



Western Cape
Government

Agriculture

BETTER TOGETHER.

Western Cape Compulsory Community Service (CCS) Annual report 2017

Annual Report 2017

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

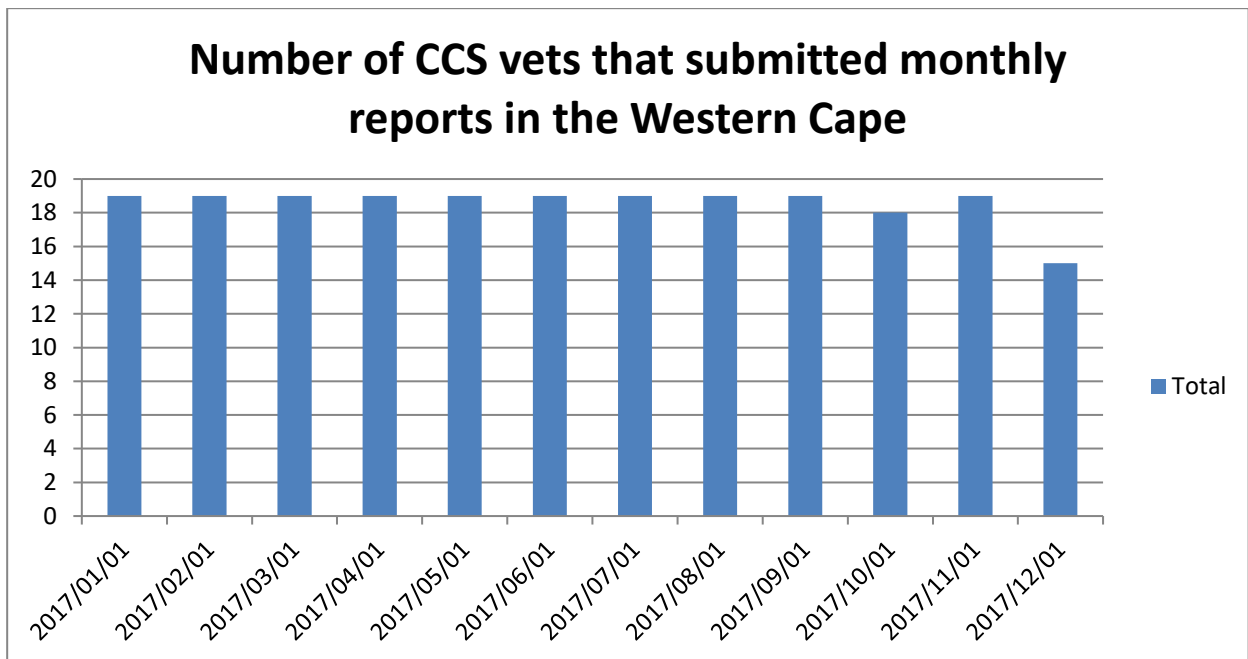
Date: 17 May 2018

Introduction

Disclaimer: This report is published on a quarterly basis for 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



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



Annual report 2017

The Monthly data has been a collection of the CCS vets in the provinces monthly reports. Full participation of vets each month would render the most accurate data however this unfortunately was not the case as compliance was not 100% throughout the year. Figure 1 illustrates the compliance.

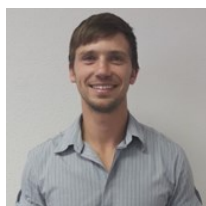
State Veterinary Services

19 CCS veterinarians have been placed in the Western Cape from the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the purpose of completing their Compulsory Community Service (CCS) year in 2017. These 19 veterinary posts can be described as follows:

- There are 6 veterinarians working in the sub-programme Veterinary Public Health; 5 stationed at export abattoirs and one stationed at the central office.
- There are 4 veterinarians working in the sub-programme Animal Health; 2 are stationed in Beaufort West, one in Worcester and one at the Boland state vet office.
- There are 4 veterinarians in the sub-programme Export Control assisting with export certification, CCS data management and audits for export approval of food producing establishments. All four of these vets spend 50% of their time in dedicated welfare clinics as well; two of these vets are also involved with some epidemiology.
- There is one veterinarian stationed at the Stellenbosch Provincial Veterinary Laboratory primarily performing post-mortems and writing reports.
- There are 4 veterinarians 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 provide primary animal health care and education for part of their time. On average 50% of their work hours are spent with animal welfares.

