

**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**

**April 2017**

Previous disease reports can be seen on the RuVASA website [www.ruvasa.co.za](http://www.ruvasa.co.za)

**Click on Disease Reports**

**The following practices and laboratories (121) submitted reports during April 2017:**

**Mpumalanga (13)**

Balfour – Dr. Louis van Jaarsveld  
Bethal – Dr. Hardus Pieters  
Delmas – Drs. Du Plessis and Ferreira  
Ermelo – Drs. Potgieter and Steinberg  
Grootvlei – Dr. Neels van Wyk  
Karino – Dr. Silke Pfitzer  
Lydenburg – Drs. Trümpelmann and Steyn  
Malalane – Van Sittert and Van Sittert  
Middelburg – Malan, Erasmus and Bernitz  
Nelspruit – Dr. André Beytell  
Piet Retief – Drs. Niebuhr and Weber  
Standerton – Dr. Kobie Kroon  
Volksrust – Drs. Watson, Solomon and Scheepers

**Gauteng (6)**

Bronkhorstspuit – Drs. De Bruin, De Bruin, Rudolph and Slabber  
Magaliesburg – Dr. Ryan Jeffery  
Nigel – Dr. Cindy van der Westhuizen  
Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital - Proff. Annandale, Prozesky, Shakespear, Holm and Esposito, Gratwick, Hamman, Harmse and O'Dell  
Pretoria – Dr. Hanneke Pienaar  
Vanderbijlpark – Dr. Kobus Kok

**Limpopo (6)**

Bela-Bela – Dr. Nele Sabbe  
Bela-Bela – Drs. Du Toit, Hanse, Bester and Herbst  
Mokopane (Potgietersrus) - Dr. Henk Visser

Polokwane (Pietersburg) – Drs. Watson, Viljoen, Jansen Van Vuuren, Van Rooyen, Snyman and Cremona

Vaalwater – Dr. Hampie van Staden

Vaalwater – Dr. Annemieke van der Goot

### **North West (10)**

Brits – Dr. Gerhardus Scheepers

Christiana - Dr. Pieter Nel

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

Klerksdorp- Drs. Coetzee and Venter

Leeudoringstad – Dr. Ian Jonker

Lichtenburg – Dr. Nelmarie-Krüger Rall

Stella - Dr. Magdaleen Vosser

Ventersdorp/ Koster – Drs. Marais and Benadé

Vryburg – Dr. Marnus de Jager

Vryburg – Dr. Jurie Kritzing

### **Free State (23)**

Bethlehem – Dr. J.C. du Plessis

Bothaville – Dr. Johan Blaauw

Bultfontein – Dr. Santjie Pieterse

Clocolan – Drs. Wasserman and Basson

Dewetsdorp – Dr. Marike Badenhorst

Ficksburg – Drs. Kotze and Coetzer

Frankfort - Drs. Lessing, Cilliers and Janse van Rensburg

Gariiep Dam – Dr. Marni Strauss

Hertzogville - Dr. Nico Hendrikz

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

Ladybrand/Excelsior - Drs. De Vos and Nel

Memel – Drs. Nixon and Nixon

Parys – Drs. Wessel and Wessel

Reitz - Dr. Murray Smith

Senekal – Dr. Jan Blignaut

Smithfield – Dr. Nienke van Hasselt

Trompsburg – Dr. Wyn Irwin

Viljoenskroon - Dr. Johan Kahts

Villiers – Drs. Hattingh and Hauptfleisch

Vrede – Drs. Bester Cloete and Fourie

Wesselsbron – Dr. Johan Jacobs

Winburg – Drs. Albertyn and Albertyn

Zastron – Drs. Troskie and Strauss

### **KwaZulu-Natal (14)**

Bergville - Dr. Ariena Shepherd

Bergville – Dr. Jubie Muller

Camperdown – Dr. Anthony van Tonder  
Dundee – Drs. Marais and Fynn  
Estcourt – Drs. Turner, Tedder, Taylor, Tratschler, Van Rooyen and Alwar  
Howick – Drs. Hughes, Lund, Gordon, Allison and Taylor  
Kokstad - Drs. Clowes and Shrives  
Mooi River – Drs. Fowler, Hartley, Alexander and Reisinger  
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 (15)**

