

Monthly report on livestock disease trends as informally reported by veterinarians belonging to the Ruminant Veterinary Association of South Africa (RuVASA), a group of the South African Veterinary Association

December 2017

Previous disease reports can be seen on the RuVASA website www.ruvasa.co.za

Click on Disease Reports

The following practices and laboratories (107) submitted reports during December 2017:

Mpumalanga (11)

Balfour – Dr. Louis van Jaarsveld
Bethal – Dr. Hardus Pieters
Ermelo – Drs. Potgieter and Steinberg
Grootvlei – Dr. Neels van Wyk
Karino – Dr. Silke Pfitzer
Middelburg – Drs. Malan, Erasmus and Bernitz
Nelspruit – Dr. André Beytell
Piet Retief – Drs. Niebuhr and Weber
Standerton – Dr. Kobie Kroon
Standerton – Drs. Nel, Swart, Van der Merwe and Berg
Volksrust – Drs. Watson, Solomon, Scheepers and Blaauw

Gauteng (5)

Bronkhorstspuit – Drs. De Bruin, De Bruin, Rudolph and Slabber
Magaliesburg – Dr. Ryan Jeffery
Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital - Proff. Annandale, Prozesky, Shakespear, Holm, Pettey and Drs. Arnot, Fitte, Grobler, Hamman, Koeppel, Leask, Maboe, Marufu, Mokoelle, O'Dell, Tshuma and Van der Leek
Pretoria – Dr. Hanneke Pienaar
Vanderbijlpark – Dr. Kobus Kok

Limpopo (7)

Bela-Bela (Warmbath) – Dr. Nele Sabbe
Lephalale (Ellisras) – Dr. Brigitte Luck
Makhado (Louis Trichardt) – Drs. Harris, Klopper and Jacobs
Mokopane- Dr. Henk Visser
Polokwane (Pietersburg) – Drs. Watson, Viljoen, Jansen van Vuuren, Van Rooyen, Snyman and Cremona

Vaalwater – Dr. Hampie van Staden

Vaalwater – Dr. Annemieke Müller

North West (10)

Brits – Drs. Boshoff and Coertze

Christiana - Dr. Pieter Nel

Klerksdorp – Drs. Coetzee and Venter

Klerksdorp – Drs. Van den Berg, Van den Berg, Theron and Geral

Leeudoringstad – Dr. Ian Jonker

Rustenburg – Drs. Grobler, Sparks, Van Egdom, Van Rooyen, Goosen and Van Rensburg

Stella - Dr. Magdaleen Vosser

Ventersdorp/ Koster –Dr. Nico Benadé

Vryburg – Drs. De Jager and Rautenbach

Vryburg – Dr. Jurie Kritzinger

Free State (20)

Bultfontein – Dr. Santjie Pieterse

Clocolan – Drs. Wasserman and Basson

Dewetsdorp – Dr. Marike Badenhorst

Frankfort - Drs. Lessing, Cilliers and Janse van Rensburg

Harrismith – Drs. Pretorius and Slabber

Kroonstad – Drs. Daffue, Eksteen, Van Zyl and Van der Walt

Ladybrand/Excelsior - Dr. De Vos and Nel

Memel – Drs. Nixon and Nixon

Parys – Drs. Wessels and Wessels

Philippolis – Dr. Stephan van Niekerk

Reitz - Dr. Murray Smith

Reitz – Dr. Schabort Froneman

Senekal – Dr. Jan Blignaut

Smithfield – Dr. Nienke van Hasselt

Trompsburg – Dr. Wyn Irwin

Viljoenskroon - Dr. Johan Kahts

Villiers – Drs. Hattingh and Hauptfleish

Wesselsbron – Dr. Johan Jacobs

Winburg – Drs. Albertyn and Albertyn

Zastron – Drs. Troskie and Strauss

KwaZulu-Natal (13)

Bergville – Dr. Jubie Muller

Camperdown – Dr. Anthony van Tonder

Dundee – Drs. Marais and Fynn

Dundee – Dr. Paul Reynolds

Eshowe – Dr. Craige Pryke

Estcourt – Drs. Turner, Tedder, Taylor, Tratschler, Van Rooyen and Alwar

Kokstad - Drs. Clowes and Shrives

Mtubatuba – Dr. Trever Viljoen
Newcastle – Dr. Barry Rafferty
Pietermaritzburg – Dr. Phillip Kretzmann
Pongola – Dr. Heinz Kohrs
Underberg - Drs. Collins, King and Delaney
Vryheid – Drs. Theron and Theron

Eastern Cape (11)

Alexandria - Dr. Johan Olivier
Aliwal North – Drs. Troskie and Strauss
Bathurst – Dr. Jane Pistorius
Graaff- Reinet - Dr. Roland Larson
Graaff-Reinet – Drs. Hobson, Strydom and Hennesy
Humansdorp – Drs. Van Niekerk, Janse Van Vuuren and Davis
Jeffreys Bay – Drs. Lategan, Hoek and McFarlane
Queenstown – Drs. Du preez, Godley, Klopper, Jansen van Vuuren, De Klerk and Catherine
Stutterheim - Dr. Dave Waterman
Uitenhage – Drs. Mulder and Krüger
Witelsbos – Dr. Elmien Kotze

