

**Veterinary extension services**  
the basis of  
**Primary Animal Health Care**  
amongst  
**Small Scale Stock Owners**

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**Model for livestock health service delivery**

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**Client: Commercial Livestock Producer**

- High number of animals in concentrated area – few farmers
- Sophisticated production management system
- Low profit margin per animal – economy of scale
- Management time is focused on continuous production process (Feeding, breeding, milking and marketing)

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Provide technical skills (reproductive, diagnostic and surgical) and advice  
24 Hour emergency basis ◀▶ Regular planned farm visits

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Based on broad scientific knowledge base and experience

**Veterinary professional offer skills and knowledge for a fee**

**Model for livestock health service delivery**

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**Client: Small Scale Livestock Owner**

- Low number of animals per owner – high number of owners spread over large area
- Very little planned management
- Low income due to low off take or market access
- Management time is focused on finding daily grazing and water

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Transfer basic animal health knowledge and skills to livestock owners pertaining to the management of identified animal health problems.

Ongoing support through animal health remedy distribution system.

Little emergency based service ◀▶ Regular interaction on group basis

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Based on transferring broad scientific knowledge and experience

**Veterinary professional offer training and support as the basis of Primary Animal Health Care**



**Livestock health service delivery**

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**Client: Commercial Livestock Producer**

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24 Hour emergency basis  
Regular planned farm visits

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Veterinarian offer technical skills and knowledge for a fee

Large spectrum of farming intensity in between

**Livestock health service delivery**

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**Client: Small Scale Livestock Owner**

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Little emergency service  
Regular interaction on group basis

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Veterinary professional offer training and support as the basis of Primary Animal Health Care

VETERINARIAN	ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN
Training to provide a broad based animal health service	Training for specific market need
Significant ongoing increase in training content due to readily availability of international research and clinical results and knowledge	Disease surveillance
•Advanced surgical, medical and reproductive procedures ▶ private service paid for by owner	•Planned inspection and surveillance of controlled diseases ▶ state veterinary service
•Highly technical production analysis and provision of disease control program or disease problem diagnosis and correction.	•Primary health care service based on parasite treatment and vaccination campaigns
<b>Training in Veterinary Extension?</b>	<b>Training in Veterinary Extension?</b>

**Sustainable Primary Animal Health Care (PAHC)**

Sustainable and broad based PAHC to all small-scale stock owners can only be provided through a ongoing and targeted animal health knowledge transfer.

The most important difference is that the veterinary professional doesn't provide a service only practicing his/her own skill or knowledge,

-but provides a service only when the appropriate skill and knowledge is transferred to the livestock owner.



**Clinical Veterinary Service**

Provide a clinical and diagnostic service including veterinary procedures, treatment and disease prevention advice

Veterinary professional must be available on call to provide a service to individual farmers

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**Veterinary Extension Service**

Provide a service based on the transfer of relevant knowledge and skills

Veterinary professional give ongoing training and support to groups of farmers

**PAHC Skills and knowledge needed by small scale stockowners**

- a comprehensive understanding of the income generating value of healthy animals and the monetary and other losses incurred as a result of disease or death of an animal.
- a fundamental understanding of the factors that bring about healthy and productive livestock.
- a system whereby the signs of health can be monitored on a daily basis and the first signs of disease detected, recorded and acted upon.
- a basic understanding of the causes of the most important diseases affecting livestock and humans living with livestock or using products from livestock.
- a basic understanding of the prevention of diseases by vaccination, the early detection, correct management and early treatment of acute deadly diseases.
- a basic understanding of available livestock remedies for the treatment or prevention of parasites and the most important infectious diseases.
- an effective interaction with the provider of livestock remedies so that critically needed remedies are readily available and that the ordering of seasonally required remedies, like parasite control products and vaccines, occurs timeously.
- the skills to treat basic disease conditions like open wounds and to manage production related conditions, such as assistance of newly born livestock.
- an understanding of when to seek advanced help from a veterinary professional (veterinarian and/or animal health technician).
- and a system for recording disease observations to enable more effective communication with veterinary professionals when support services are needed.

**Education needed by veterinary professionals to provide a veterinary extension service**

Already in the curriculum of veterinary training

Broad based livestock health knowledge, broad based livestock disease knowledge, training in veterinary diagnostics, treatments and procedures.

Training that needs to be added at pre- or post graduate level

Principles of extension (meaning, definition, components, scope, aims, objectives, philosophy, basic elements (i) extension, linkages in extension, contrasts between extension education and formal education).

Rural development

Extension educational systems

Extension teaching methods (individual, group and mass teaching methods).

Audio visual Aids (audio and visual aids, computer assisted electronic aids and selection of aids).

Rural sociology as applied to extension education

Communication skills (types, communication models, process, organizational communication, diffusion, adoption process and adapter categories).

Programme planning and evaluation (Terminology, importance, principles, philosophy of programme planning, Methods of programme planning, abilities needed in for extension).

Extension programme management.

Evaluation of extension results.

Managing ongoing support network

