

Vet Scope

...Veterinary Insights: Narrate, Impact, Care



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Different Stakeholders

**SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY**

KVA's

**IMPACTFUL
EVENTS AND
ACTIVITIES**

**THE
SIGNIFICANCE
OF WORKING
TOGETHER**

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Animal Health takes a Team



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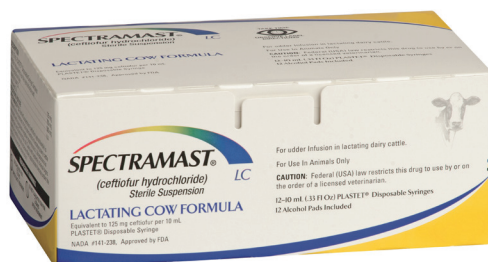
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Animal health takes a team. From veterinarians to farmers, pet owners to policymakers, every role matters.

Editor's Perch

Dear Reader,

Animal Health takes a Team is the theme for this issue of the Vet Scope Magazine. In this magazine, we will delve deeper into the shared responsibility of the different stakeholders. From Veterinarians to farmers, pet owners, processors, researchers, academia and policymakers; each stakeholder plays a critical role in protecting animal health.

This issue specially features stories of the impactful events and activities that KVA has had in the last few months that reflect this theme. From the inspiring WVA and VOYA awards, to the vibrant Kisumu Scientific Conference, and the spirited celebrations of World Veterinary Day and Golf Day, KVA has seen the power of unity. The issue further draws attention to the pertinent topics of Animal Welfare, Food Safety, Branding, Communication and Technology; as well as inspirational personal experiences. On 28th September, the World celebrates World Rabies Day. With reference to that, this issue highlights the significance of working together collaboratively to end rabies, a neglected fatal zoonotic disease. The Editorial team is excited to share these compelling stories with you, hoping they spark your interest and inspire you. Besides these, the team has included stunning photography, poetry, humor, wisdom, fiction and artwork that we believe will resonate with you. Your feedback is incredibly important to us, and we encourage you to share your thoughts and insights with us.

In closing, to those who generously contributed towards the success of this publication, the editorial team extends its heartfelt gratitude and appreciation.

Agnes

Editor-in-Chief, Vet Scope Magazine



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When Silence is not an Option:

Why KVA Must Remain the Voice for Animals and the People of Kenya

By Dr. Kelvin Osore, National Chairman, Kenya Veterinary Association



Let history remember that KVA chose courage over comfort, and that in the silence of others, we spoke — firmly, respectfully, and without fear.

In 1985, the International Council of Nurses (ICN), alongside several national medical and health associations, took a bold stance against the global practice of apartheid in South Africa. Despite pressure to remain apolitical, the ICN denounced apartheid as a violation of fundamental human rights and suspended the South African Nursing Association from its membership. This move provided moral weight to the international sanctions and civil society pressure on the South African regime and contributing to the mounting global pressure that ultimately led to the dismantling of the apartheid system in the early 1990s.

In the same year, on a different matter, the British Medical Association (BMA) took a stand against the global nuclear arms race, publicly opposing the use and proliferation of nuclear weapons. At a time when Cold War tensions were high and many governments, including the UK's, maintained large nuclear arsenals, the BMA released a comprehensive report detailing the catastrophic humanitarian and environmental consequences of nuclear war. The BMA's stance inspired similar actions by medical associations globally, eventually helping to catalyze broader civil society movements and influencing the formation of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), which later won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985.

These two moments marked a significant demonstration of professional associations aligning with people's rights over political neutrality, sparking lasting global change. Thus, while this anecdote may be lost in the noise of global headlines, they remain a powerful reminder of the impact of organized, principled advocacy. We believe that professional associations like ours are not just conveners of technical expertise or hosts of CPD activities, they are protectors of public interest. When our institutions falter, when the national conscience is trampled on, when decisions are made in haste or without consultation, and when vulnerable populations, whether human or animal, are at risk, our silence becomes complicity. Professional associations, as part of civil society, are not accessories to governance, they are a cornerstone of it. They must speak when others stay silent. They must question when others comply. And sometimes, we must take unpopular positions to safeguard the very society we serve.

At the Kenya Veterinary Association, we embrace this responsibility fully. We are not just professionals in white coats or overalls. We are custodians of animal health, protectors of livelihoods, advocates for public health and societal well-being. In every matter of national concern, disease outbreak, food security concern, or labour issue, our voice carries weight not out of convenience, but because conscience demands engagement in the face of silence.

KVA recently found itself at the center of national debate after advising the government to pause a high-profile vaccination campaign. Many were taken aback. Some expected us to close ranks and stand by government directives.





“Animal health is a shared responsibility – from veterinarians to farmers, pet owners, researchers, and policymakers – each plays a vital role in safeguarding our animals and communities.”

However, as veterinarians, we are trained not just to act but to ask why, how, and for whom we are acting. While the campaign had noble intentions, its implementation raised significant concerns; from the capacity of vaccine production to the absence of meaningful consultation with professionals and civic education. Our decision to call for a pause was not a rejection of the need for vaccination, but rather a call for responsibility, careful planning and transparency.

We did not make that decision lightly. However, we made it because we are committed to evidence-based action, transparency, integrity and values that should define both veterinary practice and governance. Moreover, our stance was grounded in a thorough understanding of the situation on the ground. As custodians of both animal welfare and public health, we could not, in good conscience, endorse a process we believed was flawed as this would have serious ramifications on the future of similar programs. Coincidentally, animals cannot advocate for themselves, nor can the countless smallholder farmers whose livelihoods depend on healthy livestock. Thus, when veterinary services are underfunded or poorly designed programs are implemented, the ones who suffer most are these very groups.

KVA refuses to, and is unwavering in its commitment to not, rubber-stamp processes that compromise the integrity of veterinary care or pose avoidable risks to our livestock sector. Backing the government blindly, while ignoring evident gaps, would have betrayed our oath as veterinarians and our duty to the public. Our priority lies in animal health and the public good, not in political appeasement.

Some have labeled our position as “anti-government,” but that is a mischaracterization. We will support sound policy, celebrate progress and collaborate whenever possible. However, we will also speak truth to power when necessary. KVA’s advocacy is not, therefore, an act of belligerence; it is an act of solidarity. Solidarity with the farmer who loses his herd to preventable diseases, with the sub-county veterinary officer who works without adequate resources or funding, with the consumer who unknowingly consumes unsafe animal products, and, of course, with the animals themselves, whose welfare is too often neglected in national discourse.

Another key focus of our advocacy is labor justice within the veterinary sector. For years, veterinary professionals, including interns, have endured delayed promotions, an outdated scheme of service, underfunded county veterinary departments, and inadequate remuneration. These systemic challenges erode morale, push talent out of the profession, and ultimately weaken the very foundation of animal health services in Kenya and ultimately, our agricultural and public health systems. It is critical to remember that the veterinary workforce is essential to Kenya’s food systems, One Health agenda, and climate resilience efforts. Ignoring their welfare is short-sighted. Our position is simple: You cannot achieve a healthy animal sector with an unhealthy workforce. Professional dedication must be matched by professional support.

As we move forward, we recognize that advocacy often brings friction. It’s easier to seek approval than to stand for what’s right. Yet, KVA has chosen the more difficult path; one of vigilance, accountability and principled values. We will persist in speaking out when systems fail, and we will continue to champion the best interests of the animal health sector, even when it challenges those in power.

We are investing in policy research, and coalition-building with other professional and civil society groups realizing that Animal Health Takes Team. Our mission is not only focused on addressing today’s challenges, but also on shaping a better tomorrow. We envision a Kenya where animal health is prioritized, veterinary professionals are respected, and policy is informed by practice, not politics. Our advocacy is rooted in the lived experiences of rural communities, pastoralists, farm workers and under-resourced veterinary practitioners who bear the greatest impact of policy failures. It is therefore driven by a love for this country, not by defiance toward its institutions.

We do this not for recognition, but for our country. When civil society is strong, government improves. When professionals speak with courage and clarity, society becomes fairer. Let history remember that KVA chose courage over comfort, and that in the silence of others, we spoke, firmly, respectfully and without fear.

Dr. Kelvin Osore is the National Chairman – Kenya Veterinary Association

Animal Health Takes a Team

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to this special edition of our Vet Scope Magazine under the theme "Animal Health Takes a Team." In this issue, we celebrate the spirit of collaboration that is the core of the Veterinary Profession. The success of Animal Health is a shared effort between Veterinarians, Veterinary Technicians, Animal handlers, Farmers, Wildlife Specialists, Pet Lovers, Policy-makers, Researchers, Regulators and Society at-large. Each role is essential and every contribution matters.

This issue highlights the many ways in which teamwork is transforming outcomes in animal health; whether it is coordinated responses to disease outbreaks, multi-disciplinary approaches to animal welfare, or the everyday partnerships that keep clinics and field operations running smoothly. It also reminds us that building strong teams extends beyond our professional circles. It includes educating the public, supporting animal owners, and creating environments where human and animal health thrive together.

The issue also highlights rabies concerns. World Rabies Day is commemorated annually on the 28th of September. At KVA rabies control is near and dear to us. This is because rabies is a devastating disease with no known cure, yet easily preventable.

The strength of our profession lies not just in individual expertise, but in our ability to come together across disciplines, sectors and species for a common goal - the wellbeing of animals. Let us continue to foster this culture of teamwork. Let us lift one another, share knowledge, and always remember that the best care is never delivered alone. Thank you for being part of this committed and compassionate community. Together we make animal health possible.

Dr. Samson Muchelule is the Chief Executive Officer - Kenya Veterinary Association

“

The best care is never delivered alone; it is the result of shared knowledge, mutual support, and teamwork across every role in animal health.





Advancing Pet Health Through Strategic Partnerships

June 2025 marked an important day in the course of advancing pet care and welfare in Kenya, with the launch of Simparica, a potent sarolaner for the treatment and prevention of flea and ticks in Kenya.

This highly anticipated launch was hosted in Nairobi and Mombasa, drawing key stakeholders in the veterinary industry. Simparica, a highly palatable oral chewable tablet for dogs 8 weeks and above, offers long-lasting, month-long protection with an additional 5-day wiggle room against fleas and ticks. Simparica is indicated in the prevention of *Dipylidium caninum*, a zoonotic helminth primarily transmitted by the flea *Ctenocephalides felis*. Its efficacy, safety, rapid onset of action, and ease of administration position it as an innovative and game-changing product in the fight against canine parasites. The introduction of Simparica in Kenya underscores Zoetis' commitment to advancing care for animals and promoting welfare through transformative pharmaceutical solutions.

The success of the launch was made possible through the collaborative efforts of Zoetis and its esteemed business partners: Surgipharm, Lesukut and the Kenya Small and Companion Animal Veterinary Association (KESCAVA) Executive. Special mention to the Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB) for awarding CPD points at both venues.

Surgipharm is a DP world company managing human pharmaceuticals with efforts to duplicate the same success on the veterinary side, provided logistical support.

Lesukut is a leading distributor for companion animal vaccines, leveraged its extensive distribution network in mobilizing veterinary practitioners and henceforth availing Simparica.

KESCAVA the specialized KVA branch utilized its networks to foster launch awareness

KVB awarded CPD Points which ensured that participants benefited from their attendance.

As Simparica becomes increasingly available in veterinary clinics and households across Kenya, the focus will remain on strengthening capacity and sustained support. Zoetis and its partners remain steadfast in their commitment to equipping veterinary professionals and pet owners with the requisite knowledge and tools to unlock the potential of this innovative product and broadening the current companion animal product range. For Kenya's veterinary community, the successful launch of Simparica is a testament to the power of collaboration, innovation, and a dedication to animal health. Together, we embark on a journey toward a future where pets experience optimal health, and their welfare is prioritized and safeguarded.

SIMPARICA is available at all good vets, vet shops and pet shops as well as online stores.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: SIMPARICA is for use only in dogs, 8 weeks of age and older. SIMPARICA has not been evaluated in dogs that are pregnant, breeding or lactating.

For animal use only.

SIMPARICA 20 mg (chewable tablets for dogs). Each chewable tablet contains 20 mg sarolaner. SIMPARICA 40 mg (chewable tablets for dogs). Each chewable tablet contains 40 mg sarolaner. SIMPARICA 80 mg (chewable tablets for dogs). Each chewable tablet contains 80 mg sarolaner. SIMPARICA 120 mg (chewable tablets for dogs). Each chewable tablet contains 120 mg sarolaner. For "WARNINGS" refer to the approved package insert. For full prescribing information refer to the package insert approved by the medicines regulatory authority.





Potent on parasites, gentle on dogs

SIMPARICA is a tasty, fast-acting treatment with persistent, consistent protection against:

-  Ticks & Fleas for **15 weeks per box**
-  Mites for **12 weeks per box**

#SimplySimparica



Suitable for all dogs from 5 kg and 8 weeks old



Guardians of Animal Health

The Vital Role of Diverse Actors

By Dr. Mbaka

Animal welfare encompass all animals—terrestrial, marine, aerial, and even those within soil ecosystems. Ensuring their welfare is a complex, multi-stakeholder endeavor requiring collaboration among veterinarians, animal production experts, zoologists, environmental scientists, conservationists, policymakers, legal experts and social scientists.

Animal welfare refers to the physical and psychological well-being of animals, encompassing their ability to express natural behaviors, live free from distress, and receive appropriate nutrition, shelter and healthcare.

The Brambell Report of 1965 commissioned by the UK government to investigate the welfare of farm animals in intensive livestock systems, laid the foundation for modern animal welfare standards through the establishment of the Five Freedoms. Scientific evidence underscores that good animal welfare leads to improved health outcomes. Studies show that stress and poor living conditions contribute to weakened immune responses, making animals more susceptible to diseases. Additionally, poor welfare conditions in intensive livestock farming have been linked to increased antimicrobial resistance due to excessive antibiotic use. Beyond health implications, poor animal welfare has economic consequences, leading to reduced productivity, lower meat quality and shorter lifespans for working animals. Stress negatively impacts profitability for farmers, reinforcing the need for robust welfare standards.

Leveraging AI, Blockchain and Digital Innovations in Animal Welfare through AI-powered monitoring systems enhance real-time assessment of animal well-being. This is by analyzing behavioral patterns, movement, and vocalization to detect early signs of stress or illness.

Precision livestock farming technologies integrate AI-driven algorithms to optimize feeding, housing and handling; thereby reducing stress and improving overall health. However, these technologies should complement, not replace, experienced and empathetic stockmanship. Blockchain technology enhances traceability in the animal value chain, ensuring compliance with welfare standards and preventing fraud in certification processes.

Animal welfare is deeply interconnected with human well-being, environmental sustainability and economic development. Recognizing this, both Pan-African and global initiatives have established frameworks to promote a holistic approach to animal welfare. Africa has made significant strides through policy instruments such as the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa and the African Platform for Animal Welfare, complementing global initiatives such as the World Organization for Animal Health's Global Animal Welfare Strategy and the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution on Animal Welfare.

Animal welfare is a shared responsibility that requires collaboration among diverse stakeholders. The involvement of diverse stakeholders highlights the need to integrate animal welfare education into curricula from primary to tertiary levels, ensuring systemic transformation for the well-being of people, animals and the planet.



Animal Sentience

By Dr. Marilyn Karani

The concept of animal welfare is well-known and appreciated in Kenya, but do we truly appreciate and understand its sister concept of animal sentience?

Animal sentience, in simple terms, refers to the capacity of animals to feel and perceive the world in a conscious way, including experiencing pain, fear, joy and more complex emotions. Animal sentience is a field of study that has extensively been explored by scientists and philosophers. Did you know that cows can recognize familiar faces just like we do? Research also shows that cows don't just feel basic emotions like fear or happiness, they can also sense and mirror the moods of other cows in their herd. Even more fascinating, when they solve problems or learn something new, they show signs of excitement. And the best part? Every cow has a distinct personality, just like us! Additionally, there has been extensive research on fish and invertebrate sentience, particularly focusing on their ability to experience pain. Research on rainbow trout found that when they are exposed to painful stimuli, they don't just react physically but they change their behaviour too. They eat less, act abnormally and even stop avoiding potential threats, just like we might struggle to focus when we are in pain.

