



Veterinary Association of Namibia

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE VETERINARY
ASSOCIATION OF
NAMIBIA

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THE MANGA

Issue 1 of 2022

President's Desk



We are sitting at the beginning of a new year, to me it feels like a new start. A new start that wasn't truly a reality the last 2 years. It never really felt like we had the opportunity to take the year on like always. But, to me this year feels different.

I want to look forward from here and stop referring to the past two years. In fact, I wish that for every one of you. I

wish that to you this also feels like a new year, the first new start in 3 years. May we grow from here and move forward.

I would like to welcome a bunch of new faces to the VAN EXCO. Drs Cveta Pudar and Saskia Stam. Welcome back to Dr Andrea Klingelhoefter. And welcome back to Drs Philip Groenewald, Lyndsay Scott, Julia Bürgi and Sulet Gous. The first few meetings have been refreshing and I look forward to a year with excitement.

Our VAN Membership numbers have been dwindling which is of great concern to the EXCO. If you have any thoughts or help with regards to growing them again, please share. Let us know if you want to become a part of the inner workings of VAN. We are here to support you as a veterinarian in Namibia and without the members the EXCO won't have a reason to function.

We are planning to get back to in person CPD events, hopefully that is not only hope but will actually turn into reality. There are even a few new projects that the EXCO is starting. We want to become part of the monthly Have-a-Heart food drives and help with rabies vaccinations as well.

These are some of the plans. Let's see how they pan out.

Let's grab the bull by the horns and not just hang on for dear life, but actually steer it like we want.

-Dr Theuns Laubscher- VAN President

VAN NEWS



Other Planned Activities

- COMPLETE WEBSITE UPDATE
- PRINTING OF VAN VACCINATION BOOKLETS
- PRINTING OF SCHEDULED DRUG REGISTER
- MORE UNAM STUDENT COLLABORATION
- RABIES CAMPAIGNS
- HAVE-A-HEART FOOD DRIVES

The New Executive Committee

Introducing new and old committee members for 2022:

- Dr Theuns Laubscher (President)
- Dr Lyndsay Scott (Vice President and CPD Coordinator)
- Dr Andrea Klingelhoefter (Secretary)
- Dr Philip Groenewald (Treasurer)
- Dr Saskia Stam (Industry Coordinator)
- Dr Julia Bürgi (WSAVA)
- Dr Sulet Gous (Welfare)
- Dr Cveta Pudar (UNAM)

Planned CPD Events for the Year

VAN is determined to host in-person CPD events this year!

Save the Dates will be sent out in the course of the year for:

- Fun and social collegial discussion evenings
- Mini Congress
- Day CPDs
- Annual Scientific Congress
- Webinars and online quizzes



RABIES CAMPAIGN 2021

By Dr Sulet Gous

The Veterinary Association of Namibia and Have-a-Heart Windhoek teamed up to host a rabies campaign in Katatura on the 23rd of October 2021.



Quite a few volunteers sacrificed their Saturday morning to vaccinate 200 animals against rabies as an international rabies day initiative. We also got sponsored a few deworming, anti-parasitic and anti-fly treatments from our suppliers: MSD,

SWAVET, Kyron and Windhoek Veterinary Clinic, which we could use to help these animals. We had a great turnout and people were very happy about the helping hands. They were queuing at the vehicles we worked out of within minutes and we could help keep these animals and their people protected from this deadly disease.



It was such a success that we as VAN think we should make it a monthly or a quarterly event and we will be working on making this happen.



Clinical Case Discussion

By Dr Andrea Klingelhoefter

History

A 7-month-old calf presented with bleeding lesions on its gums. The farmer had isolated the animal and treated with a tetracycline five days before as it would not eat. When he looked inside the mouth and discovered the lesions, he contacted the State Veterinary Office.

This particular calf was born on the farm. The farmer has only bought animals from local farmers in the last year and there were no introductions from other regions. No other animals appeared to be affected at the time.