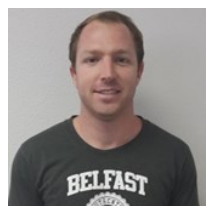
Veterinary Public Health (VPH)



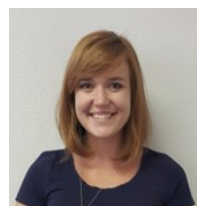
Dr A Strydom



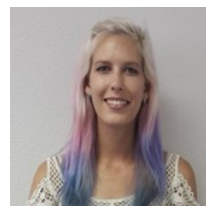
Dr H Lubbinge



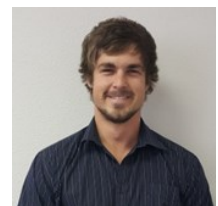
Dr C Bignaut



Dr M Lubbinge



Dr M Palmer



Dr T Visser

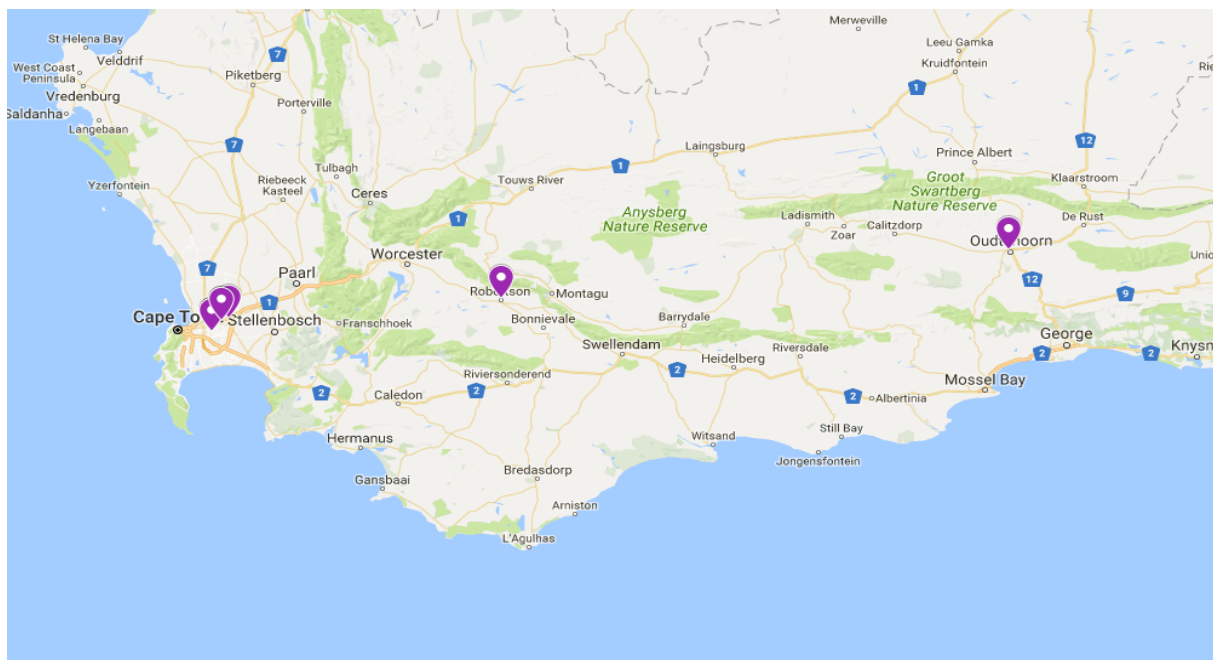


Figure 2: location of Veterinary Public Health CCS vet posts

The main responsibilities of the veterinarians in the VPH sub-programme are ante-mortem inspections, secondary meat inspections, veterinary supervision of the abattoir and improvement of meat hygiene and animal welfare through training of abattoir personnel. The veterinarians are 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.

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

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Detained carcasses inspected	32	46	33	24	31	26	27	16	16	2	14	3	270
Condemnation certificates issued	8	24	10	19	20	15	15	17	16	2	7		153
Corrective actions planned or achieved on identified major and critical non-compliance]	51	14	9	8	10	16	22	20	23		16	1	190
Major and critical non-	68	25	11	11	11	16	28	22	23		19	1	235

compliances identified											
Abattoir audits/ HASS performed / inspections	2	3	5	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	26

Species **Main reasons for condemnation:**

Cattle Bruising; Sepsis; Abscesses (injection sites); Babesiosis; Anaplasmosis; and Lumpy jaw

Sheep Abscessation; Caseous lymphadenitis; Cachexia; Icterus; Arthritis; Septicaemia; Previous antibiotic treatment; Immaturity

