

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 2017

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

Click on Disease Reports

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

Mpumalanga (11)

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
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, Pettey and Drs. Arnot, Fitte, Grobler, Hamman, Koepfel, Leask, Maboe, Marufu, Mokoetele, O'Dell, Tshuma and Van der Leek
Pretoria – Dr. Hanneke Pienaar
Vanderbijlpark – Dr. Kobus Kok

Limpopo (9)

Alldays – Dr. Nico du Preez
Bela-Bela – Dr. Nele Sabbe
Lephalale (Ellisras) – Dr. Brigitte Luck
Makhado (Louis Trichardt) – Drs. Harris, Klopper and Jacobs
Cremona

Modimolle (Nylstroom) – Drs. Huber, Bredell and Barnard

Mokopane (Potgietersburg) – Dr. Henk Visser

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

Vaalwater – Dr. Hampie van Staden

Vaalwater – Dr. Annemieke Müller

North West (10)

Brits – Drs. Boshoff and Coertze

Christiana - Dr. Pieter Nel

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

Klerksdorp – Drs. Coetzee and Venter

Leeudoringstad – Dr. Ian Jonker

Lichtenburg – Dr. Fritz Ras

Lichtenburg – Dr. Nelmarie-Krüger-Rall

Stella - Dr. Magdaleen Vosser

Ventersdorp/ Koster – Drs. Marais and Benadé

Vryburg – Dr. Jurie Kritzinger

Free State (23)

Bloemfontein – Dr. Stephan Wessels

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

Hoopstad – Dr. Kobus Pretorius

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

Ladybrand/Excelsior - Dr. De Vos and Nel

Memel – Drs. Nixon and Nixon

Parys – Drs. Wessels and Wessels

Philippolis – Dr. Stephan van Niekerk

Reitz - Dr. Murray Smith

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 Roos

Wesselsbron – Dr. Johan Jacobs

Zastron – Drs. Troskie and Strauss

KwaZulu-Natal (15)

Bergville - Dr. Ariena Shepherd
Bergville – Dr. Jubie Muller
Camperdown – Dr. Anthony van Tonder
Dundee – Drs. Marais and Fynn
Dundee – Dr. Paul Reynolds
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 (14)

Alexandria - Drs. Olivier
Aliwal North – Drs. Troskie and Strauss
Bathurst – Dr. Jane Pistorius
Cradock – Dr. Frans Erasmus
Graaff- Reinet - Dr. Roland Larson
Graaff-Reinet – Drs. Hobson, Strydom and Hennesy
Humansdorp – Drs. Van Niekerk and Janse Van Vuuren
Jeffreys Bay – Drs. Hoek , Lategan and McFarlane
Kareedouw – Dr. Martin Bootsma
Middelburg/Steynsburg/Barkly East – Drs Van Rooyen and Viljoen
Port Alfred – Dr. Leon de Bruyn
Stutterheim - Dr. Dave Waterman
Uitenhage – Drs. Mulder and Krüger
Witelsbos – Dr. Elmiën Kotze

Western Cape (17)

Beaufort West - Drs. Pienaar and Grobler
Caledon – Drs. Retief, Coetzer, Jansen 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 – Drs. Bosman and Groenewald
Malmesbury – Dr. Otto Kriek
Malmesbury – Dr. Markus Fourie
Malmesbury – Dr. N.J. Heyns
Piketberg – Dr. André van der Merwe
Plettenberg Bay – Dr. André Reitz

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

Northern Cape (8)

Calvinia – Dr. Bertus Nel
Colesberg – Drs. Rous and Rous
De Aar – Dr. Donald Anderson
Kathu – Dr. Jan Vorster
Kimberley – Drs. Van Heerden and Swart
Kuruman – Dr. Lea Shuda
Postmasburg – Dr. Boeta van der Merwe
Upington – Drs. Vorster and Visser

Feedlots (2)

Dr. Andy Hentzen
Drs. Morris and Du Preez

Laboratory reports (6)

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

Key Message

The rainy season in the summer rainfall season is lying ahead and with this comes an increase in the prevalence of ticks, midges, mosquitoes and flies. These ticks and insects are involved in the transmission of diseases such as African and Asiatic redwater, Heartwater, Lumpy skin disease, Blue tongue, Rift Valley fever, Wesselsbron disease, Three day stiff sickness, African Horse Sickness and eye infections. Discuss control programmes with your veterinarian and order vaccines in time.