Adelaide – Dr. Steve Cockroft  
Alexandria - Drs. Olivier and Dreyer  
Aliwal North/Zastron – Drs. Troskie and Strauss  
Bathurst – Dr. Jane Pistorius  
Cradock – Dr. Frans Erasmus  
Graaff- Reinet - Dr. Roland Larson  
Graaff-Reinet – Hobson, Strydom and Hennesy  
Humansdorp – Drs. Van Niekerk and Janse Van Vuuren  
Kareedouw – Dr. Martin Bootsma  
Middelburg/Steynsburg – Drs. Van Rooyen and Viljoen  
Port Alfred – Dr. Leon de Bruyn  
Queenstown – Drs. Du Preez, Godley, Klopper, Jansen van Vuuren, De Klerk and Catherine  
Stutterheim - Dr. Dave Waterman  
Uitenhage – Drs. Mulder and Krüger  
Witelsbos – Dr. Bernadine van den Berg

### **Western Cape (19)**

Beaufort West - Drs. Pienaar and Grobler  
Caledon – Drs. Retief, Coetzer, Jansen and Woudstra  
Darling – Drs. Van der Merwe, Adam and Senekal  
George - Drs. Strydom, Truter and Pettifer  
George – Dr. Riaan Putter  
Heidelberg – Dr. Albert van Zyl  
Malmesbury – Dr. Otto Kriek  
Malmesbury – Drs. Bosman and Groenewald  
Malmesbury – Dr. Markus Fourie  
Malmesbury – Dr. N.J. Heyns  
Oudtshoorn – Dr. Glen Carlisle  
Oudtshoorn – Dr. Adriaan Olivier  
Piketberg – Dr. André van der Merwe  
Plettenberg Bay – Dr. André Reitz

Plettenberg Bay – Drs. Nell and Tindall  
Stellenbosch – Dr. Alfred Kidd  
Swellendam – Drs. Malan  
Vredenburg – Dr. Izak Rust  
Wellington – Dr. William van Zyl

#### **Northern Cape (8)**

Colesberg – Drs. Rous and Rous  
De Aar – Dr. Donald Anderson  
Calvinia – Dr. Bertus Nel  
Kathu – Dr. Jan Vorster  
Kuruman – Dr Gerhard van der Westhuizen  
Philipstown – Dr. Stephan Van Niekerk  
Postmansburg – Dr. Bota van der Merwe  
Upington – Drs. Vorster and Visser

#### **Feedlots (2)**

Drs. Morris and Du Preez  
Dr. Andy Hentzen

#### **Laboratory reports (5)**

Dr. Marijke Henton - Vetdiagnostix, Johannesburg  
Dr. Liza du Plessis – Idexx SA Onderstepoort  
Dr. Alan Fisher – Queenstown Provincial laboratory  
Dr. Rick Last – Vetdiagnostix, Pietermaritzburg  
Dr. Emily Lane – National Zoological Gardens

### **Key Message**

#### **The key message this month is: Beware what you buy!**

It is the buyer's prerogative to make sure that animals that are free of diseases and resistant parasites are brought to the farm and let loose into the flock or herd.

That means that animals bought should be tested for brucellosis, TB, Enzootic Bovine Leukosis and dipped and dosed. Quarantine animals and make sure resistant parasites are not spread on the farm. Contact your veterinarian to help you with a programme to reduce the risk!

#### **DON'T BUY BLIND!**

Gareth Bath, Professor Emeritus, Onderstepoort, Convenor of the Small Stock Health Advisory Body and Chairman: Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee (LWCC)

Buying livestock at auctions is usually accompanied by excitement and expectations of animal improvement. The day is enjoyed, the competition with other buyers is stimulating, farmers discuss animals with their peers, inspect the animals to be sold and hopefully acquire the right animals at the right price.

If farmers truly want to acquire the best breeding animals, they should first study the sale catalogues for breeding information such as microns, clean fleece weight, average daily gain (ADG), twinning, breeding value and more, before looking at the rams and ewes. And even better, when the flock performance data of the seller is available and can be evaluated.

This is all very well, but later the buyer sometimes gets a very unpleasant surprise in the form of a disease that was not identified at the time of the sale but was brought onto the farm with the animals purchased at the sale. These are the slumbering diseases that are unknowingly introduced into the flock on the farm by apparently healthy animals.

No farmer worth his salt will knowingly buy an obviously diseased or infected animal. However, there is a group of diseases that hide in apparently normal animals that can easily catch buyers out.

