

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

August 2016

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

Click on Disease Reports

The following practices and laboratories (124) submitted reports during August 2016:

Mpumalanga (11)

Balfour – Dr. Louis van Jaarsveld
Bethal – Dr. Hardus Pieters
Delmas – Dr. Raubé Ferreira
Grootvlei – Dr. Neels van Wyk
Karino (Nelspruit) – Dr. SilkePfitzer
Lydenburg – Drs. Trümpelmann and Steyn
Nelspruit – Dr. André Beytell
Middelburg – Drs. Fourie, Malan and Erasmus
Piet Retief – Drs. Niebuhr and Weber
Standerton – Dr. Kobie Kroon
Standerton – Drs. Nel, Swart, Van der Merwe and Berg

Gauteng (9)

Bapsfontein – Drs. Engelbrecht, Olivier and Ribbens
Bronkhorstspuit – Drs. De Bruin, De Bruin, Rudolph and Slabber
Magaliesburg – Dr. Ryan Jeffery
Muldersdrft – Dr. Clare Speedy
Nigel – Dr. Cindy van der Westhuizen
Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital – Proff. Annandale, Prozesky, Shakespear, Holm and Drs. Esposito, Gratwick, Hamman, Harmse and O’Dell
Pretoria – Dr. Hanneke Pienaar
Pretoria – Dr. Rosaly Steyn
Pretoria – Dr. Riette van Zyl

Limpopo (6)

Bela-Bela – Dr. Nele Sabbe
Lephalale – Dr. Brigitte Luck
Makhado (Louis Trichardt) – Drs. Harris, Klopper and Jacobs

Mokopane (Potgietersrus) - Dr. Henk Visser

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

Vaalwater – Dr. Hampie van Staden

North West (10)

Brits – Drs. Boshoff and Coertze

Christiana - Dr. Pieter Nel

Klerksdorp – Drs. Van den Berg and Theron

Klerksdorp – Drs. Coetzee and Venter

Lichtenburg – Dr. Fritz Ras

Lichtenburg – Dr. Nelmarie Kruger-Rall

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

Stella - Dr. MagdaleenVosser

Ventersdorp/ Koster – Drs. Marais and Benadé

Vryburg – Dr. JurieKritzinger

Free State (24)

Bethlehem – Drs. Strydom and Strydom

Bloemfontein – Dr. Stephan Wessels

Bothaville – Dr. Johann Blaauw

Clocolan – Dr. Liezel Wasserman

Dewetsdorp – Dr. MarikeBadenhorst

Ficksburg – Drs. Kotze and Coetzer

Frankfort - Drs. Lessing, Cilliers and Janse van Rensburg

Harrismith - Drs. Pretorius, Bester and Nel

Hertzogville – Dr. NicoHendrikz

Hoopstad – Dr. Kobus Pretorius

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

Ladybrand/Excelsior - Drs. De Vos and Nel

Memel – Drs. Nixon and Nixon

Parys – Drs. Wessels and Wessels

Philipstown – Dr. Stephan Vermeulen

Reitz - Dr. Murray Smith

Smithfield – Dr. Nienke van Hasselt

Viljoenskroon - Dr. Johan Kahts

Villiers – Drs. Hattingh and Hauptfleisch

Vrede – Drs. Myburgh and Bester-Cloete

Vrede – Dr. Rudolph Fourie

Wesselsbron –Dr. Johan Jacobs

Winburg – Drs. Albertyn and Albertyn

Zastron – Drs. Troskie and Strauss

KwaZulu-Natal (17)

Bergville - Dr. Ariena Shepherd

Bergville – Dr. Jubie Muller
Camperdown – Dr. Anthony van Tonder
Dundee – Drs. Marais and Fynn
Eshowe – Drs. Pryke and Hoffman
Estcourt – Drs. Turner, Tedder, Taylor, Tratschler, Van Rooyen and Alwar
Greytown – Dr. Mike Caldicott
Ingogo – Dr. Trish Oglesby
Kokstad- Drs. Clowes and Shrives
Mooi River - Drs. Fowler, Hartley, Waterman and Mallet
Mtubatuba – Dr. Trever Viljoen
Newcastle – Dr. Barry Rafferty
Pietermaritzburg – Dr. Phillip Kretzmann
Pietermaritzburg – Dr. Rick Mapham
Pongola – Dr. Heinz Kohrs
Underberg - Drs. Collins, King and Delaney
Vryheid – Drs. Theron and Theron

Eastern Cape (13)

