



... linking the health and welfare of animals, people and the environment

OUR HISTORY 3:

COMMUNITY-BASED ANIMAL HEALTHCARE REPORTS & RESOURCES

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Community-based animal healthcare reports and resources:

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Section 1: Books, networks, articles & other resources

INTRODUCTION

Much of Vetwork UK's experience is in Community Based Animal Health Projects, often involving the training of community animal health workers, aspects of ethno-veterinary knowledge, participatory methodologies, and other issues related to the health, welfare, husbandry of animals and their place in society.

This section lists all the reports and articles on the previous Vetwork website, and links to some other key web resources.

- networks
- books
- web resources
- articles and reports

CAHNET network - Community-Based Animal HealthCare Network

A network hosted in East Africa dealing with all issues relating to Community-Based Animal HealthCare. Community Animal Health Network, P O Box 1073, 100606, Nairobi, Kenya

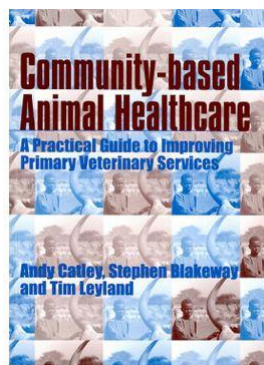
BOOK:

COMMUNITY-BASED ANIMAL HEALTHCARE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO IMPROVING PRIMARY VETERINARY SERVICES

One of our first and most influential projects:

COMMUNITY-BASED ANIMAL HEALTHCARE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO IMPROVING PRIMARY VETERINARY SERVICES

Editors: Andy Catley, Stephen Blakeway and Tim Leyland



A partnership between Vetwork UK, the Participatory Community-based Animal Health and Vaccination (PARC-VAC) Project, Organisation of African Unity / Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources, and Intermediate Technology Publications (now called Practical Action). Written by a team of veterinarians and livestock professionals with field experience of community-based projects in Africa and Asia, the guide contains contributions and case studies from projects around the world, presented as text boxes, stories, anecdotes, diagrams, cartoons and photographs.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Getting started

Chapter 3: Taking a long-term perspective: sustainability issues

Chapter 4: Participative training methods and approaches

Chapter 5: How to design and implement training courses

Chapter 6: Monitoring and assessment of community based animal health projects

Chapter 7: CAHWs and disease surveillance

Chapter 8: The rules of the game and how to influence policy

Chapter 9: Sharing experiences and networking

List of Contributors

Further Reading

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The book can be ordered through: Development Bookshop, Practical Action Publishing, The Schumacher Centre, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 9QZ. Available [online](#). Available also in French

ARTICLES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Some of these documents are on the Vetwork web-site; some are accessed through the ELDIS web-site ([ELDIS - Development policy, practice and research](#)). Articles on the Vetwork site are grouped but there is overlap between groups.

- Community Animal HealthCare
- EVK/EVM/Local knowledge (Ethno-veterinary Knowledge/Ethno-veterinary Medicine)
- Participatory Methods
- Gender, Children and Peace Building
- Policy
- Other

Section 2: Community Animal healthcare

ARTICLES & REPORTS

1997

1997: A review of the Oxfam UK/Ireland Kotido livestock development project (animal health component), Kotido District, Karamoja. 1997

Consultancy Report for the Renewable Natural Resources Sector, Overseas Development Administration (UK), Uganda, March 1997. Andy Catley, Vetwork UK, Edinburgh.

A review of Oxfam's community-based animal health work in Karamoja, particularly in relation to participatory approaches and Oxfam's gender work.

[download full report in .doc format](#)

1997: Veterinary services in the Somali national regional state, Ethiopia: a situation analysis. 1997

Save the Children (UK)-Regional Bureau of Agriculture Veterinary Services Support Project, Somali National Regional State.

Catley,A., Mohammed Sh.Said, Mohammed Ali Farah, Ahmed Sh.Mohammed and Ismail M.Handule (1997). SCF(UK), PO Box 7165, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (44 pages).

An attempt to combine the results of stakeholder workshops on veterinary service delivery with a more conventional assessment of material and financial resources, and a review of scientific literature.

[full report in pdf format](#)

1998

1998: Report of participatory monitoring and evaluation consultancy visit to Dutch Committee for Afghanistan - Herat, 1998.

Blakeway, S. Vetwork UK, Edinburgh.

This is a report of a consultancy to develop the monitoring and evaluation system for and with the DCA programme based in Herat. DCA wishes to monitor and evaluate the impact of its programme on the lives of the people it serves. To supplement monitoring and evaluation activities to date, DCA intended to collect data which was richer in social analysis and which measured impact from the point of view of the programme's intended beneficiaries.

[full report in pdf format](#)

1998: Consultancy report on the implications of privatisation to the curriculum of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Univeristy of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 1998. European Union Pan African Rinderpest Campaign Ethiopia Programme. Oranjewoud International B.V. in association with RDP Livestock Services B.V.

Blakeway S., Gebregziaber M, Meskel M., Okwiri F. and Zwart D.

The mission arose through PARC's mandate to investigate and recommend means by which the efficiency of veterinary services can be improved with the aim of eradicating rinderpest through reform of veterinary services. The aim of this report is to suggest ways in which the present curriculum of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine could be developed in the light of changes in the structure of the veterinary profession, particularly with regard to the needs of future animal health personnel (public or private) working within a mixed public/private animal health service. It is one of many contributions to the current wide ranging review and revision of the curriculum of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (Debre Zeit).

[full report in pdf format](#)

1998: CAHS: viable method of delivering basic animal health services 1998

Jones, B.; Deemer, B; Leyland, T.J.; Mogga, W.; Stem, E. CAPE, OAU , 1998

This article reviews the experience of facilitating community-based animal health services (CAHS) in southern Sudan.

The article finds that:

- constraints to such initiatives include insecurity, poor access, lack of mobility, minimal infrastructure and trade, lack of veterinarians and climatic extremes
- community-based animal health services (CAHS) in an under-developed agro-pastoralist community such as southern Sudan is a viable method of delivering basic animal health services
- CAHS can form the base on which to build a sustainable private veterinarian-supervised CAHS.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1998: Community based animal health services in the greater horn of Africa: an assessment. 1998

USAID - Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance in cooperation with the USDA - Famine Mitigation Activity
Catley,A., Delaney,P. and McCauley,H., April - May 1998. OFDA/USAID, Washington D.C.

1998: What factors contributed to the success of 'community based animal health worker' programs in Kenya, southern Sudan and Ethiopia?

Catley, A.; Delaney, P.; McCauley, H. / Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology Unit (CAPE), OAU , 1998

An assessment of two OFDA funded community based animal health worker (CAHW) projects which found that:

- the sustainability of CAHW development relies on the degree of integrity of financial management of drug inputs and a satisfactory remuneration for the individual CAHW's.
- financial transactions through private sector channels without the involvement of committees or associations were most sustainable. Generally, many committee-managed revolving funds were found to break-down in short order.
- the privatisation scheme in Kenya was successful in establishing private veterinary practices in high potential areas indicating that extending such could enhance the move of CAHW programs toward integration into the private sector.