Western Cape (18)

Beaufort West - Drs. Pienaar and Grobler
Caledon – Drs. Retief, Coetzer and Jansen
Caledon – Drs. Louw and Viljoen
Darling – Drs. Van der Merwe, Adam and Senekal
George - Drs. Strydom, Truter and Pettifer
Heidelberg – Dr. Albert van Zyl
Malmesbury – Drs. Bosman and Groenewald
Malmesbury – Dr. Otto Kriek
Malmesbury – Dr. Markus Fourie
Malmesbury – Dr. Andrie Lech
Oudtshoorn – Dr. Glen Carlisle
Oudtshoorn – Dr. Adriaan Olivier
Piketberg – Dr. André van der Merwe
Riversdale – Drs. Du Plessis, Taylor and De Bruyn
Stellenbosch – Dr. Alfred Kidd
Swellendam – Dr. Jacques Malan
Vredenburg – Dr. Izak Rust
Wellington – Drs. Van Zyl and Louw

Northern Cape (5)

Calvinia – Dr. Bertus Nel
De Aar – Dr. Donald Anderson
Kathu – Dr. Jan Vorster
Kimberley – Drs. Van Heerden and Swart

Uppington – Drs. Vorster and Visser

Feedlots (1)

Drs. Morris and Du Preez

Laboratory reports (6)

Dr. Marijke Henton - Vetdiagnostix, Johannesburg

Dr. Alan Fisher – Queenstown Provincial laboratory

Dr. Last, Bosch and Williams – Vetdiagnostix, Pietermaritzburg

Dr. Liza du Plessis – Idexx, Onderstepoort

Dr. Emily Lane – National Zoological Gardens and Veterinary Faculty

Dr. Mark Chimes – Dairy Standards, George

Key Message

Although rainfall had not been abundant in all areas insect and tick transmitte diseases had been widely reported:

Tick borne diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
African red water	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
Asiatic red water	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Anaplasmosis	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Heartwater	x	x	x	x		x	x		
Lumpy skin disease	x		x	x	x	x		x	
Corridor disease									
Theileriosis									

Insect transmittable diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Lumpy skin disease	x		x	x	x	x		x	
Ephemeral fever (Three day stiff sickness)	x				x	x	x	x	
Blue tongue	x		x					x	
Rift Valley Fever									
Wesselsbron									
Nagana									

A reminder to you: Have you vaccinated all heifers between 4 and 8 months with either Brucella strain 19 or RB 51?

Have you updated your vaccination programme in consultation with your veterinarian? Have you given booster vaccines when indicated?

Brucellosis in cattle is the Veterinary Strategy's Model disease. Do you know what VET stands for?

V = Vaccinate

E = Educate

T = Test

Older non pregnant females can also be vaccinated with RB 51.

Do you know which diseases in South Africa are State Controlled and which ones are Notifiable?

<http://www.daff.gov.za/vetweb/Disease%20Control/Listofcontrollednotifiable.pdf>

**One of the first sentences under controlled diseases is a sentence:
Any animal disease or infectious agent that is not known to occur in South Africa.**

A disease that is slowly spreading to our borders is PPR, the pest of small stock. Come up to speed with information on this deadly disease in small stock.

<http://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/ppr-portal/>

Websites that are there to help you with information regarding animal health:

National Animal Health Forum

www.nahf.co.za

Read what the Forum is all about:

<http://nahf.co.za/about/>

This website will become the information centre of animal health in Southern Africa. On the toolbar click on **Stakeholders** and you will find links to producer organizations and other organizations who are participating in the NAHF

<http://nahf.co.za/stakeholders/>

Provincial Animal Health Forums have their own site – click on **Provinces**

<http://nahf.co.za/provinces/>

Important is to study the Veterinary Strategy (2016 -2026) as it gives direction to where we are going with Animal Health in South Africa.

<http://nahf.co.za/wp-content/uploads/Vet-strategy-final-signed.pdf>

Click on **Info centre** for more information on the “war” we have against Bovine Brucellosis. Please be up to date on the role all have to play to control this zoonotic disease.

<http://nahf.co.za/category/diseases/brucellosis/>

Information on other controlled diseases (Ovine Johne’s Disease, Pest of small stock – PPR, and African Horse Sickness) is available.

This link will continuously be updated.

Information on **antibiotic resistance** is also available at this address:

<http://nahf.co.za/category/antibiotic-resistance/>

Rural Veterinary Association of South Africa

www.ruvasa.co.za

Click on **Disease reporting** where maps and information can be sourced on the prevalence of diseases in all provinces. Abattoir reports are available. Use the information available to update management programmes

Landbouweekblad's webpage

An example on information on brucellosis is:

www.landbou.com

[Vra vir Faffa](#)

Click on: **Indeks van antwoorde** where more than 4 500 answers can be sourced on animal health and other agricultural issues.