Pigs Pyaemia/Septicaemia/Toxaemia; Pyaemia related to tail bite necrosis; Suspected Porcine Dermatitis Nephropathy Syndrome

Export Control



Dr D De Vries



Dr E Spies



Dr F le Roux



Dr M Oliver

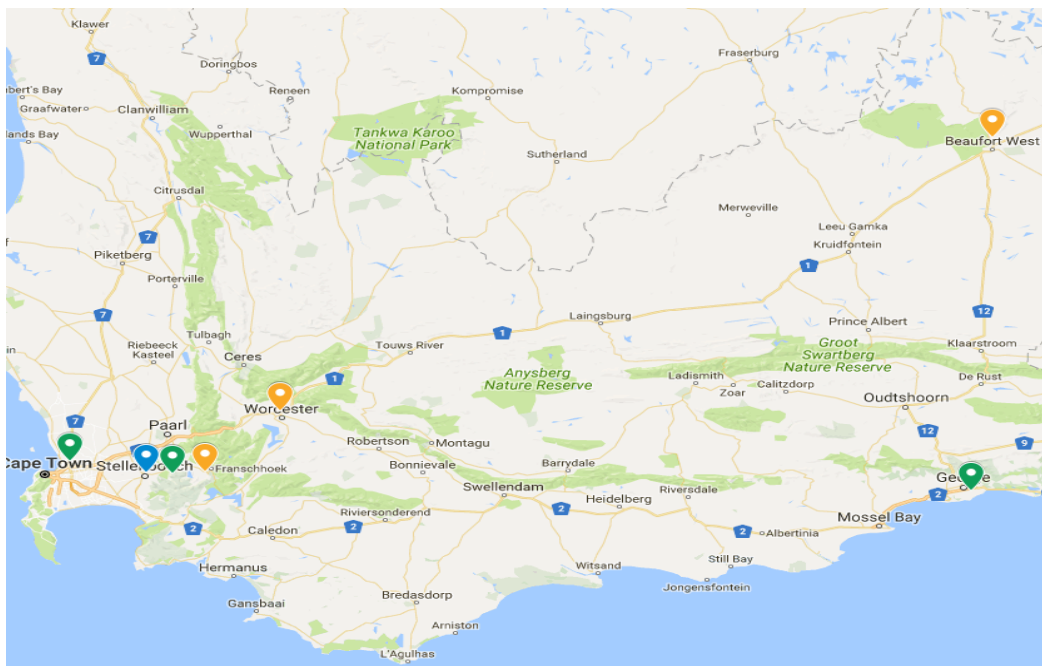
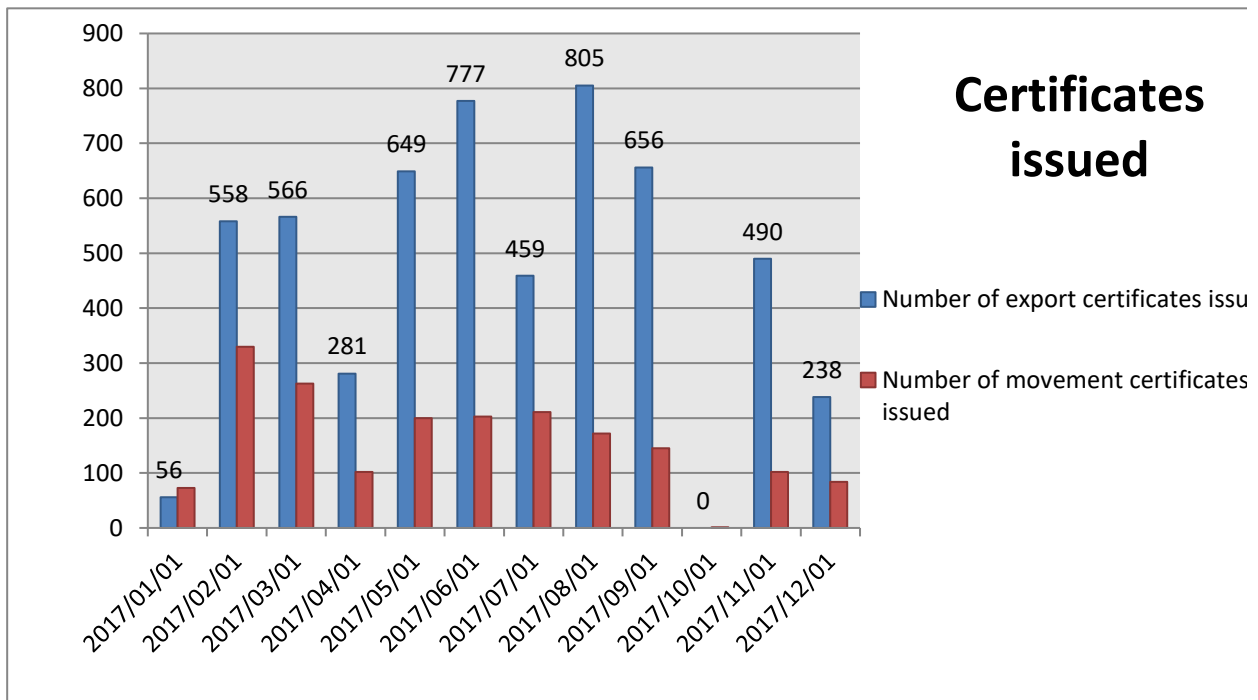