Factory farming, being the large-scale rearing of animals in industrial conditions, often prioritizes profit over animal welfare. An example is the common use of battery cages to confine as many chicken as possible

or the use of farrowing crates in pig farming. There is growing discourse against these and other welfare-unfriendly practices. The Effective Altruism (EA) community has increasingly focused on addressing the suffering of animals in factory farms, leading to numerous organizations being established. In countries like the U.S. and those in Europe, policy changes have been made to improve farmed animal welfare. Companies have also followed suit in these major discussions. In 2022, Dubai-based Majid Al Futtaim, Carrefour's parent firm, stated, "We will source cage-free eggs for our Carrefour supermarkets from suppliers who adhere to a new policy." This commitment reflected a broader global movement that is encouraging a shift towards improved farm animal welfare. In Kenya, Utunzi Animal Welfare and other organizations have been at the forefront of corporate campaigns, urging businesses to adopt more humane farming practices.

As much as we are a meat-eating culture, there are always ways we can improve the welfare of farmed animals. As the philosopher Jeremy Bentham famously said, "The question is not can they reason? Nor, can they talk? But rather, can they suffer?" How we treat the most vulnerable in our society, including animals, reflects our values as a people. Animal sentience is not just a philosophical concept. It is a reality that demands our attention and action. We all have a role in advocating for animals and promoting better animal welfare standards, especially for farmed animals who are most neglected.

Vet Scope Humor

This family brought in a neighborhood stray black cat that had been hit by a car and unfortunately succumbed. They had named the cat Shadow. The mom and the kids were very sad and were crying. They wanted his remains handled respectfully, and so they paid for this and left, in tears. Four hours later, we get a call from the mom. Apparently the real Shadow had just sauntered into their house meowing for food. Turns out the cat they had earlier brought in was yet another stray!

Importance of Animal Welfare at the Abattoir

By Mr. Methuselah Nyamwange

If the animal is stressed before and during slaughter, the glycogen is used up, and the lactic acid level that develops in the meat after slaughter is reduced. This will have serious adverse effects on meat and meat products quality.

The lactic acid in the muscle has the effect of retarding the growth of bacteria that have contaminated the meat during slaughter and dressing operations. Some of these bacteria cause spoilage of the meat during storage, particularly in warmer environments, and the meat develops off-smells, colour changes, rancidity and slime. Therefore, this contributes to spoilage and these processes decrease the shelf life of the resultant meat, thus causing wastage of valuable food. If the contaminating bacteria are those of the food poisoning type, the consumers of the meat become sick, resulting in costly treatment and loss of manpower hours to the national economies. Thus, meat and meat products from animals which have suffered stress or injuries during handling, transport and slaughter, is likely to have a shorter shelf life due to spoilage and this is perhaps the biggest cause for meat wastage during the production processes.

Another cause of low quality in meat and meat products on slaughtered animals is bruising. Bruising is defined as escape of blood from damaged blood vessels into the surrounding muscle tissue, and it can be caused by a physical blow by a stick or stone, animal horn, metal projection or animal fall. Bruising in animals can happen during handling, transport, penning or stunning operations. Bruises vary in size from mild and superficial, to large and severe involving whole limbs, carcass portions or even whole carcasses. Meat and meat products affected by bruising are usually wasted and are not suitable for use as food because of the following reasons; it is not acceptable to the consumer, it cannot be used for further processing, and it decomposes and spoils rapidly, as the bloody meat is an ideal medium for growth of contaminating bacteria.

However, bruising can be reduced significantly by following the recommended techniques of animal handling, transport and slaughter. Injuries like tears, haemorrhagic muscles and broken bones, caused as a result of poor animal handling, transport and penning, considerably reduce the resultant carcass value because the injured parts or in extreme cases the whole carcass cannot be used for food and are

condemned at inspection. Further, if secondary bacterial infection occurs in those wounds, this causes abscess formation and septicaemia and the entire carcass may have to be condemned.

Other stress factors which have shown to affect the quality of meat and meat products of slaughtered animals include mixing of different species of animals during transport or resting. This can lead to fighting which is a major cause of dark cutters in cattle as well death in stress animals. The stunning method used during slaughter operations also has an effect on the quality of the resultant meat. Any stunning method used produces a mass stimulation of the animal's nervous system thus causing animal discomfort or pain and stress which occurs after unconsciousness. However, the physiological mechanisms of stress are the same before and after unconsciousness. As a result, sufficient time intervals should be followed between stunning and bleeding so as to ensure production of quality meat and meat products.

Consequently, it is necessary for animals to be stress and injury free during operations prior to slaughter, so as not to unnecessarily deplete muscle glycogen reserves. Moreover, it is also important to rest animals for a sufficient period, preferably 8 to 12 hours before slaughter. Resting allows the cell muscle glycogen to be replaced by the body as much as possible. However, some animals such as pigs should not be rested for prolonged periods and thus should be slaughtered as stress free as possible. It is important that the glycogen levels in the muscles of the slaughtered animal are as high as possible, to develop the maximum level of lactic acid in the meat. The lactic acid gives meat an ideal pH level of less than 6.2 as measured after 24 hours of slaughtering the animal. A pH level of higher than 6.2 after 24 hours is an indication that the animal was stressed, injured or diseased prior to slaughter.

Methuselah Nyamwange is the Quality Assurance and Compliance Manager at the Neema Livestock and Slaughtering Investments Ltd.





Animal Health Takes a Team

By Dr. Lynn Dorice Namarome

They say, it takes unity,
To demystify its mystery,
A collection of hands and hearts,
Expressed thoughts and ideas,
To know what is hidden beneath the facade.
Unity in Animal health?
Yes! There's One Health.
Not a slogan.
Not a fancy phrase for reports and publications,
But a lifeline we hold between species and spaces.
To guard the health behind the scenes.
Listen-
Animal Health is not solo nor operates in a silo,
It's a symphony!
Because the virus doesn't need a passport to travel,
Because rivers don't have connections to know borders,
And that disease that starts in a chicken house,
Can end up in your plate!
It starts with conversations we haven't yet had,
That, it's not just experts with degrees,
But communities with dreams.
Not just injections and medications,
But from the farmer who is an early bird,
Listening to the animal's silence when something's wrong.

Animal Health takes a team,
Not one, not two.
But many minds with one view.
The wisdom of the old,
The energy of the young,
And the courage to act knowing a life is on the line.
Because Animal Health doesn't stand on four legs alone—
It stands where effort and empathy are sown.
We need Epidemiologists and Pathologists,
We need Pharmacologists and Ecologists,
We need Public health and wildlife experts,
We need teachers and researchers,
All pulling the same thread.
This isn't just science.
It's a call. A mission.
Not just to cure, but to prevent.
Not just to make money,
To share and own responsibilities.
To speak for animals who cannot.
It's a drumbeat to everyone across different niches, From
the hoof beats, Claw beats To the heartbeats.
It's not fur-fetched!
It's within our reach and we can make it Purr-fect! Yes, An-
imal Health takes a team!

KVA Partners

In the spirit of teamwork, KVA acknowledges and expresses gratitude to all those organizations and individuals that have partnered with the association over the decades and the years. Further, KVA would like to recognize those that have supported the association in the last one year namely:

AGNEXUS
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Boehringer
Brooke EA
Cargill Kenya LTD
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COHESA
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KAPI LTD

KCB
Kebs
Kenchic
KEVEVAPI
KVB
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Special acknowledgement goes to Zoetis' Alpha Plus Programme for fully sponsoring this issue of the Vet Scope Magazine.

Chairman's WRD Message Commemorating World Rabies Day in Kenya: A Call to End the Silence on a Preventable Killer

By Dr. Kelvin Osore, National Chairman – Kenya Veterinary Association

Growing up in a quiet village in western Kenya, one of the most harrowing experiences I witnessed was that of a young boy bitten by a stray dog. His family, uncertain of the danger, treated the wound with herbs and waited. A week later, the boy developed fever, confusion, agitation and trouble swallowing. By the time he was taken to the hospital, it was too late. He died in agony from rabies, a disease that is 100% preventable if treated on time.

More recently, during a meeting with the Westlands MP, Hon. Tim Wanyonyi, to plan a rabies vaccination and awareness campaign in the Huruma and Githogoro neighborhoods, I met a constituent who shared a heartbreaking account. She spoke of a young girl who had been bitten by a rabid dog. Her parents, unable to afford medical care, only took her to Kenyatta National Referral Hospital a week later, after the symptoms began to appear. Now, she lay at home, locked away, awaiting her fate. These stories are just a few among many, but there should not have been a single one.

KVA will commemorate this year's **World Rabies Day on September 26**, through various activities spearheaded by three of our branches; KESCAVA, KWVA and KVA Wildlife branches in Naivasha. During these events, we shall reflect on the devastating impact of rabies, a disease that continues to claim the lives of over **2,000 Kenyans every year**, mostly children under the age of 15. Globally, rabies kills one person every nine minutes. These numbers are more than statistics,

they are lives lost needlessly, dreams cut short and families left in grief.

This year's theme, "ACT NOW: YOU, ME, COMMUNITY," serves as a reminder that eliminating rabies requires a collective effort across multiple sectors. It demands a One Health approach, bringing together human health, animal health, and environmental sectors, to break the transmission cycle. In Kenya, over 98% of human rabies cases stem from dog bites, yet fewer than 20% of our dogs are vaccinated annually. This gap is the most significant weakness in our fight.

KVA has been vocal in calling for **coordinated mass dog vaccination campaigns**, robust public awareness programs, and increased access to post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), especially in rural counties where the burden is highest. We commend the government's efforts under the **National Rabies Elimination Strategy (2014–2030)** but urge faster and more inclusive implementation.

Veterinary professionals remain at the frontlines, not only treating animals but protecting public health. We reaffirm our commitment to collaborate with government, civil society, and international partners to end human deaths from rabies by 2030.

Let us honor those we've lost by acting now. Vaccinate our animals, educate our communities, and ensure no child succumbs to a bite that could have been prevented. Rabies is a silent killer, but united, we can silence it for good.



DEFENSOR

Rabies Vaccine

STAND AGAINST RABIES

Indication

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zoetis

What is World Rabies Day?

By Dr. Flookie Owino

Date & Origin: A day commemorated annually on September 28. World Rabies Day marks the date of death of Louis Pasteur (1895), who developed the first rabies vaccine.

Purpose: Launched in 2007 to raise awareness, promote prevention strategies, and foster advocacy for global rabies control.

Theme & Collaboration: It emphasizes the One Health approach—uniting human, veterinary, and environmental sectors to tackle rabies together.

Progress & Momentum

1. **Events & Outreach**
Growth Over Time: From 139 events in 48 countries (inaugural 2007) to over 415 events across 67 countries in 2024.
Digital Reach: GARC's education platform graduated 1,244 learners in September 2024, while social media campaigns reached tens of thousands.
2. **Policy & Partnerships**
High-Level Commitments: Joint statements from FAO, WHO, WOA, and regional bodies (e.g., PARACON in Africa) mobilize governments toward the Zero by 30 goal—eliminating dog-mediated human rabies by 2030.
3. **Vaccination Campaigns**
Mass Dog Vaccination: Essential to breaking rabies transmission—over 200 million dogs have been vaccinated in the Americas since 2017, reducing human cases by **98%**.

Notable Successes:

In Ethiopia, 357,617 dogs vaccinated since 2021, supported by FAO.

Mission Rabies vaccinated over 4 million dogs and educated 8 million children across Asia and Africa.

Global Impact — What the Numbers Say

Annual Death Toll: Rabies causes ~59,000 deaths globally each year—90% in Africa and Asia, and nearly 40% affecting children under 15.

Economic Burden: The disease costs an estimated \$8.6 billion annually, including treatment costs, lost productivity, and trauma.

Disease Control Target: Sustained dog vaccination at or above 70–80% coverage has repeatedly demonstrated the ability to break rabies transmission cycles.

Tools for Prevention

1. **Mass Dog Vaccination:** The cornerstone of rabies control; vaccinating >70% of dogs breaks transmission, supported by successful regional efforts.

2. **Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP):** Immediate wound care, vaccination series, and rabies immunoglobulin can prevent disease if administered promptly.
3. **Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP):** Expanding PrEP to high-risk human populations (children, veterinarians, health workers) is advocated.
4. **Education & Community Engagement:** Teaching bite avoidance, proper wound care, dog vaccination importance, and raising rabies awareness through schools and media reaches millions.
5. **One Health Approach:** Effective coordination across sectors ensures surveillance, vaccination, and treatment strategies are integrated and sustainable.

Challenges Ahead & the Ripple Effect

Coverage & Funding Gaps: Many low-income countries still fall short of the needed vaccination thresholds—sustained investment is critical.

PEP Accessibility: In rural areas, people may lack either awareness or access to timely post-exposure treatment.

Sustaining Awareness: World Rabies Day is vital for maintaining global focus, pressuring governments, and securing technical and financial support.

Broader Zoonotic Control: Rabies serves as a model for using a One Health framework to tackle other zoonotic diseases, strengthening overall public health systems.

Conclusion

World Rabies Day has evolved from a modest awareness campaign to a pivotal global catalyst. It has spurred thousands of events, policy shifts, and on-the-ground vaccination and education efforts. These coordinated activities have contributed to:

Tremendous reductions in human rabies cases in many countries;

Mobilization of multi-sectoral partnerships under the Zero by 30 initiative;

Empowered communities with the knowledge and tools to protect themselves and their pets.

Yet, with tens of thousands of lives still lost each year, the mission is far from complete. Sustaining progress requires ongoing commitment—dog vaccination, PEP and PrEP access, education, and One Health coordination must continue to be championed.

Call to Action

If you're reading this, consider taking part—whether by organizing a local event for September 28, helping vaccinate dogs, or raising awareness among friends and family. Every action counts toward a rabies-free world.

World Rabies Day:

KVA's Efforts in the fight against Rabies

By Dr. Agnes Maina

In July 1885, nine-year-old Joseph Meister from Alsace, France was bitten 14 times by a rabid dog. His mother, Marie-Angélique, had heard of a scientist called Louis Pasteur who was vaccinating rabid dogs. She went to Paris and begged him to save her son. When Joseph arrived, it was clear that he would die if nothing was done. At the time, rabies was a fatal disease for which there was no cure. However, Louis Pasteur's collaborators did not want to administer the rabies vaccine, as it had only been tested successfully in dogs and rabbits. A doctor by the name of Jacques Joseph Grancher convinced Louis Pasteur to attempt the impossible and let him administer the treatment to the boy from Alsace. Every day for ten days, Dr. Grancher administered 12 doses of the vaccine. Less than a month later, the outcome was clear: Joseph Meister had been saved!

In June 2024, over one century later, the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) in collaboration with various partners conducted a Rabies Emergency Response Project. The project was activated following a rabid dog that had close interaction with three boys from Cheleta Primary School, Westlands Sub-county. The pupils suspected that their dog was sick and they took it for treatment to the nearby Veterinary Clinic, in Runda. At the Vet Clinic, a history of the dog was taken, followed by a physical examination which led to a tentative diagnosis of rabies. The case was later confirmed at the Official Veterinary Laboratories. Rabies being a notifiable disease, the case was reported to the Sub-County Veterinary Officer (SCVO). Following notification to the SCVO, the Veterinary Clinic went a step further to inform KVA National Office about the incident. As part of KVA Advocacy efforts against rabies, KVA sponsored the three exposed children's rabies post exposure vaccinations. KVA then convened stakeholders to help in vaccinating and neutering animals; and in creating rabies awareness in the Huruma and Githogoro community, Westlands Sub-county. The outcomes of the project were:

- **PEP rabies vaccination:** The three boys exposed to the rabies virus received their rabies post-exposure prophylaxis vaccine.
- **Rabies sensitization and awareness campaign:** A campaign was held at the Cheleta Primary where all the teachers, pupils and parents attended.
- **Dog/cat Vaccination and Neuter of Campaign:** A total of 135 dogs and cats were vaccinated, whereas a total of 38 spay and neuter surgeries were performed.

Further to this effort, KVA has supported and participated in animal rabies vaccination drives, notably during the annual WRD and WVD. Additionally, KVA in collaboration with the Ministry of Health has provided prophylactic anti-rabies vaccinations to its members.