It is of utmost importance that all heifers must be vaccinated against bovine brucellosis with either Strain 19 or RB 51 vaccines.

All cattle have to be vaccinated yearly against anthrax.

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

National Animal Health Forum

www.nahf.co.za

Read what the Forum is all about:

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

This website will become the information centre of animal health in Southern Africa.

On the toolbar click on **Stakeholders** and you will find links to producer organizations and other organizations who are participating in the NAHF

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This link will continuously be updated.

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

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

Rural Veterinary Association of South Africa

www.ruvasa.co.za

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

Landbouweekblad’s webpage

www.landbou.com

Click on: **Indeks van antwoorde** where more than 4 000 answers can be sourced on animal health.

Internal parasite control

www.wormx.info

Summary of disease report for August 2017

121 Reports from veterinary practices and laboratories were received (Mpumalanga (MP) 11; Gauteng (G) 6; Limpopo (L) 9; Northwest (NW) 10; Free State (FS) 23; KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) 16; Eastern Cape (EC 14); Western Cape (WC) 17; Northern Cape (NC) 8; Feedlots (FL) 2 and Laboratories (Lab) 6).

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

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

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/aded98_cb447e77eef6450f93a2b23cb0e6b9de.pdf

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	
Resistant blue ticks						x		x	
	mp	g	l	nw	fs	kzn	ec	wc	nc
Heartwater ticks	x	x	x	x		x			
Brown ear-ticks	x		x	x				x	
Bont-legged ticks	x		x	x	x	x			x

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

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

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	
Asiatic red water	x				x	x	x		
Anaplasmosis	x			x	x	x	x		
Heartwater	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Lumpy skin disease				x		x		x	
Corridor disease									
Theileriosis									

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

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

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

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

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

Now is the time to vaccinate animals against these diseases.

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
Vibriosis			x	x	x	x	x		
Pizzle disease									x
<i>Actinobacillus seminis</i>									

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

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 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			

Botulism				X					X
Pulpy kidney	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Lamb dysentery	X								
Swelled head	X	X	X		X		X		
Red gut (cattle)	X			X	X		X		
Blood gut (sheep)		X			X	X	X	X	X
Tetanus				X	X	X			
Salmonellosis					X		X		
Bovine brucellosis	X		X	X	X	X			
Ovine brucellosis (Ram's disease)	X			X	X		X	X	X
<i>Actinobacillus seminis</i>									
Bovine tuberculosis									
Johne's				X				X	
Leptospirosis									
Listeriosis									
<i>Pseudomonas</i>									
<i>Fusibacterium necrophorum</i>					X				
Septicaemia				X		X			
<i>E. coli</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Enzootic abortion	X				X		X	X	X
Lumpy wool						X			
Uterine gangrene			X				X	X	X
Bovine dermatophilosis (Senkobo disease)						X		X	
Wooden tongue							X		
Lumpy jaw									

Study the table above and determine the risk for animals on your farm. Get advice from your veterinarian on E. coli outbreaks in your area and what to do to prevent losses in lambs and calves.

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

VENDOR DECLARATION BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

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

1	The cattle for sale are clearly and permanently identified		Yes	No
2	The cattle for sale/slaughter were born on my farm		Yes	No
3	The farm has a closed herd policy i.e. I do not buy in cattle, rent out grazing or speculate with cattle		Yes	No
4	I practice bio-security on my farm to a level that is **	Poor	Moderate	Good
5	I vaccinate my heifer calves against Bovine Brucellosis once between the ages of 4 – 8 months		Yes	No

6	In addition I vaccinate my cattle older than 8 months with RB51		Yes	No
7	I have all the cattle on my farm tested for Bovine Brucellosis		Yes (date)	No
8	My herd has been tested negative within the past year		Yes	No
9	I did not buy in cattle since my last negative brucellosis test		Yes	No
10	I/my vet investigates any abortions on my farm		Yes	No
11	To the best of my knowledge, my immediate neighbours and farms in my area are free of Bovine Brucellosis		Yes	No
12	I use a veterinarian to advise me on my cattle's herd health		Yes	No
13	The cattle handling facilities on my farm are	Poor	Average	Good

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

Owner or authorised representative:.....

Signature:.....

Date:.....

