Animal disease threats and priorities in the GLTFCA -A JMB Conservation & Veterinary perspective on a 'real world' relationships between management/policy decisions and research

Roy Bengis, Carlos Lopes Pereira, Chris Foggin, Markus Hofmeyr



GLTFCA JMB Veterinary Subcommittee

This committee's mandate includes :

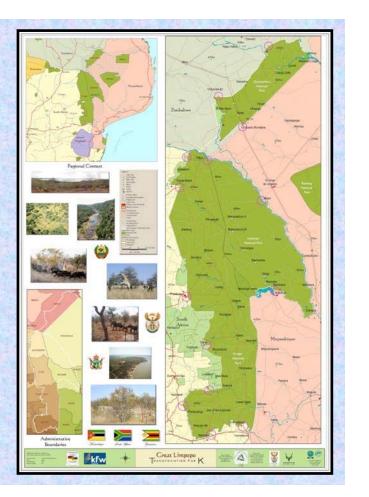
•The identification of potential animal health issues and challenges related to expansion of the geographic range of wildlife and their pathogens.

•Identification of potential conservation threats related to pathogens cycling in neighbouring livestock (in all 3 countries)

•Identification of the related human health and zoonotic issues.

•Inclusion of these veterinary issues in the development of a Joint Management Plan for the GLTP.

•To advise the Joint Management Board (JMB) on the management of animal health challenges, and prioritise appropriate activity areas to address these issues.



TFCA SUMMARY DOCUMENT FROM THE VETERINARY SUB-COMMITTEE PRIORITISATION OF ANIMAL HEALTH CHALLENGES IN THE GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER PARK

A) INFRASTUCTURAL NEEDS

- Centralised data base with GIS capability and data management system
- **Communication network**
 - Technical equipment
 - Diagnostic capability
 - Training and capacity building
 - Eastern Fence of the Limpopo National Park
 - Development of a Wildlife Veterinary Unit in Mozambique

B)DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING

- 1) Bovine Tuberculosis (BTB) and Brucellosis
- Monitor of BTB and brucella status of cattle in the Sengwe corridor.
- Monitor of BTB and brucella status of cattle in the Limpopo National Park
- Monitor of BTB and brucella status of cattle on the KNP western boundary
- Monitor the TB dynamics of the KNP buffalo herds.
- Buffalo translocations into Limpopo National Park
- In the above surveys, funds must also be budgeted for compensation for positive animals that may be slaughtered. Some test-positive animals must be slaughtered to confirm the diagnosis and for TB strain fingerprinting.

2) Tsetse flies and Nagana

- Monitoring of tsetse fly activity and spatio/ temporal spread in Gonarezhou National Park.
- Monitor the northern KNP and LNP for tsetse fly incursion.

3)Anthrax and Rabies surveillance and monitoring

Report acute death situations in herbivores (wild and domestic)
Collection of blood smears (with field data sheet)
Reporting of animals with abnormal behaviour (wild and domestic)

4)Topotyping of foot & mouth disease viruses in buffalo in Gonarezhou and Limpopo National Park.

•Collect blood and probang samples from a significant number of buffalo in Gonarezhou and Limpopo National Park

5)Foreign animal disease surveillance in wildlife e.g. Rinderpest, Canine distemper, High Path Avian Influenza

6)Surveillance for wildlife-related diseases in livestock e.g. Foot and mouth disease, Theileriosis, African swine fever, Trypanosomiasis and malignant catarrhal fever

C) Primary Animal Health Care at the interface

•Vaccination of cattle against FMD and anthrax

- ·Vaccination of dogs against rabies and canine distemper
- •Deworming of dogs (including echinococcus)
- •Regular dipping and inspection of cattle

INDIGENOUS AFRICAN DISEASES THAT ARE "SILENT" IN THEIR TRADITIONAL HOSTS

- FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE IN BUFFALO
- AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN WILD PORCINES
- AFRICAN HORSESICKNESS IN ZEBRAS
- THEILERIOSIS IN BUFFALO
- MALIGNANT CATARRHAL FEVER IN
 WILDEBEEST

