



Western Cape
Government

Agriculture

BETTER TOGETHER.

Western Cape Compulsory Community Service (CCS) Annual report 2016

Annual Report 2016

Compiled by Dr F. Le Roux

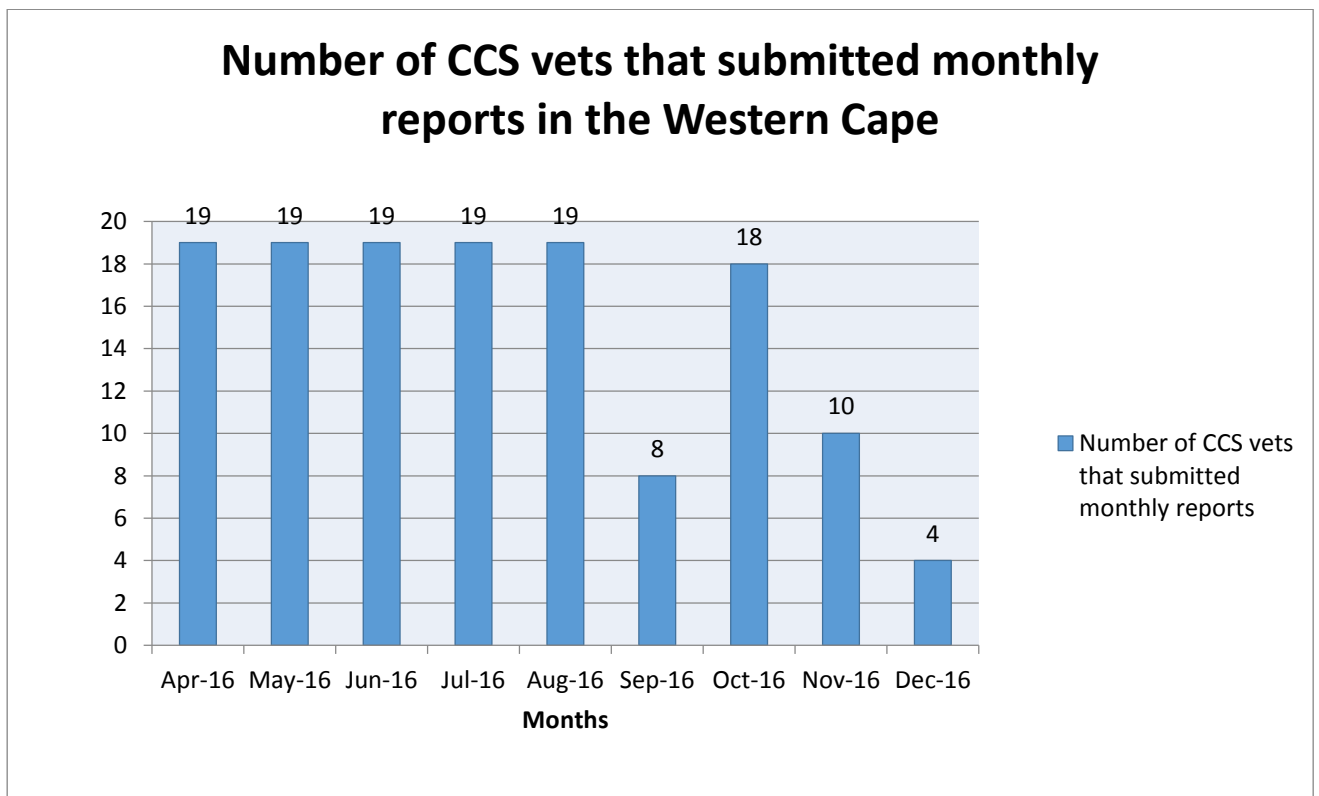
Edited by Drs V. Henwood, L van Helden and A. Pypers

Date: 20 February 2017

Introduction

Disclaimer: This annual report has been published based on the information gathered from the quarterly reporting with the purpose of providing up-to-date information regarding the activities of the Compulsory Community Service veterinarians in the Western Cape Province. Much of the information is therefore preliminary and should not be cited/utilised for publication.

Standardisation of data reporting only began in April 2016 as no prescribed method of reporting was available from DAFF. The data from January 2016 to March 2016 was not standardised and is not included in this report. It is important to note that the results displayed in this report are sourced from the monthly reports submitted by the CCS veterinarians. Data may be skewed depending on the number of reports captured per month.



Due to miscommunication regarding the usage of annual leave, the CCS vets were notified at the end of November that they had to utilise all their annual leave by the 31st December as no leave credits would be paid out. This resulted in many CCS vets only working for the first half of December and can account for the low number of reports received for December.

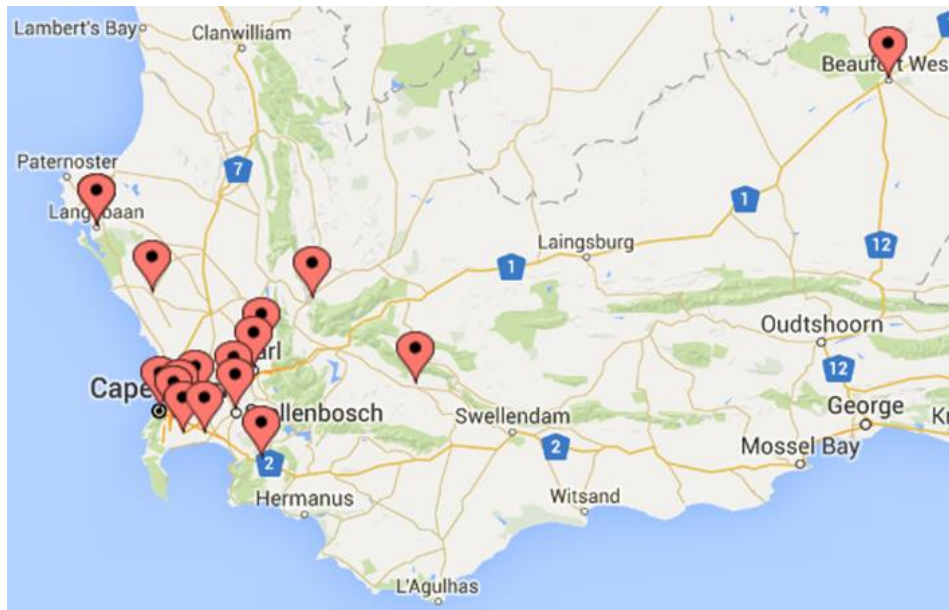


Figure 1: The location of the CCS veterinarians within the Western Cape South Africa