** * Biosecurity

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

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

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

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

Viral diseases

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

Viral diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
BMC (snotsiekte)	x	x	x	x	x		x		

Rabies (cattle)				X					
BVD								X	
IBR	X			X		X			
BRSV	X					X		X	
PI3						X		X	
Maedi visna virus									
Rotavirus / Coronavirus	X							X	
Enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL)				X		X			
Sheep leucosis									
Jaagsiekte							X		
Orf	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Warts	X		X	X	X	X		X	

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

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

Discuss vaccination programmes and biosecurity measures with your veterinarian.

Fungal diseases

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

Fungal diseases	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Ringworm	X	X	X	X	X	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	
Slangkop									
Crotalaria									
Gifblaar									
Gousiekte									
<i>Cestrum</i> (ink berry)							X		
Tulip	X			X	X	X		X	

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

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

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

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

www.landbou.com

Klik op Indeks van antwoorde

Klik op Beeste of Skape

Klik op Vergiftigings

Klik op die Opskrifte

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

Nutritional deficiencies

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

Deficiencies	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Energy	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Protein	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Phosphate				x					x
Calcium		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						X			
Copper			X		X			X	
Zinc					X			X	
Selenium	X			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.

Beware of fluoride poisoning as borehole water levels drop..

Supplement animals with vitamin A during drought conditions.

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	
Stillbirths					X	X		X	
Abscesses	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Intestinal ulcers									
Bladder stones –urolithiasis					X				X
Blindness	X		X	X		X			
Bloat		X			X	X		X	
Blue udder	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Diarrhoea	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Epididymitis									
Eye cancer	X	X			X	X		X	
Eye infections	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Joint ill	X					X	X		
Lameness/foot problems	X	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	
Navel ill	X					X	X		
Red gut (sheep, torsion of gut)	X							X	
Rectal prolaps			X		X	X	X		X
Trauma	X					X		X	
Teeth wear									
Plastic bags (ingestion)									X
Downer	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	x
Displaced abomasums	x					x			
Ketosis (Domsiekte)	x			x	x	x		x	x
Milk fever	x			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	
Endometritis					x	x		x	
Hydrops									
Metritis	x		x	x	x	x		x	
Poor conception	x			x	x	x	x	x	
Retained afterbirth	x		x	x	x	x		x	
Sheath prolaps	x			x		x			
Uterine prolaps	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Vaginal prolaps	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Penis injury									
Orchitis									

Environmental conditions

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

Other conditions

	MP	G	L	NW	FS	KZN	EC	WC	NC
Drug residues (milk, meat, liver, kidney etc)									
Preditors	x				x		x		
Theft					x				x

Traumatic pericarditis (wire in fore stomachs)									
Trauma (fractures etc)		x			x	x		x	
Trauma (veldfires)	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

Bathurst – Dr. Jane Pistorius

Jeffreys Bay – Drs. Hoek and Lategan

Kareedouw – Dr. Martin Bootsma

Lephalale – Dr. Brigitte Luck

Vanderbijlpark – Dr. Kobus Kok

Ostriches

Western Cape

Oudtshoorn – Ostrimed

Condition	Comments
Upper respiratory problems	Few cases of sinusitis/rhinitis – winds and dust
Avian influenza	Wild bird introduction – low mortality, different that poultry outbreak.. Surveillance indicate high number of positive wild birds dove/ pigeon/ spurwing/ egyptian geese/ gunea fowl/ blue crane
Energy and protein deficiency	3 Severe drought – animals are oin maintenance rations – those in veldt are dying – very bad to the game farmers here .

Equines

Limpopo

Modimolle

Fistulous withers - 1

Eastern Cape

Humansdorp

Ophthalmia – Severe infection in a donkey

Colic – 2 moderate cases in horses

Port Alfred

Biliary – One case with secondary pneumonia (Bathurst)

Biliary – 1 South Seas

Game

Mpumalanga

Karino

Malnutrition – Impala lamb died due to malnutrition as it was not a healthy animal in the first place.