Clinical Examination

The mucous membranes were pale pink, rectal temperature was 38.5. The nose and lips were dry and crusted. There was a thick, mucoid nasal discharge. The animal was salivating.

The calf had an erosive stomatitis, with sloughing necrotic material. The erosions bled after handling. No lesions could be seen between the claws and no diarrhoea could be observed at the time.



Diagnosis

Foot and Mouth Disease was ruled out by the State Veterinary Office. Samples were taken for Bovine Malignant Catarrhal Fever, Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus/Mucosal Disease and respiratory disease screening.

The results came back positive for **Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus:**

Bovine		
Test	Test Result	Method
BVD (type 1 & 2) detection	BVD type 1 and 2 Detected	Real Time RT-PCR
MCF Screening	Not detected	PCR
Ruminant Respiratory Pathogens Screening	Not detected	real time PCR

The farmer was advised to cull the calf and begin vaccination with Hiprabovis for BVD, an inactivated vaccine which has an advantage of being safe for pregnant animals.

Discussion

BVD is wide-spread in Namibia. Sero-prevalence may be as high as 80%. It is an economically erosive and immunosuppressive disease. It is not only part of the respiratory disease complex but also causes reproductive losses in terms of infertility, congenital abnormalities, abortions and early embryonic death.

Cows that become infected at 60-120 days of pregnancy may give birth to calves that are persistently infected carriers of BVD. These animals serve as a major source of infection in a herd and must be identified and culled.

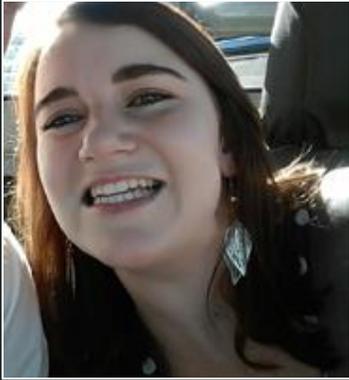
Mucosal Disease can be either acute or chronic, but it is always fatal. It occurs in Persistently Infected calves which were superinfected with BVD after birth. Lesions can include erosions of the entire oral cavity, external nares, pharynx and interdigital cleft. Intermittent bouts of diarrhoea and progressive emaciation characterise the chronic form of MD.

Vaccination with either a modified live or inactivated vaccine is possible, however inactivated vaccines have recently been shown to provide better control of the disease, without the risks associated with a modified life virus.

Reference

Knobel, D. 2013, *Bovine Viral Diarrhoea and Mucosal Disease*, lecture notes, Infectious Diseases, Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases, University of Pretoria.





Being a Namibian Vet in Rwanda

By Dr Lyndsay Scott

Disclaimer: This text is no attempt to give a detailed description of the history, customs, peoples or problems of Rwanda. It is an ambling account of my own wanderings round Rwanda, some of the situations I have encountered and the ideas and opinions expressed are my own (unless stated and quoted otherwise). My hope with this text is that it may show something of what it feels like to live and work in this country.

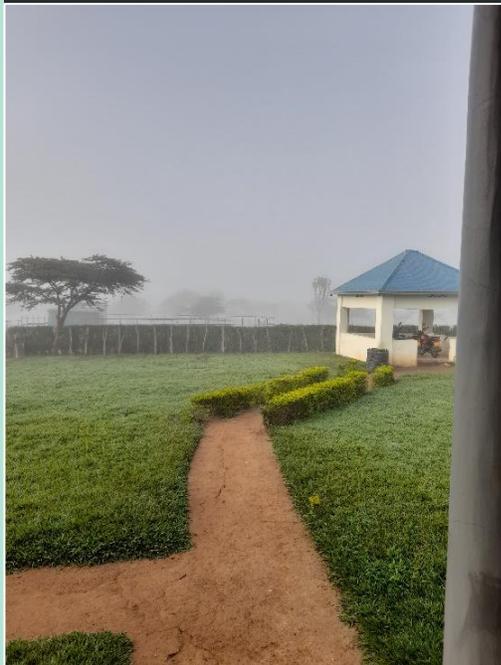
So where to start – I can talk and describe and complain and encourage Rwanda for hours on end if I am not “prohibited”. I mean, I have re-written and adjusted this very text several times, but I don’t want to bore the reader too much with my ramblings and opinions. So I’ll start where we all are most familiar (and as Onderstepoort has ingrained into our core, every good SOAP must start with one), with a suitable bit of history.