19 CCS veterinarians were seconded to the Western Cape from the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the purpose of completing their Compulsory Community Service (CCS) year in 2016. These 19 veterinary posts can be described as follows:

- 6 veterinarians worked in the sub-programme **Veterinary Public Health**; 5 stationed at export abattoirs and one stationed at the central office.
- 3 veterinarians worked in the sub-programme **Animal Health**; 2 in Beaufort West doing mainly primary animal health care and one at the Boland state vet office.
- 2 veterinarians in the sub-programme **Export Control** assisting with export certification, CCS data management and audits for export approval of food producing establishments.
- One veterinarian was stationed at the **Stellenbosch Provincial Veterinary Laboratory** primarily performing post-mortems and writing reports.
- 7 veterinarians were stationed full time at **animal welfare organisations** doing primary animal health care and education.

All of the CCS veterinarians stationed within Veterinary Services in the Western Cape also provided primary animal health care and education for part of their time. On average 50% of their work hours had to be spent with animal welfare organisations.

State Veterinary Services

Veterinary Public Health (VPH)

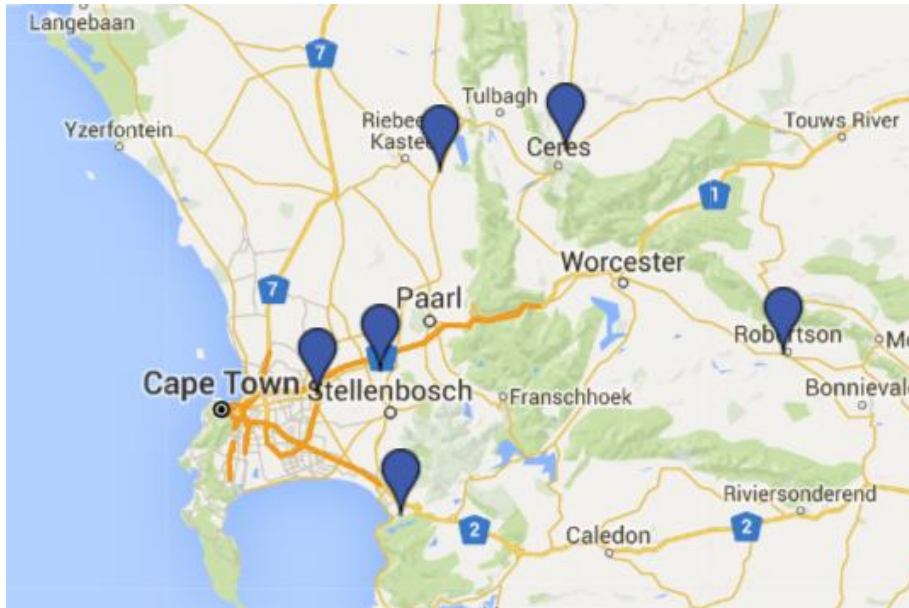


Figure 2: Location of Veterinary Public Health CCS vet posts

The main responsibilities of the veterinarians in the VPH sub-programme were ante-mortem inspections, secondary meat inspections, veterinary supervision of the abattoir and improvement of meat hygiene and animal welfare through training of abattoir personnel. They were stationed at the red meat abattoirs that are export approved. Their presence has improved the accuracy and credibility of export certification to all trading partners of the Western Cape. Two important instances where these veterinarians have assisted in the export certification chain were with the import requirements of Namibia regarding pig compartmentalisation which came to the fore due to the African Swine Fever outbreak that occurred in June and Mauritius' requirements for pH testing of bovine meat. The CCS veterinarians have also assisted with the control and eradication of bovine brucellosis from certain infected farms.

Table 1: Work performed by CCS veterinarians within the VPH sub-programme

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Detained carcasses inspected	44	43	20	33	22	9	40	5		216
Illegal slaughter reports investigated					1	1				2
Condemnation certificates issued	18	4	5	5	7	7	3	7	4	60
Major and critical non-compliances identified	36	28	12	6	13	10	6	4		115
Abattoir audits/ HASS performed / inspections	3	1	1	2			1			8
Corrective actions planned or achieved on identified major and critical non-compliances	31	18	6	3	9	4	3	2		76

Species **Main reasons for condemnation:**

Cattle	Bruising
	Sepsis
	Abscesses (injection sites)
	Babesiosis and Anaplasmosis
Sheep	Lumpy jaw
	Abscessation
	Caseous lymphadenitis
	Cachexia
	Icterus
	Arthritis
	Septicaemia
	Previous antibiotic treatment
	Immaturity
	Pigs
Pyaemia related to tail bite necrosis.	
Suspected Porcine Dermatitis Nephropathy Syndrome	