This group of diseases is characterised by the following features:

- They can occur in apparently healthy animals and can be unnoticed for long periods
- Only one carrier animal is enough to introduce and establish the disease in a flock of sheep
- It is expensive, and / or difficult and sometimes even impossible to get rid of some of these diseases
- For most of these diseases, there are legal implications for farmers who are aware of them in their flocks but who fail to make their presence known at sales. In some cases, sales may be illegal while the disease occurs.

#### WHICH DISEASES ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

- Johne's disease. For good reasons, farmers should fear this disease. It is a state controlled disease.
- Sheep foot rot, which must be distinguished from foot abscess.
- Jaagsiekte. Although rarely seen, it will permanently infect the flock.
- Sheep scab, another state controlled disease.
- Caseous lymphadenitis (CLA), cheesy gland abscesses, difficult to control and eradicate.
- Venereal diseases such as *Brucella ovis*, *Actinobacillus seminis* and pizzle disease (peestersiekte).
- Skin diseases such as Bolo disease and ringworm.
- Resistant roundworms, especially wireworm.
- Enzootic abortion. If brought onto the farm, the ewe flock will have to be vaccinated for many years or indefinitely.
- Turning disease (Gid) where sheep develop a brain cyst; the tapeworm is present in dogs and jackals.
- Liver fluke worms, where vleis and water sources with the correct intermediate hosts (water snails) present can become permanently infected.
- Orf virus, which is very resistant, can be transmitted at kraals or during transport.
- Heartwater ticks, if infected by the heartwater organism, can infect farms.
- Lice, both red and blue, can easily be missed on sheep at shows and auctions.
- Other ticks such as the Karoo paralysis tick can unknowingly be spread at sheep and goat auctions.
- Scrapie was brought into the country inadvertently and all the sheep were culled.
- Leukosis is rarely reported but buyers should be aware of it.

The most important threats that sheep and goat farmers should take note of are listed above – there are more!

#### HOW CAN RISKS BE REDUCED?

Every disease has its own control measures but the following general principles should be followed at livestock auctions:

- Do not buy from unknown sources, and limit the number of farms from whence animals are bought. Too often at general auctions we buy more than just new sheep and goats – we also unknowingly buy new diseases! The source should be trustworthy and known.
- Inspect for-sale animals thoroughly – the face, skin, hooves and genital organs should receive special attention.
- Quarantine all newly-purchased animals in isolation on concrete or gravel with no grass for 6 weeks.
- Even if the buyer was told that animals were vaccinated for a certain disease, vaccinating again will give peace of mind.
- Dip animals with registered products that kill external parasites, keeping in mind that there might be resistance to the active ingredient.
- Dose animals with the best available dewormers and do a faecal egg count 10 days later to be sure that the existing worm burden was removed.
- Obtain professional advice and recommendations from a local veterinarian who can give more information.
- Be sure to obtain a **vendor declaration** from the prospective seller. It is the buyer's right and obligation to demand this information before animals are bought. If the seller declines, the buyer should come to his or her own conclusions. An example of an approved declaration for Johne's disease is attached and should be demanded by all buyers of sheep.

## **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.                   | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| YES  | NO   |     |    |
| 2. The sheep for sale are clearly identified in the accompanying description.  | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| YES  | NO   |     |    |
| 3. The sheep for sale were born on my farm.  | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| YES  | NO   |     |    |
| 4. The farm has a closed flock policy. (No live sheep are brought onto the farm from elsewhere)  | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| 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.                   | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| YES  | NO   |     |    |
| 6. I have actively looked for Ovine Johne's Disease and have had tests done for this.  | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| 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. | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO |
| 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. | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO    |
| YES  | NO   |     |       |
| 9. All lambs born are vaccinated   | <table border="1"><tr><td>YES</td><td>NO</td></tr></table> | YES | NO    |
| YES  | NO   |     |       |
| 10. If vaccinated, the number of years that the vaccinations have been done is   | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td>years</td></tr></table> |     | years |
|  | 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: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER OR AUTHORIZED  
REPRESENTATIVE

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



UNIVERSITEIT VAN ORANJE  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
UNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA



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**Visit the website of the National Animal Health Forum**

The website of the National Animal Health Forum (NAHF) is now operational.

[www.nahf.co.za](http://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/>

Better relationships are being built between the State Veterinary departments and the private sector.