Rwanda, known as the “land of a thousand hills” and the literal place of milk and honey, is a tiny country of 12.6 million people in Eastern Africa (it is just slightly bigger than Etosha National Park). It felt so foreign to me when we were approached to pack up our lives in Namibia and become expats in Rwanda. That being said, there are numerous times that it felt so similar to home I had to stop myself from getting into a bakkie and driving down to my friends for a Friday evening braai or my parents for a Sunday lunch. But then there are times where it felt that we were on another planet, let alone just another African country – but I guess that adds to the adventures and life-lessons one collects along the way.

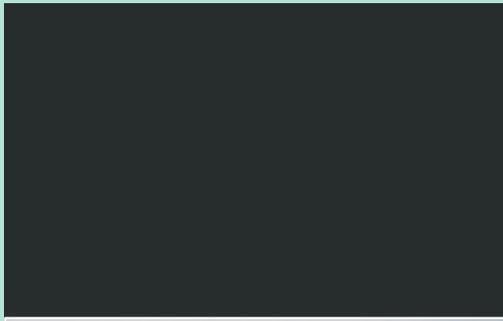
The notion was to provide guidance and support for a local beef production project (farm to fork concept) as the beef industry in Rwanda is not well established as yet. This realization is unfortunately far behind schedule, but that is another story for another day.

Being a Namibian vet in Rwanda can be summed up in the following opinions:

- The situation in Rwanda regarding animal welfare is regrettably wanting. Status quo is that animal welfare does not always get precedence in circumstances it should – hopefully this will change in the near future. Animal handling, animal transport, clinical evaluations and diagnosis, treatment of clinical disease, living conditions and care is in need of development.



Early morning view from home

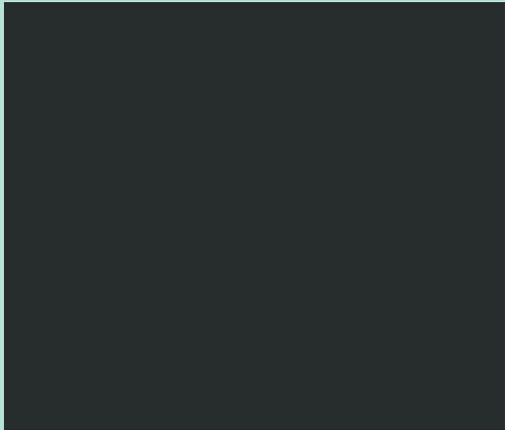


One of the areas on the farm becomes a vlei when the farm gets rain



“Cold” beer at our “local restaurant” with the farm staff

- Only 2 private animal welfare organisations exist – one offers aid exclusively to companion animals in Kigali (the capital of Rwanda); the other offers aid to companion animals and livestock.
- Improper use of prohibited veterinary medicines, improper diagnosis of disease, inadequate slaughtering and meat processing, absence of a cold chain, questionable hygiene at the local “butchers” and “supermarkets” are concerns encountered.
- The “safest” meat to eat here in my opinion is goat (although the slaughtering process will be questionable). It is not unheard of to find abscesses in meat cuts in display windows or purchase meat from a supermarket only to realise it has gone bad once you get home.
- Meat processing with regards to specific “cuts” are rare – do not expect to walk into your local butcher and ask for a 500g rump “met n lekker vetjie” or a “skaap ribbetjie”; you get what you see.
- The Rwanda Council of Veterinary Doctors (established in 2017) try their best to organize educational and training sessions for all levels of veterinary staff.
- There are only 2 private veterinary clinics (1 clinic has 2 branches) open to the public; these try and offer a wide range of services – surgeries, dentals, radiographs, etc. Luckily, even though my pets are edging on the “retirement” age, I have not had the necessity to use their services yet.
- In general, the norm here in Rwanda is to permit veterinary technicians (commonly known as “vets”) to perform all animal health related procedures and practices (including surgeries). Also “vet pharmacies” are common and usually several are found in each village.
- Well-known and established veterinary pharmaceutical medicines and accessories are not always easy to come by and takes several months to be imported – eg. Medetomidine and Butorphanol, and Diff-Quik stain are not stocked by the suppliers.
- Tick-borne diseases are ubiquitous.
- Only 2 types of supplementary feed (aka concentrates) are available for livestock in Rwanda – a bull ration and a dairy ration.
- It is also very common for the country to “run out” of products such as dog and cat food, milk, cheese, etc for several weeks on end.
- Rwanda has a “one cow per family” program to help poorer families increase their income and nutrition.
- Private life –