Alexandria - Drs. Olivier and Dreyer
Aliwal North/Zastron – Drs. Troskie and Strauss
Bathurst – Dr. Jane Pistorius
Cradock – Dr. Frans Erasmus
Cradock – Dr. Ilse Jenkinson
Graaff- Reinet - Dr. Roland Larson
Humansdorp – Drs. Van Niekerk, Janse VnVuuren and Basson
Jeffreys Bay – Drs. Hoek, Lategan and McFarlane
Kareedouw- Dr. Marten Bootsma
Middelburg/Steynsburg – Drs. Van Rooyen and Viljoen
Stutterheim - Dr. Dave Waterman
Uitenhage – Drs. Mulder and Krüger
Witelsbos – Dr. Bernadine van den Berg

Western Cape (18)

Beaufort West - Drs. Pienaar and Grobler
Caledon – Drs. Retief, Coetzer, Conradie and Woudstra
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 – Dr. Otto Kriek
Malmesbury – Dr. Markus Fourie
Malmesbury – Drs. Bosman and Groenewald
Montagu – Dr. Trudie Prinsloo
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 and Venter
Wellington – Dr. William van Zyl

Northern Cape (8)

De Aar – Dr. Donald Anderson
Calvinia – Dr. BertusNel
Jan Kempdorp – Dr. Jan Brand
Kimberley – Drs. Van Heerden and Swart
Kuruman – Dr. MaïkeOttermann
Kuruman - Dr. Lea Shuda
Kuruman – Dr. Gerhard van der Westhuizen
Upington – Drs. Vorster and Visser

Feedlots (1)

Drs. Morris and Du Preez

Laboratory reports (7)

Dr. Mark Chimes –Deltamune, Oudtshoorn
Dr. MarijkeHenton -Vetdiagnostix, Johannesburg
Dr. Liza du Plessis – Idexx SA Onderstepoort
Dr. Lucy Lange – Pathcare, Cape Town
Dr. Alan Fisher – Queenstown Provincial laboratory
Dr. Rick Last – Vetdiagnostix, Pietermaritzburg
Dr. Emily Lane – National Zoological Gardens

Key Message

Brucellosis is a disease destroying the Livestock industry which can also be transmitted to Humans

Brucellosis is spreading unabated in a number of SA Provinces. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries together with industry's National Animal Health Forum are combining efforts in an action to control and eventually eradicate Brucellosis from South Africa. This will necessarily mean that all parties ie. Farmers, Livestock production organisations, DAFF and South African Veterinary Association through RuVASA practitioners will all have to be committed to this cause if progress is to be made over the next few years to bring Brucellosis under control.

The NAHF in conjunction with DAFF will be issuing press releases over the next few months to increase awareness of this disease among all stakeholders. We urge all media to become involved in our combined efforts to keep all parties well informed. We look forward to a fruitful relationship with the media and ask that you submit any queries to Marzanne Polydorou (admin@csvet.co.za).

Yours sincerely

Dr Pieter Vervoort (BVSc)

Chairman NAHF

Brucellosis control initiative of the National Animal Health Forum

VET - **V**accinate **E**ducate **T**est

Summary of disease report for August 2016

124 Reports from veterinary practices and laboratories were received (Mpumalanga (MP) 11; Gauteng (G) 9; Limpopo (L) 6; North West (10; Free State (FS) 24; KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) 17; Eastern Cape (EC) 13; Western Cape (WC) 18; Northern Cape (NC)8; Feedlots (FL) 1 and Laboratories (Lab)7).

Internal parasites

Numerous reports of internal parasite infestations were received from all provinces in spite of the drought. Beware if rain starts falling as many animals are in a poor condition and outbreaks of **wireworm** will cause severe losses. The presence of **brown stomach worm** (FS and WC), **resistant roundworms** (MP, G, and FS), **nodular worm** (NC) and **eye worm** (WC) were reported. Smallstock farmers should be aware of animals with signs of anaemia and bottle jaw. Visit the website www.wormx.info for more information on the FAMACHA system and Five point check.

Tapeworms were reported from MP, G, NW, FS, KZN and WC. Ruminants are infected with milk tapeworms when they ingest grass mites infected with measles (bladder containing tapeworm head).

Parafilaria infestations were reported from L, NW and KZN. This parasite cause false bruising and farmers incur losses at abattoirs as lesions in carcasses are trimmed.

Many animals that died due to PEM (**protein, energy deficiency**) syndrome had high **liver fluke** infestations, with a history of grazing around stagnant water sources. Be aware of clinical signs such as bottle jaw, weight loss and anaemia.

Conical fluke infestation causes severe diarrhoea leading to mortality. Reports were received from MP, FS, KZN, EC, WC and NC.

At abattoirs carcasses were condemned due to measles infestation. Training of farmworkers and the general public on how to prevent this zoonotic disease, is necessary.