Figure 3: Location of Export Control (Green), Animal Health (Yellow) and Laboratory (Blue) CCS vets

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

Values	Ja n	Fe b	Ma r	Ap r	Ma y	Ju n	Ju l	Au g	Se p	Oc t	No v	De c	Tota l
Number of facilities inspected /audited	1	5	2	3	7	4	5	9	7		4	1	48
Number of establishment audit reports written		3	2	2	1	5	4	6	4		3	1	31



In October 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 November. This could be due to both CCS vets taking leave in October. 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.

Laboratory



Dr T Anthony

The primary responsibility of the veterinarian working at the Provincial Veterinary Laboratory in Stellenbosch is performing post mortems, tests and reporting on diseases detected.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Number of postmortems performed (all species)	43	71	80	64	56	52	62	142	139	47	756
Number of postmortem reports written	6	63	71	54	40	45	57	135	131	37	639
Smears examined (This includes cytology, blood smears and smears submitted for special staining)]	1	11	9	12	12	11	8	11	10	10	95

Animal Health



Dr L Muphy



Dr K Cole



Dr N Burger



Dr A Vermaas

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.

Other State Services from Beaufort West

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Herd health visits to farms	4	1		1				2		3	1	3	15
Dip tank activities attended		14	2			2		3	3	2		3	29
Movement permits issued / health certificates for live animals	4	6	12	1	74	7	6	3	4	2	1		120

Production animal vaccinations

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Pulpy kidney			250										250
African horse sickness (AHS)	14			1		9	50	50	89	39	2	5	259
Clostridium Spp. (Black quarter)			250										250

Tests done/requested:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Postmortems (all species)	47	71	88	64	56	53	65	142	139	46	74	9	854
Postmortem reports	43	63	71	54	40	45	57	135	131	7	63		709
African horse sickness (AHS)		3	3		1		1	1					9
Brucella melitensis		1											1
Johne's disease	47	2	2										51
Avian		1					2	82					85

influenza														
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Primary Animal Health Care / Welfare work



Dr B Van Wyk



Dr L Ehmke



Dr L Nel



Dr C Blignaut

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 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 2017.

