



World Organisation
for Animal Health



Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory Network for Africa (RAAHLN-AF)

5 – 7 December 2023 Pretoria, South Africa



Zambia Aquatic Laboratory: Facilities, services and challenges encountered in assisting Government and Industry

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Introduction:

- The University of Zambia, School of Veterinary Medicine has three core functions:
 - Teaching
 - Research
 - Diagnostic

- It receives support from:
 - Government of the Republic of Zambia
 - Cooperating partners

Facilities:

- The institution conducts diagnosis in:
 - Microbiology (Bacteriology, Virology and Mycology)
 - Parasitology
 - Pathology

Core-Facility and Laboratories

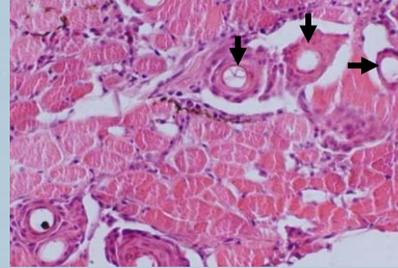
- Four fully equipped Biosafety Level 2 Laboratories
- One BSL 3 Facility
- Experimental animal facilities (Fish and Terrestrial animals)



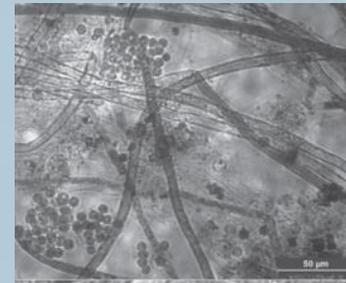




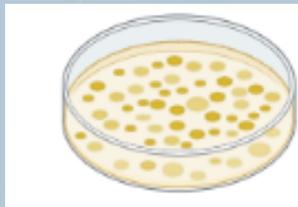
Sample Collection **Level I** Histopathology **Level II**



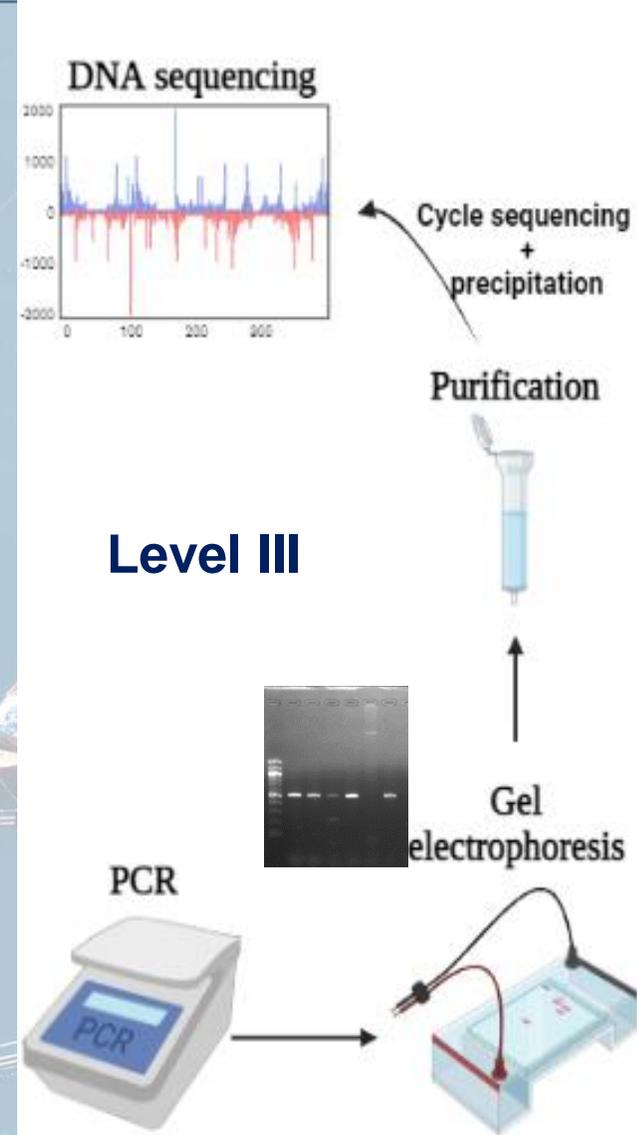
Wet mounts **Level II**



Culture **Level II**



DNA Extraction **Level III**



Molecular Methods **Level III**

Services Offered:

Government:

- Aquatic Disease Surveillance and monitoring
- Imported Aquatic product analysis: Live fish and Finished products
- Disease diagnosis (National and Regional)
- Training of Field Staff in Basic fish health management (National and Regional)



Trained officers

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Class work and Field Practical

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Services Offered:

Industry:

- Disease diagnosis (Commercial, medium and small scale farmers)
- Disease profile analysis through Aquatic animal health programs





Current Activities with the Industry

- Metagenomics on sick fish in cages
- Profiling of pathogens associated with mortalities in small scale fish farmers

Challenges

- Delayed procurement of reagents
- Most players think services are free
- Veterinarians lack of interest in Aquatic animal health (hence delays or improper sample submission)
- Farmers lack of transparency when dealing with matters of disease
- Communication complications

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!!