On September 28th, the world commemorates World Rabies Day. This marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur's death, the French chemist and microbiologist who developed the first rabies vaccine. The vaccine that saved nine-year-old Joseph Meister from Alsace and millions more over the years, decades and centuries. KVA recognizes these efforts. KVA further recognizes that effective rabies control as per the Strategy for Rabies Elimination of Human Rabies in Kenya necessitates a multifaceted approach. The multifaceted approach should integrate mass vaccination of dogs, prompt provision of PEP, Public Health Education and Rabies awareness campaigns, Enhanced surveillance for rabies in humans and animals and Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization. Although rabies control through sterilization of dogs and cats is not among the Strategy's intervention methods, it has also proven to be useful. Sterilization involves the spaying and castration of female and male dogs and cats in the community. This improves the health and longevity of dogs/cats, thereby reducing population turnover and making vaccination coverage easier to maintain. KVA aims to continue supporting the national and global efforts to control, eliminate, eradicate and extinct rabies from the face of the earth!



KESCAVA's Contribution to Rabies Control in Kenya

Dr. Allan Elavula, Chairman, KESCAVA

KESCAVA (Kenya Small and Companion Animal Veterinary Association) through the support of members and partners has played a critical role in rabies eradication. This has been in line with the WOA target of Zero by 2030, a global strategic plan to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies. KESCAVA has done so by conducting:

Vaccinations

In the past 5 years, KESCAVA has held rabies vaccination campaigns (where 5000 dogs, cats and donkeys have been vaccinated annually) in:

- a) Enonkishu Conservancy in Northern Maasai Mara.
- b) Nairobi and Kajiado
- c) Samburu

d) Lamu

e) Kisumu (during the 2025 World Veterinary Day celebrations organized by KVA).

Complementary spay and neuter campaigns

KESCAVA has organized spay and neuter campaigns where 600-1000 surgeries have been conducted annually. The spay/neuter surgeries helps to control dogs and cat populations, and to promote responsible animal ownership.

With adequate financing, KESCAVA notes that there is potential for scaling-up the vaccination programs across the country, and also conducting rabies awareness campaigns. KESCAVA is committed to continually making contributions to ensuring rabies is eradicated in Kenya.

A Night of Lies, Drool and Rabies in the Veterinary Emergency room

By Dr. Ambrose Kipyegon



It is 8:00 pm approximately. Two years after acquiring my Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine Degree, I am still a happy bachelor. My fuel remains stale coffee, half a queen cake, and the quiet desperation that only comes from being an emergency clinician residing in the quarters where the only neighbors are sick dogs and cats on admission.

There is a honk outside my door, some pleasant company perhaps, but alas! A worried client holding an adult male rottweiler. "Doctor, my guard dog choked on a bone". I look at the patient and he is drooling like nothing I have seen before. "Totally normal, just... bone stuff." I calm myself throwing all caution to the wind and staying true to the Veterinarians' oath to save animals. I put on a brave face, I rush the rottie to the examination room, I wear rubber gloves, and no other protective gear because, as you might have guessed: I am young and full of bad decisions.

Now, let me tell you something. I had never set eyes on a choking dog, and worse, this particular one was *frothing* at the mouth like..... Still, I do what came to my mind, sedate the rottweiler, and open his mouth,... I spot no bone, I pass a stomach tube and it goes all through with ease. Now, don't judge me yet, the client was a medical doctor "he can't be lying about tossing a bone to his dog and actually witnessing it choke". I pause a little, could he be lying, knowing what

I would do if I suspected rabies? At this choice moment, the rottweiler miraculously recovers from sedation and "CHOMP" I am bitten. I am actually bleeding from my right arm.

Silence in the room..... I look at the client, he looks at me and for the first time our eyes actually meet. I see the guilt in his face, His eyes go wide. "M.. M.. my son is the one who threw the bone...yes.. I forgot to mention..."

At this point I panicked, I am not even listening to the client, I rush to clean the saliva off my hand. What do I have?....running tap water?..... surgical spirit?..... chlorhexidine?..... povidone?..... I panicked.

Long and short of it, I did not sleep.

Following day during a clinical round, my senior colleagues had no other differential: Me, in the hospital, getting a rabies post-exposure vaccine series that made my arm feel like it had hosted a javelin competition.

Now, I'm not saying I was ready to sue, but I *did* start practicing my courtroom speech in the mirror: "Your honor, I present Exhibit A: My swollen arm, my wounded pride, and the defendant's obvious guilt—and also, rabies." The guilty client offered some money for out of court settlement which I rejected. But then, suddenly, things went quiet. The client disappeared. Vanished.

To this day, I still twitch a little when someone says "hyper-salivating." And I keep a suspicious eye on anyone who starts a sentence with "It just choked on a bone."

The moral of the story? Always wear gloves, never trust a man who says "it's just a bone," and when a dog is hypersalivating, ensure it is not rabies before attempting any examination.

Dr. Ambrose Kipyegon is a seasoned clinician, and lecturer of animal reproduction in the faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nairobi.

Vet Scope Humor

We had a client that wanted us to castrate her dog instead of spay her because it was cheaper....

I was asked by a client to discuss my diagnosis and suggested treatment with the patient, a guinea pig - through an animal communicator to see if the guinea pig would agree. I was pleased to hear that the animal thought that I was nice and that it would trust my judgment.

The Need to rethink the Approach to AMR Mitigation

By Dr. Sakwa Kamama

The United Nations' Ad hoc Inter-Agency Coordinating Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) released a report that showed 10 million annual deaths from drug resistant diseases by 2050. This numbers sound like statistics until you put them into context. For instance, this could mean wiping out the whole population of Kenya within just five years or one presidential term!

AMR is a critical subject and great threat to future generations. It is therefore the responsibility of every member of the society; young or old, educated or uneducated, rich or poor to take a position in protecting the generations to come. This can be achieved by moving out of our silos as health - related professions, to having an honest discussion with every member of the society, and valuing their contribution and role in stopping AMR. One such population neglected is students; both in primary schools and high schools. As one of the Holy books quotes 'Teach a child in the ways of the Lord, and when they grow old they shall not depart from it.' This population is known to be great ambassadors to change in a society for two reasons; they are eager to learn as well as exercise what they are taught. Introduction of correct and appropriate information to such a population at an early age modifies their attitude and practices towards the AMR.

Today, Kenya is implementing a new education system and the first cohort of grade nine students are transitioning to senior secondary school. As I look into the career pathways, many questions linger in my mind. One such question is, at what point will we introduce topics that target behavioral change in handling antimicrobials and curbing AMR? I draw my illustration from the events witnessed last year in Kenya

commonly referred to as The Gen-Z protests. Pundits have argued that part of the factors that led to the demands put forward by the Gen Z were the literature books they have studied in schools. These books for a long time have focused on the role of the governed to demand good governance. True to that, today we have a young population that is well informed and are at forefront of demanding good governance.

As scientists, we need to incorporate art into the fight against AMR. Art is the mirror of society and has a great role in educating and driving behavioral change. Is it time we start seeing literature books focusing on AMR? Cartoons depicting AMR? Inclusion of this theme in major set books studied in schools? AMR needs

to be presented as both art and science for ease of understanding by the general public and learners. By inclusion of the topic on AMR in the curriculum from primary to the higher learning institutions, we shall gather a critical mass as agents of change to ensure we do not slide back to the pre-antibiotic era.

Today we have significantly few individuals in society with the AMR knowledge, working day and night to ensure reduction in the rate of AMR development. However, once everyone understands their role in its combat, society and Kenya will be able to better address it. This starts from an all-informed society united by a common goal. This is because AMR is everyone's business.



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Safeguarding your Nyama Choma:

Food Safety Training for Abattoir Owners and Workers

By KVA, Food Safety Technical Working Group

Abattoirs play a critical role in the food supply chain, serving as the bridge between livestock farming and the consumer's plate, the farm to the fork. Yet, these essential facilities can also become hotspot and hotbeds for disease transmission and food contamination if proper standards and requisite laws are not followed. This is why food safety training for abattoir owners and workers is not just important — it is essential.

Food safety training ensures that abattoir personnel, from top management through to shop-floor workers, understand the risks associated with meat handling, the causes of contamination, and how to implement hygiene practices that protect consumers. With the rise of zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and foodborne illnesses, abattoirs have become frontlines in the fight for safer food practices. They also serve as surveillance points for the collection of disease data.

Improper slaughtering and handling techniques can lead to microbial contamination such as *Salmonella* spp, *E. coli*, and *Listeria* spp, which pose serious health threats. Training abattoir owners and workers on the 5Ps of Food Safety, namely Premises, Procedures, Processes, People and Products significantly reduces these risks. Knowledge of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) further helps in identifying and mitigating contamination points.

Food safety is intrinsically linked to animal welfare. Training in humane handling of animals at transportation, offloading, in holding pens and at slaughter reduces stress and injury to animals, which not only meets ethical standards but also improves meat quality and safety. Stressed animals release hormones that degrade meat, shortening its shelf life and affecting taste and texture.

In Kenya, regulations such as the Meat Control Act (Cap 356) and Public Health Act (Cap 242) set clear food safety standards for abattoirs. Failure to comply can lead to legal penalties, closures, and loss of consumer confidence. Moreover, for those eyeing export markets, adherence to international safety standards is mandatory. Training equips owners and workers with the knowledge and skills to meet these regulatory requirements and maintain certification. Well-trained workers feel more confident and take greater pride in their roles. Food safety training enhances professionalism, reduces workplace accidents, and fosters a culture of responsibility. This boosts productivity and ensures that everyone understands their role in producing safe, high-quality meat.

Abattoir owners have a duty to provide regular and up-to-date training to all employees, themselves included. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and



the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA), as a think-tank, among others play a key role in offering technical support, guidelines, and resources for capacity building. At present, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development has plans to support the training of abattoir owners and workers. Collaboration between Food Safety Actors such as public health authorities, veterinary officers, and abattoir operators is key to creating a resilient meat value chain.

The safety of the meat we consume starts at the abattoir. Investing in comprehensive and regular food safety training for abattoir owners and workers is a proactive step toward protecting public health, building consumer trust, ensuring sustainable meat production and accessing wider market bases. It's not just about compliance — it's about commitment to quality, safety, and responsibility from farm to fork.

The members of the Food Safety TWG are Dr. Joyce Thaiya (Convener), Dr. Peter Kimeli, Dr. Beatrice Abutto, Dr. David Kemboi, Dr. Coleta Cheron, Dr. Nelly Bargoiyet, Dr. Kelvin Osore, Dr. Samson Muchelule, Dr. Sakwa Kamama, Dr. Ambrose Kipyegon, Dr. Agnes Maina, Dr. Joel Memusi, Dr. Caesar Asiba and Dr. Job Simiyu.

Intellectual Maturity

Dr. Flookie Owino

Intellectual maturity is distinguished by effective communication, and certain phrases can indicate a lack of intellectual growth:

- The phrase **"That's just how I am"** suggests resistance to change and a lack of responsibility, hindering intellectual growth.
- **"I don't have time"** often reflects misplaced priorities rather than actual time constraints, affecting personal development.
- **"I already know that"** indicates close-mindedness and a reluctance to learn, contrary to the wisdom of Socratic Ignorance.
- **"It's not my fault"** shows blame-shifting and a lack of self-reflection, impeding personal and intellectual growth.
- **"I don't care"** can be a defense mechanism to avoid engaging with complex issues, limiting intellectual curiosity and growth.
- **"It's too hard"** reveals a mindset avoiding challenges, whereas intellectual maturity embraces difficulties as growth opportunities.
- **"I'm always right"** indicates intellectual arrogance, preventing learning and valuing diverse perspectives.

Intellectual maturity involves continuous learning, self-reflection and openness to new ideas and challenges.

VET SCOPE POETRY

A Lady Vet and Her Dog

By Dr. John Flookie Owino

In dawn's soft light the vet awakes, To
coffee warm and gentle shakes— A furry
nose against her side,

Her loyal dog, her joy, her guide.

They tread the path through morning mist,
Each step a bond that can't be missed.
She whispers tales of lives she'll mend, He
listens close, her silent friend.

At clinic doors, the day begins,

With wagging tails and worried grins. She
soothes the sick, relieves the pain, While
her dog waits through sun and rain.

His eyes are calm, his posture still, He
knows her hands were made to heal. In
moments hard, when hope runs low, She
strokes his head—he seems to know.

A shepherd limps, a kitten cries,

A rabbit with too-brightened eyes. She
lifts, she checks, she speaks with care—
Her dog watches from his chair.

Through surgeries and teary eyes, Through
newborn pups and long goodbyes, He is
her shadow, soft and sure,

The heart that helps her to endure.

At twilight's hush, they head for home, No
more the phone, no need to roam. She
leans on him, her day laid bare, He leans
right back—he's always there.

For in her life of fur and fight,

Of saving lives both day and night, The
truest soul who walks beside, Is just her
dog—her friend, her guide.



Vet Scope Humor

We kept a client's deceased dog in our freezer so he could come in periodically and take hair samples and such..He told us that he was trying to clone the dog, at home in his own laboratory.

A client asked if we would board the ashes of their deceased pet while they went on vacation because their dog enjoyed being at our boarding facility so much!

The Future of Poultry Production:

Socioeconomic Impact, Nutritional and Technological Advancement

Dr. Onesmas Nguni Kibuu

Poultry production plays a key role in global economic growth and food security. It provides affordable protein, creates jobs in both rural and urban areas, and contributes to better nutrition and household income.

As the global population continues to rise—expected to reach 9.1 billion by 2050—the demand for poultry products is surging. Between 1970 and 2020, poultry meat production increased by over 800%, from 15.1 million to 137 million tonnes. Asia leads in production, followed by the Americas and Europe, while Africa shows increasing potential. This growth is driven by urbanization, rising incomes, and a shift toward healthier, leaner protein sources like chicken and eggs. However, it also places pressure on feed systems and production infrastructure to keep up.

Despite this progress, many African farmers face serious challenges. The high cost and low availability of quality feeds is a major concern. Others include chick mortality, limited access to vaccines, poor marketing systems and inadequate access to day-old chicks. Households rely on poultry for income, food, school fees and even cultural practices such as gifts, or strengthening marriage ties. In Kenya, for example, chicken dishes are used to show respect during ceremonies, especially when served to guests. However, economic gains are often limited by high disease rates and input costs.

To overcome feed-related challenges, researchers and farmers are adopting innovative nutritional strategies aimed at reducing costs and improving performance. One of the most promising innovations is the use of pre-mixed protein concentrates. These are balanced blends of essential nutrients like proteins, amino acids, vitamins, minerals and sometimes enzymes or probiotics, that are mixed with local ingredients such as maize or bran. They help ensure nutritional balance, boost productivity and reduce the reliance on expensive commercial feeds. Pre-mixed concentrates are available for different poultry stages (broilers, layers, growers), allowing farmers to customize feed based on production goals. They also enhance immunity, support egg production and reduce nutritional deficiencies. This flexibility makes them ideal for small-scale and semi-commercial producers.

Another key innovation is the integration of bioactive additives such as probiotics and prebiotics, which improve gut health, boost immunity and enhance feed conversion rates. These natural alternatives to antibiotics are becoming increasingly popular as farmers seek safer and more sustainable production practices. Locally formulated feeds, though sometimes lower in growth performance, offer cost savings and support sustainability when combined with premixes or natural supplements.

Technology is transforming feed formulation. Manual feed mixing is being replaced by automated and computer-based systems that improve accuracy and reduce waste. Technologies such as Least Cost Feed (LCF) modelling, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data are now used to optimize feed formulations by balancing nutrition with cost-efficiency. These tools help formulate feeds that meet precise nutritional targets without overspending. One standout innovation is Near-Infrared Reflectance Spectroscopy (NIRS), a quick, non-destructive method for analyzing the nutrient content of feed ingredients. It measures crude protein, fat, fiber and moisture in seconds, helping farmers ensure feed quality and consistency. Though initially expensive, handheld NIRS devices are becoming more affordable and accessible, especially for cooperatives and commercial farms. Looking ahead, fully automated “lights-out” feed mills, which operate with minimal human intervention, are expected to enhance efficiency while cutting energy use and human error.

The poultry industry is undergoing a shift toward cost-effective, technology-driven, and sustainable farming systems. By combining local feed resources with premixes, adopting innovative additives and using smart technologies in feed formulation, poultry farmers can boost productivity, reduce costs, and meet rising global demand. With continued investment in research, education, and innovation, poultry farming is set to remain a key pillar of food security, income generation and economic development worldwide.





A Collaborative Shield against Emerging Threats through Surveillance

By Dr. Purity Kwamboka

Animal health surveillance plays a crucial role in keeping animals healthy by detecting diseases early and enabling quick responses to prevent their spread. This is especially important today, as diseases can cross borders easily, antibiotic resistance is growing, and climate change is increasing the risk of outbreaks. However, ensuring effective animal health surveillance is not something that can be done by one person or one organization alone, it requires teamwork and collaboration.

