

Mushtaq Ahmed Khan (1919-2010)

Mushtaq Ahmed Khan passed away on 11 October 2010 at the age of 91 years. Mushtaq was born in Najibabad, India. He attended Bengal Veterinary College in Calcutta, where he graduated with his degree in veterinary science (GVSc) in 1938. After serving briefly with the Indian Army Veterinary Corps as a veterinarian, he joined the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute in 1939 as a research assistant and worked at the laboratory at Mukteswar-Kumaon. In late 1939 he transferred to the laboratory at Isatnagar. From 1947 to 1949, he studied at Michigan State University obtaining a MSc in entomology. Following his studies in the United States, he returned to Pakistan and worked in research and extension with the Pakistan Ministry of Agriculture in Karachi.



Mushtaq's first wife passed away in 1952. In 1954 he and his four children emigrated to Canada, where he then spent a year working as a research assistant with Dr A.A. Kingscote at the Ontario Veterinary College on factors involved in attraction of mosquitoes to animals. In 1955 he joined the nematology section in the Entomology Division, Agriculture Canada, to work with Dr A.D. Baker. In 1957 he was appointed to the Agriculture Canada, Veterinary-Medical Entomology Unit at the Lethbridge Research Station to work in veterinary toxicology. Mushtaq studied the effects of organophosphorus pesticides on reproduction of animals at the Royal Veterinary College in England from 1965 to 1967 and received a PhD from the University of London in 1972.

Mushtaq's work at the Lethbridge Research Centre advanced the development and application of chemical pesticides for control of livestock pests in Canada. He promoted work in that field through the Study Institute on Toxicity of Pesticides on Livestock, sponsored by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and organized by the Lethbridge Research Centre in 1970. His research and promotion of organized area control of cattle grubs was a major contribution to the improved effectiveness of treatments with systemic pesticides. It led to the present organization of warble free programs in Alberta.

Mushtaq met Catherine in Guelph and they married in 1955. They had four children. After his retirement in 1984, Mushtaq and Catherine moved to Qualicum Beach, British Columbia. Mushtaq was an avid community member as evidenced by his membership in Rotary International, Independent Order of Oddfellows Lethbridge Lodge, and the Islamic Centre of Nanaimo, British Columbia. Mushtaq was an active member of the Canadian Veterinary Association and the Entomological Society of Alberta.

Joe Shemanchuk (Lethbridge)