The assessment concludes:

- both the projects achieved excellent results in improved animal health
- both benefited longer term sustainable animal health services to pastoralists via local institution building and policy reform initiatives
- the projects have laid foundations relevant to the relief-to development continuum despite the emergency situation in the region.

The authors go on to suggest that the CAHW approach can also act as an effective point of contact with remote, pastoral communities leading to other potential benefits such as human health service delivery, conflict mitigation and cross-boarder livestock disease control.

[adapted from authors]

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1998: Delivery of animal health services in Eastern Africa Establishing pastoral veterinary practices: what are the implications for East Africa. 1998

Leyland, T.; Akabwai, D.; Mutungi, P.M. CAPE, OAU , 1998

The paper describes and discusses the various approaches being used to establish private pastoral veterinary practices. This has occurred within the context of:

- restructuring of government veterinary services
- the liberalisation of pharmaceutical supplies, using participatory techniques
- the liberalisation of various animal health delivery systems.

The article finds that community-based animal health delivery systems (CAHS) do have a very significant impact on improving livestock owners' productivity and food security. The projections made allow the authors to predict that privatised pastoral veterinary practices could be sustainable in remote areas. In order to verify this, the following activities are recommended:

- more CAHS pilot projects are initiated;
- further economic analysis of benefits and costs and impact assessments of CAHS are carried out
- a networking organisation starts in order to transfer information about lessons learnt methodologies and economic viability.

The article recommends that veterinary authorities, associations and privatisation schemes in Eastern Africa:

- recognise and certify the roles played by CAHWs, certificate and diploma holders
- enact policy & legislative reform to allow veterinary supervised CAHSs to be encouraged & legalised
- formulate and establish start up schemes for private vets wishing to work in Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASAL) areas.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1999

1999: Delivery of Private Veterinarian Supervised Community-Based Animal Health Services to Pastoralist Areas of The Greater Horn of Africa 1999

Leyland, T. and Akabwai, D.M.O.

Abstract: Within the context of restructuring of government veterinary services and the liberalisation of pharmaceutical supplies, various models using participatory techniques are being developed to establish fully privatised pastoral veterinary practices. The paper describes and discusses the various approaches being used to establish such private practices. Major lessons learnt in delivering community-based animal health services (CAHS) and key issues to address in order to make such services sustainable are highlighted. Diagrammatic models of the delivery systems used are described. The paper discusses methods in which these relatively new, privatised and CAHS might best and most rapidly be adopted, by various levels of decision-makers. The paper concludes that private pastoral veterinary practices could be both economically viable and provide needed services if national governments put in place specified policy and legal frameworks that create an enabling environment for them to operate within.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1999: Community-Based Animal Health Services In Southern Sudan: The Experience So Far 1999

Jones BA, Deemer, B, Leyland TJ, Mogga, W and Stem, E. UNICEF/OLS Livestock Programme, PARC-VAC Project, OAU/IBAR.

Abstract: The experience of facilitating community-based animal health services (CAHS) in southern Sudan is reviewed. Operation Lifeline Sudan livestock programme started a community-based rinderpest control programme in 1993. In 1994, the programme widened to control of other diseases through development of CAHS; activities included participatory baseline surveys, community dialogue to identify priorities and develop social contracts, training of community-based animal health workers, Animal Health Auxiliaries and Stockpersons, development of Veterinary Coordination Committees, and monitoring. Currently there are 1,057 animal health workers providing services to 80% of agro-pastoralist areas. There has been a 12% drop out rate. More than 1 million cattle have been vaccinated against rinderpest annually since 1993 and increasing numbers of other vaccinations and treatments provided for cattle, sheep, goats and poultry. Constraints include insecurity, poor access, lack of mobility, minimal infrastructure and trade, lack of veterinarians and climatic extremes. CAHS in an under-developed agro-pastoralist community such as southern Sudan is a viable method of delivering basic animal health services, and can form the base on which to build a sustainable private veterinarian-supervised CAHS.

[full report in pdf format](#)

1999: Community-based animal health care in Somali areas of Africa: a review. 1999

Commissioned by the PARC-VAC Project, Organisation for African Unity/Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR), Nairobi, Kenya. (60 pages). Andy Catley.

This review is based on the question "are community-based animal health systems a realistic option for improving primary veterinary services in Somalia?"

The article finds that:

- experience in Southern Sudan suggests that well-coordinated, large-scale community animal health worker (CAHW) systems can form the basis for improved service delivery in conflict zones
- reviews of CAHW projects in dryland areas of Kenya demonstrate substantial cost-benefit through the prevention or treatment of a few important livestock diseases
- within Somali pastoral communities generally, there is a high demand for animal health services
- the Somali pastoral economy is closely linked to an active livestock export trade and the market orientation of livestock production systems is increasing
- CAHW systems appear to be highly relevant to Somalia/Somaliland
- there are opportunities to work with the private sector to expand basic services into pastoral areas
- ineffective or dishonest CAHWs are not tolerated by the communities who select them and pay their incentives.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1999: Assessing the impact of community animal health care programmes: some experiences from Ghana. What constraints limit the effectiveness of community livestock workers? 1999

Hanks, J.; Oakeley, R.; Opoku, H.; Dasebu, S.; Asaga, J. / Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology Unit (CAPE), OAU , 1999

Half of all the community livestock workers (CLWs) studied were found to have a good to excellent impact upon animal health care services. The evidence also showed improvement in the accessibility of services with knock on benefits for production and producer welfare. Where CLWs had achieved less impact a number of constraints were identified:

- supply of equipment was the main limitation with kits arriving incomplete and / or months after completion of training. CLWs suffered loss of confidence in their new skills and lost support in the community as a result of not having immediate access.
- supply of basic equipment is therefore a priority with the provision of additional equipment, such as transport and protective clothing, secondary.
- no training in basic business management was available to CLWs resulting in difficulties for some in re-stocking supplies
- the level of impact of CLWs was dependent upon their level of contact with veterinary and extension staff. High levels of contact and strong relationships produced better results
- government restructuring had led to some CLWs being supported by staff with insufficient skills. Account needs to be taken of specialised skill requirements when allocating staff to their areas of operation
- many producers were unclear as to the precise role and training of CLWs which limited their effectiveness
- direct community control of equipment and CLWs resources was problematic and they were more effective when they set their own fee rates with the support of the community.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1999: A critical analysis of the selection and support of community livestock workers in Ghana. What has been the impact of the Community Livestock Worker (CLW) programme in Ghana? 1999

Hanks, J.; Oakeley, R.; Opoku, H.; Dasebu, S.; Asaga, J. / Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology Unit (CAPE), OAU , 1999

This study explores the impact of the Community Livestock Worker (CLW) programme in Ghana.

The article finds that:

- half of Ghanaian CLWs are having good to excellent impact
 - inadequate information regarding the role and responsibilities of CLW is provided to district and field level veterinary and extension staff
 - poor flow of information restricts the selection of appropriate trainees
 - there is a direct relationship between the selection process for CLWs and their ultimate success and sustainability
 - producer groups, including women producers, are the most effective at selecting effective CLWs
 - wider community participation or representation does not guarantee effective selection
 - livestock ownership and literacy are common criteria for selection, but there is no apparent correlation between this and success
 - there is male bias amongst both selector groups and CLWs
 - training is effective but gaps remain
 - contact between CLWs and supervisors is variable, but is of real importance
 - effective programme monitoring requires improved procedures and co-operation between supervisors and community leaders
 - the impact of decentralisation on the supervision of CLWs should be carefully monitored
- ([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

2000s

2003: Community Participatory Evaluation Report of the OLS Livestock Programme, Gogrial County, South Sudan VSF GERMANY. Emergency Veterinary Support to Livestock Owners in Southern Sudan. June 2003

Hopkins, C.