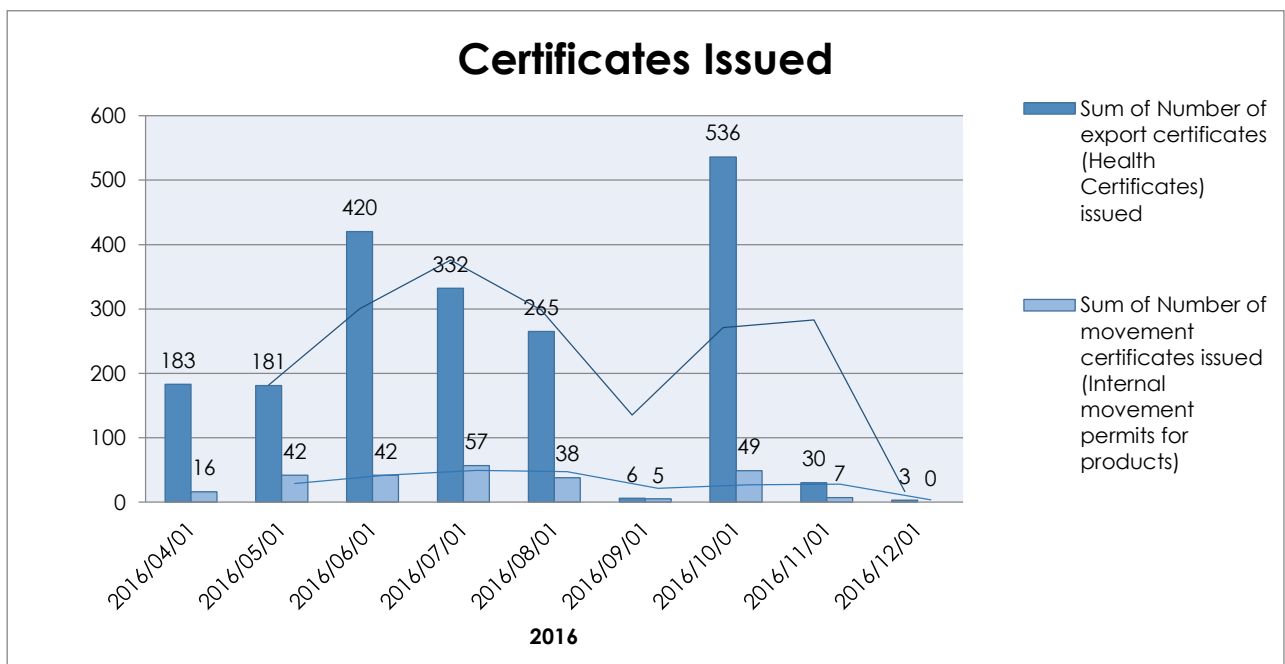
Export Control



The main responsibilities of the veterinarians in the Export Control sub-programme were export certification, policy and system development, provision of information to clients and export establishment audits. Dr Gray has also been responsible for the CCS reporting system. Dr Khan who was based in the Veterinary Export Certification Office in Milnerton assisted in pioneering the agreement regarding movement of products requiring export certification between the Western Cape and Gauteng. This is part of a project which aims to reduce the paperwork needed to trade dairy originating from the Western Cape that is exported via Gauteng.

Table 2: Work performed by CCS veterinarians within the Export Control sub-programme

	Apr	May	Jun	Jun	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Facilities inspected /audited		4	2	3	3	1	1		1	15
Establishment audit reports written		1	2	3	2	1	1			10



The increase in the number of export certificates issued was due to the fact that the first quarter was occupied by training and therefore the CCS veterinarians were only assigned export duty as a primary function in April; as they became more experienced and efficient, additional responsibility was given to them. In September the numbers of movement as well as export certificates dropped significantly despite the fact that both CCS vets in the export control sector participated in the survey however, it seemed to have drastically picked up again in October. The results during November and December are relatively skewed and do not portray accurate information as both the CCS vets did not complete and submit their reports. The sub-programme Export Control has been and still is experiencing some key personnel shortages and the CCS veterinarians have helped to reduce the impact of this on the companies that export from the Western Cape.

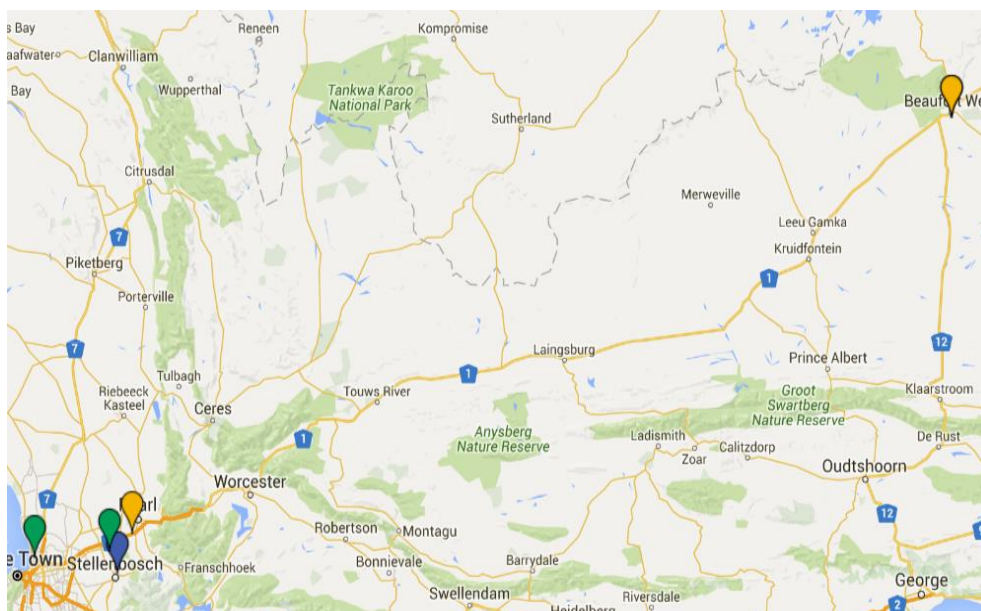
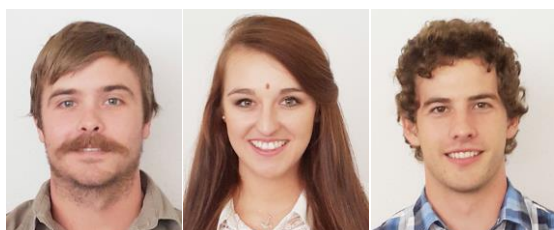


Figure 3: Location of Export Control (Green), Animal Health (Yellow) and Laboratory (Blue) CCS vets

Animal Health



The main responsibilities of the veterinarians in the Animal Health sub-programme were animal welfare, disease surveillance, control of outbreaks of controlled animal diseases, herd testing and pregnancy scanning. The inclusion of veterinary functions outside of the

normal scope of State Veterinary Services was due to the two CCS veterinarians stationed in Beaufort West. Beaufort West has no access to private clinical veterinary services other than a clinic that operates in the evenings therefore the presence of the two CCS veterinarians has doubled the availability of services within the area. The availability of a mobile clinic also allowed them to cover a very large area which previously was not serviced. Disease control measures that were implemented by some of the CCS veterinarians during the first quarter is displayed below.