ECF vaccinations with government officials



Indigenous Inyambo (Ankole)

- the little luxuries are expensive (eg. adventures and must-sees (gorillas, chimpanzees, Akagera National Park and Lake Kivu), restaurants, “supermarkets” and chocolate);
- government contribution tax-wise is 30%
- fresh fruits and vegetables are available everywhere at very low prices – we stuff our faces with avos, mangos, pineapples and tree tomatoes whenever we get the chance to go to the local food market
- very friendly and helpful people – everyone along your travels are always willing to offer help; even though we do not always understand each other – “sign” language and laughter are universally recognized; although, my husband, understanding Oshi-Herero can understand some of the local language here too
- marvelous weather – almost no need for winter clothes (average temperature is 25-28°C and the hottest we have experienced here is 31°C); dry season is approximately 4 months long
- most places are accessible by motorcycle – also the cheapest form of transport
- so many different shades of GREEN
- and lastly, the only country I have visited so far where you get the option to choose between a warm beer or a cold beer

Maybe out of interest’s sake, below is an extract from the “Ministerial order determining the range of fees for veterinary doctors”:

- Consultation – Companion animal: 2 000 – 10 000 rwf (N\$ 30 – 150)
- Consultation – Farm visit: 5 000 – 10 000 rwf (N\$ 76 – 150)
- Microscopic examination (eg. bloodsmear, faecal): 500 – 1 000 rwf (N\$ 8 – 15)
- Post mortem – Large animal: 5 000 – 10 000 rwf (N\$ 76 – 150)
- Post mortem – Companion animal: 10 000 – 20 000 rwf (N\$ 150 – 300)
- C-Section – Large animal: 50 000 – 75 000 rwf (N\$ 770 – 1 150)
- C-Section – Companion animal: 75 000 – 100 000 rwf (N\$ 1 150 – 1 500)
- Spay: 75 000 – 100 000 rwf (N\$ 1 150 – 1 500)

I have to apologise in advance if any of my opinions offends the reader – this was not my intent.

I realise that the above opinions have a general negative connotation and might be off-putting to some; this should however not put anyone off, instead I hope this inspires some readers to come to Rwanda and see for yourselves – there is so much potential here; the above mentioned is just to offer proper preparation.

I never intended for this text to have a more negative expression and therefore I want to end this text on a more positive and constructive tone. The actual intention of this text is gratitude and appreciation. We as Namibians have come so far regarding animal health, animal welfare (even though we still have a lot to improve on this – ie. the new Animal Welfare Act), food safety, environmental conservation and sustainability; we should be extremely proud of ourselves. And we should be grateful – grateful to the farmer who looks after his cattle and grazing, and appreciates that this is where his livelihood lies; grateful to the client for understanding the basics in animal care and health; grateful to our suppliers for trying to provide us with all the necessary pharmaceuticals and equipment so that we are able to offer the best care we can; grateful for our government for realizing the necessity of early disease detection and warning symptoms, for encouraging vaccination programs and for trying to keep our national herds safe; we need to be grateful for each other – we have a vast data base of theoretical and practical knowledge among our colleagues (many of whom are so eager to share their advice and knowledge); we need to be grateful for our little “luxuries” – vastness, friendly/helpful neighbours, safety and the striking contrast of our landscape; and we need to be grateful that we have THE best meat in Africa (if not the world)! We as Namibians are truly privileged.