Section 1 gives an introduction to the community participatory evaluation (CPE). Section 2 discusses the methodology used during the CPE. Section 3 is a review of the CBAHP. Section 4 looks at rural livelihoods, community capital assets, livestock production constraints and trends in the nutritional status of children in Gogrial county. Section 5 is the clarification of the CBAHP work plan and Section 6 lists the main conclusions and recommendations of the CPE exercise.

[full report in pdf format](#)

2006: [Impact assessment of livestock farmer field schools in Nakuru and Nyandarua Districts of Kenya: a report for the International Livestock Research Institute 2006](#) (or <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/33567>)

Citation: Catley, A., Suji, O. and Omwansa, B. 2006. Impact assessment of livestock farmer field schools in Nakuru and Nyandarua Districts, Kenya: A report for the International Livestock Research Institute. Edinburgh, UK: Vetwork.

[2015 Veterinary support visit to Pets Welfare Association \(PWA\), Lesotho](#) (downloadable in .doc format)

Section 3: EVK / local knowledge

HISTORICAL NETWORKS & WEBSITES

Sadly the links to these two websites are no longer working so the fate of the knowledge they recorded is unknown

PRELUDE Database of Veterinary Medicinal Plants of Africa

compiled and hosted in Belgium (<http://www.metafro.be/prelude>)

ETHNOVETWEB - the ethno-veterinary website

The site is about ethnoveterinary medicine, or how people around the world keep their animals healthy and productive, and how development can build on this information.

Content:

- Introducing ethnoveterinary medicine (about ethnoveterinary medicine, its study and application in development)
- News (announcements, conferences and events)
- Resources & links (mailing lists, on-line journals, websites and organizations)
- Publications (books, papers and other documents on ethnoveterinary medicine including a few downloadable abstracts and full texts)
- Projects (information about ethnoveterinary projects around the world)

Please send any information you regard as suitable for the website to evelynmathias@netcologne.de. The section 'Projects' of the Ethnovetweb informs on projects focussing on ethnoveterinary medicine and its application in development. Examples are animal healthcare and extension projects, research studies, and training courses. (www.ethnovetweb.com)

ARTICLES & REPORTS

South Sudan

1996: Ethno-veterinary knowledge of the Dinka and Nuer in Southern Sudan. Studying ethnic knowledge of animal health and treatment with a view to integrating it into existing livestock health programmes. 1996

Adolph, A.; Blakeway, S.; Linqvist, B. J. / CAPE, OAU , 1996

This report catalogues the ethno-veterinary knowledge (EVK) and local veterinary knowledge of the Dinka and Nuer peoples with a view to integrating this knowledge into community animal health services. It attempts to do this recognising that such work can also help to support and strengthen local culture. The study comprised of interviews, observation and collection of medicinal plant varieties.

Whilst identifying the key features of EVK in the region the study found that:

- EVK is deemed peripheral to community animal health services (OLS Livestock programme) with little available training for programme workers
- CAH services tendency to focus on the few most important diseases using western veterinary treatments can take knowledge out of the public domain and threaten loss of EVK
- the OLS programmes 'action orientated approach' does not integrate well with local practices
- there are many opportunities for better integration

The authors recommend:

- steps to ensure that livestock programmes frame their work more in the context of existing local knowledge making EVK central to their approach.
- additional ongoing research into EVK
- further research into why EVK has stayed outside the programme despite its use of best practice development methodology in dialogue with the communities involved.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

1996/2001: Nuer ethno-veterinary knowledge: a resource manual findings of a preliminary study. Nuer veterinary knowledge and western veterinary knowledge: can they complement one another?

Blakeway, S.; Linqvist, B.J.; Adolph, D. / Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology Unit (CAPE), OAU 2001

This study is associated with the OLS Livestock Programme. The study attempts to investigate whether the work of the programme could be better integrated with local Nuer veterinary knowledge and practice.

The article finds that:

- it is both possible and desirable to fit 'western' veterinary medicine within the framework of what the Nuer (and other groups in Southern Sudan) already do to maintain the health of their animals
- the best livestock programme for Southern Sudan will result from a combination of the best of both local and western knowledge.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

2000: Learning about Liei: participatory diagnosis of the chronic wasting problem in cattle in southern Sudan. Participatory diagnosis: a fertile method for investigating cattle wasting diseases in southern Sudan. 2000

Catley, A. CAPE, OAU , 2000

This article discusses a cattle disease called liei or noi, a disease predominantly found in Southern Sudan.

The article finds that:

- these diseases present a special challenge to a community-based programme that covers a large area characterised by very poor infrastructure, minimal laboratory facilities and operational constraints such as severe conflict
- few workers in southern Sudan have considered livestock diseases according to the clinical syndromes that are observed in the field and the notion that chronically sick cattle may be infected with more than one disease agent
- researchers have not always related recommendations about disease control to the ability of veterinary agencies to deliver relevant services to livestock keepers, and the capacity of livestock keepers to pay for these services
- livestock keepers in southern Sudan characterise chronic wasting disease in cattle using criteria that are very similar to those used by veterinarians
- the local disease names liei and noi encompass various diseases that are recognised by veterinarians. These 'western' diseases occur as single entities and as mixed infections involving up to four groups
- there is little evidence to indicate that either livestock owners or veterinary workers could distinguish between different infections and combinations of infections on clinical grounds alone

The article recommended that the following work be done in the future:

- testing different combinations of drugs for the treatment of liei and noi
- encouraging the wider use of basic veterinary investigation methods
- investigation into the limitations of training courses based on specific western diseases rather than the clinical syndromes that are observed in the field.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

2002: Some Ethnoveterinary Information from South Sudan. 2002

by Tim Fison BA, VetMB, MRCVS (64 pages)

Preamble: This article on EVK in Southern Sudan is simply an initial attempt to present some local veterinary and livestock husbandry practices. The author makes no claims that it is a comprehensive account. For example, the sections on clinical signs and treatments of diseases in goat, sheep and chickens are not yet finished. It is very much a 'work in progress' and should be viewed as a basis for discussion and further improvement: it is a rough-hewn document needing editing and refining. Much more cross-checking and rigorous translations are needed. However, if it is of some help to new people starting to do livestock work in South Sudan and serves as a stimulus to further EVK documentation, then it will have served some purpose.

A Word or .rtf version of this document (including the above Preamble and Acknowledgements which are missing from the .pdf version) is available by e-mail from Vetwork.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Kenya

2000: Participatory research on bovine trypanosomosis in Orma cattle, Tana River District, Kenya. Participatory research: a fertile methodology for improving disease control among Kenyan pastoralists? 2000

Catley, A.; Irungu, P. CAPE, OAU , 2000

This report describes small-scale participatory research on bovine trypanosomosis with Orma pastoralist communities in Tana River District (Kenya). The research aimed to combine the perspectives of researchers and livestock keepers to identify 'best bet' interventions to improve disease control. The participatory research methodology was intended to initiate a partnership between researchers and communities leading to action, and in turn, further learning and refinement of project activities.