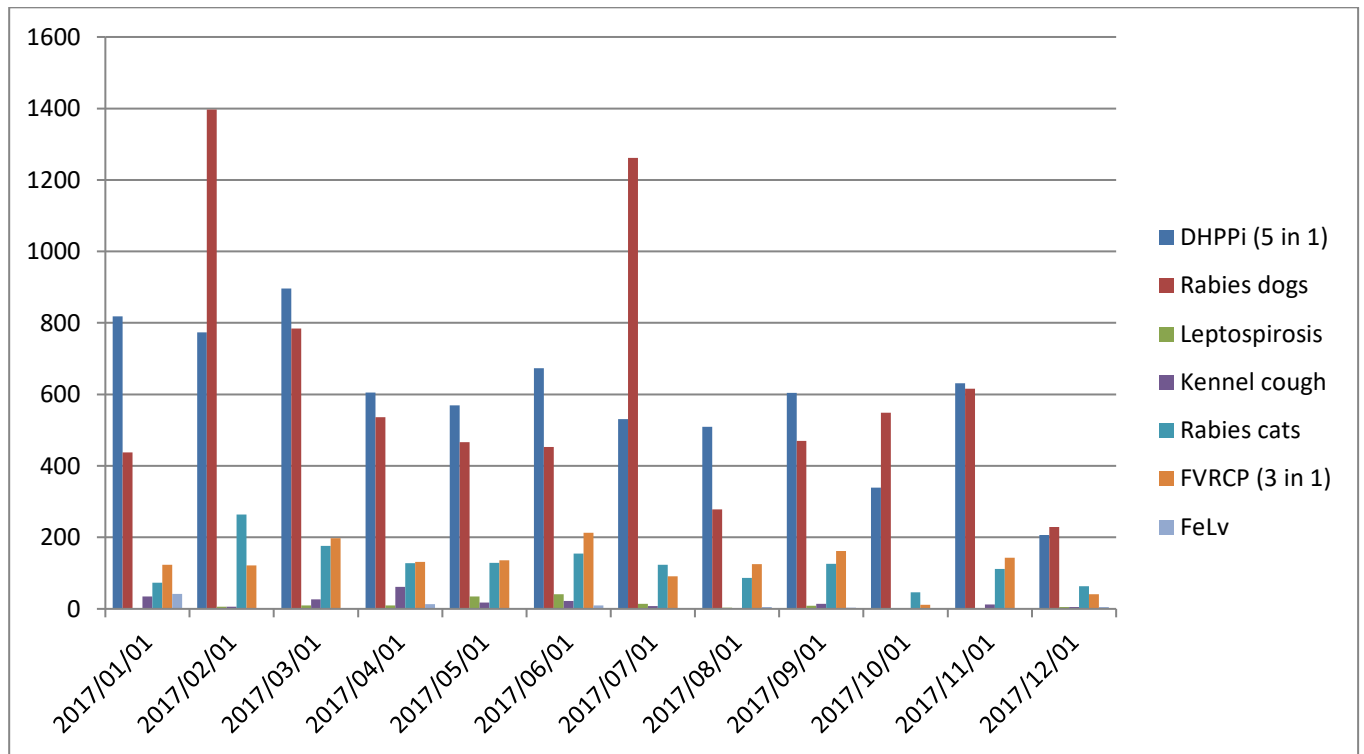
Without these partnerships the success of 2017 would not have been possible. This has been an excellent example of a functional **public-private partnership (PPP)**.

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.