Disease	Month and Area	Control applied by the CCS veterinarians
African Horse sickness	April – SV Boland	Sentinel sampling done in surrounding area (3km and 5km from the outbreak).
	June – SV Boland	Signing of permissions for vaccination.
Salmonella gallinarum	April – SV Boland	System discussed to clean out houses and sell off the chickens to rural areas for slaughter. Literature review was conducted and provided, to the controlling state veterinarian, for the slaughter of the affected birds.
Brucella melitensis	May – SV Beaufort West	Sampling of cattle at the affected farm. Post-mortem and sampling of two positive cattle.
	May – SV Boland	Sampling of goats during disease control surveillance.

Other State Services from Beaufort West

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Dip tank activities attended	12	6		4			4			26
Movement permits issued / health certificates for live animals (Movements within South Africa)	19		150	5			12			186
Number of herd health visits to farms	3		2	1						6

Production animal vaccinations

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Anthrax	5	24			83					112
Pulpy kidney	100				38			46	3	187
Lumpy skin disease (LSD)	500									500
African horse sickness (AHS)		28	9	82						119
Clostridium Spp. (Black quarter)	500									500

Laboratory



The primary responsibility of the veterinarian working at the Provincial Veterinary Laboratory in Stellenbosch was to perform post mortem examinations, additional testing and reporting of findings.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Post-mortems performed (all species)	54	61	55	28	55	13	49	22	1	381
Post-mortem reports written	18	37	26	11	30	7	16			145
Tests done/requested:										
Brucella melitensis		2		1	302					305
African horse sickness (AHS)		1		1						2
Rabies		1		1	1	1	1			5
Johne's disease				1						1



Primary Animal Health Care / Welfare work (fulltime CCS posts)



All of the CCS veterinarians were involved in primary animal health care. Primary animal health care involves meeting the basic needs of an animal including preventative health care such as vaccinations and parasite control.

The main functions of the CCS veterinarians that worked in this area were primary animal health, medical and surgical treatment, vaccinations, mobile clinics, sterilisation campaigns and client education. Most of these treatments were provided at dramatically reduced or no costs as some of these communities are very economically constrained. There was a big emphasis on education, especially for the younger

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generations as it was recognised that most issues arise from ignorance, lack of education and understanding.

Most of the primary animal health care took place at welfare organisations which provided mentorship, facilities, equipment and consumables for the CCS veterinarians to use when assisting the public.

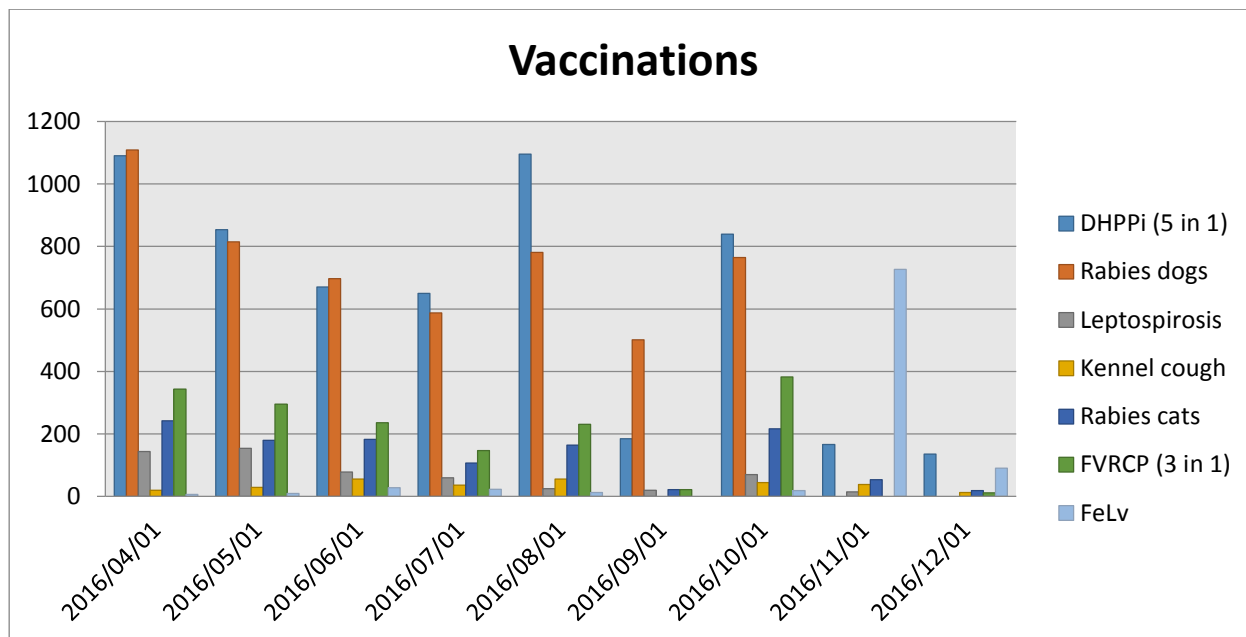
There was a large variation of welfares that have assisted the CCS programme, from well-established multi vet organisations to small organisations run by groups of volunteers. There were also a few private veterinary clinics which also provided mentorship, facilities, equipment and consumables at their own cost to the CCS veterinarians that worked with them in 2016.

Without these partnerships the success of 2016 would not have been possible. This has been an excellent example of a functional **public-private partnership (PPP)**.

The figures below only reflect work done by the CCS veterinarian or under the direct supervision of the CCS veterinarian. These figures do however include the work of all 19 CCS veterinarians and not just those that were in full time welfare posts.