The article finds that:

- as the work progressed a number of resource and sustainability issues emerged which indicated that community-based traps or targets were unlikely to be sustained in the four study villages
- this prompted the researchers to rethink their own assessment of the control options available
- 'Improved use of trypanocides' was considered by the researchers to be the most appropriate control intervention. This is an opinion that was verified by community representatives
- participatory assessment leads to the ongoing improvement research activities

The article recommends that:

- participatory research is used to quantify trypanocidal drug use. This research would provide the baseline data against which the impact of future activities could be measured
- identify a herd(s) in each village for assessment of trypanocidal resistance. Implement field research to assess levels of resistance
- using the results from above recommendations, design and implement participative training courses on 'better use of trypanocides'
- conduct impact assessment. Measure levels of knowledge and use of trypanocidal drugs relative to baseline data.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

2006: [Impact assessment of livestock farmer field schools in Nakuru and Nyandarua Districts of Kenya: a report for the International Livestock Research Institute 2006](#) (or <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/33567>)

Citation: Catley, A., Suji, O. and Omwansa, B. 2006. Impact assessment of livestock farmer field schools in Nakuru and Nyandarua Districts, Kenya: A report for the International Livestock Research Institute. Edinburgh, UK: Vetwork.

Uganda

2000: Karamojong Scientists: Participatory Field Trial of a Local Dewormer. 2000

Presented at the Uganda Veterinary Association Scientific Conference, 'The Veterinary Profession and Poverty Alleviation' 28-29 September, 2000

Dr. Jean T. Grade & and Mr. Longok Anthony, Christian Veterinary Mission/World Concern, P.O. Box 22, Moroto, Karamoja. ethnovet@maf.org

Abstract: The pastoralists of the arid-semi-arid and insecure Karamoja of Northeastern Uganda rely upon their livestock for their livelihood and have developed many local techniques and medicines to insure their health. This paper shares findings of ongoing participatory field trials of *Albezia anthelmentica* as an economically viable way to deworm their livestock. Twenty local and privately owned animals were divided into control and test groups with a Karamojong traditional healer and herdsmen performing all aspects of the experiment. As compared to the negative control, *A. anthelmentica* was 76.3% efficacious at 12 days post treatment, 69.4% at 16 days and 77.2% at 19 days. The percent reduction of fecal egg counts were 76.3% at 12days, 96.3% at 16days and 80.4% at 19 days post treatment. While the trials are still ongoing, the authors are encouraged by the preliminary validation trial of *A. anthelmentica* and the Karamojong's technical abilities.

(full report not currently available)

Ethiopia

2004: Report on the promotion of ethnoveterinary medicine through farmer association and participatory research November 2004. Relief to Development Project, North Wollo and Waghambra Zones, Amhara National Regional State, Save the Children UK, Ethiopia.

Bishop, S. Vetwork UK

The results of this study, conducted in 2001, provided the basis for SC-UK to develop an ethnoveterinary medicine (EVM) component in their Relief to Development (R2D) project which is being undertaken from 2002-2005. The approach used by the team revolved around participatory discussions with healers and farmers in order to explore the key issues such as popularity of traditional veterinary medicine and other animal health service providers, ways of promoting EVM, in particular by providing support to healers, and validation of plant remedies through farmer participatory research (FPR).

[full report in pdf format](#) (link working)

India

see Vetwork History files 5 & 6 for:

Ethnoveterinary medicine: alternatives for livestock development: Proceedings of an international conference held in Pune, India, 4-6 November 1997. Vols 1 & 2.

and

Integrated approach for animal health care: Proceedings of the international seminar held at Kozhikode, India on 4-6 February 1999. Volume 1: Abstracts

Section 4: Participatory methods

Participatory Impact Assessment. A report on a series of introductory training courses for FARM Africa Ethiopia 2005.

Training course in participatory epidemiology, Ganyiel, Western Upper Nile, South Sudan 2005

Methods on the move: a review of veterinary uses of participatory approaches and methods focussing on experiences in dryland Africa. Participatory animal health services: a literature review. 1999

Andy Catley, PAVE Project, Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Programme, International Institute for Environment and Development, London. 100 pages. Catley, A. CAPE, OAU , 1999

This literature review describes the origins of participatory approaches and methods, and discusses their application in animal health services and research in less developed countries. The review focuses on dryland areas of Africa, in particular pastoral and agropastoral areas of the Greater Horn of Africa.

The article finds that:

- in this area, most experience with veterinary uses of participatory approaches and methods resides with community-based animal health projects, some of which are involved in rinderpest control
- this use of participation has proved to be effective relative to conventional approaches to service delivery
- other institutions are beginning to use community participation and associated methods
- support to developing improved field-level data collection methods has been very limited
- epidemiologists tend to use formal survey methods rather than contextually sensitive or locally specific methodologies
- participatory methods cannot necessarily be judged from a hard science paradigm
- options for combining methods and systems of evaluation should also be investigated

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Monitoring and impact assessment of community-based animal health projects in southern Sudan. Participatory approaches and methods: what role does it play in community-based animal health projects in southern Sudan? 1999

A Report for Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Switzerland.

Catley, A. CAPE, OAU , 1999

This report describes the development of participatory monitoring and impact assessment systems in community-based animal health projects in southern Sudan. It also describes a process through which veterinary workers and other livestock staff reviewed their current monitoring system, were introduced to participatory approaches and methods, and then appraised some new ways of working in the field.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Stakeholder workshops on animal health services, Jijiga, Degehabur, Fik And Shinile zones. 12th-15th August 1997. (summarised English version). Save the Children (UK)-Regional Bureau of Agriculture Veterinary Services Support Project, Somali National Regional State.

The need and possible modalities of establishment of community based delivery of veterinary services and inputs in the arid and semi arid areas in Kenya

[summarized report in pdf format](#)

Participation in the 80's and 90's: who asks the questions in livestock development? 1991

Leyland, T. CAPE, OAU , 1991

This dissertation has described the development and the nature of both farming systems research and rapid rural appraisal.

The article concludes that:

- participation is a valuable concept
- participation at the appraisal stage of projects is particularly important, because this is the time when the nature of the organisation of any development should be planned
- there appears to be a drift away from diagnosis through quantification to diagnosis and planning through interaction of facilitators and farmers and the subsequent increased understanding
- because of the great range of different livestock systems, it must be concluded that all the participatory rapid appraisal tools described are equally suitable for livestock projects
- the facilitators of the tools ought to understand the concept of participation and that the facilitators are well versed in the problems they will encounter
- this will require further education for many development workers and government officers, promoting such educating should be a priority in livestock development. The participation of people in local level planning will be the motivating force to stimulate such education

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Participatory Impact Assessment. A report on a series of introductory training courses for Farm Africa Ethiopia. Vetwork UK, Edinburgh 2005.

Catley A.