External parasites

In spite of the drought the presence of ticks were reported from many parts of the country. To prevent large numbers of adult brown ear-ticks during summer, cattle should be treated in the winter. **Ticks** are the carriers of diseases such as **Asiatic** and **African red water, heartwater, anaplasmosis, lumpy skin disease** and also cause anaemia and wounds.

Consult treatment programmes with your veterinarian as **tick resistance** is rife. Choosing the correct active is a very important decision.

Lice infestations are a huge problem in the winter. Biting lice cause itching and wool damage occur. Animals are irritated and loose weight. Sucking lice suck blood and animals become anaemic.

Be aware of biting **insects, midges and mosquitoes!** They transmit numerous diseases and animals should be vaccinated in time against diseases such as blue tongue, lumpy skin disease, three day stiff sickness, Rift valley fever, Wesselsbron, African horse sickness and anaplasmosis.

Tick and insect transmitted diseases

The following reports were received: **African red water** (4 provinces), **Asiatic red water** (5 provinces), **Anaplasmosis** (8 provinces) and **Heartwater** (6 provinces).

As biting insects and tick populations increase diseases will increase in numbers and heavy losses may occur.

Discuss vaccination programmes with you veterinarian.

Venereal diseases

Trichomonosis – It is imperative that biosecurity measures should be observed at all times. Buying in one infected bull could mean that the calving percentage may drop up to 60 percent and lower! This serious venereal disease was reported from all provinces.

Bacterial diseases

The number one infectious disease in South Africa is brucellosis and an action plan driven by the Brucellosis steering committee of the National Animal Forum has published the following information. This information must be spread to all people in South Africa, please assist us in that!

5 core facts you should know about brucellosis

It is a herd disease! This is a disease that threatens the sustainability of livestock herds in South Africa. Animals that become infected, may take up to three years to react to tests but will remain a danger to cattle and people on the farm. If one animal in your herd tests positive for brucellosis, the whole herd is considered infected and can be placed under quarantine. This is due to the chronic (long term) nature of the disease and slow onset of symptoms caused by *Brucella* bacteria. Animals that tested negative at first, will often test positive on another round of tests. There is no cure and all cases must be reported to State Veterinary Services, as this is a controlled disease.

It affects your pocket! Cattle infected with brucellosis may abort, thus you lose potentially healthy calves and production. Calving intervals will increase, resulting in fewer calves born per cow per year. Milk production decreases, which means less milk for sale in dairy herds and a reduction in potential to produce a calf in beef herds. Infected calvings and abortions will contaminate the environment with millions of *Brucella* bacteria, exposing more of your animals to the disease.

You can buy in a disaster! Insist on only buying animals that come from herds that have tested negative for brucellosis in the last year. Insist on proof. Ideally, always quarantine newly acquired animals and test them again before mixing them with the rest of your herd. Be careful - don't ruin your farm and your future.

Your family and workers can get sick! *Brucella* bacteria can infect humans and cause fever, flu-like symptoms and chronic disease. Humans can get infected by assisting with infected calvings, handling infected placenta or abortions, drinking unpasteurised milk from infected animals and slaughtering infected animals at home. This disease can cause infertility in both men and women.

Vaccination is a must! It is legislated under the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) that all heifer calves between 4-8 months must be vaccinated with a registered vaccine (S19 from OBP or RB51 from MSD). Vaccination strengthens your cows' immune response to the disease and protects your herd and your investment.

Compiled by the Brucellosis steering committee of the National Animal Health Forum

Vaccinate, Educate, Test (VET)

A dozen things you must know about bovine brucellosis

Brucellosis is not a simple disease and can destroy the productivity of your herd. Here are a dozen things that you must know about this disease.

Brucellosis is a Controlled Animal Disease in terms of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) and there is no treatment to cure it in cattle.

It is a herd disease. Thus, if one animal in the herd is infected the whole herd must be considered as potentially infected.

It is compulsory by law to vaccinate all heifers against brucellosis with a registered vaccine (see table 2 of the Animal Diseases Regulations). The available vaccines are S19 (OBP) or RB51 (MSD). Vaccination helps protect your herd from disease, reduces the spread of the disease and decreases the number of abortions.

The S19 vaccine may only be administered once in heifer calves between 4 and 8 months of age. If S19 is used at an older age the animal may persistently test positive on blood tests, causing confusion about the animal's disease status. The RB51 vaccine may be administered to non-pregnant heifers and cows at any age as it will not cause positive blood test results. Do not vaccinate bulls with S19 or RB51 as they may become sterile.

Pregnant heifers and cows infected with brucellosis may abort, resulting in reduced production in terms of number of calves weaned, total milk yield and prolonged calving intervals.

Cows and heifers infected with brucellosis often look healthy, which is misleading! If these animals remain in the herd, they continue to silently spread the infection which will cause severe economic and production losses.