Gauteng

Krugersdorp

Roundworms - 3

Lungworm – 3 Springbok and blesbok deaths, never seen this infestation for 11 years in practice

Pretoria

Intestinal roundworms - 2

Brown ear-tick – 2

Bont tick - 2

Heartwater – 2

Abscesses – 1 *Trueperella pyogenes*

Limpopo

Bela-Bela

Heartwater tics – 3

Blue ticks – 3

Mites – 2 Blue wildebeest

Wounds with screw-worm – 2

Fluoride poisoning - Buffalo

Deaths – 8 Njala on one farm, no positive diagnosis could be made

Protein and energy deficiency – 2

Uterus prolapse – 1 Roan

Lameness – 1 Sable

Abscess – 1 Buffalo

Makhado

Wireworm – 2

Coccidiosis – 2

Protein deficiency – 2

Energy deficiency - 2

Lungs - 2

Modimolle

Diarrhoea – 2 Njala, few cases

Mokopane

Blue ticks - 1

Heartwater ticks – 1

Copper deficiency - 1

Polokwane

Intestinal roundworms – 3

Resistant roundworms – 3

Brown ear-tick – 1

Bont-legged tick -1

Coccidiosis – 1

Diarrhoea – 3

Eye infection - 1
Capture myopathy – 1

Vaalwater

Botulism – One blue wildebeest
Parasitic dermatitis – 1 White rhino

North West

Klerksdorp

Red-legged ticks – 3
Blue ticks – 2
Wireworm – 2 Small game
Stress – Two cheetah cubs died
Stress – First calf buffalo heifer died 2-3 months after calving. Camp too small, bull drove her from herd.

KwaZulu-Natal

Mooi River

Tetanus - 1

Pongola

Protein deficiency – 2
Energy deficiency - 2

Eastern Cape

Colesberg

Ketosis and hypoproteinaemia - 2

Humansdorp

Malnutrition – 1 Drought - Wildebeest
Cold exposure – 2 Wildebeest, Malnutrition (drought) and hypothermia (wind chill) 8
Wildebeest died

Port Alfred

Pneumonia - Nyala – One case of drought pneumonia (Langholm)
Pneumonia – One case post drought pneumonia (Coombs)
Stringhalt – Sable (Langholm)

Uitenhage

Heartwater - 1

Western Cape

Mossel Bay

Mortalities – 2 Rhino deaths – unknown cause

Wellington

Internal parasites – 3 Sable

Northern Cape

Kimberley

Bovine malignant catarrh (snotsiekte) – 1 Buffalo heifer of 6 months old- clinical signs of very mild unilateral keratitis but moderate bilateral mucopurulent nasal discharge, very congested mucous membranes and lagging behind group---PCR was positive for wildebeest related BMC; pathology was highly suggestive of BMC. from a group of breeding buffalo on a big game farm.

Trauma – 1 **Buffalo bull with hindleg lameness - suspected traumatic injury of hip joint**

Sialosist - 1 Nyala ewe with a massive sialosist. Also in poor condition. Killed two days after darting by a rooikat.

Abscess - 1 Nyala ram --malnutrition and maladaptation--pm; rumen acidosis; focal pneumonia, poor condition, massive liver abscessation

Mortalities – 3 Vlakhase --severe mortality (more than 20 cases found) in a small area but on a very big farm. severe pathology in the ones that I have post-mortemed. I also became very sick within 2 days after having done the pm and is still not doing well. Hopefully we will get more cases to carry on with the investigation.

Old age - 1 Sable cow-old age-severely worn teeth and severe loss in body condition

SWINE

Humansdorp

Dystocia – 1

Camelid

Orf – 1 camel

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

Respiratory tract infections in cattle yielded *Mannheimia haemolytica* [17], *Pasteurella multocida* [15], *Histophilus somni* [6] *Mycoplasma* [14], *Trueperella pyogenes* [4], *Mannheimia* biovar 10 [2] and *Mannheimia* biovar 8B.

Calf enteritis yielded 6 cases due to *E. coli*. One of the isolates was an ESBL producer, which means that it is resistant to all penicillins and cephalosporins. No *Cryptosporidium* could be detected. Cases of septicaemia were associated with *Salmonella* Dublin, *T. pyogenes* [2], *E. coli* [2] and *P. multocida*.

There were 2 cases of clostridial myositis in cattle due to *C. septicum*, and *C. sordelli* caused metritis in an ewe.

Enteritis in lambs and kids were due to *E. coli* [8], and 5 of them were associated with *Cryptosporidium*. An ovine abscess was due to *T. pyogenes*. Keratoconjunctivitis yielded *Streptococcus uberis* and *Moraxella ovis*. *Moraxella ovis* is only of low virulence.

