



Training of National Focal Points for Aquatic Animal Health (Cycle IV)

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SOUTH AFRICAN AQUACULTURE

Overview of Aquaculture in South Africa:

- Aquaculture in South Africa is a growing industry with a diverse range of species being farmed. These include freshwater species such as crocodiles, trout, catfish, tilapia, and ornamental fish as well as marine species such as abalone, oysters, and mussels.



Chapter I: Human, physical and financial resources

- **Section I-1: Professional and technical staffing of the AAHS: Veterinarians across 9 provinces in the country trained on Aquatic Veterinary Medicine, Matrices of aquaculture residues developed, and also have private Aquatic Veterinarians and para-professionals**
- Section I-2: Competencies of aquatic animal health professionals
- Section I-3: Continuing education for aquatic animal health professionals
- Section I-4: Veterinary para-professionals and aquatic animal health technicians
- Section I-5: Competencies of veterinary para-professionals and aquatic animal health technicians
- Section I-6: Continuing education for veterinary para-professionals and aquatic animal health technicians
- Section I-7: Physical resources
- Section I-8: Operational funding
- Section I-9: Emergency funding
- Section I-10: Capital investment
- Section I-11: Management of resources and operations



Chapter II: Technical authority and capability

- **Section II-1: Laboratory diagnosis currently outsourcing lab diagnosis at various laboratories for both OIE Listed diseases and Residue monitoring programs. Most labs are currently ISO17025 accredited and expanding scope**
- **Section II-2: Laboratory quality assurance. SANAS accreditation within the country accredits laboratories with ISO17025 standards and DALRRD also gives laboratory approval.**
- Section II-3: Risk analysis
- Section II-4: Quarantine and border security
- **Section II-5: Epidemiological surveillance and early detection passive surveillance, active surveillance, targeted surveillance, sentinel surveillance notification systems, reporting systems and investigation systems are well developed in the abalone industry, Oysters and mussels industry programs are catching up.**



- Section II-6: Emergency response
- Section II-7: Disease prevention, control and eradication
- **Section II-8: Food safety hazard analysis critical control point (HACCP) systems, inspection systems, sampling systems, testing systems, traceability systems and recall systems done by the DFFE in collaboration with the NRCS.**
- **Section II-9: Veterinary medicines and biologicals: SAHPRA registers medicines in the country, Act 101 of 1965 also allows compounding of drugs at registered facilities which affects the residue program risk scope.**
- **Section II-10: Residue testing includes sampling, testing, reporting and follow-up of residues of veterinary medicines, pesticides, environmental contaminants and other substances in aquatic animals and their products. This is all done within the AAHEI unit.**
- Section II-11: Aquatic animal feed safety
- Section II-12: Traceability
- Section II-13: Welfare of farmed fish



Chapter III: Interaction with interested parties

- Section III-1: Communication
- Section III-2: Consultation with interested parties
- Section III-3: Official representation
- Section III-4: Accreditation/authorisation/delegation
- Section III-5: Veterinary statutory body and other professional authorities
- Section III-6: Participation of producers and other interested parties in joint programmes

Role Players:

- Key role players in the industry include the Aquaculture Association of Southern Africa (AASA) and various government departments (DFFE, DALRRD, DOH AND NRCS).
- MOU between DALRRD and DFFE used to support capacity and man-power.
- Animal diseases act covers a certain range of aquatic diseases and Aquaculture Development Bill is being developed to cover a wider scope.

Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare:

- There is a strategic framework in place for aquatic animal health and welfare in South Africa.
- Ethics committees are there for research approval, monitoring etc. (SANS 10386 Edition 2: The care and use of animals for scientific purposes standard used)



Aquatic Animal Health Unit Development:

- The development of aquatic animal health unit is an important aspect of aquaculture in South Africa.
- **Challenges and Opportunities:** The industry faces challenges such as the supply of suitable water for freshwater fish culture, costs of EIA and other overheads. However, there are also opportunities like the increasing global fish demand.

**THANK
YOU**