The 2025 World Veterinary Day theme, "Animal Health Takes a Team," highlights the importance of working together to protect animal health. A strong surveillance system relies on the efforts of different groups. Veterinarians and animal health workers are the first to detect and report diseases. Scientists and data experts analyze patterns and predict where outbreaks might happen. Government officials create policies and provide funding to support surveillance efforts. Farmers and livestock owners play a key role by monitoring their animals and following disease prevention measures. Laboratories and researchers test samples to confirm infections and diseases,

while technology experts develop tools like digital reporting systems and artificial intelligence to improve disease tracking.

Kenya has made significant progress in animal health surveillance through the Kenya Animal Biosurveillance System (KABS), which monitors diseases like Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Rift Valley Fever and Peste des Petits Ruminants. The introduction of digital dashboards has made it easier to collect, analyze and share important data, helping authorities make better decisions. Globally, the Global Early Warning System (GLEWS+), a partnership between WHO, FAO and WOA, has shown how international cooperation can help detect and respond to disease threats early, preventing widespread outbreaks.

Despite the progress, there are still challenges that make animal health surveillance difficult. Limited funding, lack of collaboration between different groups and difficulties in sharing data can slow down response efforts. To overcome these challenges, governments and other organizations need to work together to increase resources and improve disease tracking. Training programs should be expanded to help farmers, veterinarians and field

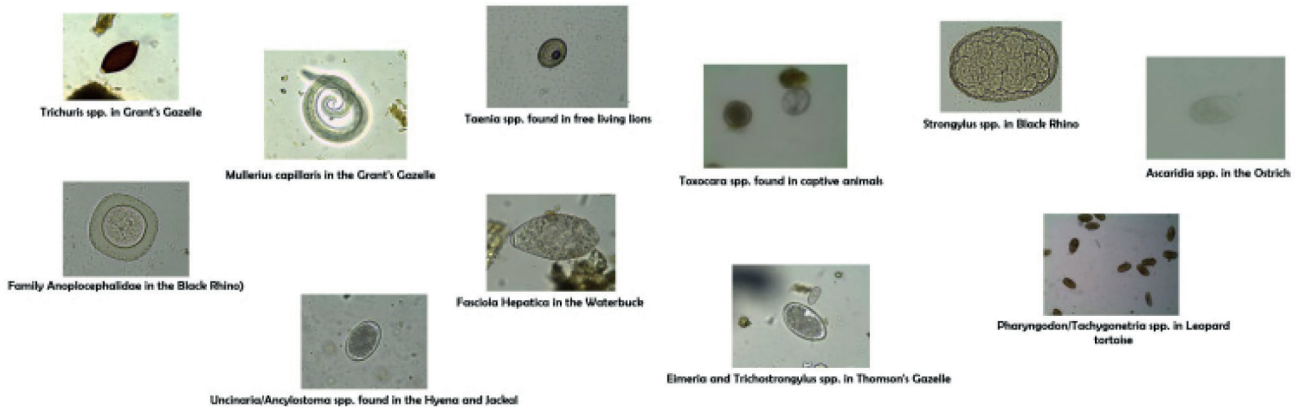
officers recognize diseases and report them quickly. Investing in mobile-based reporting systems and artificial intelligence can make data collection faster and more accurate. Engaging local communities is also essential, as they are often the first to notice changes in animal health and can provide valuable insights.

Protecting animal health is a shared responsibility that requires teamwork across different sectors. The increasing risk of new and re-emerging diseases means that everyone, from veterinarians and scientists to policymakers and farmers, has a role to play in keeping animals and people safe. As we embrace the WVD 2025 theme, it is important to strengthen cooperation, embrace new technologies and commit to a One Health approach that benefits both animals and humans. By working together, we can build a stronger, more effective surveillance system that ensures a healthier future for all.

Dr. Purity Kwamboka is a Veterinary Officer at the Directorate of Veterinary Services- Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics Section, specializing in outbreak investigation and disease surveillance.

Unveiling the Hidden Spectrum of Wildlife Parasites in Nairobi National Park

By Dr Mehrad Hosseinzadeh



Nairobi National Park, a living mosaic of biodiversity, conceals an intricate web of microscopic life that challenges our traditional views on health and disease. MVD. Mehrad Hosseinzadeh's study goes beyond mere parasite detection; it invites us to explore the profound interplay between an animal's existence and its unseen microbial inhabitants—elements that shape evolutionary pathways and sustain ecological balance.

The investigation unfolded over two pivotal periods. In January 2014, 45 fecal samples were collected from captive animals residing in facilities such as the Nairobi National Park animal orphanage, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, Mamba Village, and the Giraffe Center. Later, in February 2016, 96 samples were gathered from wild animals roaming freely within the park's vast landscapes. By examining a total of 141 samples across 21 diverse species—including carnivores, herbivores, omnivores, birds, and reptiles—the study delicately unmasked the layered complexity of parasite-host interactions. Preserving these samples in 10% formalin and employing a robust methodological framework—comprising fecal flotation, sedimentation, and larvoscopy—the research ensured that even the most elusive parasites could be detected. The analysis revealed a remarkable spectrum of parasitic life: protozoans (*Eimeria*, *Balantidium* spp.), nematodes (*Toxocara*, *Trichostrongylus*, *Strongylus*, *Oesophagostomum* spp.), trematodes (*Fasciola*, *Schistosoma* spp.), and cestodes (*Anoplocephalidae*, *Taenia* spp.). Such diversity is not merely a tally of organisms; it reflects an enduring dialogue between hosts and parasites—a dialogue that has been refined by nature over countless generations. The study's findings underscore notable differences among animal groups. Confined carnivores exhibited overwhelmingly high parasite loads—ranging from 75% to 100%—suggesting that environmental confinement and close proximity magnify infection risks. Herbivores and omnivores, with prevalence rates of 70–80% and even 100% in particular instances, illustrate how dietary habits and habitat choices sculpt parasite communities. Even birds and reptiles, with infection rates between 50% and 70%, contribute to this elaborate ecosystem narrative. Each parasite, while often maligned as a mere pathogen, in reality participates in a complex biological network vital to maintaining evolutionary balance and regulating host populations. In reflecting on this study, one is drawn to a profound realization: parasites are not merely signs of disease but also indicators of ecological continuity and resilience. They are integral threads in the grand tapestry of life—a reminder that every organism, regardless of size, holds a key position in nature's delicate equilibrium. This research offers deep insights that can inspire more thoughtful conservation strategies and a renewed appreciation for the interconnectedness of all life.

Puppy Care in the First 6 Months

By Dr. Isaiah Nchagwa Chacha

Puppies are delicate requiring dedicated care for their survival. Immediately after birth, puppies are introduced to environmental conditions other than the warmth, free flow of nutrition and security in the fetal environment. This has to be sustained by provision of conditions free from harsh weather extremities and availability of the mother's milk.

The owner must be observant to assist puppies that cannot reach the teats, while the mother is expected to have a good maternal ability.

In the first three weeks of life, little is needed for the puppies except sufficient maternal care. The dam should be fed well and appropriate environment provided for her to take care of her puppies. At this stage, the puppies' eyes open, legs grow stronger and they begin to move around freely. They begin nibbling on things as they explore. They even eat their poop among other unhygienic and hazardous materials they encounter, thus, their place of stay must be clean. This is also the best time to start weaning by introducing small amounts of food in small particle sizes e.g. minced meat and puppy kibbles.

At four weeks of age, their exploration multiplies and they get exposed to environmental harm and parasitic infestation. The owner must thus ensure a safe environment by puppy-proofing the area. Other things that should be kept away from the puppies include chemicals, electrical cables, brittle objects, garbage, valuables, plants, shoes and soft materials like rubber and rugs. At this age, the puppies get dewormed. The owner is also advised to take caution to keep the puppies away from aggressive animals (including dogs) at home that could attack and even kill them. This is so because at this age, the puppies cannot differentiate between

friendly and aggressive animals. At this age, weaning continues and the ration of food is increased gradually to compensate for diminishing dam's milk and increasing energy demands. Lactation continues as they still need milk to build strong bones and teeth. If the dam's milk is not enough or is unavailable, it is substituted with dilute cow's milk. This method also helps to increase water intake. Besides diluting the milk, one may go a step further to give lactose-free cow milk.

At the age of six weeks, puppies get their first vaccine against Canine Parvovirus disease. This disease is fatal in puppies and vaccination is key. Parvovirus is likened to rotavirus in children, it is highly infectious. A myth that revolves around canine parvovirus disease in puppies; since most puppies are infected around the time when they are teething. It is believed that the puppy swallows the teeth which injure their gastrointestinal system hence illness or death. Commonly in Kenya, the disease is referred to as 'ugonjwa wa meno'. Swahili words that translate to the 'teeth disease'. Teething in puppies will happen unnoticed and needs no intervention unless there are persistent milk teeth past the age of ten months. Deworming is also recommended at this age.

The earliest the puppies can be exclusively weaned and separated from the dam is eight weeks of age. At

this time, they can comfortably eat on their own. However, the puppies may continue lactating. Puppies are fed four times a day until three months old. Thereafter, fed three times a day till six months old. Then twice a day up to one year of age. From one year onwards the dog can feed once a day. This regimen though, depends on the breed of dog, purpose of the dog and other specifics as guided by a vet. Second parvovirus vaccine is repeated at nine weeks old, given as a booster and deworming is repeated. Vaccination continues at 12 weeks old. This time the puppies receive their first DHLPP vaccine. DHLPP vaccine and deworming are also repeated three weeks later when the puppies are 15 weeks old. Alongside this vaccine, they also receive their first rabies vaccine. Second shot of rabies can be repeated to boost the immunity at 18 weeks old. Thereafter, DHLPP and rabies vaccinations are done annually for the rest of the dog's life. In Kenya, the Rabies Act (Cap. 365) and some County by-laws (e.g. Nairobi City County) prescribe that any dog or cat owner must have their pet vaccinated against rabies annually.

For ectoparasite control, prophylactic medication is given quarterly to keep the dog free from ticks, lice, fleas and mites. For population control, male puppies may be neutered and female puppies spayed at six months old or older.



A Focus on KVA Branches: Wildlife Branch and KWVA

KVA has both Regional and Specialized branches. The Regional branches include KVA – Nairobi, Central, Rift Valley, Coast, Eastern, Western and Nyanza. The six specialized branches include KEPPOVA, Wildlife, SEVET, KWVA, KESCAVA and Vet. Pharma Branch. The Regional branches remain active, and continue to hold CPD events, Field days and their Annual General Meetings. Specialized branches have also had activities and this issue of the Vet Scope Magazine will pay special attention to two specialized branches namely KVA – Wildlife Branch and KWVA.

KVA – Wildlife Branch: Veterinarians in the Wild

By Dr. Mukami Ruoro-Oundo

Since its inception in 2018, the Wildlife Branch of the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) has worked to unite wildlife veterinarians, paraprofessionals, and allied experts across the country under a shared vision: to advocate for wildlife health and conservation, promote best practices in the profession, and support continuous education and collaboration. Over the past year, the branch has taken significant steps to turn this vision into tangible action through impactful events and partnerships. In a bid to address the ever-evolving challenges of human-wildlife interactions, the KVA Wildlife Branch hosted a symposium at the stunning Mount Kenya Wildlife Conservancy (MKWC) in Nanyuki. Beyond thought-provoking discussions and knowledge sharing, attendees were treated to a tour of the conservancy's renowned wildlife orphanage and rescue center. A highlight of the visit was the opportunity to see the critically endangered Mountain Bongo, a symbol of Kenya's urgent conservation priorities and a reminder of the essential role veterinarians play in species recovery programs. The branch also partnered with the Wildlife Disease Association – Africa Middle East (WDA-AME) to host a scientific conference in Nairobi. This high-level gathering took place at the Tamarind Tree Hotel and the Nairobi Safari Walk in the Nairobi National Park, blending urban accessibility with a close encounter with nature. The conference explored the critical intersections between wildlife health, zoonotic diseases, and community wellbeing, underscoring the urgent need for integrated approaches in an increasingly interconnected world. Wildlife branch remains committed to supporting members with scientific updates, collaborative opportunities, and platforms for advocacy. The branch continues to call upon interested KVA members to join it.

KWVA: Empowering the Next Generation of Women through Legacy and Mentorship

By Dr. Purity Kwamboka

KWVA (Kenya Women Veterinary Association) reached a powerful milestone in its mission to uplift women and girls through the launch of the "Adopt-a-Girl" program at VetLabs Primary School. The program has the objective of mentoring girls with a view to influencing the next generation. KWVA also unveiled the KWVA History Book. The book documents KWVA's journey from humble beginnings, also paying tribute to the trail-blazing women who have shaped KWVA and a guidepost for those who will carry the mantle forward. KWVA was also involved in other initiatives such as the MaziwaPlus Project (a mastitis control initiative in Nyeri County), "Kick Rabies and Hydatidosis out of Turkana" Campaign, Mentorship programs (with students at the University of Nairobi – CAVS; and Kenyatta University- Kitui Campus), Environmental stewardship (by holding tree-planting drives in Vetlabs, Namanga and Kakuma), World Rabies Day, World AMR Awareness Week, ProgRESSVet Program, and Veterinarian of the Year Awards (VOYA) 2024 (where KWVA members were recognized and awarded).

KWVA's activities reflect unwavering dedication to professional excellence, community service, and gender equity. KWVA remains committed to nurturing future leaders and preserving the legacy of Women Veterinarians in Kenya.



A Peek into KVA's inner workings: KVA Sub-Committees

The KVA-NEC continues to serve the profession as mandated by the members and the KVA Constitution. This, it has continued to do through the various sub-committees, and presented below are some highlights of the Sub-Committee Activities.

Under the Plot Development Sub-Committee, KVA continues to mobilize resources to develop the KVA plots in Nairobi and Nyeri. The ultimate goal is the construction of the KVA headquarters, to host the association and to generate sustainable income through a conference facility and office rental spaces. The Advocacy Sub-Committee continues to champion for labour issues of the Veterinary Interns and Veterinary Surgeons in all work spheres including the Private Sector, County and National Governments. Member and Member Welfare Sub-committee has taken the welfare of members to the heart of KVA. The Sub-committee has developed modalities for handling health and last respect needs of the members. Further, to support the Social needs of the members, the sub-committee has continued to plan the annual KVA Golfing events, Social club events, Hot Seat series and the Vet of the Year Gala Events.

The Science Sub-committee organized a successful Annual Scientific Conference in Kisumu in April 2025. In 2024, the sub-committee co-organized the World Rabies Day event in collaboration with the Kenya Medical Association in Diani, Kwale County. The Sub-committee is also in the process of developing the KVA Journal to enable members to document their scientific papers as contributions to the body of knowledge. The Governance and Policy Sub-committee, a key driver of KVA, has been kept heavily busy overseeing the development of the KVA Strategic Plan and the KVA Constitution. Publicity and IT Sub-committee has been involved in all spheres of the association in as far as ensuring all KVA events and activities receive adequate publicity within and without the association. The Sub-committee has also undertaken the development of a new and improved KVA website. The Sub-committee has also taken charge of the development of this KVA Magazine, the Vet Scope Magazine. Stakeholder and Partner Liaison Sub-committee, has spearheaded collaboration efforts with partners

and stakeholders in the industry. Through its efforts, KVA has signed MOUs with Kenya Commercial Bank Foundation whose objective is to support the Ruminant Value Chain in select ASAL counties in Kenya. Further, KVA has signed an MOU with LivestockEx, a UK-based company that supports identification of livestock for trading purposes. The Sub-committee continues to reach-out to like-minded partners with a view to growing the Livestock sub-sector collaboratively.

kva last expense




PREMIUM: KES 4,000

EXTRA CHILD/ SIBLING: KES 200

BENEFIT AMOUNT: KES 100,000

How to Enroll in the Last Expense Cover:

- 1. Complete the Last Expense Template**
Fill in the template (shared via email), providing the following details for yourself and your dependents:
 - Full names
 - Relationship
 - Date of birth
 - ID number or birth certificate number
 - Any existing critical conditions
- 2. Make Payment**
Pay **KES 4,000** to the KVA Till Number **200926**
- 3. Submit Your Documents**
Email the following to info@kenyavetassociation.com by **Friday, 29th August 2025**:
 - Proof of payment
 - Completed Last Expense Template
 - Copies of ID cards and/or birth certificates

info@kenyavetassociation.com
TILL NUMBER: 200 926

Work hard, Play hard: KVA Social Clubs

By. Dr. Samantha Opere

What does a vet do when the puppy with parvovirus finally starts to recover? Or when they close that big sale, or type the last full stop on a policy document? Like other professionals, vets are multi-faceted individuals with passions and hobbies that help them stay grounded, balanced, and fulfilled. In recent years, the veterinary fraternity has seen a growing trend in the formation of common interest clubs as spaces for accountability, fun and connection outside traditional professional settings.