Click on Beeste

Click on Siektes

Click on Brusellose

Stop Brusellose

Gevaar om Beesbrusellose (BBR) deur vendusies en skoue te versprei

Rapportering aan bure of ander eienaars oor die voorkoms van brusellose

Inligting oor brusellose op die NAHF se webblad

Kuddebestuur voor die dekseisoen

Bees Brusellose handleiding

Teenliggaamwaardes om beesbrusellose in koeie te bepaal

Veterinêre Strategie 2016 -2026

'n Dosyn dinge wat jy moet weet van beesbrusellose

Vyf kernfeite wat jy van beesbrusellose (Besmetlike misgeboorte – BM) behoort te weet

Veiligheid van vleis en biltong afkomstig van 'n bees met brusellose

Vervoer van diere uit 'n positiewe brusellose kudde

Beheer van brusellose in 'n beeskudde

Boerderypraktyke wat die gevaar van die voorkoms van brusellose verhoog

Pak brusellose by die horings

Brucellose kan jou lewe verwoes

Brusellose in wild

Bestuur van positiewe besmetlike misgeboorte beeste

Aankoop van beeste wat besmetlike misgeboorte het

Antwoorde oor brusellose

Behandeling van besmetlike misgeboorte

Besmetlike misgeboorte uitbreek in 'n kudde

Gevaar van brusellose onderskat

RB51-inenting teen brusellose in dragtige koeie

Alles oor Besmetlike Misgeboorte (BM)

Kompensasie vir BM en TB positiewe beeste?

Nóg vrae oor besmetlike misgeboorte

Koeie positief getoets vir besmetlike misgeboorte

Vrae, antwoorde oor besmetlike misgeboorte

Brucellose: Wat staan ons te doen?

Internal parasite control

www.wormx.info

Summary of disease report for December 2017

107 Reports from veterinary practices and laboratories were received (Mpumalanga (MP) 11; Gauteng (G) 5; Limpopo (L) 7; Northwest (NW)10; Free State (FS) 20; KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) 13; Eastern Cape (EC 11); Western Cape (WC) 18; Northern Cape (NC) 5; Feedlots (FL) 1 and Laboratories (Lab) 6).

For the detailed report and previous reports go to www.ruvasa.co.za and click on Disease reporting

Internal parasites

The following reports were received from practices regarding internal parasite infestations:

Internal parasites	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Roundworms	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Resistant roundworms	x		x		x				
Wireworm	x		x		x	x	x	x	
Brown stomach-worm									
Long-necked bankruptworm									
Large-mouthed bowelworm									
Nodularworm									
Lungworm									
Eyeworm					x				
<i>Parafilaria</i>			x	x		x			
Tapeworms	x		x		x	x			
Liver fluke	x					x		x	
Conical fluke	x				x	x			
Cysticercosis (measles)	x				x	x			
Schistosomiasis (bilharzia)									
Coccidiosis	x		x		x	x	x	x	
Cryptosporidiosis	x				x	x			

As soon as there is an increase in rainfall, parasite problems will increase. Use the five point check to keep on top of what is happening in the flock. For further detail contact your local veterinarian.

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ad98_cb447e77eef6450f93a2b23cb0e6b9de.pdf

Visit: www.wormx.info for lots of information on parasite control

External parasites

The following reports were received from practices regarding external parasite infestations:

External parasites	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Blue ticks	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Resistant blue ticks	x				x	x			
Heartwater ticks	x		x			x			
Brown ear-ticks	x		x	x	x	x			
Bont-legged ticks	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Red-legged ticks	x			x	x	x			
Paralysis ticks	x								
Tampans									
Biting lice					x		x		x
Sucking lice				x			x		
Itch mites									
Sheep scab				x	x				
Mange mites				x	x				
Nuisance flies	x			x	x	x	x	x	
Midges	x							x	
Mosquitoes					x			x	
Blowflies	x		x		x			x	
Screw-worm	x		x				x		
Geddoelstia (uitpeuloogsiekte)									
Nasal bot					x	x			

Make sure to assess the blue tick resistance status on your farm before buying tickicides. Your veterinarian will be able to collect engorged blue ticks to be tested for resistance.

Actives to be tested for resistance are: organophosphates, pyrethroids, amidines. Active registered for controlling blue ticks are: macrocyclic lactones and fluzuron (acaricide growth regulator). A new active was recently registered for use in cattle: fipronil

Tick numbers will increase after rains. Below is a list of diseases transmitted by ticks.

Tick borne diseases

The following tick borne diseases were reported by practices in the provinces:

Tick borne diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
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African red water	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Asiatic red water	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Anaplasmosis	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Heartwater	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Lumpy skin disease	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Corridor disease									
Theileriosis									

Asiatic red water is spreading and is one of the deadliest diseases in cattle.

The new heartwater vaccine is still a year or two away as registration trials have to be done when the upscaling of vaccine production is accomplished.

The following tick toxicosis was reported by practices in the provinces:

Tick toxicosis	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Sweating sickness				X	X	X			

Insect transmittable diseases

The following insect transmittable diseases were reported by practices in the provinces:

Insect transmittable diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Lumpy skin disease	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Ephemeral fever (Three day stiff sickness)	X				X	X	X	X	
Blue tongue	X		X					X	
Rift Valley Fever									
Wesselsbron									
Nagana									

Vaccination against these diseases should have been done. Rains have fallen in many parts of the summer rainfall area which predicts lots of insect vectors.

