

SOUTH AFRICAN ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN ASSOCIATION

Regional Conference on the role of veterinary
para-professionals in Africa – 14 October 2015

Chairperson: Mafulacha William Kutu



Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging vir Diergesondheidstegnici
South African Association for Animal Health Technicians

BACKGROUND

- ❖ The association was registered as profession in 2004 with the SAVC
- ❖ It is represented in all nine provinces in South Africa
- ❖ its main aim is to strive maintenance of conduct, discipline and responsibility of members and to protect the interest of its members through a recognized structure



- ❖ Animal Health Technicians in South Africa qualifies from two institutions which are:
- ✓ **University of North West** on three years fulltime basis for diploma in Animal Health and on four years full time basis for BSc Animal Health (degree).



- ✓ **University of South Africa** through Open Distance Learning for National Diploma in Animal Health with expectation of minimum three years of studying, additional year of study qualifies one for B.Tech in Animal Health.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- ❖ Animal Health Technicians (AHT) are employed within government and the private sector.
- ❖ To promote and maintain animal health, animal welfare and production.
- ❖ To protect human lives and to better farming practices according to Veterinary related Acts



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES cont...

- ❖ AHT within employment area has two major Key Performance Areas with specific indicators/activities to perform:
 - ✓ Disease Control
 - ✓ Farmers support and Development



DUTIES: KEY ACTIVITIES

✓ Disease control:

- Tuberculosis
- Brucellosis
- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Rabies



DUTIES: KEY ACTIVITIES cont...

- ✓ Disease control:
- **Inspections:**
 - Cattle, Small Stock, Pigs, Game and Buffalos
 - Import and Export facilities
 - Port of entry
 - **Census**
 - Annual Stock census.



DUTIES: KEY ACTIVITIES cont...

- ✓ Farmers support and Development:
- **Training & Extension**
 - Veterinary related Information sessions
 - Awareness days
 - Farmers days
 - Demonstrations
 - Organized Agriculture meetings
- **Mentorship**
 - Self development through courses/seminars
 - Development of internal and external clients



DUTIES: KEY ACTIVITIES cont...

✓ Farmers support and Development:

- **Clinical Services**

- Dipping
- Branding
- Dosing
- Castrations
- Sampling
- Sheath washings
- Primary animal health care



LEGISLATION

- Application of Animal Disease Act, 1984 (Act 35 of 1984) its regulations, and relevant protocols and procedure.
- Application of Animal Identification Act, 2002 (Act 6 of 2002) and its regulations.
 - Application of Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No 40 of 2000)



HIERARCHICAL POSITIONS:

Deputy Director: Technical Services



Assistant Director: Vet technical support services



Control Animal Health Technician



Animal Health Technician



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THANK YOU



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