One such standout initiative is the Vet Fitness Club, which brings together vets passionate about health and fitness. With support from accountability partners, members have taken on marathons in Nairobi such as the 2025 Nairobi Marathon Relay and joined fun runs



KVA Chairman addresses members at the Acacia Premier Hotel Cocktail during WVD 2025

during events like World Veterinary Day and World Rabies Day. For those who find peace in nature, the Outdoor Adventure Club offers hikes and outdoor excursions that encourage mental wellness and reconnection with the environment, a much-needed break from the high-pressure demands of veterinary work. KVA is also championing creative expression through the Creative Arts Club. Many will be surprised to discover that vets are gifted writers,

poets, artists and musicians. This club nurtures these talents and channels them into community outreach and public awareness campaigns proving that science and art can thrive side by side. After intense work-weeks or conferences, sometimes all vets want is to unwind. Enter the Sip and Chill Club, a space for relaxed networking, friendly competition, and fun. Whether it's playing games at Tsuku Tsuku in Nairobi, watching the sunset at Dunga Hill Camp in Kisumu, or dancing to *zilizopendwa* hits on the rooftop of Acacia Premier Hotel, this club reminds us that rest is just as vital as work. KVA believes that a well-rounded vet is a resilient one and these clubs are just the beginning of a more connected, vibrant veterinary community. KVA encourages you to join a club at the very least, one club.

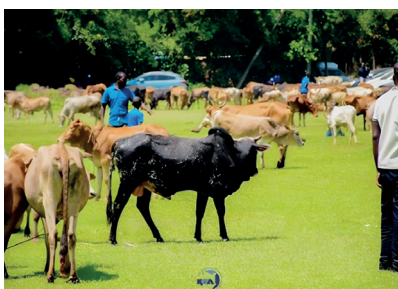
Highlights from KVA Conference and WVD 2025

By World Veterinary Day Planning Committee

In April 2025, Kisumu County played host to a significant gathering of over 300 veterinary professionals during the KVA Annual Scientific Conference and World Veterinary Day (WVD) celebrations. This event underscored the pivotal role of Veterinary Medicine. The conference attracted a diverse assembly of veterinarians, researchers, students and industry stakeholders.

Over the three days, participants engaged in individual and panel discussions on a variety of topics. The event emphasized the importance of collaboration and knowledge-sharing in addressing contemporary challenges in Veterinary Medicine. Conference resolutions were developed and shared with the Director of Veterinary Services for further action. Beyond academic discourse, the KVA organized a field day aimed at promoting animal health and public awareness of the role of Veterinarians in Society. Activities included free vaccination clinics for livestock and

pets, a spay-neuter campaign and educational sessions. These initiatives highlighted the association's commitment to extending veterinary services to the community. The success of the events in Kisumu reflects the growing recognition of veterinary medicine's impact on society. In April 2026, KVA will host the first ever KVA Annual Scientific Congress 2026. The Congress promises to be a bigger and better confluence of minds for the furtherance of the profession, science, policy and industry.



A Year of Impact and Advocacy

In the past year, KVA has demonstrated unwavering commitment to advancing animal health, safeguarding public welfare and championing the rights of veterinary professionals. From policy advocacy to community outreach, KVA's initiatives have significantly influenced Kenya's veterinary landscape as below:

1. Championing Public Health: KVA, in collaboration with the Kenya Medical Association (KMA), hosted the 18th World Rabies Day celebrations in Kwale County. Under the theme "Breaking Rabies Boundaries," the event featured a conference, a field day and a medical camp.

Under the auspice of the KVA Food Safety TWG, KVA released a Position Paper that highlighted key food safety challenges affecting animal-origin foods.

- 2. Protecting Animal Welfare:** Under the auspice of the KVA Animal Welfare TWG, KVA released a Position Paper that highlighted the concerns associated with the Commercial Donkey Skin Trade.
- 3. Veterinary Staff labor matters:** KVA had a sustained call for improved remuneration for the Veterinarians and Interns in Public and Corporate employment.

Celebrating Excellence in Veterinary Medicine

By KVA, National Executive Committee

KVA took part in several Excellence awards including VOYA 2024, APSEA Professionals' Excellence Award and the WVA Global Award as detailed below.

VOYA Awards and KVA End of Year Dinner 2024





VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2024 WINNERS

The spectacular silver-and-blue themed annual Veterinarian of the Year Awards (VOYA) and Dinner event recognized individuals excelling in various veterinary domains while concluding the Year 2024 in a glamorous dinner. The winners were:

Life Membership Award



Dr. Mandieka

Vet Student of the Year Award



Corazon Nafula
Winner



Faith Joy Maina
First runner up



Linton Chemiat
Second Runner up

Young Vet of the Year Award



Dr. Peterkin Nzomo

Veterinarian of the Year Award



Dr. Henry Kamagy
Winner

Veterinary Academician of the Year Award



Dr. Vijay Varma

Meritorious Award



Dr. Sabenzia Wekesa



Dr. Marilyn Karani
First Runner-up

Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award



Dr. Allan Azegele

Animal Welfare Award



Dr. Peterson Maina



Dr. Lilian Maathai
Second Runner-up

Veterinary Clinic of the Year Award



**Small Five
Vet Clinic**
Winner



**Krishna's
Veterinary Clinic**
First Runner-up

APSEA Professionals' Excellence Award

KVA participated in the Association of Professional Societies in East Africa's ((APSEA) inaugural award held in November 2024. The Award had four categories namely:

- Leadership and Excellence Award (Corporate Category)
- Professionalism Award (Individual Category)
- Work Place Diversity and Inclusion Award (Corporate Category)
- Collaboration and Partnership Award (Corporate Category)

KVA members, namely Drs. Derrick Chibeu, Joseph Othieno and Diana Onyango were nominated and performed excellently finishing among the top ten out of 37 nominations received by APSEA in the Professionalism Category. The Category was won by the nominee from the Law Society of Kenya, first runner-up was from the Kenya Institute of Food Science and Technology, while second runner-up was from the Institute of Engineers of Kenya.

KVA entered the award in the Corporate Categories. In the Leadership and



Excellence Award, KVA was the Second runner-up out of 55 nominations received by APSEA. The Category was won by the Institute of Certified Secretaries, while the first runner-up was the Kenya Medical Association (KMA). In the Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Award Category, KVA emerged the first runner-up out of six nominations received. The winner in the category was KMA, while the second runner-up was the Institute of Human Resources Management (IHRM). Collaboration and Partnership Category was won by the Architectural Association of Kenya, followed by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and third position was held by IHRM.

KVA looks forward to participating in the next APSEA Award. KVA calls upon members of the Association to enter the Individual Category of the award when it opens.



WVA Global Awards

KVA's commitment to global veterinary advancement was further exemplified through its participation in the World Veterinary Association (WVA) Global Veterinary Awards 2025. As a WVA member, KVA nominated six members to the award. Professor Susan Mbugua emerged successful as both the global winner in the Veterinary Education Category and as the Overall Veterinarian of the year. She is shining KVA's star to the world!

The association's involvement in these awards highlights its dedication to aligning with global standards and fostering international collaborations. KVA looks forward to participating in the next WVA Award. KVA calls upon

members of the Association to enter the award when it opens early next year.

KVA also placed a bid to host the WVA Global Conference in the year 2027 in Nairobi. The bid was unsuccessful, however KVA will bid yet again, to host the 2028 WVA Global Conference. The 2025 WVA Conference was hosted in the USA, while the 2026 Conference will be held in Japan.

KVA's achievements in 2025 reflect a broader vision of elevating the profile of KVA and enhancing Veterinary standards, animal and public health; and animal welfare.



(Professor Susan Mbugua receiving the WVA Awards in Washington DC in July 2025)

Understanding the KVA TWGs

KVA plays a critical role in advancing animal health. One of its key mechanisms for achieving this is through Technical Working Groups (TWGs).



The Recent Achievements and Ongoing Works of the TWGs include:

- **Food Safety TWG:** Released a Position Paper and currently undertaking a Research Study on Chicken (Meat) Food Safety.
- **Animal Welfare TWG:** Developed and released a Position Paper on Donkey Skin Trade.
- **AI TWG:** Developing a Veterinary Information System.
- **Climate and Sustainability TWG:** Reviewing Climate Resilient Livestock Systems.

- **One Health TWG:** Planning the One Health Conference slated for end of the year.
- **Policy and Governance TWG:** Developing the KVA Constitution and Policies.
- **Disease Control TWG:** Undertaking a Situational Analysis on Livestock Vaccination.
- **Genetics TWG:** Developing an Identifier for Action Points in the Poultry Sector.

KVA members are encouraged to join the TWGs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

KVA has lined up a series of exciting events over the coming months, offering members valuable opportunities for professional development, networking and leadership participation. Key among them include:

1. **VOYA Gala Ceremony and End of Year Dinner 2025:** The prestigious VOYA Gala Ceremony planned for early December 2025. The ten VOYA 2025 Categories are as below:



2. **KVA Annual Scientific Congress and Field Day 2026:** Planned for April 22-25, 2026.
3. **KVA Elections and AGM 2026:** Planned for April 23, 2026.
4. **World Rabies Day (WRD) 2025:** Planned for September 26 - 27, 2025.





KVA: A Year of Impact and Advocacy

By KVA, National Executive Committee

In the past year, KVA has demonstrated unwavering commitment to advancing animal health, safeguarding public welfare and championing the rights of veterinary professionals. From policy advocacy to community outreach, KVA's initiatives have significantly influenced Kenya's veterinary landscape as below:

1. Championing Public Health: Rabies and Food Safety

In September 2024, KVA, in collaboration with the Kenya Medical Association (KMA), hosted the 18th World Rabies Day celebrations in Kwale County. Under the theme "Breaking Rabies Boundaries," the event featured a two-day conference with over 170 participants, presenting 21 scientific papers on rabies control. The celebrations culminated in a field day and medical camp, where 438 dogs and 122 cats received rabies vaccinations and 45 animals underwent spay and neuter surgical procedures. The medical camp also offered vital health services, including malaria and typhoid testing, HIV and cancer screenings and family planning services, emphasizing a One Health approach to disease prevention.

In April 2025, under the auspice of the KVA Food Safety TWG, the association developed and released a Position Paper entitled 'Enhancing the Safety of Animal Source Foods in Kenya: Concerns, Challenges and recommendations.' The objective of the paper was to highlight key food safety challenges affecting animal origin foods, with a view to mitigating them collaboratively with relevant stakeholders.

2. Protecting Animal Welfare: Call to Ban Donkey Skin Trade

In April 2025, KVA called for an immediate ban on the commercial slaughter and export of donkey skins. Aligning with the African Union's 15-year moratorium, KVA highlighted the trade's detrimental effects on public health, animal welfare and cultural heritage. The association noted a significant decline in Kenya's donkey population due to the demand for 'ejiao' and urged

the government to enforce a total ban, revoke existing licenses and develop a national donkey identification and tracking system.

3. Advocating for Animal Disease Control: Concerns over Livestock Vaccination Campaign

In December 2024, KVA raised concerns over the planned nationwide livestock vaccination campaign set to commence in January 2025. The association cited inadequate public awareness, insufficient resources and the politicization of the campaign as major issues. KVA urged the government to postpone the campaign to allow for adequate public sensitization and stakeholder engagement, emphasizing the need for transparency and proper coordination.

4. Veterinary Staff labour matters: A call to promote welfare of Veterinary Professionals

The KVA has had a sustained call for improved allowances and stipends for the Veterinary Personnel and interns working in the Public Service. The association has also championed for the welfare of County veterinary staff some of who remain in acting positions for unduly time periods, remain un-promoted and work in poorly resourced environments.

Conclusion

Over the past year, the KVA has played a pivotal role in shaping policies, advocating for animal and public health and promoting the welfare of veterinary professionals. Through its multifaceted initiatives, KVA continues to be a cornerstone in Kenya's journey towards a healthier and more sustainable future.

Nine Lives

By Dr. Agnes Maina

Ms. Bella Ayana strode through the open door into the Water Front Veterinary Clinic. In her hands was a maroon and cream cat carrier cage. Meticulously, she set the cage beside the receptionist's desk. "Morning Anna," Bella addressed the clinic's long-serving receptionist, "Is Dr. Brenda in? Today it is a matter of grave urgency with Misty here." She continued, pointing at the cat in the carrier. Bella was a repeat client at the clinic for Misty's Veterinary Care.

"One moment Ms. Bella, and you will be with the Vet," Anna responded as she expeditiously keyed-in Misty's details onto the computer.

"You may proceed into Consultation room 3, Dr. Brenda is waiting for you."

"It was just after 5am when I noted the first signs on Misty," Bella explained to Dr. Brenda who sat behind a desk in Consultation Room 3.

"Misty was pacing restlessly across the kitchen floor. Her breathing was fast, her sides heaving with effort. She had been nesting all day, curling into laundry baskets and scratching at towels, and it was clear—the time had come." Bella continued, animatedly.

"Go on." Dr. Brenda interjected as she scribbled the case history notes.

"The first kitten came quickly—a tiny ginger ball, no bigger than a fist. The second followed with a little more effort, a black-and-white kitten with a healthy cry." Bella explained with great pride. "But then something changed."

"What changed? What happened?" Dr. Brenda, curious, looking up from her writing. Bella continued to narrate that Misty lay on her side, straining hard with a kitten halfway out and stuck in the birth canal.

"And that's why I decided to rush her here for your help."

"We'll examine her quickly and see what to do," Dr. Brenda declared, as she brought Misty out of the cage for a thorough physical examination.

Misty was a sleek silver tabby with yellow-green eyes. She lay calmly as the examination was conducted.

"She is obviously fatigued," Dr. Brenda pronounced. "And certainly, this is a case of dystocia."

"Dys... What?" Asked Bella, appearing confused.

Dr. Brenda explained to Bella that Misty was experiencing a case of difficult labor. The difficulty was because the kitten was too large for the birth canal and thus it got stuck.

"We will have to perform a Caesarian Section immediately to alleviate the dystocia." Dr. Brenda said to the already



consenting client. Bella watched Misty disappear through the swinging doors into the surgery room.

The next hour was the longest of her life.

Behind the closed doors, Dr. Brenda worked quickly with her loyal assistant, Mutinda. Misty was sedated and prepped. The abdominal incision was made with surgical precision. The uterus was carefully opened. Inside was the oversized kitten—bigger than the others, with a wide head and broad shoulders that had lodged it in the birth canal. It wasn't moving. It lay still. It was not alive.

With gentle hands, the vet extracted the kitten and handed it to Mutinda. "This was the cause of the dystocia. There is no other kitten."

"Bella wants no more kittens, so now we spay Misty." Dr. Brenda directed.

Following the successful spay, the abdominal wall was closed layer by layer. Throughout the surgery, Misty's vitals remained stable.

When Dr. Brenda finally emerged, she found Bella sitting stiffly in the waiting room, her arms wrapped around herself.

"Misty made it," she said, smiling. "The surgery went well."

Bella let out a sob, half-laugh, half-relief.

"The kitten didn't make it though," Dr. Brenda announced, letting the news sink in gently. "Misty will need rest and close care, but she'll recover."

Bella was allowed into the recovery room. Misty lay on a soft blanket, still groggy but awake. Bella knelt beside Misty, stroking her head gently. "Well done, Misty."

Over the next few days at home, Misty's strength returned.

"She has healed quite well. I am happy." Declared Dr. Brenda when Misty came in for a checkup a fortnight after the surgery. "The kittens too are turning into quite the balls of energy. Well done Ms. Ayana, indeed you have taken great care of this clowder of cats."

"Thank you, Doc. Remember, cats including Misty here, have nine lives," Bella quipped as she stood to leave the clinic.

Vet Scope Humor

A vet was called out to some sheep on an emergency. The new owners said they thought their sheep had lost all their top teeth. The vet advised and charged an emergency consultation fee.