Venerial diseases

The following venereal diseases were reported by practices in the provinces:

Venereal diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Trichomonosis	X			X	X	X	X		
Vibriosis					X	X			
Pizzle disease									X
<i>Actinobacillus seminis</i>									

New cases of **trichomonosis** are reported every month and this disease is out of control. Make sure to buy bulls from farmers where biosecurity measures are in place and bulls are tested for these diseases at regular intervals.

Study the table above and determine the risk for animals on your farm. Get advice from your veterinarian on *Cryptosporidium/E. coli* outbreaks in your area and what to do to prevent losses in lambs and calves. Biosecurity measures are of utmost importance and make sure that calves and lambs receive sufficient high quality colostrum!

When buying animals this Vendor declaration can help you to minimize risk!

VENDOR DECLARATION BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

I hereby declare that I am the legal owner or authorised representative of the cattle on sale and am competent to make this declaration

1	The cattle for sale are clearly and permanently identified		Yes	No
2	The cattle for sale/slaughter were born on my farm		Yes	No
3	The farm has a closed herd policy i.e. I do not buy in cattle, rent out grazing or speculate with cattle		Yes	No
4	I practice bio-security on my farm to a level that is **	Poor	Moderate	Good
5	I vaccinate my heifer calves against Bovine Brucellosis once between the ages of 4 – 8 months		Yes	No
6	In addition I vaccinate my cattle older than 8 months with RB51		Yes	No
7	I have all the cattle on my farm tested for Bovine Brucellosis		Yes (date)	No
8	My herd has been tested negative within the past year		Yes	No
9	I did not buy in cattle since my last negative brucellosis test		Yes	No
10	I/my vet investigates any abortions on my farm		Yes	No
11	To the best of my knowledge, my immediate neighbours and farms in my area are free of Bovine Brucellosis		Yes	No
12	I use a veterinarian to advise me on my cattle's herd health		Yes	No
13	The cattle handling facilities on my farm are	Poor	Average	Good

Note: Vaccination does not mean freedom from Bovine Brucellosis as cattle can still be carriers
Please attach the most recent *Brucella* blood test certificate

Owner or authorised representative:.....

Signature:.....

Date:.....

**** * Biosecurity**

Poor – speculates with cattle, does not vaccinate, poor fences, cattle come into contact with other cattle

Medium – Vaccinates heifers, does not buy in cattle of unknown health status

Good – closed herd/never buys in cattle, vaccinates heifers and no contact with other cattle, follows a herd health plan as advised by his veterinarian, does not allow transport trucks onto property, washes and disinfects truck after returning from the abattoir or auction grounds.

Compiled by: Dr. Sewellyn Davey, Chairman of the Brucellosis Steering committee of the National Animal Health Forum

Vendor's declaration for Ovine Johne's Disease

OVINE JOHNE'S DISEASE VENDOR DECLARATION

ON THE SALE OF SHEEP

(Updated Draft May 2015)

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. I hereby declare that I am the owner or authorised representative of the sheep on sale and am competent to make this declaration. | YES | NO |
| 2. The sheep for sale are clearly identified in the accompanying description. | YES | NO |
| 3. The sheep for sale were born on my farm. | YES | NO |
| 4. The farm has a closed flock policy. (No live sheep are brought onto the farm from elsewhere) | YES | NO |
| 5. I know the signs of the disease and to the best of my knowledge, all of my properties are free of cases of Ovine Johne's Disease. | YES | NO |
| 6. I have actively looked for Ovine Johne's Disease and have had tests done for this. | YES | NO |
| 7. To the best of my knowledge, my immediate neighbours and farms in my magisterial district of my farm(s) are free of cases of Ovine Johne's Disease. | YES | NO |

8. The sheep on my properties have been vaccinated against Ovine Johne's Disease and are clearly marked with the approved ear tag.	YES	NO
9. All lambs born are vaccinated	YES	NO
10. If vaccinated, the number of years that the vaccinations have been done is		years

NOTE: Vaccination does not mean freedom from OJD, vaccinated animals can still be carriers.
Statement 8 and 9 apply only to already infected flocks, and such sheep can only be sold to other infected flocks by law.
Buyers should consult their veterinary advisor before any purchases.

Signature

Date

NAME

Farm: _____

OWNER OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

District: _____

The use of this declaration is supported by the following organisations:



UNIVERSITAT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
UNIVERSITATI YA PRETORIA



RUVASA
Council of Ruminant Producers of South Africa



Viral diseases

The following viral diseases were reported by practices in the provinces:

Viral diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
BMC (snotsiekte)			x	x				x	
Rabies (cattle)			x		x				
BVD				x	x			x	
IBR				x		x			
BRSV								x	
PI3									
Maedi visna virus									
Rotavirus / Coronavirus	x					x			
Enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL)						x			
Sheep leucosis									
Jaagsiekte				x					
Orf	x		x	x	x	x		x	
Warts	x				x	x		x	

There is no treatment for viral diseases with the result that animals have to be protected by immunizing animals against these diseases if they are available.