The most important mode of transmission is when an infected animal calves normally or has an abortion, as this process releases millions of bacteria into the environment that can easily infect other animals.

Heifers that were born from infected cows often test negative before they have calved and only test positive after their first calf is born. Newly bought-in heifers pose a high risk and should ideally be kept separate from the rest of the herd until they have calved and have tested negative for brucellosis.

People can become infected with brucellosis by drinking unpasteurised milk, slaughtering an infected cow and handling infected birth material and aborted foetuses (calves). Human symptoms are flu-like with fever, headache and body aches. If a diagnosis is not made and appropriate treatment taken, it can become a chronic illness that continuously relapses. Meat from infected animals that are identified as positive and are slaughtered at certified abattoirs is safe for human consumption.

Brucella bacteria can also be spread through run-off water from infected neighbouring farms. Predators such as roaming dogs, jackals and crows may carry infected material (aborted foetus and afterbirths) between farms. Flies that feed on infected material may spread the bacteria mechanically when sitting on the mucous membranes of animals.

Owners are responsible for the health of their animals and may be prosecuted under the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) and the Consumer Protection Act, 2008 (Act No. 68 of 2008) if they propagate the spreading of brucellosis.

The only person who can protect your cattle herd against brucellosis is YOU! When you are buying cattle, insist on vaccination records and recent negative herd tests of the farm of origin. The seller must be able to declare that the cattle are vaccinated and the herd of origin tested negative for brucellosis. The seller should be able to provide proof of regular negative herd tests results. It is always advisable to isolate any cattle bought into the herd for biosecurity reasons; to test for different diseases, to get vaccinations up to date and to treat against internal and external parasites.

For further information, please contact your state or private veterinarian.

Compiled by the Brucellosis steering committee of the National Animal Health Forum

Vaccinate, Educate, Test (VET)

The Carte Blanche programme on Brucellosis is still available on www.carteblanche.co.za

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

Besoekookwww.landbou.com

Klik op Indeks van antwoorde

Klik op Beeste

Klik op Siektes

Klik op Brusellose

Klikop dieverskillendeantwoorde

Numerous reports of **Blackquarter** were received. If animals were vaccinated and given a booster (calves) this would have been prevented!

Beware of **Botulism**. This disease caused by a deadly toxin could be present at any place, any time in South Africa. Be sure cattle are vaccinated. In some parts of the country this toxicity also occurs in small stock.

Johne's disease is spreading, make sure you know from whom you are buying sheep. Ask for a vendor's declaration!

Viral diseases

Mortalities due to Bovine Respiratory disease occurred in all provinces. There are very good vaccines available to prevent losses.

Bovine malignant catarrh (snotsiekte) is rife, make sure wildebeest and cattle are separated as "far as possible!"

Rabies: Numerous cases of **rabies**, a zoonotic disease, were reported. Be careful handling animals if they show strange behaviour. A six year old child died of this terrible disease. Make sure your dogs and cats are vaccinated.

Orf, a zoonosis, and **warts** were reported from most provinces.

The months ahead of us is going to be a big challenge for farmers due to lack of roughage for animals. Hopefully the rain will come early in spring. Our hearts go out to all farmers in drought stricken areas.

Summary of reports

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				
Wireworm		x	x		x			x	
Brown stomach-worm					x			x	
Large-mouthed bowelworm									
Nodularworm		x							x
Lungworm									
Eyeworm								x	
<i>Parafilaria</i>			x	x		x			
Tapeworms	x	x		x	x	x		x	
Liver fluke	x			x	x	x		x	
Conical fluke	x				x	x	x	x	x
Cysticercosis (measles)	x	x		x	x				
Schistosomiasis (bilharzia)									
Coccidiosis	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
Cryptosporidiosis									

In Beaufort West severe case of coccidiosis in goat kids: diarrhoea, weight loss, abortions and deaths.

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

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	
Asiatic red water	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
Corridor disease						x			
Theileriosis									

The following tick toxicoses were reported by practices in the provinces:

Tick toxicosis	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Sweating sickness				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
Ephemeral fever (Three day stiff sickness)				X		X			
Blue tongue					X				
Rift Valley Fever									
Wesselsbron						X			
Nagana						X			

Do not neglect vaccinating animals! As good rains are forecasted for the next season, plan now to order vaccines in time.

If good rains fall after a drought period one should be aware of the possibility of a Rift Valley Fever outbreak. Attached is information on this deadly disease.

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	X	X	X	X
Vibriosis	X		X	X	X	X			X
Pizzle disease									X
<i>Actinobacillusseminis</i>									X

New cases of **trichomonosis** are reported every month and this disease is out of hand. This month it was reported that the disease was brought into the herd by buying in bulls and cows. Make sure that you buy bulls from farmers where biosecurity measures are in place!

