

Workshop 12

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The *Tractat de les mules* ('Treatise of Mules') by Manuel Díez: study and textual history

The *Tractat de les mules* ('Treatise of mules') is a veterinary manual written in Catalan between 1424 and 1436 by Manuel Díez, knight of Alfonso V of Aragon, the Magnanimous. This text forms, together with the *Llibre de cavalls* ('Book of horses'), the *Llibre de la menescalia* ('Book of marshalcy'). Neither of the parts of the *Llibre de la menescalia* has ever been critically edited, even though it is the most widespread Catalan medieval scientific text: we keep twelve manuscripts in this language, together with translations into Neapolitan, French and Spanish, with fourteen different printed editions in the latter. In this conference, I will present a state of the art that reviews the contributions of the bibliography on the treatise, focusing on those issues that have hindered a critical edition: its complex textual history and the anachronistic consideration of the work as plagiarism.