For additional information on Brucellosis in Afrikaans go to the following website:

Besoek ook [www.landbou.com](http://www.landbou.com)

**Klik op Indeks van antwoorde**

**Klik op Beeste**

**Klik op Siektes**

**Klik op Brusellose**

**Klik op die verskillende antwoorde**

**Live the slogan so that we ALL can be part of controlling bovine brucellosis!**

**V = Vaccinate**

**E = Educate**

**T = Test**

**Summary of disease report for April 2017**



121 Reports from veterinary practices and laboratories were received (Mpumalanga (MP) 13; Gauteng (G) 6; Limpopo (L) 6; North West (NW) 10 Free State (FS) 23; KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) 14; Eastern Cape (EC) 15; Western Cape (WC) 19; Northern Cape (NC) 8; Feedlots (FL) 2 and Laboratories (Lab) 5).

## 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	X	X
Resistant roundworms	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Wireworm	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Brown stomach-worm						X	X		
Long-necked bankruptworm									
Large-mouthed bowelworm									
Nodularworm				X					
Lungworm									
Eyeworm				X	X				
<i>Parafilaria</i>			X	X		X			
Tapeworms	X	X			X			X	
Liver fluke	X	X		X	X	X		X	
Conical fluke	X	X		X	X	X	X		
Cysticercosis (measles)	X			X	X	X			X
Schistosomiasis (bilharzia)									
Coccidiosis	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Cryptosporidiosis					X	X			

With drop in temperatures and cooler weather setting in less rain experienced in utumn there is a perception that internal parasites are less of a problem. Suggest that farmers check their animals especially the more susceptible groups (young and pregnant) more often for signs of parasitism. Bankrupt and brown stomach worms like cooler temperatures and clinical signs are diarrhoea and weight loss. Faecal egg ounts will confirm the diagnosis. As animals will be moved into vleis beware of liver fluke and conical fluke outbreaks.

Farmes should be aware of clinical signs of parasitism ie. anaemia (pale mucous membranes), bottle jaw, weight loss and diarrhoea. Visit [www.wormx.info](http://www.wormx.info) for more information and videos on the FAMACHA and Five point check management systems. Contact your veterinarian regarding the Faecal Egg Count Reduction Test (FECRT) to establish which dewormers (active groups) can still be used effectively in your flock to control worms. Evaluate the group of anthelmintic used after each treatment and record your finding.

## 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	X	
Resistant blue ticks	X				X	X			
Heartwater ticks	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Brown ear-ticks	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Bont-legged ticks	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Red-legged ticks	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Paralysis ticks							X	X	
Tampans									
Biting lice							X		
Sucking lice							X		
Itch mites									
Sheep scab					X	X			
Mange mites									
Nuisance flies	X				X	X	X	X	
Midges	X			X	X	X		X	X
Mosquitoes				X	X				
Blowflies	X		X		X	X	X		
Screw-worm	X	X	X				X		
Geddoelstia (uitpeuloogsiekte)									
Nasal bot		X			X	X			

In the cooler months the larval and nymphal stages of the multi-host ticks are more prevalent. These stages often attach in the ears of animals. In areas where brown ear-ticks are present a winter dipping is advocated to control these stages.

Blue tick resistance to drug groups is on the increase – ask your veterinarian to assist you with information so as to minimize the chances of selecting blue ticks for resistance. Biosecurity is of utmost importance when buying in animals.

## 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
African red water	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Asiatic red water	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Anaplasmosis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Heartwater	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Lumpy skin disease	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Corridor disease						X			
Theileriosis									

The best time to vaccinate cattle against Asiatic red water is during the winter months. Visit your veterinarian to discuss your vaccination programme and order vaccines in time.

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	x	x	x
Ephemeral fever (Three day stiff sickness)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Blue tongue	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rift Valley Fever									
Wesselsbron									
Nagana						x			

Serious outbreaks of lumpy skin disease, three day stiff sickness and blue tongue were reported. In most cases animals were not vaccinated. Great losses were experienced. This should not have happened if a well planned vaccination programme was followed!

## 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			
Vibriosis	x			x	x	x	x		
Pizzle disease				x				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.

Make sure that fences are in tact and gates closed so that bulls cannot escape to neighbouring cows that may be infected with *Trichomonas* and become infected or infected neighbouring bulls are jumping fences.