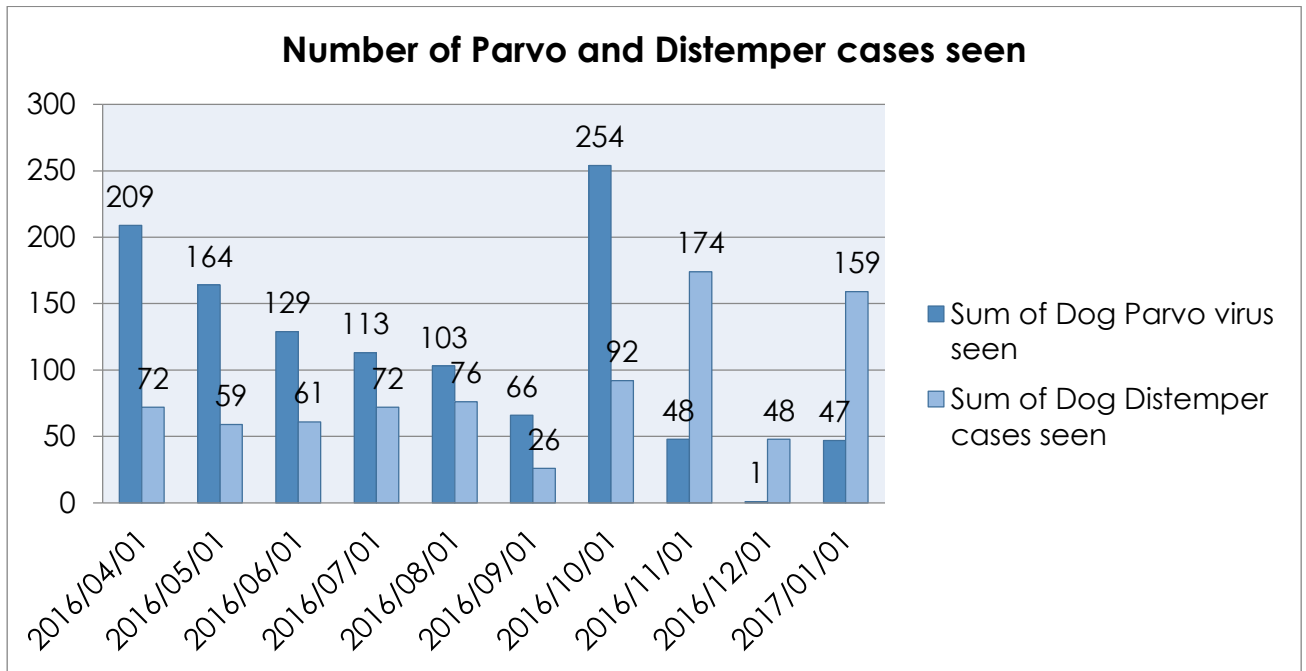
Small animal vaccinations



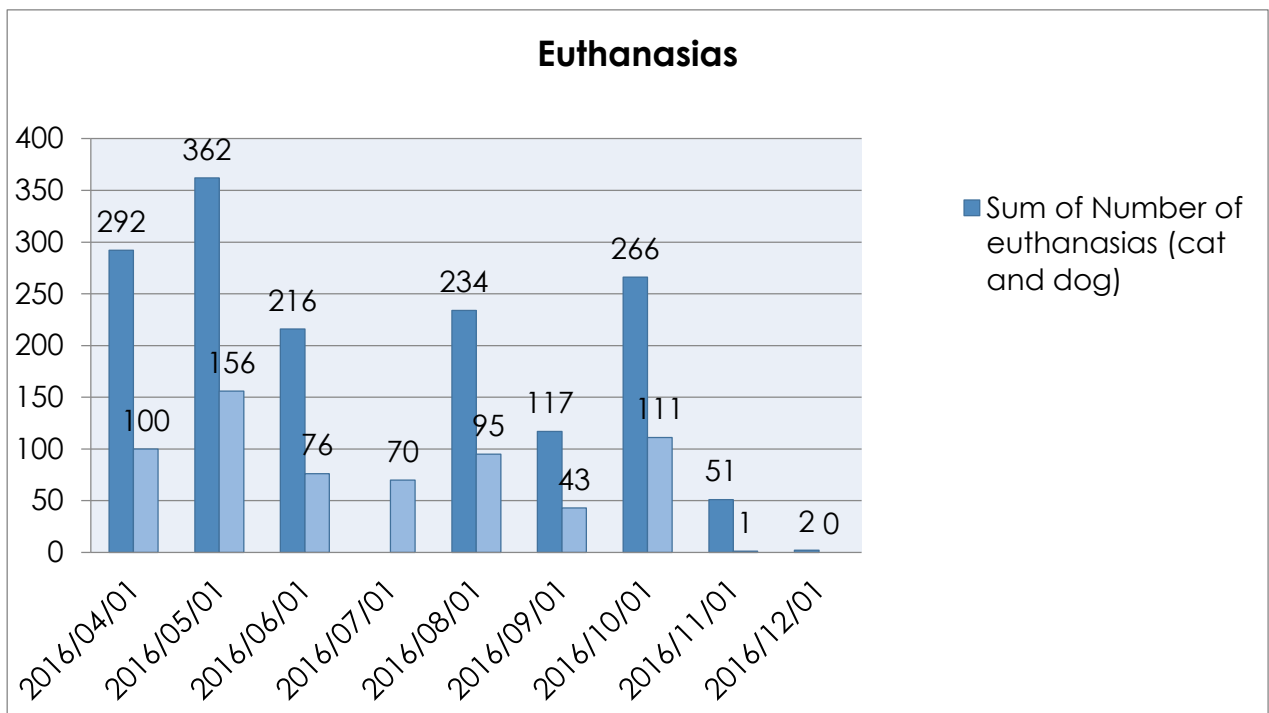
There was a decrease in the number of vaccinations performed as winter approached. Less people are inclined to bring their animals for vaccination or treatment during the cold and wet winter months. There were also less puppies and kittens presented for their primary vaccinations as a result of the natural breeding cycles of dogs and cats as the majority of puppies and kittens are born in spring and early summer. Note that puppies and kittens receive their first rabies vaccination at 3 months and in most cases have already received one or two primary standard vaccines. Towards the end of the year, the data is skewed and an accurate representation is not displayed due to the fact that the monthly reporting from the CCS vets was very poor especially in November and December.