Hopefully this text has encouraged you to not only be grateful for what you have, but also to not be afraid to put yourself out there and grab at new experiences. You never know what you are going to learn from it.

Fin



Cattle in the veld

LIST OF VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS REGISTERED ON THE NAMIBIAN MARKET IN 2021

Applicant	Name of product	Active ingredients	Dosage form	Registration number	Date of registration	Schedule	Indicated species
Zoetis South Africa	Apoquel 5,4mg	Each tablet contains 5,4mg Oclacitinib maleate	Oral tablet	V21/13.3/1466	18/03/2021	NS0	Dogs
Zoetis South Africa	Apoquel 16mg	Each tablet contains 16mg Oclacitinib maleate	Oral tablet	V21/13.3/1467	18/03/2021	NS0	Dogs
Zoetis South Africa	Bovi- Shield	Bovine Rhinotracheitis Virus $\geq 104,8$ TCID ₅₀ , Bovine Virus Diarrhoea Type 1 $\geq 103,9$ TCID ₅₀ , Bovine Virus Diarrhoea Type 2 $\geq 104,7$ TCID ₅₀ , Parainfluenza3 Virus $\geq 107,2$ TCID ₅₀ , Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus $\geq 104,4$ TCID ₅₀ , Mannheimia haemolytica TYPE A1 $\geq 3,3$ RP	Injection	V21.24.4/1468	18/03/2021	NS0	Cattle
Ascendis Animal Health (Pty) Ltd	Agramycin	230mg Oxytetracycline per ml	Injection	V21/17.1.2/1469	18/03/2021	NS0	Cattle, sheep, goats, pigs
Virbac RSA(Pty) Ltd	Suprelorin	4,7mg Deslorelin acetate per ml	Subcutaneous Implant	V21/11.4/1470	18/03/2021	NS2	Dogs
Virbac RSA (Pty) Ltd	Virbacox	Contains 12% m/m Salinomycin sodium	Feed additive	V21/17.4.1/1471	18/03/2021	NS0	Chickens
Intervet SA Pty) Ltd	Innovax-ND-ILT	Live recombinant turkey Herpes Virus expressing the F protein of Newcastle Disease Virus and gD and G1 glycoproteins of Infectious Laryngo Tracheitis virus	Subcutaneous and in ovo	V21/24.3/1472	17/06/2021	NS0	Chickens
Elanco Animal Health (Pty) Ltd	Atropine 0,5 injection	Contains 0,5mg/ml atropine	Injection	V21/2.4/1473	17/06/2021	NS2	Dogs, cats, horse, cattle