Cattle study groups should discuss preventative and control measures with their veterinarians. **Be sure to test bulls regularly for these diseases.**

**Beware when buying in or sharing bulls! Remember female animals may also be infected.**

Study the Good management SOP's for cattle farmers as is on the RPO website

<http://www.rpo.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/nuutRPO-NERPO-Code-Addendum.pdf>

<http://www.rpo.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/nuutRPO-NERPO-Code-Addendum-4-Good-management-practices-and-SOPs-for-cattle-farmers-1.pdf>

## Bacterial diseases

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

Bacterial diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Anthrax									
Blackquarter	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Botulism				x				x	
Pulpy kidney				x	x		x	x	x
Lamb dysentery					x				
Swelled head		x			x	x			x
Red gut (cattle)	x				x		x	x	
Blood gut (sheep)	x			x	x	x	x	x	
Tetanus				x					
Salmonellosis									
Bovine brucellosis	x		x	x	x	x			
Ovine brucellosis (Ram's disease)					x			x	
<i>Actinobacillus seminis</i>									
Bovine tuberculosis									
Johne's								x	
Leptospirosis									
Listeriosis									
<i>Pseudomonas</i>									
<i>Fusibacterium necrophorum</i>				x	x				
Septicaemia									
<i>E. coli</i>	x			x	x	x	x	x	x
Enzootic abortion	x			x	x			x	
Lumpy wool					x		x		
Uterine gangrene									
Bovine dermatophilosis (Senkobo disease)									
Wooden tongue									
Lumpy jaw									

Comment: Too many diseases are reported for which vaccines are available. Visit your veterinarian to update your vaccination programme.

The brucellosis control programme consists of:

V = Vaccinate all heifers between the ages of 4 and 8 months with either strain 19 or RB 51

E = Educate: visit [www.nahf](http://www.nahf), click on Information centre, click on diseases and then on Brucellosis

T = Test: arrange to have your herd tested, KNOW YOUR STATUS!

**Due to wet wool fleeces caused by rain, be aware of lumpy wool caused by a bacteria.**

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:.....

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





Copper						x			x	
Selenium										
Zinc										
Fluoride										
Lead										
Paraquat										
Phosamine										
Organophosphate										
Zinc phosphide										
Pyrethroid								x		
Amitraz										
Levamisole										
Tilmicosin										
Ionophor										
Hypo										

Beware when buying in animals as they are the animals which usually eat toxic plants such as tulp.

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

[www.landbou.com](http://www.landbou.com)

Klik op Indeks van antwoorde

Klik op Beeste of Skape

Klik op Vergiftigings

Klik op die Opskrifte

Urea poisoning was on the increase which is due to a management problem.

Before treating animals read the lable or packet insert and make sure of the dosage rate and warnings.

Chemical substances are recorded every month as being the cause of huge losses. Top of the list is urea poisoning. In October over 90 cows died as a result of zincphosphide poisoning!

## 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
Protein	x				x		x	x	x
Phosphate				x					x
Calcium				x	x	x		x	





Plastic bags (ingestion)									
Downer	X	X			X		X	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				
Ketosis (Domsiekte)									X
Milk fever	X				X	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	X	X	
Poor conception	X				X	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									

## Environmental conditions

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

## Other conditions

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

**Karino – Dr. Silke Pfitzer**

**Plettenberg Bay – Drs. Nell and Tindall**

**Vaalwater – Dr. Hampie van Staden**

**Vanderbijlpark – Dr. Kobus Kok**

## **Ostriches**

### **Western Cape**

**Oudtshoorn – Ostrimed**

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Nuisance flies	2 Thunderstorms (1-4mm) suddeny low more flies
Poor doers	Slow growth rate/ mass gain – cold mornings hot day times just to large fluctuations. Poor feed intake = poor growth increased problems
Upper respiratory problems	Few cases of sinusitis/rhinitis – dust of winds/ thunderstorms