Primary animal welfare

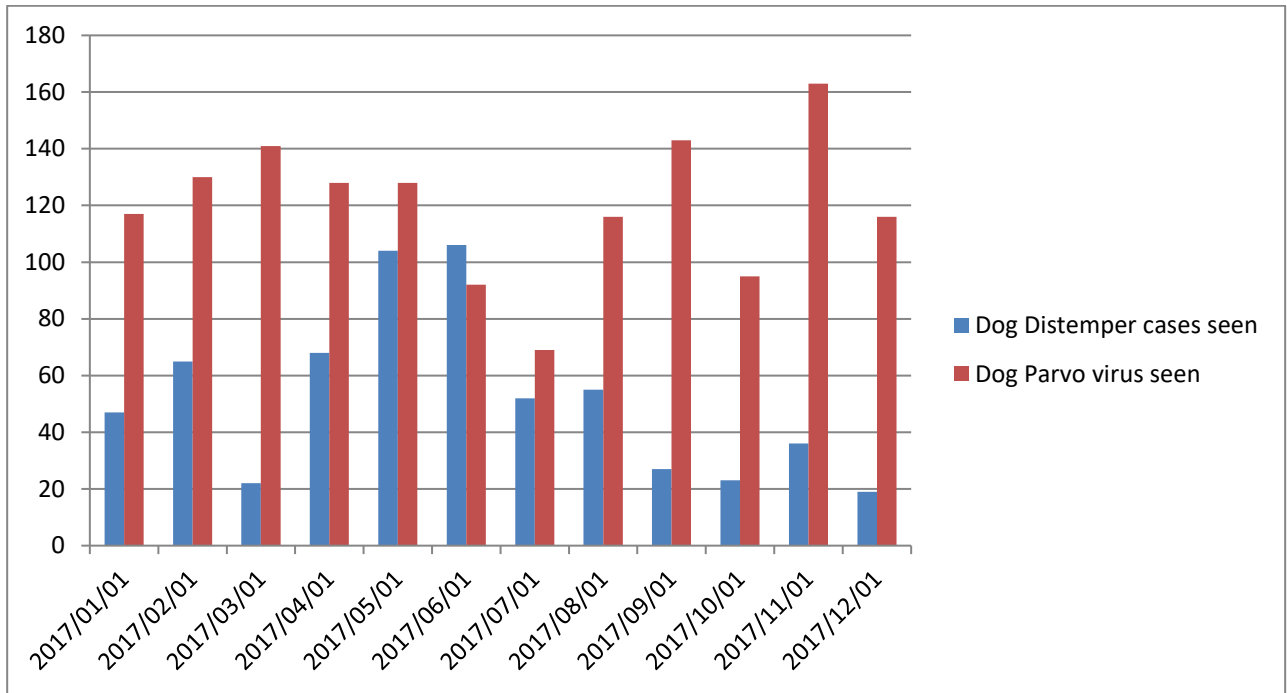


Vaccinations



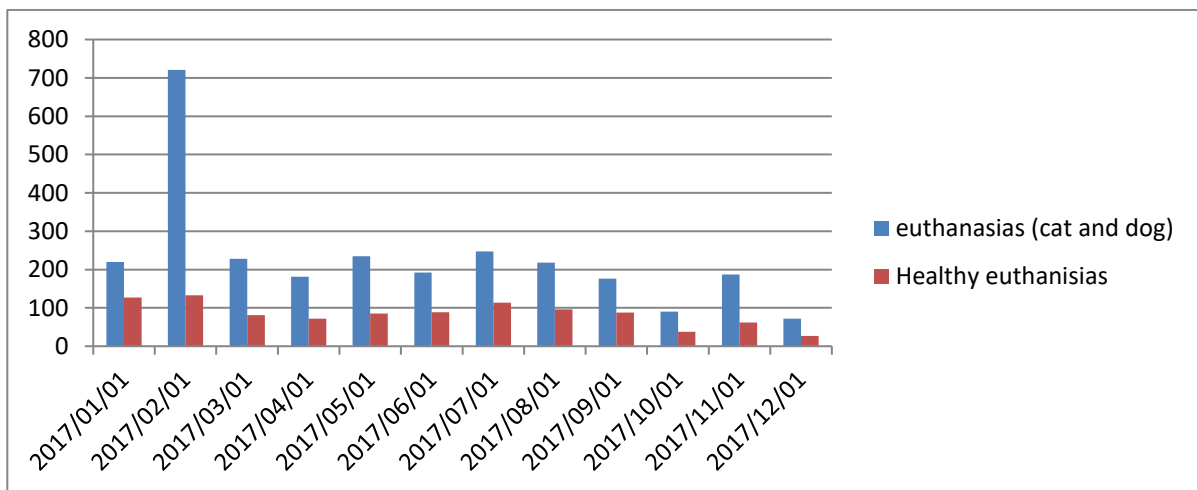
There was a decrease in the number of vaccinations performed as winter approached. Less people are inclined to bring their animals for vaccination or treatment during the cold and wet winter months. There were also less puppies and kittens presented for their primary vaccinations as a result of the natural 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 December.

Number of Parvo and Distemper cases seen



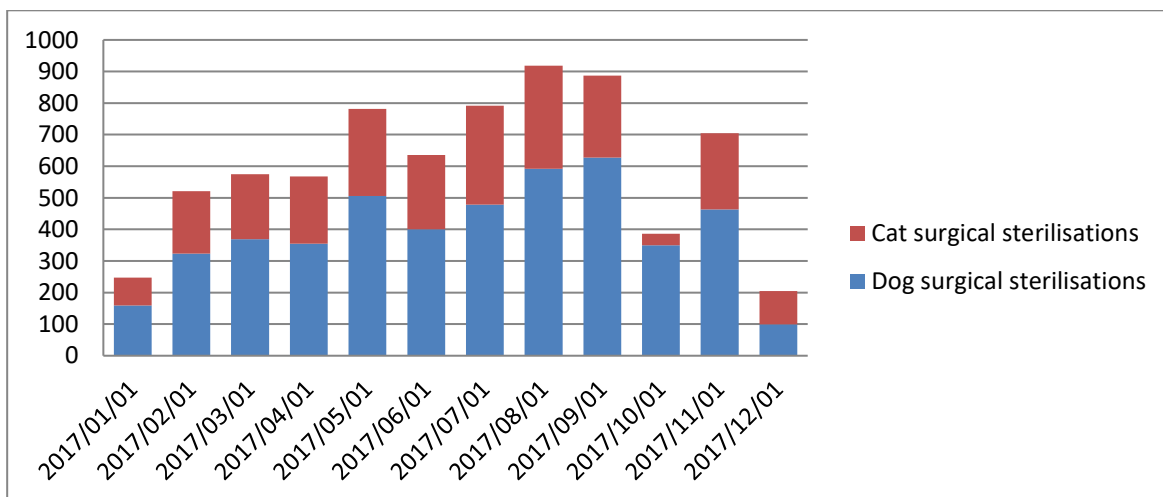
The number of cases of Parvovirus and Distemper virus infection decreased as expected from April through to August due to the cold winter months. As predicted, towards the warmer spring and summer months, the incidence of Parvo virus and distemper sky rocketed again. There was an increase in distemper cases in April May and June, which did not occur last year.