Had a lady bring in a small garden snail in a jar and insist we scan it for a microchip - she was convinced that it was 'rare' and that scientists or the government were probably tracking/studying it. We humored her and ran the scanner over it. Surprise, surprise, this snail was not microchipped!

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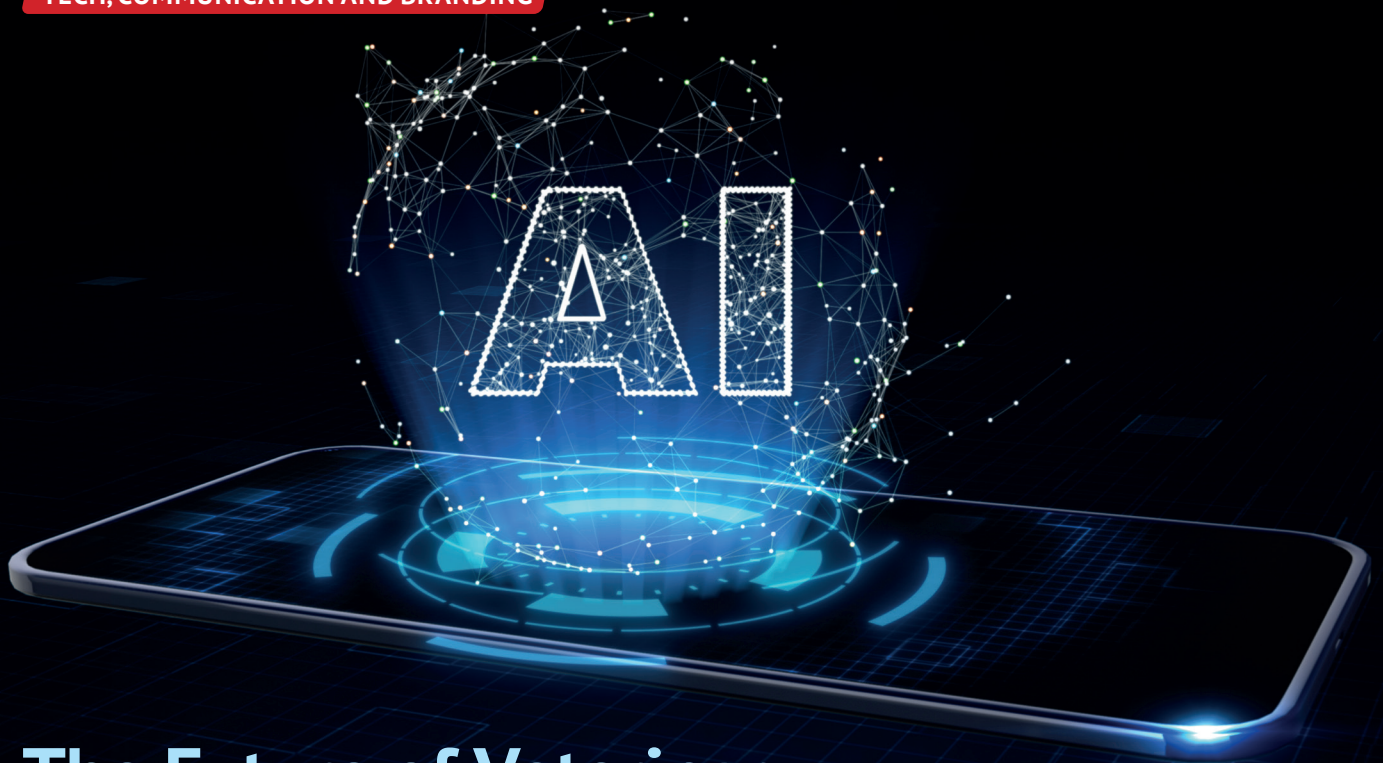
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- Feline viral rhinotracheitis
- Feline respiratory disease
- Feline panleukopenia



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The Future of Veterinary Medicine in Kenya:

Embracing the Promise of Artificial Intelligence

By Dr Nick Lang'at, Kenya Veterinary Association

Around the globe, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is redefining the future of medicine—human and animal alike. In countries like the United States, China, and the UK, AI technologies are being integrated into veterinary systems to assist in diagnostics, disease surveillance, treatment planning, and client communication. This digital transformation is creating more efficient, precise, and accessible veterinary care.

Yet, in Kenya, AI is still a distant concept in veterinary medicine. No veterinary school has formally introduced AI in its curriculum, and few practices, if any, have adopted AI-powered tools. This, however, presents a golden opportunity: to leapfrog traditional barriers and build a more resilient, modern veterinary sector by embracing AI early and strategically.

Why AI Matters for Kenya's Veterinary Future

Kenya's animal health sector plays a central role in the economy and public health. From smallholder livestock farmers in Turkana to urban pet owners in Nairobi, veterinary services are essential—but access remains uneven, and resources are stretched thin. AI has the potential to change that.

Imagine a future where rural farmers can use mobile apps powered by AI to identify diseases in their herds by uploading a photo or video—getting real-time recommendations even before a vet arrives. Or a Nairobi-based vet diagnosing a complex condition with the support of AI-assisted imaging tools that flag abnormalities and suggest possible differentials. AI can enable earlier intervention, reduce misdiagnosis, and optimize treatment outcomes.

Revolutionizing Diagnostics and Surveillance

Incorporating AI into veterinary diagnostics could transform Kenya's capacity to manage endemic and emerging diseases. AI algorithms trained on thousands of images and case records could assist in analyzing radiographs, blood smears, or histology slides, leading to faster and more accurate diagnoses.

Beyond individual cases, AI-driven data analysis could revolutionize disease surveillance. By mining data from veterinary reports, climate models, and animal movement patterns, AI can forecast potential outbreaks—giving authorities critical time to respond and prevent epidemics.

Education and Research: The Next Frontier

Kenya's veterinary education system must begin preparing for this future. Our universities have a unique chance to lead this shift by embedding AI and data science into veterinary curricula. Collaborative programs with global tech institutions could train the next generation of veterinary professionals equipped with digital skills. AI could also power research—scanning vast datasets for patterns in disease, productivity, and animal behavior. Such insights would guide policy and improve decision-making across the livestock and companion animal sectors.

A Call to Action

For Kenya to harness the power of AI in veterinary medicine, strategic investment is needed. The government, academia, and private sector must come together to pilot AI solutions, develop policy frameworks, and build local expertise. Just as mobile banking reshaped finance in Africa, AI could redefine animal health in ways we've only begun to imagine. Let us not wait to catch up with the world. Instead, let Kenya be a leader in applying AI to solve uniquely African veterinary challenges. The future of veterinary medicine is digital—and the time to prepare is now.

The Need for PR and Branding for the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA)

By Glen Obura, PR and Branding Consultant

In an era where visibility, trust, and engagement are pivotal to an organization's impact, the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) must prioritize Public Relations (PR) and Branding as core strategic functions. Branding refers to the process of creating and managing the overall identity and perception of an organization, encompassing its values, culture and image. Effective branding helps an organization stand out, build trust and foster loyalty. Branding includes visual elements include the logo, color palette, typography, messaging etc. PR, on the other hand, is the strategic practice of managing communication between an organization and its stakeholders to build and maintain a positive image and reputation.

As the umbrella body for veterinary professionals in Kenya, KVA plays a crucial role in animal health, animal welfare, food safety and international trade of animals and animal-origin products. Yet, despite its importance, the association remains relatively underrepresented in public discourse. Effective PR and Branding are not just about image—they are powerful tools for advocacy, growth, stakeholder engagement, and policy influence.

1. Creating Public Awareness and Understanding

One of the biggest challenges veterinary professionals face in Kenya is the public's limited understanding of the veterinary field. Many citizens equate veterinary services solely with treating cattle - the infamous Daktari wa Ng'ombe - overlooking broader roles such as zoonotic disease control, animal welfare, food safety, Facilitation of trade of animal/ animal origin products, wildlife and aquatic animal health, etc. By investing in PR and Branding, KVA can better educate the public on the essential work veterinarians do. Through targeted media campaigns, social media engagement, public forums, KVA can reshape perceptions, inspire trust, and raise awareness about the indispensable role of veterinary services in national development.

2. Positioning KVA as a Thought Leader

The veterinary profession is critical to addressing major challenges such as zoonoses, climate change impacts on livestock, and antimicrobial resistance. KVA should be at the forefront of these discussions—informing policy, guiding best practices, and representing the veterinary voice in national and international platforms. A strong branding and PR strategy would position KVA as a trusted authority, allowing it to proactively shape debates, influence legislation, and attract partnerships with government, NGOs, donors, and academic institutions.

3. Building Trust with Stakeholders

KVA interacts with a wide range of stakeholders including the government, farmers, NGOs, the private sector, donors, and the general public. Each of these groups has unique expectations and information needs. Without strategic PR, miscommunication and mistrust can arise, undermining KVA's effectiveness. Through well-crafted messaging, consistent branding, and transparent communication, KVA can build strong, trust-based relationships with its stakeholders. This will not only enhance cooperation but also open doors to funding, policy inclusion, and program support.



4. Enhancing Member Engagement and Pride

A clear and compelling brand identity fosters a sense of belonging and pride among members. Many professionals join associations not just for the services they offer but for the prestige and solidarity they bring. A modern, dynamic image of KVA—projected through good branding—can boost member morale, increase recruitment, and foster active participation. Internal PR efforts like newsletters, magazines, webinars, Conferences, awards (such as the annual Vet of the Year Gala Event), and branded merchandise can reinforce unity and ensure that members feel valued and informed.

5. Attracting Partnerships and Funding

Development partners and donors increasingly align with organizations that have a clear brand identity, a visible presence, and a demonstrable impact. KVA's ability to attract partnerships and funding for capacity building, research, and community interventions will be greatly enhanced by a strong PR and branding framework. A compelling narrative about KVA's mission, achievements, and vision can inspire confidence and collaboration from potential funders.

6. Crisis Communication and Reputation Management

In times of crisis—such as disease outbreaks, public health scares, or sectoral disputes—KVA must be able to respond swiftly and credibly. PR provides the tools for crisis communication, allowing the association to manage its reputation, correct misinformation, and reassure the public. Without a dedicated communication strategy, KVA risks being sidelined in critical moments when its voice is most needed.

Conclusion: A Strategic Imperative

Public Relations and Branding are not optional luxuries—they are strategic imperatives for any modern professional association. For KVA, they represent powerful levers to amplify its impact, champion the veterinary profession, and safeguard the health of animals and humans alike. By investing in professional PR and Branding, KVA will not only elevate its profile but also secure its place as a vital pillar of Kenya's development agenda.

The time for a bold, clear, and compelling KVA brand is now.

Vet Communication with Purpose

By Dr. Simon Alubbe

Communication is the process by which a source sends a message to a receiver through a medium. In Veterinary Communication, it is clear that veterinary professionals are the senders of various messages.

As a reader of the Bible, I am fascinated by the way God communicates in a concise, clear and powerful manner. He delivers short, memorable messages that resonate across generations. A prime example is the Ten Commandments in Exodus Chapter 20, a set of compact yet impactful instructions. Veterinary professionals can draw inspiration from this approach. Before engaging with the public, they must carefully consider the message they intend to convey and craft it deliberately. The message should be relevant, concise, unambiguous and memorable. For instance, if a vet visits a farm and treats an animal with antibiotics, it is not enough to simply say, "Don't milk this cow for two weeks." That instruction, while technically correct, lacks context and may not compel compliance. Instead, the vet should offer a message that communicates both the 'what and the why'. For example: "When we treat your cow, the drug will be found in the milk. If people consume this milk, it can harm their health, including yours. That's why we must allow two weeks for the drug to leave the animal's system before consuming its milk." This message frames the withdrawal period as a public health safeguard, not just a technical rule. It builds understanding, trust and compliance which are core goals of effective veterinary communication.

Veterinary professionals often voice a common frustration: "We are not taken seriously enough by society." They cite evidence such as the government's lower classification of veterinary professionals compared to their counterparts in human medicine, a disparity that is not observed in developed countries. Another concern is that clients frequently undervalue their services, hesitating to pay fees that reflect the true level of expertise and responsibility involved. However, could part of the problem lie in how the profession projects itself? Has the veterinary profession communicated sufficiently in intentional messaging that builds respect, clearly demonstrates societal value, and earns the recognition (and remuneration) it deserves? If not, the solution begins with strategic communication, both by individuals and by the organizations that represent them. This involves crafting messages that highlight the profession's critical role in public health, food security, and the national economy. No one else will do this groundwork for the profession; it must articulate its own value and tell its own story. In some cases, this may require the support of public relations and communications experts.

The famous communication theorist Marshall McLuhan once said, "The medium is the message." In essence, he meant that the channel used to deliver a message shapes the message itself and influences how it is received and interpreted. This is a crucial insight for veterinary professionals: Through which channels are you communicating?

To reach farmers, for instance, radio broadcasts and community forums are often more effective than television or newspapers.

On the other hand, to reach policymakers and decision-makers, newspapers and high-level policy briefs carry more weight.

Media experts can help map the most effective channels based on audience type, region and

message objectives thus ensuring that the right message reaches the right audience through the right medium.

Who, exactly, are the audiences that veterinary professionals are seeking to influence? They include farmers, government officials, regulatory agencies, market actors, NGOs, the media and the public. Of course, the primary beneficiary of veterinary services is the animal. As the late Professor Maribei of the University of Nairobi often reminded his students, speaking directly to the animal often prompts the farmer to supply crucial background information because while animals cannot talk, farmers become their voice. This gives the farmer a dual role: they speak for the animal and for themselves. As such, the farmer must be prioritized in both the crafting and delivery of veterinary communication.

A defining characteristic of professional communication is the ability to monitor messages, track their impact, and adjust strategies accordingly. This involves not only observing how messages are received but also documenting outcomes and creating interventions to address gaps or amplify successes. Feedback and monitoring loops must be recognized as critical components of the communication process which can be established e.g. through surveys and stakeholder dialogues (*kamukunji*). Such forums should provide safe, respectful, and non-intimidating spaces where stakeholders can share their thoughts freely.

Veterinary training, like many other professional courses, often underemphasizes the strategic importance of communication. Yet, effective communication is not optional; it is essential to the success of the profession and to the impact of each individual practitioner. The veterinary profession must therefore take the lead in building communication capacity, both at individual and institutional levels. Doing so will elevate its visibility, enhance public understanding and ultimately lead to better outcomes for animals, farmers and society.



Crafting a CV that Lands the Job

Dr. Nicholas Muyale, MBA, KVA Council Chairman

Introduction

In the book *Work to Wealth*, Andrew Goodwin says “What is necessary is giving people a chance, even a second or third chance, recruiting the best you can based on **attitude** and then **ability** (not a common or garden degree on a vague subject), and continuing to offer **training** for the rest of their employment, constantly. And have fun and make money.”

Employers are interested in the quality of the person they want to employ. The primary criteria are attitude, ability/skill, and teachability. Assessing a candidate's attitude involves observing their verbal and non-verbal cues during the interview process, considering their past experiences, and evaluating their approach to challenges and teamwork. This helps gauge their mindset, resilience, and alignment with their employer's culture. Keen employers will undertake social media vetting to assess what the candidate says, thinks, and does to determine their attitude. An applicant's ability can be evaluated through an aptitude/cognitive ability/skills assessment test. Employers are willing to hire people with the right attitude and ability to do the job and train them to align with the company's expectations. However, employers do not hire individuals with the expectation that they will alter their mindset and develop the skills necessary for the job.

Applying for a job is a critical step in the hiring process. Whether responding to a specific advert or an unsolicited application, the curriculum vitae (CV) and cover letter are crucial in bridging the gap between the jobseeker and the employer with the employment opportunity.

This article provides practical guidance on creating an effective CV, highlighting skills and experience, avoiding common mistakes, and projecting a professional image that sets the applicant apart.