The snotsiekte vaccine is still in the experimental stage and will hopefully be registered in two years time.

Discuss vaccination programmes and biosecurity measures with your veterinarian.

Fungal diseases

The following fungal disease was reported by practices in the provinces:

Fungal diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Ringworm			x	x	x	x		x	

Protozoal diseases

Protozoal diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Besnoitiosis (olifantsvelsiekte)									

Toxicities

The following toxicities were reported by practices in the provinces:

Toxicities	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Cardiac glycoside								x	
Slangkop									
Crotalaria									
Gifblaar	x		x						
Gousiekte	x		x						
<i>Cestrum</i> (ink berry)		x							
Tulip					x				

Fluoride									
Lead									
Paraquat									
Phosamine									
Aldicarb									
Organophosphate									
Zinc phosphide									
Pyrethroid									
Amitraz									
Levamisole									
Ivermectin									
Tilmicosin									
Bromoxynil nitrate									
Ionophor									
Hypo									

Beware when buying in animals or moving into rested grazing camps as they are the animals which usually eat toxic plants such as tulp and ink berries (*Cestrum*).

During spring toxic plants are sometimes eaten by young animals that do not know these plants. Be aware of this situation and know where these plants are growing on the farm.

For further information on treatment of tulp and other poisonings visit:

www.landbou.com

Vra vir Faffa

Klik op Indeks van antwoorde

Klik op Beeste of Skape

Klik op Vergiftigings

Klik op die Opskrifte

Every month there are reports of urea poisoning. Be aware when feeding this product that the correct concentration is used and that the lick does not get wet!

Nutritional deficiencies

The following nutritional deficiencies were reported by practices in the provinces:

Deficiencies	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Energy			x	x	x		x	x	x
Protein			x	x			x	x	x
Phosphate				x					
Calcium	x						x		x

Plastic bags (ingestion)									
Downer	x				x			x	
Wet carcasses									x

Discuss the origin, treatment and prevention of these diseases with your veterinarian

Metabolic diseases

The following diseases were reported by practices in the provinces:

Metabolic diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Acidosis	x				x		x	x	
Displaced abomasums	x				x			x	
Ketosis (Domsiekte)	x			x			x	x	x
Milk fever	x							x	

Make sure that you adapt animals to feed containing concentrates.

Discuss the etiology, treatment and prevention of these diseases with your veterinarian.

Reproductive diseases

Reproductive diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Dystocia (difficult births)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Endometritis	x				x	x		x	
Hydrops									
Metritis	x			x	x		x	x	
Poor conception	x				x			x	
Retained afterbirth	x		x	x	x		x	x	
Sheath prolaps					x				
Uterine prolaps	x				x	x		x	
Vaginal prolaps	x	x			x	x		x	
Penis injury									
Orchitis									

Environmental conditions

	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Exposure to cold			x				x		
Frozen to death									
Heat stress	x					x		x	
Lightning	x				x	x			
Drought			x		x		x	x	

Other conditions

	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Drug residues (milk, meat, liver, kidney etc)									
Preditors	x				x				
Theft	x				x				
Traumatic pericarditis (wire in fore stomachs)		x				x	x		
Trauma (fractures etc)	x	x		x				x	
Trauma (veldfires)									
Electrocution		x							

In the CODE OF CONDUCT of the RPO the following standard operating procedures are documented. The local veterinarian should be your partner to help you achieve the necessary standards. <http://www.rpo.co.za/BestPractices/English.aspx>

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO SUPPORT BIO-SECURITY.

Precautionary measures are required to protect the herd against diseases acquired because of external contact. The following categories are of concern:

1. DIRECT LIVESTOCK PURCHASES (and own animals returning):

The following should be *verified* before importing new animals into the herd:

How long animals have resided at the purchase or previous location?

Have there been any recent disease outbreaks in the location?

Do brand marks clearly confirm ownership?

Was a vaccination program followed (need paper or veterinarian proof). What are the local prevalent external parasites and the routinely implemented control program?

Is a veterinarian supported control program against transmittable diseases followed?

Dates and sufficient number of tests for reproductive diseases of both male and female

Dates and tests for zoonotic diseases

The above should also be verified with the purchaser's own veterinarian.

2. PURCHASES FROM SALES OR SPECULATORS

Purchase only in areas which are not in close proximity to scheduled areas

Visually inspect the animals before purchasing for:

* brand marks

* parasite infestation

3. TRANSPORT TO THE FARM

Use only reputable transporters

Has the truck been cleaned and disinfected?

Truck to follow the shortest uninterrupted route

Truck to take the shortest route to the handling facilities

Do not allow the truck personnel to get in contact with the farm herd

4. ARRIVAL ON THE FARM

Off-load the livestock to limit stress and to be visually evaluated for any unnatural conditions.