							and sheep
Elanco Animal Health (Pty) Ltd	Tioctan- Vet	Each ml contains 5mg Thioctic acid	Injection	V21/9.2/1474	17/06/2021	NS1	Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Goats, Pigs, Dogs and Cats
Elanco Animal Health (Pty) Ltd	Kortico Injection	2mg Dexamethasone/ ml	Injection	V21/12.3/1475	17/06/2021	NS2	Cattle, Horse, Dog and Cats
Elanco Animal Health (Pty) Ltd	Catosal 10%	Contains Butaphosphan 100mg/ml and Cyanocobalamin of 0,05mg/ml	Injection	V21/19.2/1476	17/06/2021	NS0	Horse, Cattle, Sheep, Goat, Pig, Cat, Poultry and Dog
Afrivet Business Management (Pty) Ltd	Zerorab	Each ml contains inactivated rabies virus (potency $\geq 1,0$ I.U. per dose) propagated in cell line BHK-21.	Injection	V21/24.4/1477	17/06/2021	NS1	dogs, cats, cattle, sheep and goats
Intervet SA (Pty) Ltd	Otomax Ear Drops	Gentamicin Sulphate 3mg, Betamethasone Valerate 1mg and Clotrimazole 1mg per ml.	Ear drops	V21/13.3.1/1478	17/06/2021	NS2	Dogs
Virbac RSA (Pty)Ltd	Milpro Kittens	Milbemycin Oxime 4mg and Praziquantel 10mg per tablet	Oral: tablet	V21/18.1.8/1479	17/06/2021	NS0	Kittens
Virbac RSA (Pty)Ltd	Milpro Cats	Milbemycin Oxime 16mg and Praziquantel 40mg per tablet	Oral: tablet	V21/18.1.8/1480	17/06/2021	NS0	Cats
Virbac RSA (Pty)Ltd	Milpro Dogs	Milbemycin Oxime 12,5mg and Praziquantel 125mg per tablet	Oral: tablet	V21/18.1.8/1481	17/06/2021	NS0	Dogs
Virbac RSA (Pty)Ltd	Milpro Puppies	Milbemycin Oxime 2,5mg and Praziquantel 25mg per tablet	Oral: tablet	V21/18.1.8/1482	17/06/2021	NS0	Puppies
Intervet SA (Pty) Ltd	Salix	Each 1 ml contains furosemide 50 mg	Injection	V21/10.1/1483	23/09/2021	NS2	Cattle, Horses, Dogs, Cats

Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Gallivac IBD S706 NEO	Each dose contains live, attenuated virus of infectious bursal disease (S706 strain) 4.0-5.3 log ₁₀ CCID ₅₀	Effervescent tablet for suspension for oral and ocular administration and for spraying	V21/24.3/1484	23/09/2021	NS0	Chickens
Zoetis South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Glanvac 3	Each ml contains Clostridium perfringens type D UF toxoid NLT 6 IU, Clostridium tetani UF toxoid NLT 3 IU and Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis (ovis) UF toxoid NLT 8 CPU	Injectable vaccine	V21/24.4/1485	23/09/2021	NS0	Sheep, goats, lambs, kids, ewes and does
Zoetis South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Poulvac E Coli	Each dose contains Escherichia Coli bacterial culture $\geq 1,7 \times 10^7$ CFU	Freeze dried vaccine	V21/24.3/1486	23/09/2021	NS0	Poultry
Zoetis SA	Revolution Plus	30 mg Selamectin and 5 mg Sarolaner	Topical	V21/18.3.9/1487	02-Dec-21	NS1	Feline
Intervet SA	Exitel Plus XL	Each tablet contains Praziquantel 175 mg, Pyrantel 175 mg (equivalent to 504 mg pyrantel embonate) and Febantel 525 mg.	Oral/ tablet	V21/18.3.9/1488	02-Dec-21	NS0	Canine
Intervet SA	Exitel Plus	Each Exitel Plus tablet contains Praziquantel 50mg, Pyrantel 50mg (equivalent to 144mg pyrantel embonate) and Febantel 150mg	Oral/ tablet	V21/18.3.9/1489	02-Dec-21	NS0	Canine
Intervet SA	Nobivac solvent	Diluent used for the reconstitution of freeze-dried small animal Nobivac vaccines for dogs and cats.	Injectable	V21/29/1490	02-Dec-21	NS0	Dog and Cat

Intervet SA	Innovax ILT	Each ampoule Innovax® ILT contains at least 2 248 PFU of live Herpes virus of turkey strain HVT/ILT-138 per dose, in the cell-associated form.	Injectable (Subcutaneous and in ovo)	V21/24.3/1491	02-Dec-21	NS0	Chickens
Biotech Laboratories	Cyflor injection for cattle and swine.	Each ml contains 300mg florfenicol	Injectable	V21/17.1/1492	02-Dec-21	NS0	Cattle and pigs
Biotech Laboratories	Noroseal	Each 4g intramammary syringe contains 2,6g bismuth subnitrate	intramammary suspension	V21/16.1/1493	02-Dec-21	NS0	Cattle

Contact Us

We would love to hear from you!

Have an interesting case, story or pictures to share with us?

Please send them secretary@van.org.na



Veterinary Association of Namibia

