VETERINARY SERVICES UPDATE

What's happening...

About our Staff

Dr Shashi Ramraj holds a MMed Vet (Meat Hygiene). She was the first Veterinarian of colour to pass the South African Veterinary Council Board examinations in 1981, allowing her to work as a Veterinarian in South Africa.

Empowerment

Some of the research activities in the Veterinary Services Directorate:

1.1   DR SIKHAKHANE (Senior Manager Veterinary Services, South Region): Comparison of disease reporting systems; manual, digipen and Vet app.

1.2   DR MASEMEGE (ALLERTON LABORATORY): The prevalence of antimicrobial residues and resistance to microlytes in pigs slaughtered at Cato Ridge Abattoir in KwaZulu-Natal.

1.3   DR NOGWEBELA (Umzinyathi): Case control study on risk factors for Bovine brucellosis in KwaZulu-Natal.

Our work

Disease surveillance activities are conducted throughout the province

PPR – A disease of ruminants affecting mostly goats, it is an economic important exotic disease present in some of the African countries. The purpose of the surveillance is to be on the look-out to see if it has not been introduced in the province (into South Africa), as an early warning system. The introduction of the disease in the country may jeopardise the chances of exporting any ruminant products from South Africa.

Bovine brucellosis - a cause of reproductive failures in cattle and also a cause of chronic undulant fever in humans. The province is already affected by brucellosis and this disease is an example, together with tuberculosis, rabies and others of **disease conditions that require a "One Health" approach. That is a holistic** approach to health management by considering all factors playing a role in causing disease in humans and animals.
Tuberculosis (bovine tuberculosis) – affects cattle and people (especially immune compromised individuals)

Some of the Primary animal health care activities

A Farmer's Day held at Dundee Research Station on 16 March 2016. The farmers (both commercial and communal) were to move from station to station to seek information. This station is awaiting its turn.