In September 2005 a series of three short training courses were organized to examine current monitoring and evaluation systems in FARM projects, and introduce participatory approaches to impact assessment. It was hoped that by the end of the training, project staff would be better able to design and plan participatory impact assessment (PIA) in their projects.

[full report in pdf format](#)

Training course in participatory epidemiology, Ganyiel, Western Upper Nile, South Sudan 2005

Catley A.

In order to develop the capacity of livestock agencies in South Sudan to use PE, a training course was organized by VSF CH for 15 staff from VSF CH, VSF B, VSF G and FAO. The course lasted 10 days, from 26th June to 5th July 2005, and took place in Ganyiel, Western Upper Nile. The objectives of the course were as follows:

At the end of the training the trainees will be able to:

1. The describe the origins and current uses of PE
2. Demonstrate the key attitudinal and behavioural aspects of PE
3. Use a range of PE methods correctly, and analyse and present the findings
4. Design research and/or surveillance work based on PE

[summary report in pdf format](#)

Section 5: Gender, Children and building peace

The August women's peace crusade & the July women's peace crusade. 2001

Women as ambassadors of peace: an effective means of reducing cattle raiding among East African pastoralists?

Akabwai, D. CAPE, OAU , 2001

These articles look at a CAPE inspired initiative to use women as ambassadors of peace. Pastoralists in East Africa have considerable problem with cattle raiding and cross-border conflict. Women can play a particularly important role in diminishing this problem.

The articles find that:

- women are powerful advocates for peace in the region
- in general pastoralists in this region are yearning for peace

The articles recommend that:

- members of the cluster should adhere to the peace pacts they have made between themselves
- acts of banditry should be reported to elders and government officials
- action should be taken against administrators and officials involved in raiding
- the two sides involved in conflict should stop the theft and widespread killing that are excused on the basis of retaliation
- animals stolen during the peace crusade must be returned by chiefs
- security should be tightened along the chief border areas by governments, to stop banditry along main roads

([full July report in pdf format](#) and [full August report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Pastoralist harmonisation initiative: second international meeting. How to harmonise pastoralism in Karamoja? Findings from a conference. 2001

Grace, D. CAPE, OAU , 2001

The Pastoral Harmonisation Meeting at Mbale was the second International Meeting convened by OAU/IBAR to support peace building in the Karamoja Cluster.

The key messages emerging from the 14 communities of the Karamoja cluster include:

- the communities acknowledge that the ultimate responsibility for peace lies with them
- governments must provide the services and security to which all citizens are entitled
- development agencies must listen more, and coordinate their activities better

The key messages emerging from the development agencies working within the cluster include:

- genuine peace comes from within the communities
- peace is an ongoing process

The key messages emerging from parliamentarians of the cluster include:

- that they pledge support to regional initiatives for peace building
- that they will provide affirmative action through their respective governments on security, governance and rights for the peoples of the cluster.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Breaking the spears and cooling the earth: an analytical review of the Pastoral Communities Harmonisation Initiative. From community-based animal health to peace-maker: the shifting role of OAU/IBAR. 2001

Waithaka, D. CAPE, OAU , 2001

This article describes the role OAU/IBAR plays in peace-making among the Karamajong in Kenya, Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia.

OAU/IBAR's main interaction was previously focused on eradicating rinderpest and other livestock diseases through community-based animal health approaches. However, the organisation has already won the confidence of the livestock owners in this area. People in this region now consider OAU/IBAR as a trustworthy partner.

This has led to the Pastoral Communities Harmonisation (PCH) initiative. This has:

- generated useful analyses of the situation
- brought out new insights into the problems of the pastoralists
- prescribed potential solutions
- halted hostilities.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

The herd instinct: children and livestock in the horn of Africa. 1999

by Andy Catley. Working Paper 21, Save the Children. 1999. (80 pages) ISBN 1 84187-0070-2; ISSN 0966-6931

Available from: Publications Sales, Save the Children, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD, UK.

www.savethechildren.org.uk

Summary: As a child-focused organisation, Save the Children must be able to demonstrate that its work makes a real difference to children's lives. While it is generally accepted that projects in sectors such as education and health offer obvious benefits to children, the links between livestock-related work and child welfare are not always understood. This working paper looks at pastoralist communities in the Horn of Africa and describes the fundamental ways in which the ownership of animals affects children, both positively and negatively. The paper focuses on basic needs in communities that have been increasingly marginalised, experienced long-term conflict and suffered recurrent food security problems. Using case studies from Save the Children projects in south-east Ethiopia, the paper shows how livestock projects can be developed according to local priorities, capacity and knowledge. It also offers suggestions for learning more about the impact of livestock projects, both on communities as a whole and on the children living in these communities.

The paper concludes that practical experience in community-based approaches to livestock development is crucial when working with pastoralists. Crucially, pastoralists and their children are highly dependent on livestock as sources of food, income and social well-being. As livestock problems are often a local priority, animal health or similar initiatives can be a useful entry point for understanding a range of issues affecting pastoral livelihoods.

The paper will be useful for readers who wish to learn more about the role of animals in herding communities.

Section 6: Policy

Report of a Workshop on the Role Of Paraveterinarians in the Present and Future Veterinary Infrastructure in Afghanistan; Peshawar, Pakistan; 4-5 March 1999

Organised by: Dutch Committee for Afghanistan - Veterinary Programmes (DCA-VET)

The workshop in a nutshell

Paraveterinarians are presently a well established phenomenon in Afghanistan. For over 10 years, different NGOs, mainly DCA, have trained paraveterinarians ("paravets"), for all organisations involved in the veterinary sector in Afghanistan. This resulted in a new cadre of veterinary auxiliary personnel which constitute at present probably the most important group in the veterinary scene in Afghanistan.

To address the issue of how these paravets could be incorporated in a future veterinary infrastructure and how to get the paravet officially recognised by the Government, DCA organised a workshop in Peshawar on the 4th and 5th of March 1999.

The objective of the workshop was to gather key persons involved in the veterinary sector to address the following issues:

- What is the role of paravets in the present infrastructure in Afghanistan, and: what can be their future role?
- How can the paravet be recognised by the Government, and: till what level should he be upgraded, if required so?
- Can an "Educational Board" or "Paraveterinary Steering Committee" be established to guide this process?

The main conclusions and recommendations were that the group recognised the critical role that paravets have played in the delivery of animal health services at the local level for livestock owners in Afghanistan in recent years. The Group recommended that paravets of the present level should be allowed to continue to work in Afghanistan. The Group identified also numerous advantages by having paravets work on a fee for service basis and therefore recommended that paravets continue to work in the private sector and not become government employees.

The Group recommended that a legal framework be worked out to enable paravets to continue to work within conditions specified by law. The Group therefore recommended the introduction of a licensing mechanism, through the already existing Educational Board or Attestation Committee, to check credentials and competence of already working paravets and future graduates. The Group also gave recommendations for the establishment of a Paraveterinary Steering Committee to deal with policy matters regarding paravets and to define the need for regularly required additional technical upgrading.

This workshop and the underlying report was made possible by contributions from NOVIB, the European Community (DGI), Intervet and DCA.

The report was prepared by DCA staff members in consultation with the chairman, and is based on the presentations given during the workshop, the results of the various working groups and the general recommendations drawn up during the workshop in its final session.

