



Branch News Attachment

for the monthly Newsletter of the Western and Southern Cape
branches of the SAVA

The decades-long drought in **antibiotic discovery** could be over after a breakthrough by US scientists: [BBC](#) or [New antibiotic could fight multi-resistant germs](#) Scientists have found that a soil bacterium, *Eleftheria terrae*, produces a new antibiotic agent called Teixobactin, which can kill off pathogens that have long been resistant to other antibiotics.

Scientific Opinion on the public health risks related to the consumption of **raw drinking milk** [EFSA Journal 2015](#)

1915 body gives up superbug secrets [News24](#)

The WVA alerted to study by a Mexican research team who isolated an [entomopathogenic fungus](#) from **fleas** (*Ctenocephalides canis*) collected from *dogs*. The study was published in the Open Journal for Veterinary Medicine, Dec 2014.

Ed comment: Could this fungus possibly be developed into a biological treatment for fleas?

Source: FAO Veterinary Public Health E-Bulletin No 1 and 2 of 2015

Avian flu outbreaks [reported on four continents](#)

January 12, 2015. What appears to be the first detection of avian flu subtype H5N8 in Taiwan leads a long list of avian flu outbreaks reported in Asia, Europe, North America, and Africa in the past few days

Bird Flu Outbreak: [How Safe is Poultry Consumption?](#)

January 10, 2015. From Hong Kong to China and Japan to the United States, the avian influenza seems to be flying across continents affecting poultry and posing a severe threat to human wellness.

Hunting for novel viruses: Separate groups looking for potential pathogens

Research teams on a project to find and predict pathogen emergence have discovered more than [800 novel viruses](#) in wild animals over the past five years.

Reducing Livestock Greenhouse Gas Emissions

January 2, 2015. Collaboration between researchers around the world and the global food and drink industry has produced an overview of [current best practice](#) and emerging options for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from livestock.

Ebola: How does it compare?

December 27, 2014. [Analysing the death rates from different viruses](#) shows Ebola is certainly one of the most deadly infections ever encountered

E-learning course on **bioinformatics in animal viral pathogens** by the [FAO](#)

General PUBLICATIONS

Veterinarian Krista Magnefico shared on a blog posted in Nov 2013 on **Compassion Fatigue**. [When the candle you are burning at both ends consumes you](#). The comments on this posting are equally valuable

Study: Women with more children are **more productive at work** [Washington post](#)

A World Transfixed by **Screens** [Fubiz](#)