Euthanasias

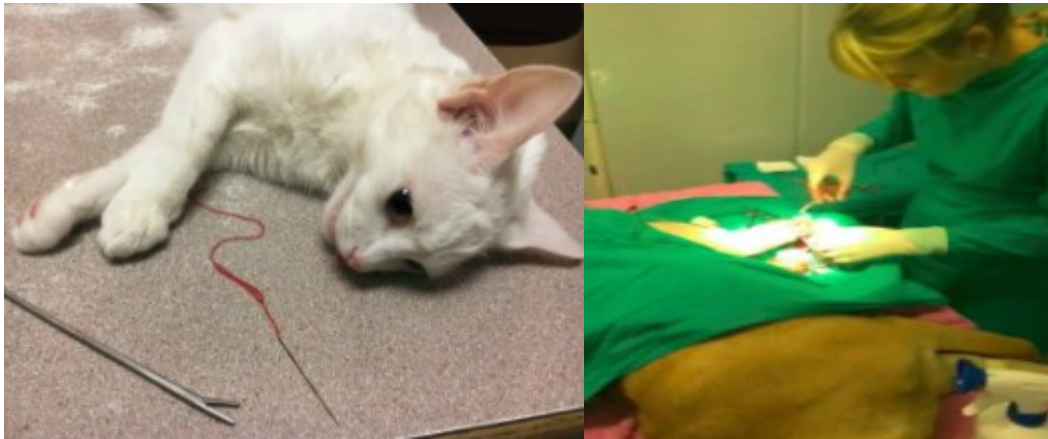


Part of the daily challenge of a welfare veterinarian is that there are often times when an animal is severely ill or injured and the best option is to end the animal's life and prevent it from suffering further. However the dilemma that most welfare organisations face is the ever increasing number of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

Sterilisations

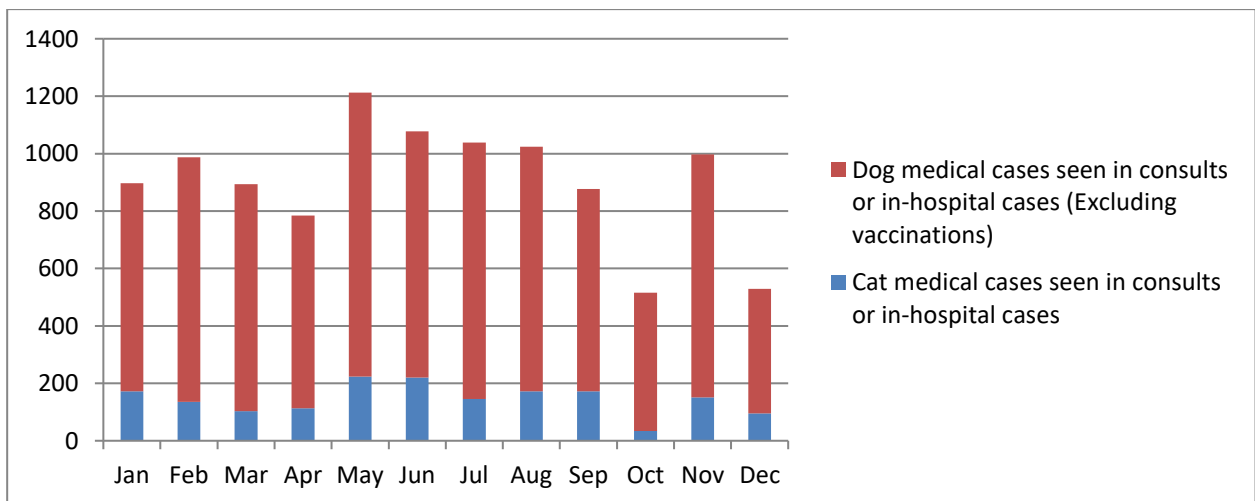


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Dog other surgical cases(not including sterilizations)	71	105	96	80	109	111	125	154	129	65	110	136	1291
Cat other surgical cases (Not including sterilizations)	13	40	25	16	16	37	42	48	26	16	24	17	320