Respiratory infections were due to *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* type 3 and *Streptococcus canis* [Lancefield G] in pigs.

Infected wounds in horses were due to *Staphylococcus aureus*, which was methicillin resistant, *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Streptococcus zooepidemicus* [2], *Corynebacterium afermentans*, *E. coli* and *Enterobacter*. A case of cellulitis was caused by *Actinobacillus equuli*. *A. equuli* was also associated with 2 cases of respiratory infection and endometritis. *Pasteurella caballi* was associated with endometritis as well, in 3 cases. *P. caballi* is usually a cause of respiratory infections in horses.

A cheetah yielded *Cryptococcus neoformans* from a wound on the nose. Cheetahs are particularly susceptible to *Cryptococcus*. A nyala yielded *T. pyogenes* from an abscess, and another one *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* from the trachea. A purulent wound from a white rhino yielded

Streptococcus equisimilis. *Streptococcus canis* [Lancefield G] was associated with an abortion in a sable.

Feedlot report received from Drs. Shaun Morris, Eben du Preez and Pierre Jansen Van Vuuren for August 2017 (edupreez1@telkomsa.net)

Sheep Feedlots:

At abattoirs the following conditions occurred:

Lung lesions varied from severe with large areas of the lungs affected by acute pneumonia, to small lesions mostly in the apical lobe of the right lung (due to dust in feedlots)

Severe pleuritis to small areas of chronic adhesions

Liver abscesses

Stilezia hepatica (liver tapeworms)

Migration tracts through liver tissue

White spots on the kidneys due to possible Leptospirosis infection

Few severe pericarditis (Inflammation of the heart sack) cases

Cattle Feedlots:

At abattoirs the following conditions occurred:

A whole range of lung lesions and adhesions from severe and acute to small chronic lesions and adhesions.

Liver abscesses from a single abscess to multiple abscesses

Fasciola hepatica (liver fluke) lesions and active infections

Peritonitis (inflammation of the abdominal lining)– mostly associated with ulceration in the abomasum and sometimes in the rumen.

White spotted kidneys

Hydro nephrosis (swollen watery kidney)

Cystitis (bladder infection)

Rumen lesions varying from a few stars to many stars of different sizes and acute to chronic lesions on the rumen wall

Wire in the reticulum with some penetrating the wall.

Plastic bags and baling twine in the rumen contents.

Measles varying from calcified to fresh measles and some severe infections with measles in the heart and most skeletal muscles.

Injection lesions and abscesses due to dirty needles

Lumpy skin lesions in the muscles.

In the feedlots many cases of AIP (Acute Interstitial Pneumonia) were seen with cattle in the last phase of feeding that die acutely. This is associated with dust and acidosis.

Feedlot report received from Dr. Andy Hentzen for August 2017
(andyvet@mweb.co.za)

Condition	Comments and Specie
Cysticercosis	B3
Parafilaria	B 3
Blue ticks	B 3
Hartwater tick	B 1
Biting lice	B 2
Sucking lice	B 2
Nuisance flies	B 1
African red water	B 1
Anaplasmosis	B1
Heartwater	B 1
Lumpy skin disease	B 1
Blackleg	B 1
Red gut	B 3
Ringworm	B 2
BVD	B 2
IBR	B 3
Orf	O 2
Tulip toxicity	B 2
Protein deficiency	B 2
Energy deficiency	B2
Abortion	B 3
Dystocia	B 3
Masitis	B 1
Retained afterbirth	B 2
Lameness	B3
Lungs	B3
Diarrhoea	B3
Ophthalmia	B 3
Abscesses	B,C 3

