From the very beginning of civilization domestic animals constituted an undividable part in the life of human beings. Since then people have lived with animals in their daily life, for work and production, for transport of goods and men in war and peace, for ceremonial processions, as pets and faithful companions, and as symbols and metaphors for ideological concepts. The aim of the PECUS-conference at the Swedish Institute in Rome, September 2002, was to investigate the relation between man and animal in antiquity, going beyond the purely utilitarian aspects. This volume presents the results of the meeting, which gathered scholars from all over the world including a choice of academic disciplines and scholarly traditions.

Barbro Santillo Frizell, Introduction

Economy, administration, transhumance

Alessandro Greco, The pastoral calendar and the importance of the growth rate of lambs in the management of breeding: the case of the Knossos archive

Hedvig Landenius Enegren, Animals and men at Knossos - the Linear B evidence
Françoise Rougemont,  *The administration of Mycenaean sheep rearing (flocks, shepherds, "collectors")*

Stefania Berlioz,  *Vie del sacro, vie della transumanza: il Kabeirion di Tebe nella prima Età del Ferro*

Jacopo De Grossi Mazzorin,  *Some considerations about the evolution of the animal exploitation in central Italy from the Bronze Age to the classical period*

Michael MacKinnon,  *The role of caprines in Roman Italy: idealized and realistic reconstructions using ancient textual and zooarchaeological data*

Jacopo Bonetto,  *Agricoltura e allevamento in Cisalpina: alcuni spunti per una riflessione*

Guido Rosada,  *Altino e la via della transumanza nella Venetia centrale*

Barbro Santillo Frizell,  *Curing the flock. The use of healing waters in Roman pastoral economy* (with an appendix by Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr.)

Joaquín Gómez-Pantoja,  *Pecora consectari: transhumance in Roman Spain*

Sacrifice, literature, music and communication

James A. Arieti,  *Horatian second thoughts on animal sacrifice*
Britt-Mari Näström, The sacrifices of Mithras

Ingvild Sælid Gilhus, The animal sacrifice and its critics

Paola E. Raffetta, On the creation of domestic animals in Proto-Indo European mythology

Tova Forti, “Who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth, and makes us wiser than the birds of the heaven” (Job 35:11)

Phoebe Giannisi, The cows and the poet in ancient Greece

Louis L’Allier, Des chevaux et des hommes. Sur les couples hommes-chevaux et femmes-juments chez Xénophon

Mathilde Skoie, The role of the herd in Virgil’s Eclogues – ‘nec te paeniteat pecoris’

Marianne Wifstrand Schiebe, Sheep and cattle as ideological markers in Roman poetry

Anna Ivarsdotter, And the cattle follow her, for they know their voice… On communication between women and cattle in Scandinavian pastures

Susanne Rosenberg & Sven Ahlbäck, Kulning - herding calls from Sweden
Ideology and status, ritual and social organization

Kristina Berggren, *When the rest of the world thought male ibex, why did the people of San Giovenale think female sheep?*

Kristina Jennbert, *Sheep and goats in Norse paganism*

Anne-Sofie Gräslund, *Dogs in graves – a question of symbolism?*

Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr., *Man’s best friend? The changing role of the dog in Greek society*

Eleanor Loughlin, *The calf in Bronze Age Cretan art and society*

Cécile Michel, *The perdum-mule, a mount for distinguished persons in Mesopotamia during the first half of the second millennium BC*

Massimo Cultraro, *Food for the gods: animal consumption and ritual activities in the Early Bronze Age Sicily*

Richard Holmgren, *“Money on the hoof”. The astragalus bone – religion, gaming and primitive money*

Maria Petersson, *Animal husbandry and social hierarchies in Östergötland in the Pre Roman Iron Age*

Jutta Stroszeck, *Divine protection for shepherd and sheep: Apollon, Hermes, Pan and their*
Christian counterparts St. Mamas, St. Themistocles and St. Modestos

Anneli Sundkvist, Herding horses: a model of prehistoric horsemanship in Scandinavia – and elsewhere?

Poster session (non-thematic)

Arja Karivieri, The pastoral landscape of Paliambela in Arethousa, northern Greece - from antiquity to modern times

Nenad Petrovic, The significance of Mycenaean animal figurines abroad

Ann-Louise Schallin, Presenting the various types of terracotta bovine figurines from Late Bronze Age Asine

Raffaele Santillo, L'uomo delle stelle: per non dimenticare

Martin Söderlind, Man and animal in antiquity: votive figures in central Italy from the 4th to 1st centuries BC

Ingela M.B. Wiman, Who let the animals out? Changing modes in Etruscan mirror decoration