## **Equines**

### **Gauteng**

#### **Bronkhorstspuit**

Brown ear-tick – 2 horses and one donkey – rotten ears

African Horse sickness- More than 15 cases

West Nile Fever – 2 cases

Biliary – 2 cases

#### **Magaliesburg**

African Horse Sickness - 2

**Nigel**

Dikkop African Horse Sickness – 2 horses

## **Limpopo**

### **Bela-Bela**

Ophthalmia – Six horses

### **Makhado**

African Horse Sickness – 1

## **Free State**

### **Bethlehem**

Colic – Suspected displacement, resolved with conservative treatment

### **Smithfield**

African Horse Sickness (Dikkop) - 1

## **KwaZulu-Natal**

Mooi River

Nuisance flies

## **Eastern Cape**

Humansdorp

West Nile Fever - 1

## **Northern Cape**

### **Colesberg**

African Horse Sickness

Equine encephalosis

West Nile Fever

### **Postmasburg**

African Horse Sickness –On farm 16 and other 20 horses died

## **Game**

## **Mpumalanga**

### **Lydenburg**

Blowflies – G 1

Lameness – G 1

## **Gauteng**

### **Bronkhorstspuit**

Anaemia – Gemsbok 2 Severe tick burden, copper deficiency

Abscesses – Black wildebeest – peri-anal abscesses, screw-worm due to bont-legged tick bites

Eye infections – 3 Eland and Nyala

### **Pretoria**

Intestinal roundworms – 2

Bont ticks - 3

Bont legged-tick – 3

Ked (*Lipoptena paradoxa*) – 3

Heartwater – 2  
Visceral (heart pluck) clostridial myositis – 1  
Copper deficiency – 1  
Zinc deficiency – 1  
Selenium deficiency – 1  
Iron deficiency – 1  
Manganese deficiency – 1  
Lameness – 1  
Lungs - 1

## **Limpopo**

### **Bela-Bela**

Roundworms – 3  
Heartwater – 2 Springbok  
Coccidiosis – 3 Sable and impala  
Warts – 2 Sable  
Ear infection – Three Nyalas

### **Bela-Bela**

Unknown diseases – Bushbuck -1: Sable calf – 1  
Anaemia – Sable, very high epg  
Predator wounds – Nyala chased by lynx

## **Mokopane**

Intestinal roundworms - 1  
Abscess - 1  
Blue ticks – 1  
Brown ear ticks - 1  
Heartwater ticks – 3  
Red legged-ticks – 1  
Screw-worm - 1

### **Polokwane**

Intestinal roundworms – 3  
Resistant roundworms - 3  
Brown ear-tick – 3  
Bont-legged tick -3  
Coccidiosis – 1  
Dystocia – 1  
Eye problems - 2  
Capture myopathy – 1

### **Vaalwater**

Abortion and retained afterbirth – Roan  
Lameness - Buffalo

## **North West**

### **Klerksdorp**

Intestinal roundworms – 3  
Tapeworms - 1  
Blue ticks – 3  
Bont-legged ticks – 3  
Red-legged ticks – 3  
*E. coli* – 3

Coccidiosis – 1  
Abscesses – 2 Nyala  
Closantel toxicity – Nyala (Bull and 2 cows)  
Poor grazing - Springbok

### **Stella**

Intestinal roundworms – 3

### **Free State**

#### **Bethlehem**

Protein, Energy malnutrition – Buffalo, old cow without teeth

### **KwaZulu-Natal**

#### **Pongola**

Brown ear-tick - 2

### **Eastern Cape**

#### **Middelburg**

Bont-legged ticks – 3

#### **Port Alfred**

Ticks – 3 Mpekweni

Screw-worm

Theileriosis

#### **Witelsbos**

Theileriosis – Letchwe 2

### **Western Cape**

#### **Vredenburg**

Frothy bloat– Buffalo, on barley, unknown cause, died

Botulism – Zebra fed bales

### **Northern Cape**

#### **Colesberg**

Gas gangrene in game

*Corynebacterium* abscessation in springbok lambs

### **Swine**

### **Free State**

#### **Smithfield**

Abscess in ear – 1

Ascaris - 1

### **Eastern Cape**

#### **Port Alfred**

Respiratory infection – 2 Bathurst



**Monthly report on Livestock and Wildlife isolations for April 2017 from Vetdiagnostix –Microbiology Laboratory, supplied by dr. Marijke Henton ([henton@vetdx.co.za](mailto:henton@vetdx.co.za))**

**Vetdiagnostix**

Feedlot cattle with respiratory disease yielded 8 cases of *Mycoplasma*, 7 of *Mannheimia haemolytica*, 5 of *Histophilus somni*, and only 3 of *Pasteurella multocida*. There were also single cases of *Mannheimia varigena* and *Trueperella pyogenes*.