Other PAHC figures recorded

Small animals



The number of cases of Parvovirus and Distemper virus infection decreased as expected from April through to September due to the cold winter months. As predicted, towards the warmer spring and summer months, the incidence of Parvo virus and distemper sky rocketed again.



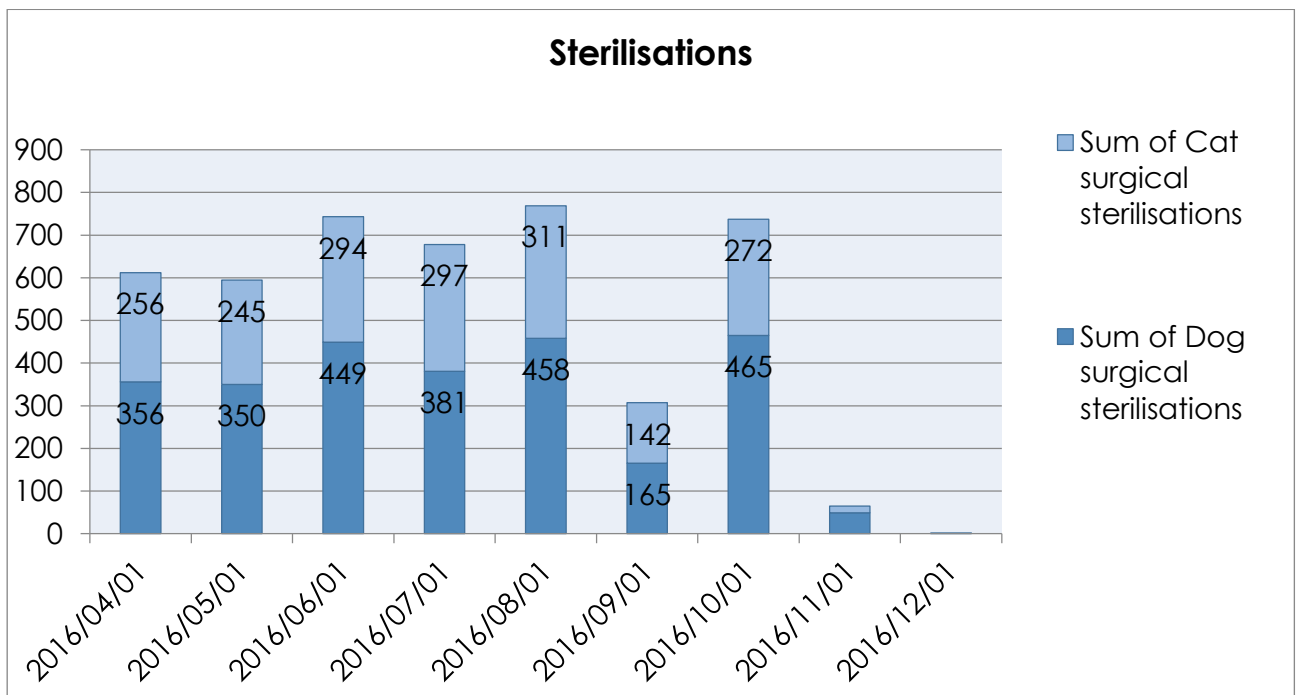
Part of the daily challenge of a welfare veterinarian is that there are often times when an animal is severely ill or injured and the best option is to end the animal's life and prevent it from suffering further. However the dilemma that most welfare organisations face is the

ever increasing number of dogs that are unwanted, surrendered or confiscated and the only option is then to euthanase as there are money, time and facility constraints. In an ideal world there would be resources available to save every animal but this is currently not possible, hence the importance of education. Responsible pet ownership is promoted by educating owners that pets are a lifelong commitment that cost money and it is hoped that this approach will decrease the number of unwanted animals.

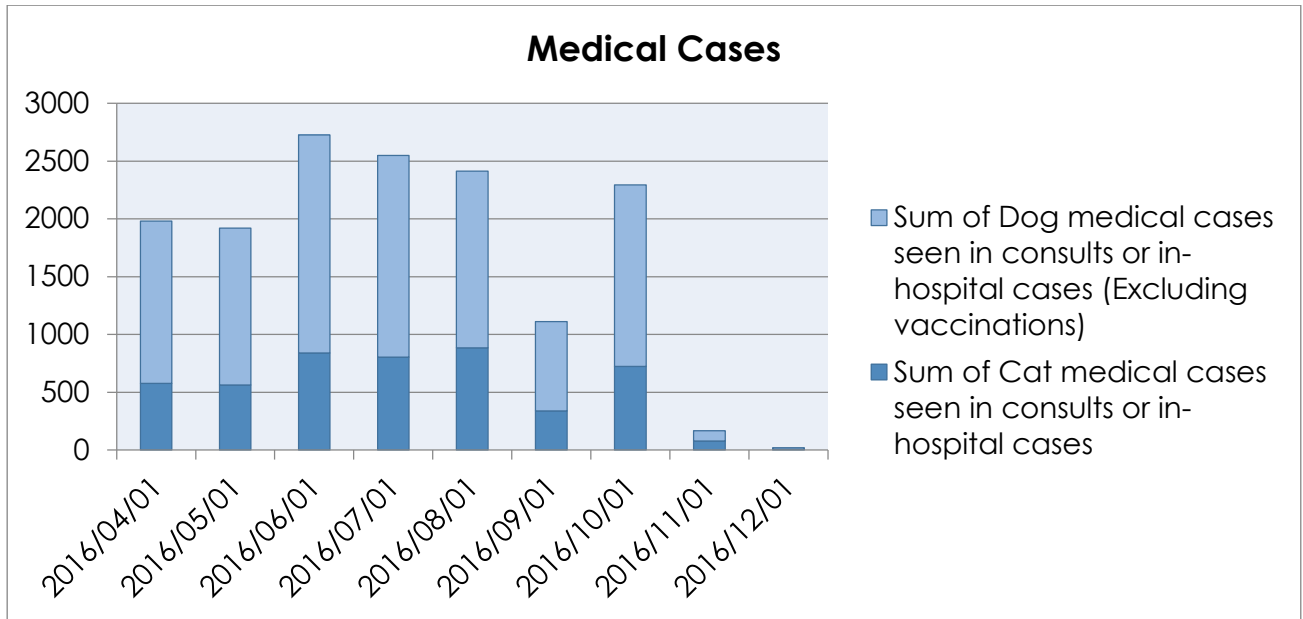




If local municipalities enforced the by-laws that require licensing of pets it would go a long way in helping to reduce the number of stray animals. This would not only aid welfare and private organisations in identifying the individual animals but it would serve as a means of traceability. This is always a very helpful tool as diseases can also be traced back to farm or area of origin.