Isolate them from the farm herd and shared facilities for at least 21 days (quarantine)

Retest for diseases of concern if needed, before mixing with the rest of the herd

Process new arrivals within 24 hrs after arrival (unique ID tag brand, dip, dose, vaccinate)

Inspect regularly

5. FEED PURCHASES

Ensure bales of hay are sourced from areas that are not bordering scheduled areas

Purchase feed from reputable dealers only

Avoid buying feed in second hand bags

Ensure feed trucks are also disinfected and cleaned, especially if also used to transport animals to abattoirs

6. VISITORS

Do not allow strangers or their vehicles amongst the livestock

Ensure fences are well maintained and preferably jackal and warthog proof

7. EMPLOYEES

Do not allow the employees to eat in feed stores

Supply employees with sufficient ablution facilities

Regularly arrange to let employees be medicated for tape worm and have health check-ups

Keep record of all employee livestock on the property

Treat employee livestock with separate but dedicated health programs

Ensure employees understand the reason behind the implemented bio-security measures to help ensure compliance.

GENERAL AND REPRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

Record keeping: All animals are individually identified and recorded.

To prove ownership: All animals are marked with the registered brand mark according to the Animal Identification Act, No 6 of 2002.

A defined breeding season is the basis of effective management: The breeding season coincides with the rainy season, i.e. the period when nutritive value of the pasture is at its best.

Sufficient energy reserves in the herd as measured by condition scoring are vital, especially for effective breeding, and when inadequate the herd is supplemented in consultation with a nutritionist: Condition scoring of bulls and cows are regularly done, particularly at the onset of the breeding season and supplemented if necessary.

Bull - cow ratios are maintained: A ratio of 1 to 25 is maintained in every separate herd.

Fertility of breeding bulls: All breeding bulls are tested for mating ability and semen quality before the breeding season.

Sexually transferable diseases: Sheath washes or scrapes on bulls are performed annually.

Diseases that can cause poor conception, abortion or weak calves: Cows are vaccinated against such diseases in consultation with the veterinarian.

Breeding success monitored by a veterinarian: Rectal pregnancy or scan diagnosis is done by the veterinarian 8 weeks after the breeding season.

Twenty percent of cows or more not pregnant: Further tests are done to determine cause of low pregnancy rate.

Culling of non-pregnant cows: Non-pregnant cows are removed from the herd and considered a necessary bonus to supporting herd income.

HERD HEALTH AND BIO-SECURITY

Maintenance of herd health is key to a successful enterprise: A veterinarian should visit the farm bi-annually at least.

Calf mortality before 3 months of age is an important reason for poor weaning percentage: Good management practices are applied to limit early calf deaths.

Some diseases and parasites (internal and external) are more often encountered in specific areas: Annual vaccinations and a parasite control program should be applied according to regional requirements and in liaison with the veterinarian.

Farmers selling weaned calves to feedlots may want to have a market advantage compared to others: A specific vaccination program is applied before weaning for that purpose.

Herds may be at risk of being exposed to CA and TB: The herd is tested annually for CA and all heifers are vaccinated against CA between 4 and 8 months of age with an efficient, approved remedy. The herd is tested at least every 5 years for TB

Precautionary measures are required to prevent diseases being imported into the herd: A quarantine program to keep incoming animals separate is followed. All incoming animals have a suitable certificate of negative test results or are of a certified clean, closed herd.

Stock remedies and medicines should be registered, correctly stored and used before the transpire date: All medicines and stock remedies are registered, stored and applied according to prescription.

Prescribed medicines with a specific application are under the control of the veterinary profession: All prescription medicines are obtained and applied under prescription from a veterinarian.

Practices that had nothing to report

Dewetsdorp – Dr. Marike Badenhorst

George – Dr. Mark Chimes

Karino – Dr. Silke Pfitzer

Humansdorp – Dr. Francois van Niekerk

Jeffreys Bay – Dr. Alf Lategan

Lephalale – Dr. Brigitte Luck

Piketberg - Dr. André van der Merwe

Plettenberg Bay – Dr. André Reitz

Reitz – Dr. Schabort Froneman

Vaalwater – Dr. Hampie van Staden

Vaalwater – Dr. Annemieke Müller

Vanderbijlpark – Dr. Kobus Kok

Vredenburg – Dr. Izak Rust

Ostriches

Oudtshoorn

Redgut – 3 *Clostridium perfringens*

Lungs – 1

Diarrhoea – 3

Ophthalmia -1

Heat stroke - 1

Equines

Limpopo

Bela-Bela

Abscess – Horse losing weight, abscess lanced – looking better within 24 hours

Free State

Smithfield

African Horse sickness – 1 not confirmed yet

Alpaca

Northern Cape

Kimberley

Kerato-conjunctivitis – 2 (eyes)