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

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.

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	X		X
Botulism				X	X			X	
	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Pulpy kidney	X				X	X	X	X	X
Lamb dysentery								X	
Swelled head					X			X	
Red gut (cattle)	X		X	X	X	X			

Rotavirus / Coronavirus									
Enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL)						X	X	X	
Sheep leucosis									
Jaagsiekte									
Orf	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Warts	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	

In Vryburg rabies diagnosed in cattle, sheep and goat

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

There is not a vaccine available against snotsiekte. This deadly virus is associated with wildebeest but remember there is also a sheep associated strain. Wildebeest sheds the virus especially during the calving season, when calves are weaned and during the hunting season when they are stressed. A vaccine against snotsiekte is at present being tested and hopefully the dossier for registration will be completed before the end of the year.

Discuss vaccination programmes 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	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				X			X	X
Slangkop									
Crotalaria									
Gifblaar		X							
Gousiekte									
Cestrum (ink berry)	X	X					X		
	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Tulip	X			X	X	X	X	X	X

Levamisole									
Tilmicosin									
Ionophor									
Hypo									

As grazing conditions become poorer, toxic plants are usually greener and farmers should be aware of these plants and which clinical signs are seen when they are eaten. Tulp toxicity was the major cause of deaths.

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

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.

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	x	X	x
Protein	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	
Phosphate	x			x	x	x		X	x
Calcium	x			x	x	x	x	X	

Micro-nutritional deficiencies

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

Deficiencies	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Iodine									
Copper			x					X	
Zinc						x			
Selenium				x		x			x
Magnesium				x					
Manganese						x			
Vitamin A			x	x		x	x		x
Vitamin B 1							x		

There are antagonists such as calcium, iron and sulphur which hamper the uptake of micro-minerals. Have water and soil samples analysed to see what the levels of these antagonists are. Arrange with your veterinarian to have liver samples analysed to determine the status of these micro-minerals in your herd or flock.

With the drought and lack of proper grazing, mineral deficiencies will increase.

Supplement animals with vitamin A.

Multifactorial diseases and other conditions

The following conditions were reported by practices in the provinces

Multifactorial diseases and other conditions	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Abortions	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x
Stillbirths	x				x	x		X	
Abscesses	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	
Intestinal ulcers									
Bladder stones -urolithiasis	x	x				x		X	
Blindness						x			x
Bloat				x	x	x		X	
Blood gut (sheep)								X	
Blue udder	x	x		x	x	x		X	
Diarrhoea	x	x		x	x	x	x	X	
Epididymitis					x			X	
Eye cancer	x				x	x		X	
Eye infections	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x
Joint ill					x		x	X	x
Lameness/foot problems	x	X	x	x		x	x	X	
Lung infection	x	x		x	x	x	x	X	x
Mastitis	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x
Navel ill					x	x	x	X	
Red gut (sheep, torsion of gut)								X	
Rectal prolaps									
Trauma		x			x				
Plastic bags (ingestion)									
Downer	x	x		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	x	x		
Displaced abomasums						x			
Ketosis		x			x		x	X	x
Milk fever		x			x	x		X	

There is an increase in the reporting of acidosis. Many farmers are feeding their animals due to the drought. 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	
Metritis	x			x	x	x	x	X	
Poor conception	x		x	x	x	x	x	X	
Retained afterbirth	x	x	x	x	x	x		X	
Sheath prolaps					x	x			
Uterine prolaps	x	x		x	x	x		X	
Vaginal prolaps	x	x		x	x	x			x
Penis injury									

The drought plays a huge role in fertility. Fertility of animals is one of the most important factors determining the success of farming. Discuss all issues with your veterinarian.

Environmental conditions

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

Other conditions: Drug residues (WC); predators (MP, G, FS, KZN, NC); theft (G, FS, KZN, NC) and trauma (MP, NW)

Comment:

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

Cradock – Ilse Jenkinson
Jan Kempdorp – Dr. Jan Brand
Karino – Dr. Silke Pfitzer
Lephalale – Dr. Brigitte Luck
Lichtenburg – Dr. Fritz Ras
Magaliesburg – Dr. Ryan Jeffrey
Malmesbury – Dr. Markus Fourie
Stutterheim – Dr. Dave Watermann
Vaalwater- Dr. Hampie van Staden