	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Dog other surgical cases (not including sterilisations)	119	90	100	115	136	63	106	541	5	1275
Cat other surgical cases (not including sterilisations)	35	39	32	35	40	26	35	565	97	904



Production animals and equines

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cattle medical cases	9	26	3	6	1	10	4			59
Cattle surgical cases								34	1	35
Small ruminant surgical cases		1	1	5			4	9	2	22
Small ruminant medical cases	2	5	4	13	46	2	5			77
Porcine medical cases	20	82	1	3	32	1				139
Porcine surgical cases			1	1						2
Equine medical cases	6	5	4	14		1	10			40
Equine surgical cases				1		16	2			19
Animals darted		4						3		7
Wildlife medical and surgical cases	51	41	65		88	123	5			373
Euthanasias (other than dogs and cats)	13	7	10	3	14	6	5	3		61





Other PAHC activities

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Vaccination campaigns organised or attended	22	23	19	23	22	7	26	4	1	147
Sterilisation campaigns organised or attended	21	19	21	14	22	4	23	1	1	126
Meetings attended	44	48	31	29	25	7	23	4		211

Training given	7	3	8	7	5	7	5	1	43
Training attended	4	6	7	2	3	4	1	1	28
Community engagement activities: Schools	4	2	4	4	8	1	1		24
Community engagement activities: Individual farmers	1	4	3				1		9
Community engagement activities: Farmer groups (i.e. farmer days)				1	2	1		6	10
Community engagement activities: Other	4	3	9	6	5	5	7	3	42
Number of client info sheets developed / reviewed	47	10	54	6	6		4	1	128
Number of other reports written				12	5	3	4		24

Community Engagement – Schools visited

Dr Trichardt did an educational talk at "Die Ark" prep school (2-5y old) introducing them to veterinary science and basic animal care during the first quarter of 2016.



Dr Lesch did a talk on primary animal health care at St Johns Primary School in Saldanha.



Dr Gray visited the Rondebosch East Primary School grade 2 class and presented a PowerPoint about caring for your pet.

Dr Orford spoke to a class of learners from Mannenburg during her outreach to the area.



Dr Engelbrecht visited a preschool in Robertson and spoke about how to care for your animals.

Community Engagement – other

Dr Verrall gave a weekly talk on basic animal care on the Khayelitsha local radio station and answered questions from callers regarding pet care.

Dr van As gave a weekly talk on aspects of veterinary care of livestock and pets on Radio Gamka which covers the broader Karoo area.

Many CCS veterinarians of 2016 have impacted their communities through one on one engagement by speaking to individuals during mobile outreaches as well as those that

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visit and volunteer at the various welfares and clinics. Basic education regarding sterilizations, vaccinations, deworming and dipping is passed on.

Mobile Clinics and areas assisted

Many of the CCS veterinarians have been involved in mobile clinics with various welfare organisations.

The following areas were visited by the CCS vets using DAFF branded transport or the transport of the welfare organisation they were working with:

Atlantis, Bella vista, Ceres, Groenheuwel, Hamlet, Klaarstroom, Laingsburg, Leeu Gamka, Mannenburg, Matjiesfontein, Merweville, Murraysburg, Nelspoort, Op die berg, Paarl East, Prins Albert, West Coast region and Wolseley.

Some of these areas have not received veterinary services for years so there is much work to be done. Because there is no permanent clinic in these less privileged areas, it is difficult to get to everyone in need. Factors such as weather and informing the public about the clinics can be a hindrance to delivering services.





Training

Dr Fiff, one of the abattoir veterinarians organised a training day with the major suppliers of the abattoir, the auctioneers and the IMQAS personnel on Brucellosis. The day was presented by Malmesbury State Vet, Dr Sewellyn Davey.

Some CCS veterinarians were actively involved in the training of the staff at their respective clinics.



Issues and Challenges of 2016

- Some of the animal welfares did not accept or consider management recommendations coming from the CCS veterinarians.
- Work at some welfares was hampered by internal politics and poor communication.
- Funding for medication, transport and equipment was an issue at some of the smaller welfares.
- As a result of understaffing in the VPH sub-programme, lack of mentorship and training was the most common complaint from vets stationed at abattoirs.
- Lack of co-operation of abattoir owners and management regarding the required corrective action prevented improvement at some abattoirs.
- General lack of education of clients about primary animal health and good animal ownership is an issue across all posts.
- The lack of transport allowance or the provision of official transport for some posts hindered service delivery.
- Infrastructure for mobile clinics to set up at and for owner education and farmer training events to take place was often less than ideal (e.g. no protection from sun or rain) and this resulted in poor attendance and outcomes.

Review meetings

The Western Cape CCS co-ordinator, Dr Aileen Pypers, arranged four quarterly review meetings during the course of the year. These meetings all took place in the evening to accommodate the mentors of the CCS veterinarians, some of who work in private practice and would be unable to take time off to attend otherwise.