For further information, please contact:

DCA
Rozengaard 13-10
8212 Lelystad
The Netherlands

Somali ethnoveterinary medicine and private animal health services: Can old and new systems work together?

Andy Catley and Robert Walker. In: Ethnoveterinary Medicine: Alternatives for Livestock Development. Proceedings of the International Conference on Ethnoveterinary Medicine, Research and Development. Pune, India, 4th-6th November, 1997.

This paper discusses Somali ethnoveterinary medicine in relation to emerging private veterinary services and market-orientated changes to livestock

production systems in Somali areas. The paper uses the term 'private veterinary services' to describe private veterinary pharmacies, clinics or drug importers whose activities are based on the use of modern pharmaceuticals. Although traditional healers are also private operators, the paper considers this indigenous service to be one component of ethnoveterinary practice.

[full report in pdf format](#)

The need and possible modalities of establishment of community based delivery of veterinary services and inputs in the arid and semi arid areas in Kenya. Marketing and veterinary services must be participatory in African Semi Arid Lands areas. 1999

Muchina Munyua, S.J.; Kahiu, I.G.; Farrah, K. CAPE, OAU , 1999

This article explores how veterinary services should be provided in African Semi Arid Lands (ASAL) areas. The article finds that:

- veterinary services have traditionally been offered free, with the Government meeting the costs of drugs, service, disease control and surveillance and employment and deployment of personnel. This structure and mode of delivery of services has proved to be unsustainable and impractical
- this situation is compounded by the collapse of basic infrastructure and the almost total control of livestock marketing by middlemen
- the provision of veterinary inputs and services must be improved
- the alleviation of current livestock production constraints must be complemented with the transformation of the livestock marketing system. The information inequality between informed middleman and uninformed livestock producer needs to be addressed the current marketing and veterinary services delivery system must evolve to become truly participatory if livestock productivity, food security, increased rural incomes and improved quality of life is to become a reality in the ASAL areas.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

Non Governmental Organisations And The Delivery Of Animal Health Services In Developing Countries. A Discussion Paper for the Department for International Development UK. 1997

Andy Catley, November, 1997. ISBN 0 9533602 0 2.

[full report in pdf format](#)

Livestock in development: the changing role of veterinary services. Delivery of animal health services: results from the survey of Chief Veterinary Officers. 1996

Ashley, S.D.; Holden, S.J.; Bazeley, P.B.S. CAPE, OAU , 1996

This paper reports the results of a survey of Chief Veterinary Officers' (CVOs) opinions carried at the OIE General Session in May 1995.

The article focuses on:

- their views on a number of key issues related to current policy debates about the delivery of animal health services

- the nature of service delivery
- the main influences on current activities
- the major clients of State Veterinary Services (SVSs)
- requirements for improvement of SVSs

The article finds:

- a large majority of CVOs in Africa and Asia favoured the retention of therapeutic services by the state
- the most important influences on current activities of SVSs are professional veterinary bodies
- there are regional differences in perceptions as to which of the SVSs' major client groups are most important, with Europe focusing on public health and the food industry whilst Africa considers smallholder farmers and public health to be most important
- Chief Veterinary Officers consider larger budgets and better trained staff as their most important requirements in improving the quality of service provided by SVSs.

([full report in pdf format](#) may no longer be available)

See Appendix on p21 for:

NGO Strategies For Livestock Development In Western Rajasthan, India: An Overview And Analysis
by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson with Hanwant Singh Rathore, May, 1998

Anthropological Veterinary Medicine: the Need for Indigenizing the Curriculum. 1998
Paper presented at the 9th AITVM Conference in Harare, 14th-18th September, 1998
by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Juliane Bräunig

Section 7: Livelihoods

Donkeys and the provision of livestock to returnees: lessons from Eritrea. 1997.

Catley A. and Blakeway S.

This paper outlines the provision of livestock to returnees as part of a large-scale, integrated resettlement project in Eritrea. Before procurement of livestock, returnees were interviewed in order to understand their preferences for different livestock types. Based on the results of the interviews, the number of donkeys provided by the project was increased by up to 7.3 times the number in the original project plan. Both female- and male-headed households opted to receive donkeys. The paper discusses the role of donkeys in 'restocking' projects and advocates participation of beneficiaries in the identification of appropriate livestock inputs.

Evaluation of Save the Children (UK) EU Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme North Wollo and Wag Hamra Zones, Ethiopia 1997

Catley A., Ayele M., Abraham M. and Molla. W.

This evaluation concluded that both animal health and restocking projects within the livestock sub-component made good progress despite delays in project implementation and other constraints. Important lessons were learnt by both SCF and the MoA regarding project design and implementation, and potential strategies for improved sustainability of project benefits. Although detailed evidence of project impact has yet to emerge, project achievements were considered to be appropriate considering the rehabilitation setting of the project, the pilot nature of the inputs and the overall aim of the ARP with respect to improved food security.

A restocking project with returnees in the Somali National State (Region 5), Ethiopia, 1996.

Catley A.

Horses, donkeys and mules - their contribution to people's livelihoods in Ethiopia, 2011

Admassu, B. and Shiferaw J.

Although it is widely recognised that donkeys, mules and horses play a crucial role in the livelihoods of people in Ethiopia, very limited quantitative information is available on the specific economic or social value of equine ownership. This study examined the contributions of donkeys, horses and mules to human livelihoods in three woredas in the Southern Nations and Nationalities People's Region of Ethiopia. The analytical approach used for the study was the sustainable livelihoods framework, and the study aimed to assess the value and costs of equine ownership by wealth group in the selected woredas.

Section 8: Other

ARTICLES

A brand new resource for community animal health

The text of an introductory article that appeared in 'APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY' (Volume 25, Number 1, June 1998, IT Publications):

Vetwork UK is a new organization which will provide a network for animal health and welfare workers to exchange lessons and experiences across organizations. Using recent developments in information technology and communications wherever possible, Stephen Blakeway explains how Vetwork will operate without a formal organizational structure — which may be an increasingly practical and effective model for NGOs.

[download full article in .doc format](#)

The Welfare of Donkeys 1994

This report reviews the published literature on donkey welfare drawing out the main veterinary, husbandry, practical and social issues affecting the welfare of donkeys in the modern world. It was written as part of a dissertation towards an MSc Degree in Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare at the University of Edinburgh, UK.

see <http://www.vetwork.org.uk/Resources/>

'Street Dog' Population Control 2001.

This case study discusses various technical, practical, social and ethical issues relating to 'Animal Birth Control' projects. It draws heavily on the author's experience working for a year as a volunteer veterinarian in an ABC project in Jaipur, India. It was written as part of a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (UK) 'Certificate in Welfare'.

Report available on request.

Reading The Rains: Local Knowledge and Rainfall Forecasting among Farmers of Burkina Faso 2002.

Roncoli, C, K. Ingram, and P. Kirshen. 2002. "Reading the Rains: Local Knowledge and Rainfall Forecasting among Farmers of Burkina Faso." *Society and Natural Resources*, 15, pp. 411-430.