The CV: Your Professional Story

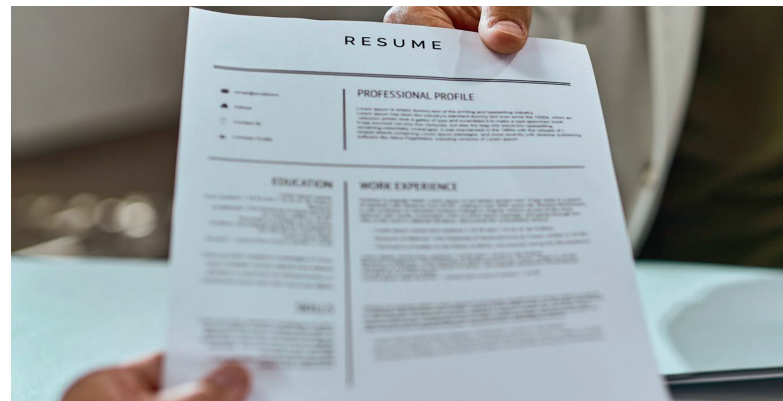
Make your CV to count because it gives your professional story and summarizes your education, experience, and skills. Below are tips for crafting a CV that lands a job.

Use clear, action-oriented language to describe what you accomplished. Instead of vague descriptions like “*Was involved in surgeries,*” highlight your expertise: “*Managed surgical procedures, including soft tissue surgeries such as spay and neuter, orthopedic procedures like amputation, extracapsular stabilization for CCL, and Femoral Head Osteotomy (FHO).*” Avoid generic statements like “*Responsible for managing the sales team.*” Instead, demonstrate your impact: “*Streamlined the sales team by setting and tracking performance targets, leading to a 10% increase in sales turnover.*”

Let your experience speak for itself. Use numbers and metrics to showcase your contributions, such as “*Boosted client satisfaction scores by 15% in one year by implementing a new follow-up call system.*” These details make your CV more persuasive and credible, ensuring potential employers see your true value.

Keep your CV concise—aim for no more than two pages. Keep it short and simple (KISS principle). A brief CV shows you respect the reader's time and can communicate your value. Omit irrelevant personal details or experiences. Details like hobbies, marital status, date of birth/age, religion, and gender are unimportant and can be provided during the interview.

Customize your CV for each job application. If the job emphasizes surgical skills, highlight your surgical experience.



If it values client communication, showcase your ability to connect with pet owners. Tailoring demonstrates genuine interest in the specific position and that you are very serious.

Include technical skills (e.g., small animal surgery, avian medicine, diagnostic imaging) and soft skills (e.g., communication, teamwork, problem-solving). Showcasing a balanced skill set makes you a well-rounded candidate.

List your degrees, certifications, and relevant continuing education. Showcase your ongoing professional development to demonstrate your commitment to staying current in your field of interest.

Proofread meticulously! Even one or two errors can make you appear careless and unprofessional. Ask a friend or colleague to review your CV before submission.

Maintain a consistent font, style, and layout throughout your CV. Inconsistent formatting can make your CV look disorganized and sloppy. Present your information in a logical and easy-to-follow manner. Use clear headings, bullet points, and chronological order to make your CV scannable.

Carefully review the job posting and incorporate relevant keywords into your CV. Many employers use applicant tracking systems (ATS) to scan CVs for specific keywords, so make sure you're using the right language.

A professional CV follows the chronological order: contact information (your name, phone number, and email); professional summary or objective (a summary of your skills, experience, and career goals); work experience (list jobs in reverse chronological order starting with the most recent, including job title, company name, dates of employment, and key accomplishments using quantifiable metrics); education (details of your degrees, institutions, and graduation years, in reverse chronological order); skills (highlight relevant technical and soft skill); certification & training (any additional professional qualifications); projects/publications (significant work you've completed or contributed to); professional membership (any industry organization you're part of), volunteer experience; and references (“available upon request” is usually sufficient).

Conclusion

A well-crafted CV is a powerful tool that can open doors to exciting career opportunities in areas of your interest. Following the tips outlined in this article, you can create a CV highlighting your skills and experience, avoiding common mistakes, and project a professional image that will set you apart from the competition. Invest the time and effort to perfect your CV and watch your career prospects soar!

Life Lessons

Adapted from New Trader U

Life has a peculiar way of teaching us valuable lessons only after we've paid the price for not knowing them. While wisdom traditionally comes with experience, some insights become painfully obvious only in hindsight. The ten lessons below represent common realizations that many wish they had understood decades earlier when applying them could have dramatically altered their life's trajectory.

1

Your Health Is Your True Wealth

The human body operates like a complex investment account where deposits made early yield exponential returns, while neglect compounds into devastating debt. People in their twenties and thirties often treat their bodies as indestructible machines, prioritizing career advancement, choosing convenience foods over nutrition, and viewing exercise as optional rather than essential.

The consequences of these choices typically surface in middle age when energy levels plummet, chronic conditions emerge, and medical bills begin mounting. Preventive healthcare, regular exercise, and quality sleep aren't lifestyle luxuries but fundamental investments in your future productivity and happiness.

2

Time Is More Valuable Than Money

The most successful people often realize too late that they've been optimizing for the wrong variable. While money can theoretically be replaced or recovered, time flows in only one direction. The promotion that demands seventy-hour weeks might boost your salary, but it costs irreplaceable moments with growing children, aging parents, and your spouse. Children don't wait for convenient timing to need their parent's presence. They graduate, play their final game, or share their first heartbreak on schedules that don't accommodate your meeting calendar. The belief that you can "make up for lost time" later proves false when you discover that developmental windows close permanently. People on their deathbeds rarely wish they had spent more time at the office, but they frequently regret missing family milestones that can never be recaptured.

3

Your Network Determines Your Net Worth More than your Grades Did

Academic achievement opens doors, but relationships determine which doors you'll walk through and what opportunities await beyond them. Many focus intensely on developing technical competencies while neglecting the social connections that drive career advancement and business success. Professional relationships compound over time, creating opportunities that no amount of individual talent can generate alone. The industry contact you maintain through career transitions provides inside knowledge when needed most. Success rarely happens in isolation, and the most accomplished professionals understand that helping others succeed creates a network of allies who reciprocate when opportunities arise.

4

Financial Literacy Should Have Been Learned Before You Needed It

Financial education in schools remains inadequate, leaving most to learn money management through trial and error when the stakes are highest. Understanding compound interest, investment principles, and spending discipline creates wealth over time, but these concepts must be applied consistently to be effective. The mathematics of wealth building favor those who start early, even with modest amounts. One who begins investing in his twenties can accumulate significant wealth with



relatively small monthly contributions. At the same time, someone who starts in their forties must save dramatically more to achieve similar results. Living below your means and investing systematically aren't just financial strategies but pathways to freedom and choice in later life. Financial stress destroys relationships, limits opportunities, and creates anxiety that affects every aspect of daily living.

5

Your Ego Is Expensive

Pride prevents many people from making decisions that would accelerate their growth and success. Ego keeps you from asking for help when needed, admitting mistakes that could be corrected, or accepting feedback that could improve your performance. The most successful learn humility early, understanding that admitting ignorance opens learning opportunities while pretending to know already closes them. Apologizing when wrong strengthens relationships rather than weakness. Your ego's need for validation costs money, relationships, and opportunities that rational decision-making would preserve.

6

Passive Income Beats Active Income

Trading time for money creates an inherent ceiling on earning potential since everyone has the same twenty-four hours daily. Building assets that generate income without your direct involvement creates true financial freedom and security. This might include rental properties, dividend-paying investments, business ownership, or royalties from created works. Most people remain trapped, thinking only about active income and believing that working harder or longer hours is the path to wealth. While active income pays for today's expenses, passive income funds tomorrow. The goal isn't to replace earned income immediately but to gradually build income streams that provide security and options as you age. Wealthy individuals understand that money should work for them, not the reverse.

7

Your Reputation Is Built Slowly and Destroyed Quickly

Every interaction adds to or subtracts from how others perceive your character and competence. Reputation functions like a bank account where deposits accumulate slowly through consistent behavior, but a single withdrawal can wipe out years of accumulated trust. In our interconnected world, reputation damage spreads faster and persists longer. Character and integrity aren't just moral choices but practical strategies for long-term success. People prefer to work with, hire, and recommend individuals they trust. One moment of poor judgment, dishonesty, or unprofessional behavior can undo decades of good work. The professional who maintains ethical standards and treats others well builds a reputation that opens doors throughout their career.

8

You Can't Change Other People, Only Yourself
People often waste enormous energy trying to

motivate their employees, or convince family members to make better choices. This effort typically generates frustration for everyone involved while producing minimal results. The only person you can truly control is yourself; focusing that energy inward yields much better outcomes. Accepting this reality doesn't mean becoming indifferent to others but channeling your influence more effectively. You can't change people but can change how you respond to them. You can't control outcomes, but you can control your effort and attitude. This shift in focus reduces stress while increasing your impact on situations within your sphere of influence.

9

Skills Matter More Than Credentials after Your First Job

While education credentials open initial doors, what you can accomplish determines your career trajectory beyond entry-level positions. The job market increasingly rewards competence over certificates, and technology continues expanding opportunities for skilled individuals regardless of their educational background. Invest in practical abilities that employers value: technical skills, communication abilities, problem-solving capacity, and leadership competence. Continuous learning becomes more important than initial learning, and the ability to adapt to changing requirements often matters more than deep expertise in rapidly evolving fields.

10

Regret Weighs More Than Failure

The heaviest burdens in life aren't the mistakes you made but the chances you didn't take. Failed attempts teach lessons and build resilience, while unexplored opportunities create persistent wondering about what might have been. The deepest regrets involve inaction rather than action, words not spoken rather than words misspoken. Fear of failure keeps many men from pursuing dreams, starting businesses, or taking calculated risks that could dramatically improve their lives. The pain of failure is acute but temporary, while the pain of regret is chronic and permanent. Taking action, even when success isn't guaranteed, provides either positive outcomes or valuable learning experiences. Avoiding action offers neither.

Conclusion

These lessons become apparent only in retrospect when the cost of not knowing them has already been paid. The fortunate few learn them early through mentorship or paying attention to those who've walked similar paths. While you can't change past decisions, understanding these patterns can inform better choices. It's never too late to apply these insights, even if you wish you'd discovered them sooner. Wisdom isn't about avoiding all mistakes but about learning from your own experiences and the experiences of others who've traveled this road before you.

Redefining My Path:

From Reluctant Vet Student to Anilove Founder and Sales Professional

By Dr. Nakhumicha Khaemba

Born and raised in the lush green fields of Kitale, I had no idea that Veterinary Medicine was such a vast and diverse career. I didn't grow up dreaming of becoming a vet. In fact, landing in vet school wasn't even part of my plan; it was a choice designed for me by KUCCPS, the higher education selection and admission body in Kenya.

I remember the feeling so clearly. I wasn't excited. I tried everything to transfer to Law school. I even made multiple inter-faculty attempts. I thought that's where I truly belonged. But guess what? I didn't succeed. And so, I had to live with what felt like someone else's decision. But looking back now, would I change a thing? No. Not at all. Over time, I grew into the profession and more importantly, I grew to love it. Veterinary Medicine may be small and often overlooked, but it is a profession that sits close to my heart. I speak about it with passion because I have come to see its beauty, its impact, and its potential.

That passion led me to create Anilove Vets Ltd, a mobile-based platform that connects farmers to Veterinarians in real-time. Anilove is not just a digital tool it's a bridge between communities and care, between data and decisions. It's a product of love, frustration, field experience, and hope. And for farmers who once had to wait days or weeks to access help, Anilove is a game-changer. But just when I thought I had found my place, life led me to yet another space I never imagined for myself: animal health pharmaceutical sales. Slowly by slowly, I've found my rhythm here too. What began as a professional experiment has now grown into a niche I'm proud of. Is it a space I see myself thriving in over the next 10 years? Yes.

Being a woman in Pharma sales is no walk in the park. There are challenges:

- Stereotypes and bias having to prove yourself again and again in a male-dominated industry.
- Work-life balance is long hours, fieldwork, and little room to slow down.
- Building trust especially when you're a young woman stepping into traditional, skeptical spaces.

But the truth is, it's not only doable, but it is empowering. Every clinic visit, every farmer interaction, every successful product pitch; they all affirm that I belong here!

So here I am: A Veterinarian not by my original design, but by destiny. A woman in sales, grounded by relationships and results. A tech innovator, building bridges for animal health access. And above all, a Kenyan professional who speaks for animals, for farmers, and for the young vets still finding their place.

This is my story. And it's still unfolding.



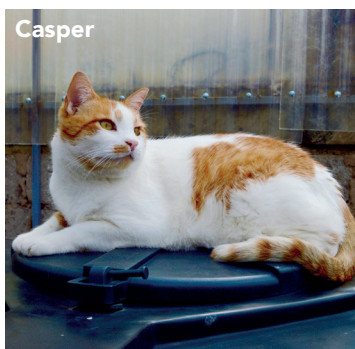
Elsa's Memoir: The Oldest Cat

By Dr. Isaiah Nchagwa Chacha

As a vet, Elsa was the oldest cat I have attended to in my 16 years of practice.

Meet her while she was 19 years old. Restraining her for medication was not an easy task. Considering her age, soft padding and patience came into play to ensure everyone's safety and smooth mission accomplishment. Elsa encountered the Mussani family 22 years ago, July 2003 to be precise. She was then a tiny two months old, vibrant, female kitten. Elsa was fussy about her food. Loved mutton, minced meat, wet food and reflex dry pellets. She ate what she wanted and wanted what she ate, nothing could be done about that. Two months later, Elsa got a companion. This time a male kitten christened Casper. The two became a terrible duo. They owned and ruled the house, treating their masters as their pets. Curtains and sheers were torn, as they played day and night. There was no negotiation concerning food, their plates were to be full at all times. Despite the fact that Elsa and Casper were best of friends, Elsa could not share her litter box with Casper. The Mussanis had to get Casper his own litter box and even place it in a different room.

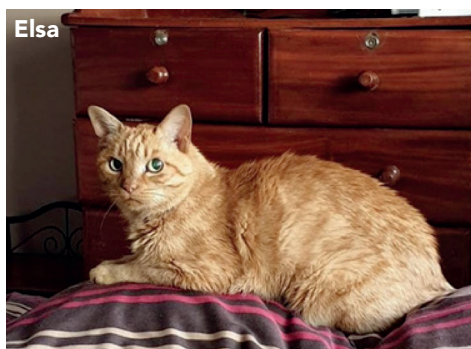
Although she lived a healthy life in her younger days, Elsa was sensitive to medication. Routine medicines for control of parasites were not to be used on her; not at least under strict veterinary advice. Administration of these medicines would result to illness, severe in some cases. Owing to this, it was preferred to keep a near sterile home environment to keep away germs and parasites, than medicate Elsa. This, the Mussani family considered with precision. Of course, this was not a walk in the park! Elsa was extremely playful and explorative causing injuries every-so-often. Elsa's active nature was slowed down at eight years of age, in the year 2011. The family noticed that she bumped into things. A veterinary examination was occasioned and the results revealed glaucoma, an eye condition that leads to increased pressure in the eyeball with potential for blindness. Elsa was blind, this was traced back to one of her parents, and therefore this was a hereditary. Even with blindness, she adapted to the house and remained active. This however, came with another set of challenges; she developed seizures. Vet Homeopathy coupled with tender, love and care from the family helped her live a quality life. Elsa encountered yet another tragedy in the year 2019:



A tooth was found to have severe odontitis and had to be extracted. In the extraction, her jaw fractured and now feeding became a problem. The jaw fracture was expected to heal in eight months, but with the help of a homeopathy vet specialist, Elsa healed in two months. All this time the family fed her through a syringe. The homeopathy specialist vet also managed her seizures, leading to reduction in their frequency.

Casper on the other hand had his own set of drama. In the year 2015, he was kidnapped by a neighbor. He had not known staying away from Elsa for even a second. He tried all possible means to escape, and on the ninth day, just like in a movie; Casper staged a Prison Break and was back to his family. Ever since, Casper feared strangers, never stepping beyond the door mat and remaining indoors. However, in the year 2021, Casper became deaf but lived a healthy life thereafter.

I started attending to both felines in 2022, both at the age of 19 years. Elsa's frame was fragile but her will to push-on was young and unshakable. She occasionally developed gastrointestinal issues related to low immunity occasioned by old age. A



year later in 2023, inexplicably, Casper vomited blood and would not move at all for hours. At the ripe age of 20, we had to put him to sleep to alleviate suffering. Elsa soldiered on, until early 2024 when we diagnosed Feline Asthma Bronchitis Complex (FABC). A respiratory condition that presents like asthma in humans. Given the advanced age and immune status, we managed the condition with minimal medication. One time we altered medication and Elsa was recumbent for three days owing to her sensitive nature to medicines. In September 2024 at 21 years old, Elsa became too weak to make it to her litter box. She would soil herself and thus started using diapers. When specific cat diapers were inaccessible, human baby diapers were modified to fit the function. A month later, Elsa stopped feeding on her own again due to her age. She was fed with a feeding syringe for the rest of her life. On Thursday, 15th May 2025 at 5:30am, a distress call came through. Elsa was recumbent, all limbs stretched out, cold extremities, difficult breathing but responding to touch. Upon quick consultation with the family, the hard decision was made to rest Elsa through Euthanasia. May Elsa and Casper's souls rest in eternal peace.

