

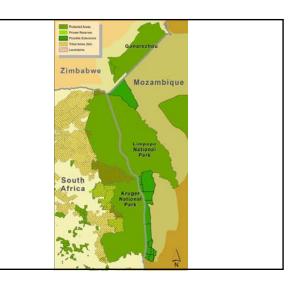
# nature

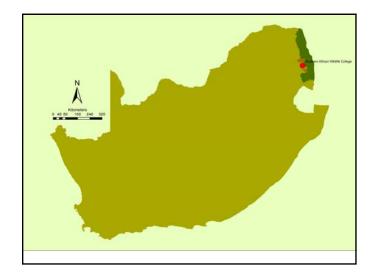
Aarch 2002 Volume 416 Issue no 6878

#### Pursuing arrogant simplicities

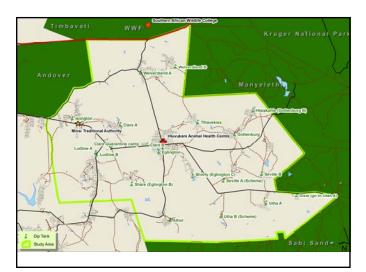
Multidisciplinary research in biology requires the patience to distinguish untutored crassness from deceptively simp insights, and awareness from all participants of just how complex is even the simplest life-form.







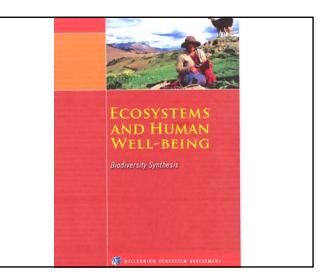






### MCP: Broad objective

From an integrated veterinary (health) perspective to improve the health and welfare of the community



### MCP: Guiding principles (1)

- □ Biodiversity
- □ Sustainable environment
- Climate change
- □ Interface: wildlife/livestock/human
- Emerging and re-emerging diseases
- Zoonoses



## MCP: Guiding principles (2)

- □ Ecosystem services
- Rural agriculture
- □ Land-use options
- □ Food safety and security
- □ Poverty relief

#### ? Objectives of TFCAs



#### Ecotourism

- Poverty reduction
- Job creation
- Conservation
- Sustainable sources of safe food
- Improved health and welfare of humans

#### MCP Guiding principles: focussed • Veterinary services

- Food safety and securityLivelihoods
- 🗆 Land-use
- Conservation
  - Trans-boundary conservation areas
- Disease dynamics
  - Livestock/wildlife/human
- □ Socio-economics

#### Programme focus

□ Baseline and continuous data collection

- Animal health
- Public health
- Interface dynamics
- Wildlife/livestock/crops: land-use options
- Socio-economics
- Communication and extension activities



#### Research focus

- □ Socio-economics
- □ Agricultural production systems
- □ Animal health (livestock and wildlife)
- □ Human health including food safety
- Environmental health and sustainability
- Communication
- □ Indigenous knowledge

#### Time-frame

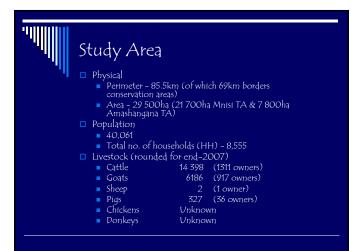
- □ Fifteen year duration (at least)
- □ Advanced planning and implementation
- □ Clinical activities
- Commenced beginning of October 2008
  Research
  - Questionnaire for base-line data
  - MSc and PhD students
  - Data collection commences early 2009

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#### Study area

- 🗖 Rural area
- □ Small-scale subsistence agriculture
- □ At interface
- □ Various levels of poverty
- □ Well-structured Traditional Authority





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"	Households	%	Without	With
	% without electricity	56	4,791	3,764
	% without piped water	13	1,112	7,443
	% without hygienic toilets	80	6,844	1,711
	% without rubbish removals	100	8,555	0
	% without telephones	99	8,469	86
	% without cell phones	80	6,844	1,711



### The clinic at Hluvukani

- □ Animal Health Centre MVS
- □ Formal undergraduate experiential training
- □ Postgraduate research projects
- □ A physical presence commitment
- Permanency
- 🗆 Identity

□ Long-term involvement



#### MCP: Partners and collaborators

- Mnisi Traditional Authority
  University of Pretoria
  Faculty of Veterinary Science
  Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
  Agricultural Economics
  Postgraduate School of Agriculture and Rural Development
  Livestock and Wildlife
  Centre for Wildlife Management
  Faculty of Health Sciences
  School of Health Systems and Public Health

#### Partners and collaborators

- Mpumalanga Provincial Government
  Department of Agriculture
  - Directorate of Veterinary Services
- □ Institute for Tropical Medicine (ITM), Antwerp, Belgium
- National Emerging Red meat Producers Organisation (NERPO)
- SA Defence Force (Medical and Veterinary Division)

#### Partners and collaborators

- □ SACIDS (Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance)
- PPF Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station and GIS

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#### Human resources

- □ Academics, researchers and officials
- 🗆 Full-time veterinarian at Hluvukani
- □ 2 PhD students
- □ 2 MSc students
- □ 4 Honours students
- Ongoing rotations of undergraduate students
- Routine activities of Mpumalanga Veterinary Services