Abstract: This paper describes how farmers of Burkina Faso predict seasonal rainfall and examines how their forecasts relate to those produced by meteorological science. Farmers' forecasting knowledge encompasses shared and selective repertoires. Most farmers formulate expectations from observation of natural phenomena. Cultural and ritual spiritualists also predict rainfall from divination, visions, and dreams. Rather than positing local and scientific knowledge as self-exclusive, our research shows that farmers operate in multiple cognitive frameworks. Moreover, they are interested in receiving scientific information because they perceive local forecasts as becoming less reliable as a result of increasing climate variability. Some aspects of local forecasting knowledge, such as those stressing the relationship between temperatures, wind, and rainfall, can help explain meteorology-based forecasts. But significant discordance remains between scientific and local forecasts. The former predict total rainfall quantity at a regional scale, whereas the latter stress rainfall duration and distribution, and are more attuned to crop-weather interactions. Local systems of thought stress the relationship between knowledge and social responsibility. This emphasizes the need for scientists to integrate information dissemination projects with efforts to improve farmers' capacity to respond to forecasts and to cope with suboptimal climate impacts.

Report available on request.

Appendix: Two reports from League for Pastoral Peoples

NGO Strategies For Livestock Development In Western Rajasthan, India: An Overview And Analysis

by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson with Hanwant Singh Rathore, May, 1998

League for Pastoral Peoples Prugelatostr. 20, 64372 Ober-Ramstadt, Germany

Anthropological Veterinary Medicine: the Need for Indigenizing the Curriculum

Paper presented at the 9th AITVM Conference in Harare, 14th-18th September, 1998

by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Juliane Bräunig

NGO Strategies For Livestock Development In Western Rajasthan, India: An Overview And Analysis

by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson with Hanwant Singh Rathore, May, 1998

League for Pastoral Peoples Prugelatostr. 20, 64372 Ober-Ramstadt, Germany

SUMMARY

1. A month-long study (8.3.98 - 7.4.98) was conducted of NGO-livestock development activities in Rajasthan. Focusing on western Rajasthan and southern Rajasthan, the study entailed conversations and discussions with NGO representatives, field visits and talks with beneficiaries, analysis of project proposals and reports, as well as the compilation of background information. 10 NGOs were included in the study. The purpose was to provide an overview of livestock-oriented interventions and their analysis on both a conceptual as well as practical level.

2. Livestock breeding is the traditional subsistence strategy in western Rajasthan and, in principle, well attuned to its natural resource base. It is an important source of income for the poorer segments of the rural population with limited or no land resources.

3. Paralleling Rajasthan's human population growth, livestock numbers have increased enormously during the last 40 years, in effect almost doubling between 1951 and 1992. Because of the substantial profit margin they provide, small ruminants (goats and sheep) have become dominant, whereas cattle and especially camel breeding are losing ground due to lack of economic viability.

4. Livestock is still sustained mostly on common property resources (village grazing grounds, wastelands, forests, etc.) whose extent and productivity have declined significantly since independence. Livestock density increased from 39 animal units per hectare of grazing land in 1951-52 to 105 during 1977-78. This raises serious concerns about the impact of animal husbandry on the vegetation and its role in desertification processes.

5. Livestock related activities are an important component of NGO activities in Rajasthan. Most of the projects relate to cattle and goats, there was one camel-project and no specific activities for sheep or donkeys. Among the NGOs studied, projects relating to goat improvement, pasture development and animal health/para-vet training were most frequent. Other types of intervention include cattle breed improvement and dairy projects for women.

6. Cattle breed improvement by cross-breeding the local non-descript cow with exotic bulls (usually by A.I.) is regarded as an important strategy for raising family income by many NGOs. It is implemented on a large scale and with government support in the southern, higher rainfall areas of Rajasthan. Although cross-bred cows have higher milk yields, they also have many drawbacks, such as low milk fat content,

high requirements in terms of feeding, watering, and housing, as well as very high calf mortality. It is doubtful whether this is a strategy suitable for uplifting the rural poor. The economics should be reevaluated from the perspective of the resource poor farmer.

7. The indigenous cattle breeds of Rajasthan, which provide good performance combined with adaptation to the harsh environment, are being neglected by policy makers and their populations have declined drastically. Efforts to save these threatened genetic resources need to be stepped up urgently. It is essential to initiate farmer-participatory projects for the conservation of these valuable resources.

8. Integrated goat projects, promoting the dual-purpose Sirohi goat together with a training and community development package, are very popular with NGOs in southern and central Rajasthan and appear to generate a good community response.

9. Camel breeding is a threatened economic strategy because of the lack of a nutritional resource base and support facilities. In view of the continued demand for working camels and their essential role in the rural infrastructure, a concerted effort is necessary to devise methods of breeding camels under the changed circumstances, i.e. without or only limited access to common grazing lands.

10. Para-vet training, in various guises, is embraced by many NGOs, and its importance is born out by the inability of the Department of Animal Husbandry's animal health services to reach out to rural livestock owners. However, the methods of para-vet training that are currently in use appear in need of improvement and refinement if they are to achieve any of the intended impact.

11. Sylvipasture development is a crucial strategy for any approach to livestock development. Especially the growing of fodder trees and production of top-feed for browsing species such as goat and camel is a very time-consuming, expensive process that faces considerable logistical hurdles. It needs to be examined to what extent such efforts can keep up with the rise in animal numbers and grazing pressure.

12. Projects entailing the provision (as gift or by partial loan) of dairy animals (cows, goats) as a measure of poverty alleviation require careful consideration, both from the perspective of the already existing fodder deficit and the actual needs of the beneficiaries. It should be evaluated carefully whether no other income generating options are available. (This does not apply to work-animals that can generate enough cash on a daily basis to sustain a family.)

13. Currently, NGOs do not place any significant emphasis on the research and revitalization of livestock related indigenous knowledge and institutions, even though Rajasthan has a particularly strong tradition in this respect. In some cases, awareness about the value and even the existence of traditional knowledge is lacking among NGO staff.

14. NGOs are generally aware of the need to focus their efforts on women as main actors in the livestock sector, especially dairy-related activities. Their limitations in this respect are caused by the difficulty of finding female staff. The empowerment of women is a slow process, because overcoming centuries-old traditions requires more than the lifespan of a project.

15. With one exception, none of the projects concerns itself with the needs of the nomadic pastoralist population. Migratory pastoralists in essence fall through the gaps in the NGO-network.

16. Recommended follow-up actions include a NGO-workshop to refine the methodology of para-vet training, an exposure workshop and awareness campaign about the status of camel-breeding, development of an action-plan for the conservation of indigenous (cattle) breeds, and an evaluation of the success of pasture development projects.

Anthropological Veterinary Medicine: the Need for Indigenizing the Curriculum

Paper presented at the 9th AITVM Conference in Harare, 14th-18th September, 1998

by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Juliane Bräunig

Preamble

This paper was presented in the workshop/session on "Reorientation of the veterinary curriculum" at the Ninth International Conference of Institutions of Tropical Veterinary Medicine, held in Harare, Zimbabwe from 14-18th September 1998. The chairman of the conference was Prof. M.J. Obowolo from the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Zimbabwe (P.O. Box MP 167, Harare).

