interest in veterinary anesthesia. As one of the founders of the Brazilian College of Veterinary Surgery and Anesthesiology (1994), he actively worked in the development of the specialty of anesthesiology. His relentless pursuit of innovation was recognized by the 'Pioneering in Anesthesiology' award in Brazil (1997) and by the honorable mention in the book *'The Wondrous Story of Anesthesia'* (2014).

Even after his retirement, Professor Massone continued to work in research at UNESP, advancing several masters and doctoral candidates in veterinary anesthesiology, primarily in anesthesiology of small animals. He published 56 articles in national and international scientific journals. Moreover, Professor Massone is the author of seven editions of the book *'Veterinary Anesthesiology: Pharmacology and Techniques'* (in Portuguese; Massone 2019), an icon for veterinary anesthesiology in this country.

Professor Massone was a genuine animal lover. His affection and respect for animal welfare were noticeable in the numerous studies conducted by him throughout his brilliant career. His passing is a big loss for all the community. Above and beyond the immeasurable void for his friends and alumni, Professor Massone leaves good memories for his wife Marlene B Massone, his children Ana Carolina, Ana Luiza and Danilo and his beloved grandchildren.

—Ewaldo de Mattos-Junior

University of Franca, SP, Brazil

— Silvia Renata Gaido Cortopassi

University of São Paulo, SP, Brazil

References

Massone F (2019) *Anestesiologia Veterinária - Farmacologia e Técnicas* (7th edn). Guanabara koogan, Brazil (Veterinary Anesthesiology - Pharmacology and Techniques).

The Wondrous Story of Anesthesia (2014) Eger EI II, Saidman LJ, Westhorpe RN (eds). Springer, USA.