Game

Gauteng

Pretoria

Eyes – 1

Limpopo

Bela-Bela

Roundworms – Sable died

Poor condition – 1 Sable in open field

Trauma – 2 Rhino fighting wounds

Limpopo

Blue ticks – 1

Heartwater ticks – 1

Brown ear-ticks – 2

Screw-worm - 1

Polokwane

Intestinal roundworms – 3

Resistant roundworms – 3

Brown ear-tick - 3

Coccidiosis – 1

Diarrhoea – 1

Eyes - 1

Capture myopathy – 1

North West

Klerksdorp

Red-legged ticks – 3

Bont-legged ticks – 3

Blue ticks – 3

Cryptosporidiosis – Young impala lambs

Free State

Smithfield

Rabies – Bat eared fox positive no human contact

KwaZulu-Natal

Underberg

Rabies – 1 Jackal

Western Cape

Wellington

Wireworm – 3

Northern Cape

Kimberley

Verminosis – 3 Roan

Sable – 3 Verminosis

Malnutrition – 1 Buffalo

Diarrhoea – 1 Buffalo

Upington

Pneumonia – Old roan cow died of chronic pneumonia

Monthly report on Livestock and Wildlife isolations for December 2017 from Vetdiagnostix –Microbiology Laboratory, supplied by dr. Marijke Henton

(henton@vetdx.co.za)

Vetdiagnostix; Microbiology

Salmonella predominated this month. *Salmonella* Typhimurium was isolated from a calf with enteritis, and a cheetah. As *S. Typhimurium* is mainly carried by rodents, control of rats, especially in feed stores, is important. *Salmonella* Dublin caused septicaemia in 3 calves. *Salmonella* Dublin is almost exclusively found in cattle, and the source of the infection is invariably another bovine. Cured calves may remain lifelong carriers. Vaccination can limit shedding, and the entire herd should be vaccinated regularly. *Salmonella* Enteritidis was isolated from 6 – 8 week old calves, showing haemorrhagic enteritis and septicaemia. The source was most likely untreated chicken manure which was being used as feed.

Other cases of enteritis in calves were due to *E. coli* [6]; in one case together with both *Cryptosporidium* and Rotavirus. *E. coli* also caused enteritis in a lamb, and in 3 cases in pigs. One of the porcine *E. coli* isolates was an ESBL producer. Extended Spectrum Beta Lactamase producers are resistant to all penicillins and cephalosporins, and usually to many other antibiotics as well.

A bovine abscess was caused by a combination of *Trueperella pyogenes* and the anaerobe, *Prevotella*, *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* [2] in sheep; and in a horse, by an ESBL positive *Enterobacter* caused abscess.

Bovine abortions were caused by *Trueperella pyogenes* and *Arcobacter butzleri* [2 cases]. *Arcobacter* is related to *Campylobacter* and causes sporadic abortions. Metritis in a cow was associated with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and in a mare with *Streptococcus canis* G. Another horse had peritonitis due to *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*.

Gangrenous myositis was caused by *Clostridium novyi* in cattle [2]. *Moraxella bovoculi* was isolated from cases of conjunctivitis, but it is of low virulence, and unlikely to be the cause of an outbreak. The *Moraxella bovis* vaccine does not protect against *Moraxella bovoculi*. A single case of bovine pneumonia yielded *Pasteurella multocida*, *Actinomyces* and *Streptococcus suis*. A badly infected joint yielded *Streptococcus dysgalactiae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *E. coli*. A dairy farm with chronic mastitis problems yielded *E. coli* [one isolate being an ESBL producer], *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Enterobacter*, *Enterococcus* and yeasts. All the isolates were resistant to many antibiotics.

Feedlot report received from Drs. Shaun Morris and Eben du Preez for December 2017 (edupreez1@telkomsa.net)

Condition	Comments and Specie
Liver fluke	B 2
Parafilaria	B 3
Cysticercosis (measles)	B 3
Blue ticks	B 3
Heartwater tick	B 3
Brown ear-tick	B 2
Bont-legged tick	B 3
Red-legged tick	B,O 3
Blowflies	O 1
African red water	B 1
Asiatic red water	B 1
Anaplasmosis	B 3
Heartwater	B 3
Sweatingsickness	B 3
Lumpy skin disease	B 3
Red gut	B 3
Blood gut	O 3
Pulpy kidney	O 3
<i>E .coli</i>	B, O 3
Ringworm	B 3
Warts	B 3
Orf	O 3
Protein deficiency	B 3
Energy deficiency	B 3
Phosphate deficiency	B 3
Vitamin A deficiency	B,O 3
Abortion	B 3
Dystocia	B 3
Joint ill	B 1
Lameness	B, O 3
Lungs	B,O 3
Diarrhoea	B,O 3
Eye infection	B,O 3
Retained afterbirth	B 3
Abscesses	B,O 3
Heatstress	B 2
Trauma	B 3
Pericarditis	B 3

Monthly report for December 2017 from Dr R D Last (BVSc; M.Med.Vet(Path); MRCVS)

Specialist Veterinary Pathologist, Vetdiagnostix - Veterinary Pathology Services

Contributors

Mr Butch Bosch, Ms Ntando Magoso, Mrs Beverley Williams, Ms Nicole Genga, Dr Rick Last

LIVESTOCK DISEASE SURVEILLANCE			
LIVESTOCK SPECIES	DISEASE AGENT	NO. CASES	LOCATION
Bovine, Dairy Calf	Cryptosporidiosis	1	Evander, Mpumalanga
Ovine, Adult Ewe	Heartwater	1	East Griqualand, E. Cape
Bovine, Beef Heifer	Malignant Catarrhal Fever	1	Ladysmith, KZN
Bovine, Beef Calves	Salmonellosis (<i>Salmonella dublin</i>)	1	East Griqualand, E. Cape
Ovine, Adult Ewe	Jaagsiekte	1	Brits, Gauteng
Bovine, Adult Cow	Liver Fluke	1	Richmond, KZN

