



Veterinary Association of Namibia

OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER
OF THE VET-
ERINARY
ASSOCIA-
TION OF NA-
MIBIA

Editor: Dr. Elvira
Kleber

elvirasvetprac-
tice@gmail.com

Fax:088623454

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THE MANGA

ISSUE 2 OF 2013

APRIL 2013

Presidents Desk

This month is World Veterinary Day, on Saturday 27th April. The selected theme for 2013 is very relevant to all of us – VACCINATION. The discovery of disease prevention through vaccination is one of the greatest scientific achievements. Vaccination of animals helps people to protect their livestock and their companion animals, as well as themselves in case of zoonotic diseases. VAN has organized lectures countrywide on the theme of VACCINATION in close collaboration and support of AGRA. We want to thank all those veterinarians who have agreed to present a lecture on vaccination for WVD.

The power point presentation from VAN prepared for WVD is available to all members. I suggest that this lecture is also presented by veterinarians at various farmers days in the near future. Vaccination is such an important subject that we should bring this important message to as many people as possible. This theme is an important link in our aim to serve health and welfare in humans and animals in Namibia.

As announced at last years VAN AGM in October, for the first time the South African Veterinary Association is offering the subscription of their own monthly magazine 'VETNEWS' without the requirement to be a member of SAVA. Vet News contains a lot of useful information, it contains a formal CPD article where points for compulsory CPD can be earned, as well as clinical cases and columns on pathology and histopathology. From my own experience, I can highly recommend the subscription to Vet News. This offer is only available to fully paid up VAN members.

The University of Namibia (UNAM) is planning the first intake for the new Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) degree course. I have

been invited to represent VAN at a 2 day meeting with UNAM, together with Dr's Marais and Hassel from the Namibian Veterinary Council, to discuss the curriculum for the new BVM degree. We could give a lot of input and advice, and our comments were mostly positively received. The new proposal for the curriculum must still be discussed by the NVC.

We planned a CPD day on Snakes and Snakebite, as well as lectures from Dr. A. Rothauge on his Baseline Nutrition Survey for May this year. Unfortunately one of our main speakers for this day became ill and therefore we decided to postpone this CPD, hopefully only for a few weeks. We will keep our members updated and publish the new date as soon as we can confirm it.

The theme for our VAN congress 2013 is ZOONOSES. We want to emphasize the importance of Zoonoses and bring more information on zoonotic diseases to our members. We will appreciate it if our members can also contribute or make proposals to this important subject, I am looking forward to hear from you in this regard.

Anselm Voigts

Our new Act

Beginning of the year our new Act, Act 1 of 2013, Veterinary and Veterinary Para Professions Act was gazetted. A hard copy is available at Ministry of Justice for N\$ 29.60.

The Rules and Regulations are being drafted. They will be circulated to all the veterinarians for input. Please take time to go through them and comment. This is a unique opportunity to have a say in our legislation, please make use of it.

It is of utmost importance that all the Veterinary Para Professionals get organized. All the animal health technicians, veterinary nurses, equine dental technicians etc. 2 Veterinary Para Professionals need to serve on the formerly known Veterinary Council of Namibia (VCN), which has changed to (NVC) Namibian Veterinary Council as at the new Act.

Snippets

27th April 2013 is World Veterinary day. This years theme is "Vaccination". More info can be found under www.worldvet.org/node/10403 or simply go on to the VAN website and click on the link.

The 39th World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Congress takes place in Capetown from 16-19th September 2014. Early bird registration has already started, please visit www2.kenes.com/wsava/Pages/Home.aspx for more information.

VAN wants to give a special thanks to Dr. Rodenwoldt for representing the Veterinary Association of Namibia (VAN) at the Namibian Medicine Regulatory Council (NMRC).

Members are once again reminded to apply for the dispensing license if they haven't done so yet. See the Medicines and Related Substances Control Act (on VAN website) for more details.

The Hit Statistics for VAN website is available here:

<http://www.van.org.na/webstat/>

Animal Welfare

A Working group of 10 stakeholders was formed. They will review the outdated legislation as well as focus on awareness. There is a strong promise that UNAM and Polytech will include animal welfare in their veterinary and agriculture curriculums. The SADAC (Southern African Developing Countries) Animal Welfare Secretariat is soon to be hosted in Namibia, it is currently based in Tanzania. For more information you can contact Dr. Baby Kaurivi.