INDIGENOUS MULTI- SPECIES DISEASES THAT ARE INHERENTLY FATAL

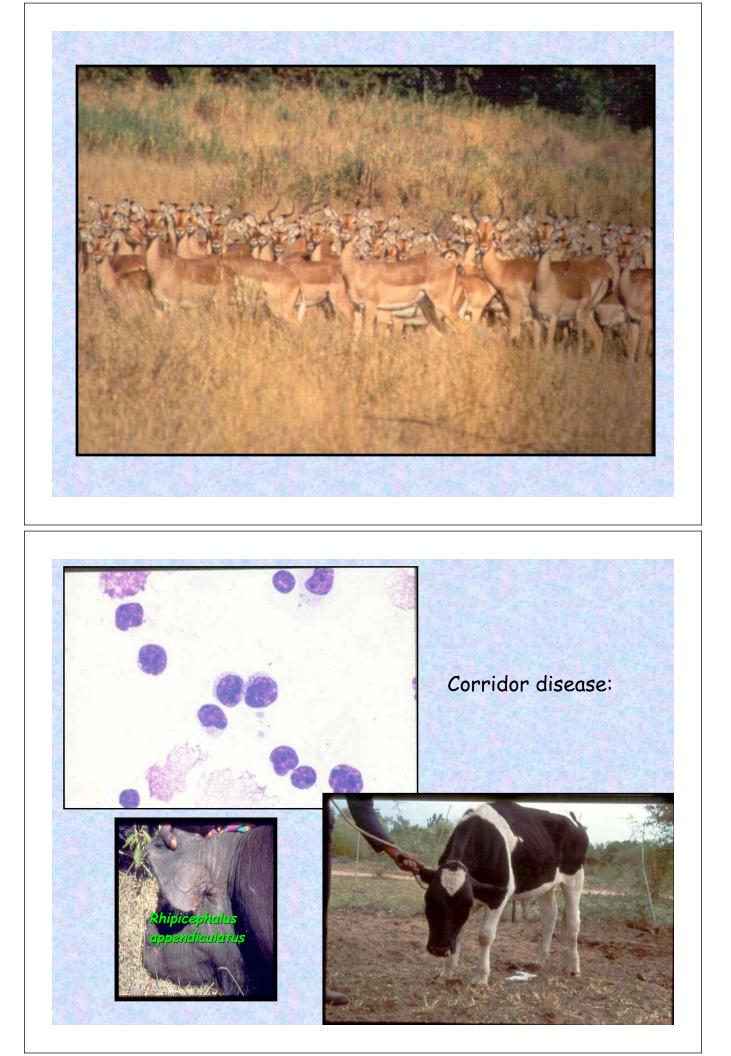
- ANTHRAX
- RABIES

FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASES

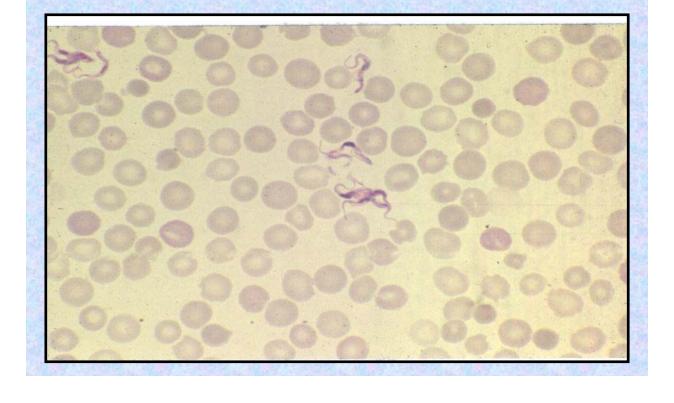
- RINDERPEST
- BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS
- CANINE DISTEMPER
- AVIAN INFLUENZA
- CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER

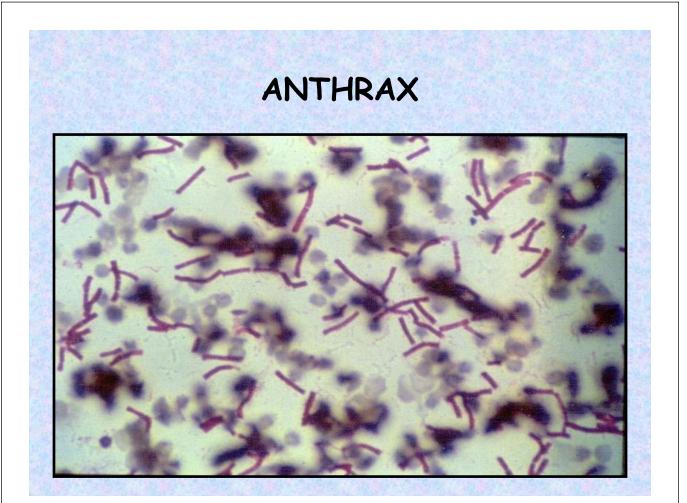
FMD - THE EPIDEMIC CYCLE

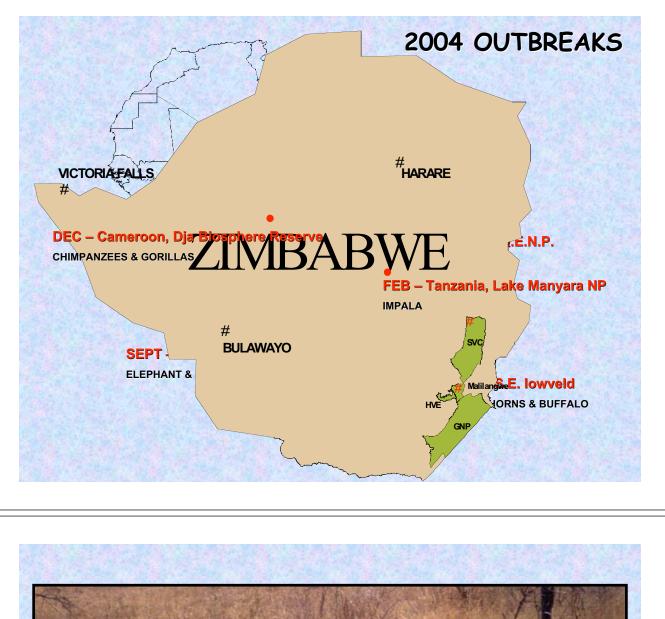






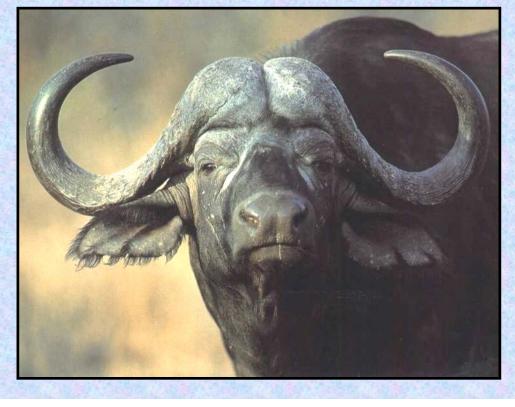








Bovine Tuberculosis



- In August 2005 a buffalo positive for TB was autopsied 6 km from northern border
- Implications for the formation of Transfrontier Conservation area
- Non-lethal survey planned for 2006 in the northern zone, focusing on herds along