Enteritis in calves was caused by *Cryptosporidium* [2] and *E. coli* [4], and there was one case of *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

A single case of bovine clostridial myositis was due to *Clostridium septicum*.

Enteritis in sheep was due to *E. coli* [7], together with *Cryptosporidium* in only one case.

Pneumonia in sheep was associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica* [1], *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* [1] and *E. coli* [2]. Pneumonia in a goat was due to *Trueperella pyogenes*.

Only a few samples from pigs were received. *Streptococcus suis* caused septicaemia in one pig, and *E. coli* was associated with enteritis [2] and abortion [1].

*Staphylococcus aureus* was the cause of an equine abscess, a hygroma and it was also associated with a preputial infection, together with *Streptococcus zooepidemicus* and *P. aeruginosa*. Other causes of abscessation were *Streptococcus equisimilis*, *S. zooepidemicus*, *P. aeruginosa* [2], *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius*, *S. aureus* and *Actinomyces*. An infected tendon was due to *P. aeruginosa*. *Salmonella* Typhimurium also caused enteritis in a foal.

*Streptococcus canis* [Lancefield type G] was isolated from a case of cheetah metritis and a rhino wound, and *S. dysgalactiae* from pneumonia in a wild dog. *Salmonella* Typhimurium was isolated from a case of septicaemia in a lion. Skin infections in sable yielded *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* in one case, and *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* in another.

**Monthly report on Livestock and Wildlife isolations for April 2017 from IDEXX Laboratories supplied by dr. Liza du Plessis ([Liza-DuPlessis@idexx.com](mailto:Liza-DuPlessis@idexx.com))**

Condition	Comments and Specie
Intestinal roundworms	O 3
Heartwater	O,G 1
Lumpy skin disease	B,G 1
Blue tongue	O 2
Johne's disease	
<i>E. coli</i>	B,O 2
Mastitis ( <i>E. coli</i> )	B 1

BMC (snotsiekte)	B,G 1
Pneumonia	O 1
Diarrhoea	B,O 2
Equine sarcoid	E 2
Abortions	B,O,G 2
Urea poisoning	B 1
Inkberry poisoning	B 2

**Feedlot report received from Drs. Shaun Morris, Eben du Preez and Pierre Jansen Van Vuuren for April 2017 ([edupreez1@telkomsa.net](mailto:edupreez1@telkomsa.net))**

Sheep feedlots:

Internal parasites caused many mortalities and weak lambs with no ability to develop immunity after vaccination.

Still a few Blue Tongue cases

Pulpy kidney mortalities mostly in weaker lambs but also few in adaptation phase in feedlot.

Outbreaks of Orf with some severe secondary infections

Few pneumonia, septic arthritis, foot abscess, acidosis and eye infections.

Vitamin B1 deficiency (CCN) seen where the ration change was too severe.

Many lamb mortalities due to Colibacillosis within the first 10 days after birth.

Cattle feedlots:

Pneumonia morbidities and mortalities increased dramatically during the month. Newly weaned calves and very light weight calves mostly affected. Older cattle standing longer that died, mostly had chronic lung lesions that come from times with severe temperature variations earlier this year.

Calf losses due to foreign body pneumonia were seen where the animals were dosed and the worm remedy landed in the lungs.

Bloat and Red Gut mortalities due to rumen acidosis.

At the abattoirs liver abscesses, pericarditis and pneumonia lesions were seen. Damage to rumen walls in cattle where incidents of subacute acidosis occurred.

Lameness due to injuries and wounds on the legs and lower limbs.

Many cases of Lumpy Skin Disease and some Three Days Stiff sickness (Ephemeral fever) cases.

*E. coli* in young calves, some at around 4 months of age.

Eye infections, especially on backgrounding.

Papilloma and ringworm infestations quite often seen.

Babesiosis and Anaplasmosis caused mortalities and few heartwater cases occurred. Blue tick infestations quite severe on arrival of some batches of calves.

On backgrounding some mortalities due to Gousiekte.