EU Audit

The EU Audit took place from 19th February to 1st March 2013 and was combined with audit DG (SANCO) 2013-6774 on controls over the production of bovine and ovine meat, farmed and game meat destined for export to the European Union (EU). The main focus was the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) control and contingency plans. The combined audit teams comprised of 2 persons representing Animal Health and Veterinary Public health respectively.

The overall findings were satisfactory and Namibia still maintains access to the EU market.

- There was considerable improvement in the animal identification and traceability system (NAMLITS) since last audit 2011.
- However, there were areas that needed improvement. The main weakness was in the filing of documentation and document archive management in all operations audited
- Other areas that need improvement was veterinary public health, microbiological contamination was found intermittently high
- The confusion regarding 40 days residency for livestock that are intended for export of meat to EU was clarified
- Full report should be available by middle April 2013

Dr. Baby Kaurivi



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

Tel: (+264-61) 208 7513
Fax: (+264-61) 2087779
Enquiries: Dr JD Shoopala
Email: ShoopalaJ@mawf.gov.na

Office of the Acting Chief Veterinary Officer
Government Office Park, Luther Street
Private Bag 13184
Windhoek

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21 February 2013

Circular V9/2013

TO: All Chief Veterinarians
All State Veterinarians
All Control Animal Health Technicians
All Chief Animal Health Technicians
All Food Business Operators
All Farmers Unions
All Farmers

SUBJECT: FORTY-DAY RESIDENCY COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

This Circular, which supersedes Circular V4/2013, is to be implemented with immediate effect.

Forty-day residency of cattle and sheep is a requirement for the eventual export of fresh or chilled or frozen beef and mutton to the European Union (EU). The purpose of this circular is to prescribe, how role players in the livestock sector should comply with this requirement.

1. The owner of the holding should ensure that all livestock on the holding are registered on the NamLITS database, properly identified with approved identification marks and that all livestock movements to the holding and out of the holding are reconciled.
2. All livestock keepers intending to slaughter cattle and sheep for the EU market are expected to complete the attached declaration on the animal movement permit.
3. In terms of the declaration, livestock keepers must ensure that such animals were born in Namibia south of the Veterinary Cordon Fence (VCF) or if introduced from approved areas were resident in the area south of the VCF for a continuous period of at least 90 days.

4. The completed declaration with the fully endorsed livestock movement permit and relevant animal movement notices, must accompany the animals to the slaughterhouse.
5. In addition, the individual cattle or sheep flock or goat herd (or individually identified ovine or caprine) should have been resident on the holding for a continuous period of at least 40 days before transportation to an EU-approved slaughter house. The counting of the 40-day period for any newly arriving cattle or flock of sheep or goat herd (or individually identified ovine or caprine) starts from the first day of arrival of such animals onto the holding.
6. No livestock will be allowed for EU slaughter market directly from animal gathering(s) unless all animals presented at such gathering(s) are eligible for EU slaughter or they have been clearly separated.
8. On application for a movement permit to the EU eligible animal gathering or to the slaughterhouse, the veterinary official must interrogate the NamLITS system to verify compliance.
9. Livestock that have met the 40-day residency requirements on the last holding can only be transported separately and directly to the EU approved slaughterhouse.
10. Livestock that meet the 40-day residency requirements at holding of origin but going through an animal gathering shall be transported separately and directly to an EU approved slaughterhouse.
10. The Food Business Operator (FBO) must, upon receipt of the consignment, interrogate the NamLITS database to verify the 90 and 40 day residency requirement before accepting the animals for slaughter to the EU.
11. At the abattoir, EU eligible livestock must be kept in separate pens/ kraals from the rest of the animals not complying with 40-day residency and **must be slaughtered separately**.
12. The State Veterinarian must keep detailed records of non-compliance which should include the fate of animals that would have not complied with the 40/90 day residency requirement.
13. State Veterinarians and Animal Health Technicians are required to verify compliance to the conditions outlined above.

The Directorate of Veterinary Services will in due course consult with the EU office (DG SANCO in Brussels with a view to obtain derogation for Namibia on the 40-day residency requirements.

Kind Regards

.....
Dr JD Shoopala

ACTING VETERINARY OFFICER



The previous circular V8/2013 was entitled, "Standard Operating procedure for the control of Contagious Equine Metritis.



February 2013

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PO Box 25033, MONUMENT PARK, Pretoria 0105
47 Gembok Street, MONUMENT PARK 0181
Tel (012) 346 1150/1, Fax (012) 346 2929, Email: debbie@sava.co.za
www.sava.co.za

South African Veterinary Association
Suid-Afrikaanse Veterinêre Vereniging