WILDLIFE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE - 2017			
WILDLIFE SPECIES	DISEASE AGENT	NO. CASES	LOCATION
Buffalo Cow	Coccidiosis	1	Port Elizabeth, E Cape
Buffalo Bull	Cardiomyopathy and lymphnode silicosis	1	Hoedspruit, Limpopo
Buffalo Bull	Pulmonary bacterial pseudomycetoma	1	Hoedspruit, Limpopo

Monthly report for December 2017 from Queenstown Provincial Veterinary Laboratory as supplied by Dr. A.D. Fisher (alan.fisher@drdar.gov.za)

Condition	Area	Comments and Specie
Heartwater	Gwatyu Queenstown	B 1
Brucellosis	Queenstown	B 1, new farm 15/85
Coccidiosis	Stutterheim Tarkastad	O 3
BMC (snotsiekte)	Cofimvaba	B 1, sheep associated virus
Rabies	Ngcobo Lusikisiki Mthatha Mqanduli Ngcobo Mthatha	B 1 B 1 B 1 B 1 C 1 Canine 1

B – bovine; O – ovine; C – caprine; P – pigs; G – game

1 = one case; 2 = 2 to 9 cases; 3 = more than 10 cases

Cattle dying due to drought conditions – no grazing available in communal areas.

Monthly report on Livestock and Wildlife isolations for December 2017 from IDEXX Laboratories supplied by dr. Liza du Plessis (Liza-DuPlessis@idexx.com)

Condition	Comments and Specie
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Heartwater tick	E, G 1
Red-legged tick	E 1
Sweating sickness	B 1
Theileriosis	G 2
Dermatophytosis	E 1
Salmonellosis	B 1
<i>E. coli</i>	B 2
Coccidiosis	G 1
BMC (snotsiekte)	B 2
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	B 1
Equine sarcoid	E 1
Cardiotoxicity	B 1
Gousiekte	B 1
Abortion	E 2
Metritis	B 1
Lungs	B,G 1
Diarrhoea	B 1



NZG

National Zoological Gardens
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3rd January 2018

DAFF

Import/Export Policy Unit Subdirector

Monthly report:

Cases sent to referring veterinarians between 24th November 2017 and 3rd January 2018

Cases from State vet Skukuza or Orpen

Cases imported with master permit (none)

Note: Pending NZG cases are being done by Dr Lewis as part of her training in wildlife pathology and so results are delayed.

PMDate	Species	Final
10 Jul 17	Hamadryas Baboon	Complications of mandibular squamous cell carcinoma
10 Jul 17	Bald Ibis	Bacterial infection of multiple organs
10 Jul 17	Lion tailed Macaque	Endometriosis
24 Jul 17	Waldrapp Ibis	Complications of a broken bill
02 Aug 17	Brown Lemur	Pending
04 Aug 17	African Wild Dog	Pending
04 Aug 17	Cheetah	Bacterial enteritis, nematode-associated cellulitis and myositis
07 Aug 17	Nyala	Acute cardiorespiratory failure
08 Aug 17	Giant Anteater	Pending
10 Aug 17	Lion	Con-specific trauma
10 Aug 17	Cheetah	Mild multifocal subacute gastritis
10 Aug 17	Cheetah	Grade 3 gastritis
10 Aug 17	Cheetah	Grade 1 gastritis

10 Aug 17	Leopard	Choke, bloat
14 Aug 17	Blue wildebeest	Suspected sarcoptic mange
15 Aug 17	Burchells Zebra	Presumed cyanobacterial intoxication
15 Aug 17	Burchells Zebra	Cerebellar and spinal cord oedema
16 Aug 17	Waldrapp Ibis	Complications of a fractured mandibular beak
16 Aug 17	Cape Terrapin	Suspected starvation, dehydration
18 Aug 17	Blue and Gold Macaw	Suspected proventricular dilatation disease
18 Aug 17	Red eared Terrapin	Suspected complications of malnutrition
21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Pending (BTB monitoring)
21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Pending (BTB monitoring)
21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Pending (BTB monitoring)

21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Pending (BTB monitoring)
21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Pending (BTB monitoring)
21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Poached animal
21 Aug 17	Cheetah	Flea-associated anaemia
21 Aug 17	White Rhino	Suspected poaching
21 Aug 17	Cheetah	Flea-associated anaemia
24 Aug 17	Lion	Suspected vitamin A deficiency
29 Aug 17	Impala	Healthy animal (TB monitoring)
29 Aug 17	African Elephant	None possible (no lesions)
29 Aug 17	African Elephant	None possible (no lesions)
29 Aug 17	Leopard	Presumed paucibacillary tuberculosis

Kind regards,



Dr E Mitchell (néé Lane)

Faculty of Veterinary Science

Research Associate, NZG