The needle with attached thread had been recovered in the back of this cats throat after though rough clinical examination and Dr Lianne Murphy busy with a surgical procedure on the hind limb of a dog

Medical cases



Production animals and equines

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Cattle medical cases seen	3	10	2	6		1	5	2	7	188	14		238
Cattle surgical cases done	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	18	19	15	223
Small ruminant medical cases seen	3	12	28	3	7	8	9	8	2	417	11	5	513
Small ruminant surgical cases done		3		13	20		29	1	31	12	1	20	130
Porcine medical cases seen		5	4				1	1	22	34			67
Equine medical cases seen	5	5	7	25	15	2	2	5	3	47	5	2	123
Porcine surgical cases done		1	3				3	3	3	2		6	21
Equine surgical cases done					1	5		1	4	12			23
Animals darted	2				26	4			7	16			55
Medical and surgical cases handled	153	177	202	151	201	184	167	125	155	2	203	1	1721
Euthanasias for animals other than dogs and cats	29	87	61	16	29	27	18	21	28	11	19	3	349



Dr Lizanne Murphy collecting blood from cattle at a local farm

Totals for production animal cases in the Western Cape are low due to the fact that none of the CCS vets have production animals as their main focus. PAHC of these animals are in the hands of the animal health technicians and more complex medical cases usually get handled by the private vets. The wildlife medical and surgical case load in the table is attributed to Dr Henk Lubingge who is also situated at SANCCOB every other day when he is not at his allocated abattoir.



Dr Friedl Le Roux with day 1 old piglet that accidentally got cut on a piece of corrugated iron. Wound was successfully sutured.

Other PAHC activities

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Vaccination campaigns organised or attended	7	26	35	27	33	27	24	28	17	1	24	9	258
Sterilisation campaigns organised or attended	8	21	27	26	36	26	24	24	15	12	25	1	245
Meetings attended (in your official capacity)	25	29	21	23	21	11	15	12	7	4	18	8	194
Training given	7	11	10	15	13	8	2	11	4	1	1	1	84
Training attended	17	8	3	2	9	3	2	1		1			46
Community engagement activities: Individual farmers	4	1		1						5			11
Community engagement activities: Farmer groups (i.e. farmer days)	1	1	1		1					4			8
Community engagement activities: Schools		3	2	1	4	5	3	5	1				24
Number of client info sheets developed / reviewed	8	23	12	3		25	2	4		5	1		83
Number of other reports written	12	25	9	4	6	3	1	2	2	7	4	4	79
Community engagement activities: Other			3	5	6	18	29	14	12	2	9		98



Dr Tiaan Visser has been engaging quite a lot with the community in terms of school talks and giving lectures about red meat safety.



Dr Danny De Vries engaging with the community of Khayelitsha in terms of educating pupils about animal welfare.



Dr Friedel le Roux participating in a dog walk to raise funds for Mdzananda animal clinic in Khayelitsha



Dr Daniel De Vries giving a talk to different companies on traceability at Elsenburg.

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.



Issues and Challenges of 2017

- Work at some welfare organisations was hampered by internal politics and poor communication. Dealing with conflict between Animal Welfare Associations (AWAs) and CCS vets may be a challenge as CCS vets might be trying to avoid negative vibes in the working place by not addressing a lack of productivity from the AWAs.
- CCS veterinarians were not trained in certain aspects of State Vet work, like export certification. The University of Pretoria must consider including export certification as part of the curriculum. The induction week could also be used to expose the

veterinarians to the specific work that they will be doing especially the work that we were not previously exposed to.

- Computer skills were also very challenging, the short course at University was not enough in training students and over the years they lose the skills learned as they do not constantly use them.
- Funding for resources including medication, transport and equipment was an issue at some of the smaller welfares.
- The biosecurity in welfare clinics is a problem, especially with the amount of Distemper and Parvo dogs that enter the clinic daily. Strict biosecurity rules should be in place and the clinics should consider using F10 foggers.
- 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. Product temperatures. The beef product temperatures exceed the maximum requirement of the Red Meat Regulations. Abattoir management were aware of the problem but product is still being dispatched at elevated temperatures.
- 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.

Mentors

A special thank you must go to each mentor of the 2017 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)

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)

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Dr Helen Mclean (River Valley Veterinary clinic)

Dr McMullen (AWS Phillippi)

Dr Peter Naylor (AACL)

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.