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

Specialist Veterinary Pathologist, Vetdiagnostix - Veterinary Pathology Services

Contributors

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

LIVESTOCK DISEASE SURVEILLANCE			
LIVESTOCK SPECIES	DISEASE AGENT	NO. CASES	LOCATION
Bovine, Aborted foetus	Bovine Herpes virus (IBR) abortion	1	Mooi River, KZN
Ovine, Lamb	<i>Mannheimia haemolytica</i> pleuropneumonia	1	Greylingrust, Free State
Bovine, Beef Weaner	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> bronchopneumonia	1	Kokstad, KZN
Bovine, Beef Cows	Stootsiekte - Cotula/Matricaria poisoning	1	Bergville, KZN
Bovine, Calf 3 months	Mycotic rumenitis	1	Estcourt, KZN
Ovine, Lamb 2 months	White muscle disease	1	Underberg, KZN
Bovine, Holstein Heifers	Citrus pulp poisoning	1	Humansdorp, E Cape
Ovine, Lamb	Listeriosis	1	Porteville, W Cape
Bovine, Adult Cow	Lumpy skin disease	1	Port Edward, KZN
Bovine, Dairy calf	Salmonellosis	1	Ixopo, KZN
Bovine, Steer	<i>Babesia bovis</i>	1	Mtunzini, KZN
Bovine, Aborted fetus	<i>Salmonella</i> Dublin abortion	1	Creighton, KZN
Bovine, Calf 3 days	<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	1	Estcourt, KZN
Bovine, Calf 4 days	<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	1	Humansdorp, E Cape
Bovine, Aborted foetus	Bovine Herpes virus (IBR) abortion	1	Kokstad, KZN
Bovine, Heifer	Chronic seneciosis	1	Caledon, W Cape

WILDLIFE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE - 2017			
WILDLIFE SPECIES	DISEASE AGENT	NO. CASES	LOCATION
Golden Wildebeest, Adult Bull	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	1	Swartruggens, Limpopo
Nyala, Adult Female	Aspiration pneumonia	1	Umfolozi, KZN
Nyala, Adult Female+Male	Babesiosis	3	Umfolozi, KZN

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

Condition	Area	Comments and Specie
Intestinal roundworms		O 3
Asiatic red water		B 1
Heartwater		B 1
Lam dysentery		O 1
Salmonellosis		B 2
Coccidiosis		O 3
Rabies	Dutywa Coivaba	2 Canine 1 Ovine
Protein deficiency		B,O,C 3
Energy deficiency		B,O,C 3
Acidosis		O 3
Salt toxicity		O 2
Mismothering, Malnutrition, Exposure	Large scale newborn lamb and kid losses in communal farming areas. Extremely poor drought veld conditions and cold weather. Ewes lamb in mid-winter due to lack of breeding season	

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 2017 from Dr. Lucy Lange: PathCare Vetlab (lange@pathcare.co.za)

Disease	Specie
Brucellosis	Cattle
Pneumonia (inhalation as well)	Cattle
<i>Campylobacter</i>	Cattle
<i>Trichostrongylus axei</i>	Cattle
<i>Salmonella</i>	Cattle
Nephrosis (Toxicosis?)	Cattle
Bacterial placentitis	Cattle
Cholangiohepatitis (Toxicosis?)	Cattle
Nodularworm	Cattle
White muscle disease	Cattle
Hypoproteinaemie	Cattle
Neonatal atelectasis	Cattle

Squamous cell carcinoma	Horses
Sarcoid	Horses
Bothriomycosis	Horses
Internal parasites	Horses
Pneumonia	Sheep
Bacterial endometritis	Sheep
Purulent meningitis	Sheep
Nekrobacillosis	Sheep
Cestrum toxicity	Sheep
Oxalate nephrosis	Sheep
Papillomatosis	Boer goats
Coccidiosis	Boer goats
Enterotoxamia	Boer goats
Bakterial meningitis	Boer goats
Vit E/Selenium deficiency	Pigs
Pneumonia	Pigs
Bacteial enteritis	Pigs
Roundworm infestation	Pigs
Game:	
Capture myopathy	Springbok, Gemsbok, buffalo, Blue wildebeest
Suspected vitamin B1 deficiency	Roan, Nyala
Pneumonia	Nyala
Hypoproteinaemia	Kudu
Lungworm	Bontebok
Necrobacillosis	Springbok
BMC (Snotsiekte) ?	Buffalo

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

Condition	Comments and Specie
Pulpy kidney - FSE	O 1
Salmonellosis	B 1
Johne's disease	O 1
<i>E. coli</i>	B,O 2
Enzootic abortion	O,C 1
Q fever	C 1
BMC (snotsiekte)	B 3, G 12
BVD	B 2
Equine sarcoid	E 1
Protein/Energy malnutrition	G 2

Abortion	B,O,C,G 2
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Lungs	B,O,G 2
Diarrhoea	B,O 2
Abscesses -brain	C 1
Ink berry toxicity	B,G 1
Cardiotoxicity	B,O 1
Cold exposure	G 2

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