The Association of Institutions of Tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM) is composed of institutions which are specifically engaged in education in tropical animal health and production, in research and in the promotion of livestock development. It holds major conferences in three-year intervals.

The theme of the 1998 Conference was "animal health and production for development" with particular reference to needs for regional integrated animal disease control, domestic animal and wildlife resource management, increasing efficiency of public and private livestock health delivery systems, veterinary public health and food safety, and reorientation of the veterinary curriculum. Rural development, community participation and the environment were also important topics discussed in the plenary sessions and workshops.

Introduction

The League for Pastoral People (L.P.P.) is a German based technical support and advocacy organization for pastoralists, i.e. livestock breeding people dependent on common property resources. Among technical support strategies, the provision of animal health services is an important issue. In the implementation of a support project for camel pastoralists in Rajasthan/India, one of the major challenges for L.P.P. and its partner-NGO has been to act as an interface between pastoralists on the one side and project staff with academic backgrounds in animal science and veterinary medicine on the other. We have observed that, due to a lack of reference points and concepts, communication between them is very problematic.

Furthermore, in the same area, a small, but presumably representative, survey among local livestock owners about preferred animal health providers revealed that they practically never avail themselves of the service provided by government veterinarians. Although an extensive network of veterinary hospitals exists, where consultations are available for free, animal herders either treated animals themselves, consulted a local healer, or visit a spirit medium (Rathore et al., 1997).

From our perspective as mediators, it appears that the observed lack of articulation between veterinarians and pastoralists is due to the fact that they essentially represent totally different cultural contexts. Based on these experiences, we feel that in those countries where traditional animal husbandry systems still exist, the delivery of animal health services could be substantially improved, if veterinarians were systematically prepared for the likelihood that they might be operating in a different cultural environment should they opt for a career in rural area.

1. Indigenous practices of animal husbandry

In large parts of the South, animals are still kept under traditional conditions. Nomadic systems of animal husbandry remain the characteristic production system of many arid, semi-arid, and mountainous areas, i.e. the Sahelian zone, extensive areas of Southwest Asia, and Central Asia. Typically,

animals are kept on natural graze and not on fodder or formulated feed; they spend their nights in a pen or in an open field and are not kept in a stable. Herd management is not directed towards maximum performance and short-term economic gain, but instead geared towards minimizing risks and ensuring long-term survival. Most importantly, animals represent not just a production factor, but form a part of the cultural identity of a pastoral group. Livestock may have ritual and religious meaning and often figure as important items in social exchange and relationships. As in such traditional systems, survival of humans and animals is still closely interlinked, animals may almost be regarded as family members. This situation is in stark contrast to the West where a dichotomy exists between pets fulfilling emotional needs and farm animals regarded solely as a source of food.

This fundamental difference in animal production between industrialized and traditional societies is not spelled out in textbooks which are based on contemporary western concepts of animal husbandry in which the animal represent a production factor defined by parameters such as milk yield, fat content, daily weight gains, etc., where feed rations are carefully calculated, stables built according to sophisticated calculations of space requirement for optimum performance, and culling of low production animals.

Since in countries of the South, animal husbandry and management outside the peri-urban sector do not fulfil the standards of Western animal production systems, they are often judged as backward and undeveloped. Such assessment does not do justice to their important role in sustainable utilization of harsh environments. Pastoral production systems, which earlier were deplored for their inefficiency, have undergone substantial re-evaluation in recent decades. Range ecologists and anthropologists have shown them to be the most efficient way of exploiting certain types of eco-systems. We should also be aware that from the perspective of animal welfare, pastoral systems score infinitely higher than industrial animal production according to the Western model. Pastoralists keep animals under more or less natural conditions without substantial impingement on their behavioural patterns. One other circumstance for which hardly any awareness has developed, is the fact that they make an important contribution to the maintenance of agrobiodiversity, since many of the most resilient, disease resistant and even productive livestock breeds will not survive outside pastoral contexts (Köhler-Rollefson, 1992).

The inherent values and ecological appropriateness of many traditional animal husbandry systems and strategies need to be explicitly acknowledged during veterinary training. For this, Western animal health production with its many problems in regard to the environment and animal welfare implications must stop being used as the yard-stick for animal husbandry world-wide.

2. Awareness about non-western traditions of animal health care

The training in veterinary colleges is usually based on the models of veterinary education that have been developed in the West. Most African institutions go back to colonial times or were founded in the 1950s and 1960s (Froehner, 1968, Masiga, 1996). They were initially financed as part of aid programs and partly staffed with Western lecturers; faculty members continue to receive post-graduate training in Europe. The appropriateness of this is not denied and it is borne out by the success of Western interventions in controlling major epidemic diseases. Nevertheless, both one-sided orientation towards Western veterinary science and emulation of Western veterinary colleges obscures the fact that there are also many non-Western traditions of veterinary medicine, such as acupuncture and herbal medicine in China, Tibetan veterinary medicine, Ayurveda in India, etc. Besides these major cultural traditions for whom written records go back thousands of years, many folk traditions also exist and especially many pastoral societies have developed large bodies of indigenous knowledge in regards to animal health and management (Mc Corkle et al., 1992). The significance of ethnoveterinary medicine is gaining increased recognition even among representatives of mainstream animal science (Schwartz and Dioli, 1992) and was recently highlighted at an international conference.

3. Awareness of the existence of traditional structures for animal health care

In many countries, indigenous systems of animal health care are still extant and traditional healers continue to serve rural animal owners. These have been there long before the arrival of government veterinary services (Schwabe, 1984). By scientific standards, the traditional interventions are a mixed bag that cannot compete with modern veterinary medicine. Nevertheless, these healers can probably cope with a reasonable spectrum of ordinary every-day diseases, such as diarrhea, coughing, birthing problems, and others. In addition to treatment with self-prepared herbal medicines, bone setting, application of the red-hot iron, etc., they do not charge money for their services, although they may be rewarded in kind. The biggest benefit for them is prestige and obligation. Thus, the village animal healer is an integral and institutionalized component of the village social system in this part of the world and may be in many others. Such traditional structures deserve to be respected for what they are: institutions that are embedded deeply in society. Dismissing them as quackery, as is common practice, does not do them justice.

Conclusions

If sufficient attention is paid to these circumstances during veterinary training, this may go a long way towards preparing students for practice and preventing their disillusionment. These facts need to be explicitly addressed during veterinary education to prevent a bitter disappointment and to foster an attitude of cultural plurality and diversity.

In the 1980s the term Veterinary Anthropology was coined for a particular approach to animal health care, characterized by "Using the basic repertoire of anthropology's research skills and techniques, including observation, interview and participation" (Sollod et al., 1984). But what we also need is "anthropological veterinary medicine". This we define as the recognition and utilization of the fact that there are many cultural traditions of striving for and achieving animal health. The scientific Western way is only one alternative among many. As veterinarians our chief concern must be the provision of animal health, or arguably, even animal welfare. In order to achieve this, we also have to abandon purely Western ways and standards of thinking. We must also take note of the fact that in order to reach the animal we cannot circumvent the owner, and therefore cannot afford to stick to our own cultural concepts of veterinary medicine but have to identify the most appropriate solution for specific contexts, especially if we want to meet the challenges posed by traditional animal husbandry systems in unpredictable environments.

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