Ostriches

Western Cape

Oudtshoorn – Ostrimed

Condition	Comments
Bont legged-tick 3	After hot weather, huge explosion in tick activity. Same holds true for midges.
Nuisance flies -1	
Midges – 2	After hot weather, huge explosion in tick activity. Same holds true for midges.
Energy deficiency -3	Wet and cold with wind, severe chill factor. Lick “expensive” so birds are not receiving optimum feed during this time. Winter rainfall makes the environment look green and healthy. A lot of deficiencies,
Diarrhoea – 3	Short flush on pastures, bought in animals not adapted to graze pasture. Suspect worms, lot of problems on irrigated pastures.
Cold exposure -3	Wet and cold with wind, severe chill factor

Equines

Mpumalanga

Delmas

Piroplasmosis (Babesiosis) – 2

Lungs – 2

Energy deficiency - 2

Gauteng

Pretoria – Pierre van Ryneveld

Theileriosis – 2

Ringworm- 1

Abortion – 1

Retained afterbirth – 1

Lungs – 1

Ophthalmia - 2

Nigel

Colic -2

Free State

Bethlehem

Colic – 1

Piroplasmosis (Babesiosis) – 1

Eastern Cape

Cradock

Piroplasmosis -1

Northern Cape

Kimberley

Piroplasmosis - 1

Game

Mpumalanga

Lydenburg

Resistant roundworms – 1

Lungs – G 1

Gauteng

Muldersdrift

Rabies – Jackal – 1, cat-1

Pretoria -Animavet

Bont tick - 3

Brown ear-tick – 2

Red gut – 1

Abscesses – 2

Pretoria – Pierre Van Ryneveld

Possible mycotoxin mortality -

Had an interesting case on Game farm where 2 sable cows had typical "stringhalt" gait/lameness. Clinical exam of one of the cows showed no abnormalities but the typical swinging gait was observed during walk and lameness during trot/run. Poor quality lucerne was fed (nothing else was available at that stage) and when we looked at the lucerne we found that most likely mycotoxins in the lucerne. Stopped this immediately. Gait slowly improved over the next 4-6 weeks.

Limpopo

Mokopane

Severe protein and energy deficiencies – Buffalo herd – young animals die of cachexia. Not enough space at feeding area, they are pushed away.

Polokwane

Blackleg –2

Lungs -2
Abscesses - 1
Capture myopathy- 1

North West

Klerksdorp

Intestinal roundworms – 3
Blue ticks -2
Bont-legged ticks – 2
Red-legged ticks – 3
Sarcoptes mites -1
Energy deficiency – 2
Diarrhoea - 2
Lungs -3 – Nyala deaths
Trauma - 2

Lichtenburg

Rabies – 2 (jackal)

KwaZulu-Natal

Pongola

Protein deficiency – 3 (drought)
Energy deficiency – 3 (drought)
Vitamin A deficiency – 3
Most game farmers are dependent on feeding at great expense

Underberg

Tampans – Buffalo – 2
Rabies – Jackal -2

Eastern Cape

Humansdorp

Capture myopathy – Wildebeest – 1
Cold exposure – Wildebeest -1

Western Cape

Plettenberg Bay

Coccidiosis – 2- Springbuck
Capture myopathy – 2- Springbuck, impala

Northern Cape

Colesberg

Systemic fungal mycosis – Rhinoceros – 1
Capture myopathy – two buffalo deaths

Kimberley

Dystocia – 1-Roan
Acidosis – 1 – Roan
Cardiomyopathy – 1 – Unknown cause, in 12 year old sable. Numerous histopathological lesions.
Pneumonia – 2 - Sables
Severe necrotic subcutaneous lesions and muscle inflammation

Abscess- 1-Lynx

Upington

Stress – Due to capture – springbuck and gemsbok, many mortalities

Swine

Gauteng

Nigel

Deaths

Onderstepoort Veterinary Hospital

Coccidiosis – 3

Eastern Cape

Humansdorp

Gastric ulcer – 1

Dogs

Free State

Ladybrand

Rabies – Dog - 1

Monthly report on Livestock and Wildlife isolations for August 2016 from Vetdiagnostix – Microbiology Laboratory, supplied by dr. Marijke Henton (henton@vetdx.co.za)

August was a quiet month. There were only 4 cases of bovine respiratory infection. Two yielded *Mannheimia haemolytica*, and the other two *Histophilus somni*. Enteritis was caused by *Salmonella* Dublin, *Salmonella* Typhimurium and *E. coli*. There were two cases of *Campylobacter fetus* abortion, and one of *Brucella abortus*.

Hoof infections yielded a combination of *Trueperella pyogenes* and the anaerobes, *Prevotella* and *Porphyromonas*. Mastitis yielded *Staphylococcus aureus*, *S. pseudintermedius* and *Streptococcus dysgalactiae*. One of the *S. aureus* isolates was MRSA [Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus] positive, which means that the bacterium is resistant to all penicillins and cephalosporins.

Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis caused septicaemia in a sheep.

Pneumonia in pigs was caused by *Pasteurella multocida*, which was combined with *Trueperella pyogenes* in one case, as well as a single case of *Actinobacillus rossii*, which only occurs sporadically. Other pneumonia cases were due to *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* [equisimilis]. Chronic arthritis in pigs was associated with *Mycoplasma*.

Samples from horses were from the respiratory tract. *Klebsiella pneumoniae* was isolated from bronchi, and nasal discharges yielded *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*, *S. dysgalactiae* and the anaerobe, *Prevotella*.

Clostridium novyi was associated with clostridial myositis in a giraffe and a springbuck. A buffalo with suspected Haemorrhagic Septicaemia yielded *Pasteurellamultocida*, which is being typed at Onderstepoort.

Staphylococcus felis, which causes infections in cats, was isolated from the skin of a cheetah, and another cheetah, which had ringworm, yielded *Trichophytonmentagrophytes*.

Monthly report on Livestock and Wildlife isolations for August 2016 from IDEXX Laboratories supplied by dr. Liza du Plessis (Liza-DuPlessis@idexx.com)

Condition	Comments and Specie
Heartwater	B 1
Pulpy kidney	O1
Tuberculosis	G 2
<i>E .coli</i>	P2
Orf	C1
Protein deficiency	G3
Ink berry	B1
Navell ill	G1
Lungs	B,O,G1
Diarrhoea	G3
Capture myopathy	G1
Trauma	G1

Feedlot report received from Dr. Shaun Morris and Dr.Eben du Preez for August 2016 (edupreez1@telkomsa.net)

Sheep feedlots

Cases of pneumonia and animals with protein and energy deficiencies were the most common problem.

A few cases of pulpy kidney, foot abscess and diarrhea occurred.

Eye infections and wireworm infestations were on the increase.

A few cases of acidosis and blood gut were seen.

Cattle feedlots

Blue ticks and red-legged ticks were seen as well as a few heartwater ticks

Lice infestations were a common occurrence.

Liver fluke and communal fluke infestations were seen at abattoirs.

Many cases of measles were seen.

Pneumonia, acidosis and red gut caused the most mortalities.

A few cases of the following were seen:

Anaplasmosis, warts, ringworm, blackquarter, ophthalmia, foot rot, abscesses, and traumatic reticulitis (wire protruding from the reticulum).

Fly populations on the increase becoming a menace.

At a feedlot black tar poles were used for repair of kraals and a number of cattle had skin allergies. Oedema (swelling) of the skin with hair loss mostly on the ventral parts of the body, between the hind legs. The more they itched, the more they scratched themselves against the poles and the condition increased in severity. Animals had to be removed in time if itching commenced. Creosote seems to be the allergen. Skin biopsy confirmed an allergen caused the skin condition.

Monthly report for July 2016 from Dr R D Last (BVSc; M.Med.Vet(Path); MRCVS)

Specialist Veterinary Pathologist, Vetdiagnostix - Veterinary Pathology Services

Contributors

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

LIVESTOCK DISEASE SURVEILLANCE			
LIVESTOCK SPECIES	DISEASE AGENT	NO. CASES	LOCATION
Bovine, Bulls	<i>Tritrichomonas foetus</i>	14	Bergville, KZN
Bovine, Bulls	<i>Tritrichomonas foetus</i>	9	Dundee, KZN
Bovine, Calves	Cryptosporidiosis	1	Mooi River, KZN
Bovine, Aborted fetuses	Brucellosis	2	Matatielle, E. Cape
Ovine, Adult	Oxalate poisoning	2	Ceres, W Cape
Porcine, Growers	<i>Trueperella pyogenes</i> respiratory disease complex	4	Camperdown, KZN
Bovine, Aborted Fetus	Hyperplastic goitre	1	East Griqualand, KZN
Bovine, Beef Weaner	Heartpluck Clostridia	1	Kokstad, KZN
Bovine, Bulls	<i>Tritrichomonas foetus</i>	3	Bergville, KZN
Bovine, Cow	Bovine herpes virus mamillitis (BHV-2)	1	Humansdorp, E Cape

