



Branch News Attachment

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

International MSc in Tropical Animal Health: The Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria (UP) is preparing to introduce an exciting, first-of-its-kind [international collaborative master's programme in tropical animal health](#) in January 2016. The Faculty's Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases (DVTD) has been collaborating with the Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM) in Antwerp, Belgium since 2002.

Source: FAO Veterinary Public Health E-Bulletin No 3 and 4 of 2015

World Health Day 2015: [Food safety](#)

As our food supply becomes increasingly globalized, the need to strengthen food safety systems in and between all countries is becoming more and more evident. That is why the WHO is promoting efforts to improve food safety, from farm to plate (and everywhere in between) on World Health Day, 7 April 2015.

Aerial transmission of antibiotic-resistant bacteria [documented](#)

January 22, 2015. After testing dust from in the air near large-scale feedlots on the Southern High Plains, scientists found evidence of antibiotics, feedlot-derived bacteria and DNA sequences that encode for antibiotic resistance

Media can help slow spread of disease, [study finds](#)

January 20, 2015. A mathematical study of how infectious diseases spread has demonstrated a surprising link between the progress of an outbreak and the way that outbreak is portrayed in the media.

Ebola infection of humans linked to [population density and vegetation cover](#)

January 22, 2015. A new study that investigates landscape features of where spill over occurs suggests human population density and vegetation cover may be important factors.

Genetically Modified Cattle with Human DNA [Could Lead Scientists to Cure](#)

January 19, 2015. Cattle genetically modified to carry human DNA may be the answer scientists have been looking for to cure the deadly Ebola virus.

Growing concern for South Sudan's herders as [conflict displaces millions of cattle](#)

As South Sudan's livestock owners have fled the ongoing conflict, millions of animals have been displaced, leading to fresh outbreaks of disease and rising tensions between pastoral groups and farmers, as well as within different pastoralist communities.

The OIE recommends [strengthening animal disease surveillance worldwide](#)

Following the recent spread of HPAI H5N8 virus in Asia and Europe, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) warns of the need to strengthen surveillance and early detection systems for diseases of domestic and wild animals throughout the world and recommends making this a major objective of official health policies.

General PUBLICATIONS

FAO focus on [burden of brucellosis](#) in endemic countries

FAO Animal Production and Health Manual on [risk-based disease surveillance](#)

CDC [Ascariasis in Humans and Pigs on Small-Scale Farms](#), Maine, USA, 2010-2013

CDC Evaluation of [Border Entry Screening for Infectious Diseases](#) in Humans

CDC [Influenza D Virus in Cattle](#), France, 2011-2014