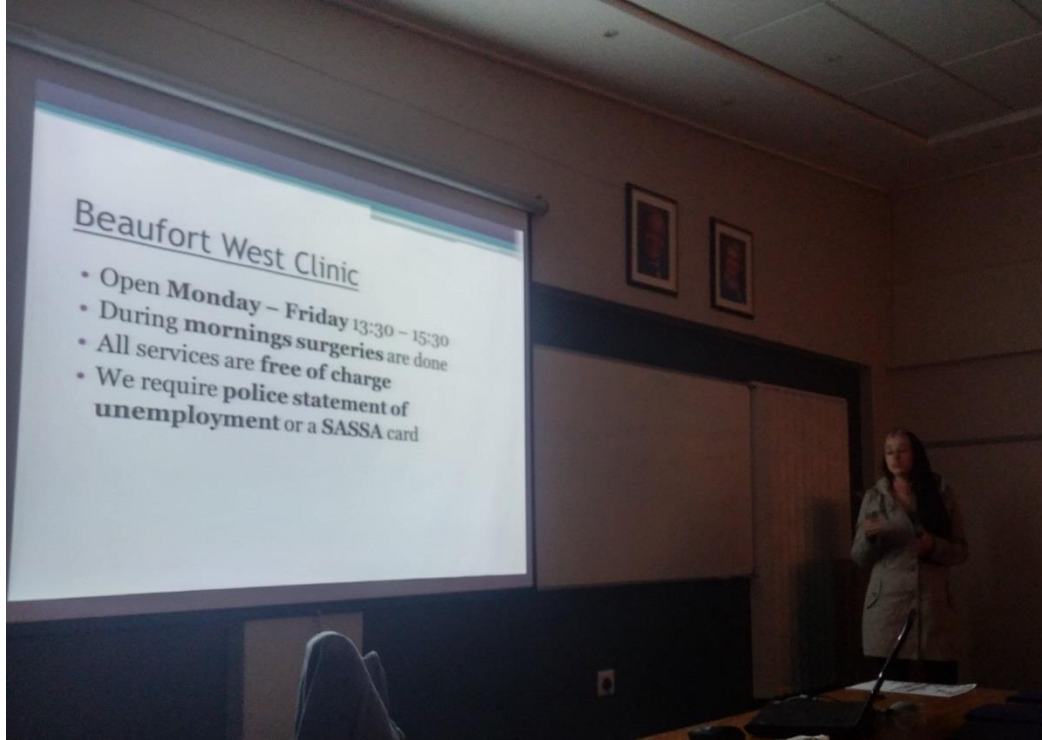
Quarterly review meeting 1 – 15 April 2016



26 people attend the first quarterly review meeting including Drs Tembile Songabe and Moshe Mathonsi from DAFF and mentors of four of the CCS veterinarians. Drs Marguerite du Plessis, Andries Lesch, Janine Lombard and Marc Verrall gave presentations on their CCS posts. Dr Gray presented the report of the monthly data.

The presentations were followed by discussion regarding logistics as well as feedback from the provincial co-ordinator, Dr Aileen Pypers.

Quarterly review meeting 2 – 14 July 2016



26 people attend the second quarterly review meeting including mentors of seven of the CCS veterinarians. Drs Stephanie Car, Fabian Fiff, Tharina van As and Rushda Khan gave presentations on their CCS posts. Dr Gray presented the report of the monthly data.

The presentations were followed by discussion regarding logistics as well as feedback from the provincial co-ordinator, Dr Aileen Pypers.

Quarterly review meeting 3 – 12 October 2016

23 people attend the third quarterly review meeting including mentors of six of the CCS veterinarians. Drs Khulekani Lukhele, Fae Adams and Bronwyn Orford gave presentations on their CCS posts. Dr Gray presented the report of the monthly data.

The presentations were followed by discussion regarding logistics as well as feedback from the provincial co-ordinator, Dr Aileen Pypers.



40 people attend the third quarterly review meeting including mentors of six of the CCS veterinarians. Drs Chrisiaan Triegaardt, Karen Niszl, Christopher Smith and Monique Engelbrecht gave presentations on their CCS posts. Dr Gray presented the report of the data for the year.

The presentations were followed by dinner and speeches by Drs Moshe Mathonsi, Gininda Msiza and Aileen Pypers. The certificates of completion of the CCS year were handed out to each CCS vet by Dr Moshe Mathonsi.

Mentors

A special thank you must go to each mentor of the 2016 CCS cohort, for their support of the programme and for sacrificing the time to mentor a CCS veterinarian.

Dr Natasha Ayres (SANCCOB)

Dr Gareth Bain (Helderberg AWS)

Dr Brian Bergman (Mdzananda Animal Clinic)

Dr JC Corbett (Cape of Good Hope SPCA)

Dr Jennifer Deverson (Cottage Vet, Darling)

Dr Alan Emerton (PDSA)

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Dr Frank Freeman (Ceres Veterinary Hospital)

Dr Vincent Henwood (Export Control, Veterinary Services)

Dr Derette Kotze (Longacres Animal Hospital)

Dr Graham Leask (Veterinary Public Health, Veterinary Services)

Dr Helen Mclean (River Valley Veterinary clinic)

Dr McMullen (AWS Phillippi)

Dr Peter Naylor (AAACL)

Dr Jaco Pienaar (Beaufort West SV, Veterinary Services)

Dr Jacob Stroebel (Provincial Veterinary Laboratory, Veterinary Services)

Dr Michelle Lewis (Provincial Veterinary Laboratory, Veterinary Services)

Dr Kevin Solberg (Tygerberg Animal Hospital)

Dr Zhaneta Stynova (AWS Phillippi)

Dr Michael Swart (Export Control, Veterinary Services)

Dr Isak van der Vyfer (Tygerberg Animal Hospital)

Dr Johanneke Walles (Paarl SPCA)

Dr Aileen Pypers (Boland SV, Veterinary Services)

Thank you

Thank you to the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries; Western Cape Department of Agriculture; PDSA; Mdzananda Animal Clinic; Longacres Animal Hospital; Village Vet Animal Clinic and Swartland SPCA; Animal Welfare Society Phillippi; Animal Welfare Society Stellenbosch; Animal Welfare Society Helderberg; Paarl SPCA; Winelands SPCA and River Valley Veterinary Clinic; Cape of Good Hope SPCA; Tygerberg Animal Hospital and Fisantekraal Animal Welfare; Ceres Veterinary Hospital; Animal Anti-Cruelty League Cape Town; SANCCOB and all the other animal welfare organisations, private veterinary practices and people that supported the CCS veterinarians for making this programme possible.