## **Feedlot report received from Dr. Andy Hentzen for April 2017**

**([andyvet@mweb.co.za](mailto:andyvet@mweb.co.za))**

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Comments and Specie</b>
Cysticercosis	B3
Blue ticks	B 3
Brown ear-ticks	B 3
Bont-legged ticks	B2
Nuisance flies	B 3
Midges	B3
African red water	B3
Asiatic red water	B3
Anaplasmosis	B2
Heartwater	B1
Sweating sickness	B1
Lumpy skin disease	B3
Three Day Stiff sickness	B3
Blackleg	B2
Red gut	B 3
Ringworm	B 2
BVD	B 2
IBR	B 3
Protein deficiency	B 3
Energy	B3
Lameness	B3
Lungs	B3
Diarrhoea	B3
Ophthalmia	B 3
Abscesses	B,C3

Note: Three Day Stiffsickness is severe. Several cases of lameness, recumbancy. Disease lasts longer than 3 days,. Recumbancy of weeks is common – different to other years.

## **Monthly report for March 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

<b>LIVESTOCK DISEASE SURVEILLANCE</b>			
<b>LIVESTOCK SPECIES</b>	<b>DISEASE AGENT</b>	<b>NO. CASES</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Ovine, Lamb	Cryptosporidiosis and colisepticaemia	1	Fickburg, Free State
Caprine, Aborted fetus	Coxiella burnetti	1	Riebeeckstad, Free State
Bovine, Calf	Cryptosporidiosis	1	Berg River, W. Cape
Bovine, Beef cow	Bovine pulmonary hypertension	1	Dundee, KZN
Bovine, Cow	Liver Fluke	1	Memel, Free State
Ovine, Lambs	Cryptosporidiosis	2	Ficksburg, Free State
Ovine, Lamb	Cryptosporidiosis	1	Estcourt, KZN
Ovine, Lamb	Oxalate nephrosis	1	Estcourt, KZN

<b>WILDLIFE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE - 2017</b>			
<b>WILDLIFE SPECIES</b>	<b>DISEASE AGENT</b>	<b>NO. CASES</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
White Wildebeest, Subadult	Nutritional cardiomyopathy (WMD)	1	Mtubatuba, KZN
Buffalo, Adult Cow	Pyelonephritis	1	Rooiberg, Limpopo
Sable, Adult Bull	Rumen acidosis	1	Rooiberg, Limpopo
Sable, Adult Cow	Cardiomyopathy	1	Pretoria, Gauteng
Sable, Adult Bull	Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis pyoderma	1	Thabazimbi, Limpopo
Dassie, Adult	Mycotic gastritis	1	Hoedspruit, Limpopo

**Monthly report for April 2017 from Queenstown Provincial Veterinary Laboratory as supplied by Dr. A.D. Fisher ([alan.fisher@drdar.gov.za](mailto:alan.fisher@drdar.gov.za))**

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Comments and Specie</b>
Intestinal roundworms		O 3
Resistant roundworms		O 1
Liver fluke worms		B,O 3
Paralysis tick	Whittlesea	O 2
Sheep scab	Queenstown	O 1
Asiatic red water	Queenstown	B 3
Anaplasmosis	Dordrecht	B 2
Heartwater	Queenstown Cofimvaba Lady Frere	O 3
Lumpy skin disease	Sterkstroom	B 3
Pulpy kidney		O 2
Rabies	Port St Johns Dutywa	Canine 2 Canine

	Nqobo	Bovine 1
Jaagsiekte	Cofimvaba	O 1

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

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

## Report from Dr. Emily Lane Wildlife Pathology Research Programme



**WILDLIFE PATHOLOGY RESEARCH PROGRAMME**  
**NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS**  
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**232 BOOM ST PRETORIA**

**PHONE: 012 328 3265 X106, 228, 176**  
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**Emily@nzg.ac.za; [www.nzg.ac.za/research/services.php](http://www.nzg.ac.za/research/services.php)**

21 April 2017

DAFF

Import/Export Policy Unit Subdirectorate

## Monthly report:

Cases sent to referring veterinarians between 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017

Cases from State vet Skukuza or Orpen

Cases imported with master permit (none)

PMDate	Species	Final	PM No
27-Feb-17	Lesser spotted Genet	Nutritional bone disease with pathological fracture	17Z057
06-Mar-17	Cheetah	Anaemia due to tick infestation	17Z067
15-Mar-17	White Rhino	None possible (no lesions)	17Z069
15-Mar-17	White Rhino	Suspected intra-specific fighting	17Z070
15-Mar-17	White Rhino	Complications of suspected gunshot injury to hock	17Z073
15-Mar-17	White Rhino	Complications of trauma	17Z074
15-Mar-17	Lion	Myopathy	17Z076