WILDLIFE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE			
WILDLIFE SPECIES	DISEASE AGENT	NO. CASES	LOCATION
Buffalo, Cow	Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome	1	Harrismith, Free State
Roan Antelope, Adult	Proliferative bronchopneumonia	1	Polokwane, Limpopo
Roan Antelope, Neonate	Neonatal embolic bacterial septicaemia	1	Rooiberg, Limpopo
Buffalo, Cow	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> (hemorrhagic septicaemia?)	1	Modimole, Limpopo
Sable Antelope, Cow	Fibropapilloma (sarcoïd)	1	Rooiberg, Limpopo
Sable Antelope, Cow	<i>Ricinus communis</i> (Castor oil plant) poisoning	1	Estcourt, KZN
Gemsbok, Bull	Low amp electrocution (electric fence)	1	Rooiberg, Limpopo
Wildebeest, Subadult Female	Infectious necrotic hepatitis (clostridial hepatitis)	1	Hluhluwe, KZN
Impala, Subadult Male	Suspected yersiniosis	1	Humansdorp, E. Cape
Buffalo, Adult Cow	Vitiligo	1	Oudtshoorn, W Cape
Impala, Black Adult Female	Toxic hepatitis	1	Kroondal, Limpopo
Impala, Black Ram	Intestinal zygomycosis	1	Rooiberg, Limpopo

Monthly report for August 2016 from Queenstown Provincial Veterinary Laboratory as supplied by Dr. A.D. Fisher (alan.fisher@drdar.gov.za)

Condition	Area	Comments and Specie
Intestinal roundworms		B, O 3
Liver fluke		O1
Cysticercosis		B,O,C 2
Biting lice (<i>Damiliiniaovis</i>)		O1
Heartwater	Cofimvaba	O,C3
Swelled head (<i>Clostridium novyii</i>)		B1
Pulpy kidney		O 1
Lungs		O1
Coccidiosis		O,C 3 Very high counts (155,000 to 450,000 oocysts per gram) in faecal egg counts and numerous deaths in young lambs and kids after snow and rain early in August. Compounded by poor nutritional status, mismothering, exposure
Protein deficiency		O,1 – acidosis
Calcium deficiency		O, 1 grass staggers
Energy deficiency		O 3
Selenium toxicity		O,1 – Selenium excess- overdose of bovine multimineral drug
Rabies	Tsolo Ncobo Maclear Cofimvaba Dutywa Tsolo Mnqanduli	C7, O1, B3, C6 Canine, 6 cases Canine, 3 cases Canine, 2 cases Sheep, 1 case Cattle, 2 cases Cattle, one case Cattle, one case

Cold exposure		O,C3 – ten post mortems MME (Malnutrition, mismothering, Exposure)
---------------	--	---

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

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

Monthly report for August 2016 from Dr. Lucy Lange: PathCareVetlab

lange@pathcare.co.za

Disease condition	Specie
Bovine malignant catarrh (snotsiekte)	Cattle
Cryptosporidiosis	Cattle
Necrobacillosis	Cattle
Trichomonosis	Cattle
Vibriosis	Cattle
Brucellosis	Cattle
Lungs	Horses
Sarcoid	Horses
Papillomatosis	Horses
Squamous cell carcinoma	Horses
Necrobacillosis	Sheep
Hepatotoxicosis	Sheep
Bacterial meningitis	Sheep
White muscle disease	Sheep
Internal parasites	Sheep
Coccidiosis	Goats
Pulpy kidney	Goats
Oxalate toxicity	Goats
Neonatal septicemia	Goats
Septicemia	Swine
Nephrosis –plants?	Game
Lungworm	Game
Coccidiosis	Blue wildebeest
Hepatotoxins	Numerous game
Theileriosis	Sable
Septicemia	Young game

Transport myopathy	Numerous species
Pasteurellosis	Buffalo

Bacterial cases: many *E.coli* infections in young animals, pasteurellosis, mastitis caused by *E. coli* and *Pseudomonas*.

Monthly report for August 2016 from Deltamune laboratory Oudtshoorn as supplied by Dr. Mark Chimes (mark@deltamune.co.za)

Disease condition	Specie
Mastitis	B 3
Trichomonosis	B 2
Liver fluke	Dairy 2

B – bovine; 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
 P O BOX 754 PRETORIA 0001
 232 BOOM ST PRETORIA
 PHONE: 012 328 3265 X106, 228, 176
 FAX: 012 324 2744
 Emily@nzg.ac.za; www.nzg.ac.za/research/services.php

26th August 2016

DAFF
 Import/Export Policy Unit Subdirectorate

Monthly report:

Cases sent to referring veterinarians between 22nd July and 26th August 2016

Cases from State vet Skukuza or Orpen (none since service suspended while I am on study leave)

Cases imported with master permit and CITES permits (none)

PMDate	Species	Final	PM No
12-Jul-16	Lion	Normal gastric mucosa	16Z112B
12-Jul-16	Lion	Normal gastric biopsies	16Z113B
12-Jul-16	Lion	Normal gastric mucosa	16Z114B
21-Jul-16	African Black Footed Cat	Suspected feline immunodeficiency virus infection	16Z115
28-Jul-16	Cheetah	Renal glomerulosclerosis, fibrosis and amyloidosis	16Z116