Vet Scope Humor

The owners of the dog came back to the clinic complaining that the dog's ear medication wasn't working, and the otitis was getting worse. It turns out they were putting the tablets in the dog's ears.

Had a farm call: The farmer had 300 goats and lets them live in his house. The floor was four feet deep in manure. The backs of the couches and chairs were peeking out like islands with the goats standing on them. He called them his people.

You Just Might Have an Out from Stagflation

By Dr. Samuel Mwaura

If you had told me a few years ago that there's a place where cows have better cooling systems than I do, I would have called that an untruth. But here I am, deep in the Arabian Desert, ensuring that dairy cows survive the heat better than I do! Welcome to the life of a Kenyan vet in the Middle East, where the farms are massive, the sun is unforgiving, and surprisingly, I still speak Kikuyu half the day.

So why pack up and trade the rolling green hills of home for endless sand dunes? Well, for starters, the Middle East is investing heavily in food security, and dairy farming is serious business here. The farms are on a scale you have to see to believe. If you think a 500-cow farm in Kenya is big, wait until you visit a farm with tens of thousands of cows! It's like playing in the Premier League; big teams, big budgets and cutting-edge technology. But dairy isn't the only game in town, small animal medicine is also a booming industry in the Middle East. Many locals are passionate about their pets, and vet clinics here are not just dealing with your usual cats and dogs. I have several friends working with some rather unique patients; think falcons, tortoises, and even exotic birds worth more than your Demio! The demand for high-quality veterinary care is growing, and pet owners here don't shy away from spending on top-tier treatment, from advanced diagnostics to luxurious pet grooming services. And let's talk about fellow Kenyans. I expected to feel like an outsider, but instead, I've found so many of my people here that I practically switch between English, Arabic and Kikuyu throughout the day. I sometimes wonder if I even left home!

First lesson in Arab Country: Never underestimate the sun. It doesn't play. You step outside for two minutes, and you start questioning all your life choices. But don't worry, it is survivable. The farms have well-structured systems to deal with the heat, and after a while, you even stop complaining (well, almost). Then there's the food. If you love nyama choma, brace yourself, you might have to settle for shawarma. And chapati? You'll be lucky to find anything close to what your auntie makes back home! You'll have

to make do with Parotta, which I firmly believe is bootleg chapati, ha-ha. But hey, that's why we Kenyans abroad have mastered the art of improvisation. Staying Kenyan, Staying Compliant

Now, just because you're working outside the country doesn't mean the Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB) forgets about you. No, no. If you still want to call yourself a Kenyan vet, you must stay compliant. That means paying your annual retention fee, yes, even when you're thousands of kilometers away! You can apply for a waiver of CPD points, but that fee? It follows you like your mother's reminders about marriage.

Which brings me to an idea I'm seriously mulling over; why not start a KVA Abroad branch? We have so many Kenyan vets scattered across the world that it's about time we had our own structured network. A place where we can share job opportunities, support each other, and most importantly, remind one another to pay that retention fee before KVB starts hunting us down internationally!

Thinking of working in the Middle East? Here's your survival kit:

- Pack an open mind and a good sense of humor. You'll need both.
- Be ready for cultural differences; people here treat daylight like an inconvenience, and most social activities happen at night. You'll find yourself casually shopping at 2 AM, wondering if you've truly adapted or just lost control of your sleep schedule. Oh, and don't worry about the language barrier, folks here love visitors and they are ready to use Google Translate to give you directions.
- Make friends! Your fellow Kenyans will become your second family. Before you know it, you'll be exchanging tips on where to find maize flour.

Personally, despite the heat, the distance, and the occasional language mix-ups (trust me, you'll have plenty), this journey has been one of immense learning and professional growth. If you are a vet looking for adventure, great career opportunities, or just to run from home for a minute, check out for opportunities in the Middle East!



Word Search: Cat names according to their coat colors

B	U	T	T	E	R	N	U	T	S
C	S	R	S	G	I	N	G	E	R
A	R	T	H	O	B	Z	K	C	P
L	U	N	A	P	E	A	I	O	U
I	E	I	D	R	L	S	N	T	M
C	L	E	O	F	T	H	K	U	P
O	C	T	W	D	O	N	Y	X	K
K	M	O	R	E	O	W	E	E	I
J	N	T	A	B	B	Y	Y	D	N
S	O	O	T	Y	S	S	P	O	T

(Shadow, Ginger, Tabby, Onyx, Pumpkin, Butternut, Inky, Calico, Oreo, Sooty, Rue, Tuxedo, Snowflakes, Cleo, Boot, Luna, Ash, Spot)

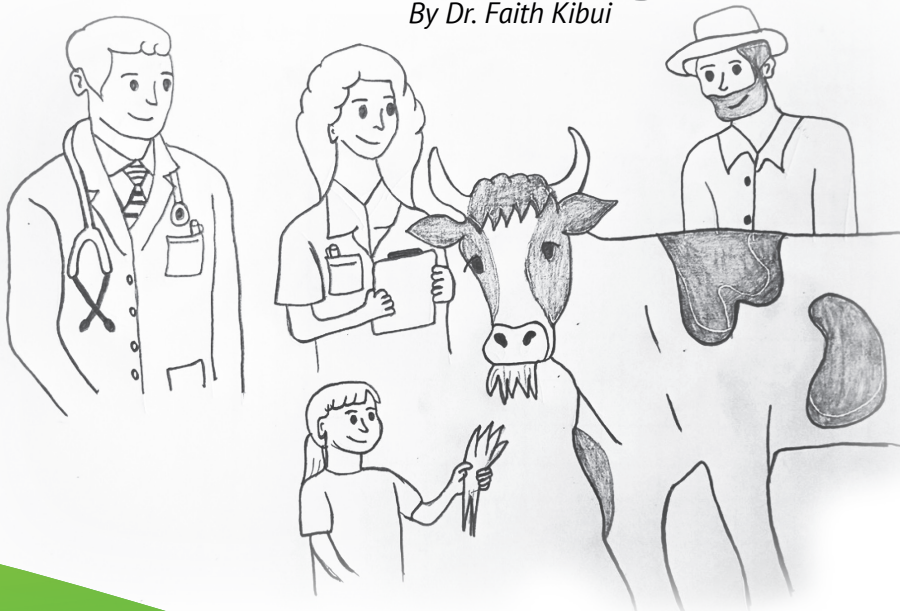
Word Search: Dog Breeds

B	D	N	U	O	H	Y	E	R	G	R	T	Y	I	U	O	A	J	D
Q	E	W	E	I	M	A	R	A	N	E	R	S	D	Z	G	H	A	S
N	M	A	L	T	E	S	E	G	H	J	J	K	M	T	N	B	C	P
O	A	S	D	E	G	P	U	G	T	Y	U	I	K	I	D	H	K	E
L	S	Z	X	R	B	A	L	S	A	T	I	A	N	H	N	J	R	K
L	T	G	G	R	B	N	H	J	K	Z	T	I	P	S	K	L	U	I
I	I	Q	E	I	R	I	R	I	S	H	S	E	T	T	E	R	S	N
P	F	T	Y	R	U	E	U	I	O	P	A	D	Z	V	B	N	S	E
A	F	G	I	K	U	L	A	S	J	C	O	R	G	I	K	L	E	S
P	W	G	O	D	L	L	U	B	O	P	L	C	P	O	O	D	L	E

(Greyhound, Papillon, Weimaraner, Maltese, Mastiff, Bulldog, Terrier, Pug, Spaniel, Alsatian, Shitzu, Irish setter, Poodle, Jack Russel, Pekinese, Spitz, Corgi)

Coloring

By Dr. Faith Kibui



Wind beyond her Sails

by Dr. Kelvin Osore

Mabel gasped as a van splashed dirty water all over her. This was not how she had envisioned the end of her workday, but she was determined not to let anything dampen her mood. All she wanted was to get home and surprise John, her fiancé, with the good news - a departure from the monotony of their daily grind. She sighed, longing for the simplicity of her village life, where the day began with the crowing of roosters and the mooing of cattle, and ended with the chirping of crickets. Instead, this was what she had signed up for - the reality of capitalism.

But today, neither capitalism nor the chaos of downtown Nairobi could steal her joy. She made a beeline for the Embassava Sacco matatus, determined to get home before her boyfriend. But even as she successfully dodged motorcycles and skipped past flashy matatus along Moi Avenue, using every bit of skill honed on these streets over years, more woes awaited her. Approaching the famous Accra Road bus terminus, drenched in the torrential Nairobi rain, Mabel's heart sank as in front of her, was a long queue snaking towards the matatus. But she had no choice, the rains usually turned Nairobi into a sluggish mess - slower and very expensive. Hailing an Uber would be a fool's errand as the fares would be hiked and the traffic heavier. At least the matatus knew how to maneuver their way out of city traffic!

Resigned to her fate, she took her position in the ever-growing queue and settled back into her thoughts. She needed something to distract her from the biting August cold gnawing at her bones. Her mind traveled back to her countryside fantasy. She pictured her family - she wasn't sure how many kids would be enough, but she knew both wanted at least two. She thought of the two running around the homestead chasing after chicken as she and John sat under a tree watching the calves graze. She thought of their joy when Friday arrived as they bade them farewell to go spend the weekend at grandpa's. She thought of her mid-morning adventures in the garden as she tended to her vegetables. She thought of lazy afternoons spent making stories with neighbors in between uncountable cups of tea, and evenings spent counting stars in John's arms. But just as her life choice regrets started to pile up, a rude "madam, songa!" from the matatu conductor jolted her back to reality. She quickly clambered aboard the matatu, settled into her seat, and wandered off to fantasyland as loud music boomed from the vehicle's speakers.

Mabel worked as an accountant at a city law firm located within the Central Business District. When she landed the job two years ago, it was a dream come true. Now, however, it felt like a grind, with stagnant wages and mounting responsibilities. Her salary had barely grown while responsibilities seem to have quadrupled. She was now paying her young brother's high school fees and supporting her fiancé to take care of bills. John was a teller at a local bank along Mombasa Road. He was the first and the only son in a family of five. His financial situation was no better than Mabel's. Yet, despite the financial strain, they remained steadfast in their commitment to each other, and they were determined to get married that year. They loved each other,



and that had gotten them through the toughest of times. Now they wanted to commit their lives together and money was not about to stop them.

She walked gingerly down the dusty path that led to the apartment. She glanced at her watch-it was 6.47pm and by now she was sure John had already got home ahead of her. Passing by Muturi, the local roast maize vendor, she couldn't resist buying a piece - a favorite evening snack for both. Along the way, she made a mental note to pick up some vegetables just outside the gate before heading up the stairs. Although by now her clothes had nearly dried on her body, she still looked forward to the warmth of their apartment and a comforting cup of tea.

After a brief knock, John, beaming at her sight, opened the door to House C15, their one-bedroom apartment located on the third floor. He quickly grabbed the maize from her and ushered her in. The aroma of cooking tea wafted through from the kitchen offering a momentary respite from the day's tribulations. She gave him a mischievous smile and fixated her gaze on him trying to catch his attention. At first, John was engrossed with the maize and didn't notice her gaze until she playfully slapped him on the back while pouting. John turned to her and asked jokingly, "are you jealous of the attention I'm giving a cob of maize?" "Maybe I should keep the good news to myself", replied Mabel. This finally did the trick as John finally turned to her with anticipation. She had taken the test, and yes, she was pregnant. Overwhelmed with happiness, John started to speak but could only stutter. He pulled her into a warm embrace then cupped her face in his hands. He had always hoped they would have a baby soon after their wedding, which was coming up in six months' time. This was the perfect timing!

However, just as the joy began to settle, Mabel remembered she had forgotten to buy the vegetables and asked John to hold onto the moment while she ran out to get them. She dashed out of the door but just as she rounded the corridor to start down the flight of stairs, she heard a loud bang and was thrown against the wall by the brute force of the explosion coming from their house. Dazed and disoriented, she stumbled back towards C15, all the while calling out John's name.

As the dust settled, lying at the Kitchen entrance amidst the wreckage, was John's lifeless body - or whatever remained of it.

The story is adapted from the AfricanTroll @wordsaladkey ran by Kelvin Osore

<https://thirdwordsalad.wordpress.com/2024/03/08/wind-beyond-her-sails/>

The Power of Collaboration in Animal Health

By Bonventure Okeri

Introduction

Animal health is vital for food security, economic stability, and public health. However, maintaining it requires a collective effort. No single professional can handle all aspects of animal care, disease control, and welfare alone. Instead, veterinarians, researchers, farmers, policymakers, and the community must work together. The phrase “Animal Health Takes a Team” highlights the necessity of collaboration in ensuring the wellbeing of animals and, by extension, humans.

The Role of Different Professionals in Animal Health

1. Veterinarians

Veterinarians play a central role in diagnosing, treating, and preventing diseases in animals. They provide medical care, conduct surgeries, and offer guidance on nutrition and management practices.

2. Veterinary Paraprofessionals (Vet Technicians, Nurses)

These professionals assist veterinarians in animal treatment and management. They play a crucial role in handling animals, administering medication, and ensuring smooth clinical operations.



Animal Health in Water Colour: A painting by Dr. Vanessa Cheronu depicting that it takes a team to attain Animal Health. Farmers, Pet Owners, Veterinarians and all other stakeholders must work in harmony for the benefit of a health animal population.

3. Researchers and Scientists

The veterinary field relies on continuous research to develop better vaccines, improve treatment methods, and control emerging diseases like Rift Valley fever and rabies. Scientists work behind the scenes to provide data-driven solutions.

4. Farmers and Animal Owners

Since they interact with animals daily, farmers and pet owners are the first line of defense against diseases. Their cooperation in reporting symptoms,

following vaccination schedules, and implementing proper animal management practices is critical.

5. Government Agencies and NGOs

Government bodies such as the Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB) and the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) enforce regulations and policies for disease control. NGO also contribute by running awareness campaigns and providing veterinary services in underserved areas.

Collaboration in Action: Case Studies

1. Rabies Eradication Efforts in Kenya

Rabies is a deadly zoonotic disease that affects both animals and humans. In Kenya, collaboration between veterinarians, government agencies, and NGOs has led to mass dog vaccination campaigns, reducing cases significantly.

2. Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) Control

Controlling FMD requires teamwork between researchers, policymakers, and farmers. Vaccination programs, quarantine measures, and disease surveillance have been effective due to collective efforts.

3. The One Health Approach

The One Health concept recognizes the connection between human, animal, and environmental health. In Kenya, professionals from human medicine, veterinary medicine, and environmental sciences work together to monitor and prevent zoonotic diseases.

Challenges and the Way Forward

Despite the importance of teamwork in animal health, the following challenges exist:

- a) Limited resources – Many veterinary facilities lack funding and equipment.

- b) Communication barriers – Gaps between researchers, veterinarians, and farmers hinder quick decision-making.
- c) Public awareness – Some farmers are reluctant to follow veterinary advice due to myths and misconceptions.

Solutions:

- a) Strengthen training programs to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration.
- b) Use technology (e.g., digital animal health records) to improve coordination.
- c) Increase public education on the importance of veterinary services.

Conclusion

Collaboration in animal health is not just beneficial—it is necessary. Veterinarians, farmers, researchers, and policymakers must work together to ensure better disease control, animal welfare, and food safety. By strengthening teamwork, Kenya can enhance its livestock industry, improve public health, and secure a sustainable future.

Animal health truly takes a team!



War on Worms

Kenyan Farmers Find Relief in Smarter Parasite Control with Dectomax

Dr Peter Canisius

Narok, Kajiado, Machakos: The battle against livestock parasites is being fought on new fronts across Kenya, and the victories are finally being counted, not just in healthier herds but also in incomes. Iltepes Farm, deep seated in Narok County, Malvine Sempeyo, a resilient beef cattle farmer, was losing the fight against persistent worms, tick infestations, and poor cattle performance. Her calves and heifers were hardest hit: Dull coats, poor appetite and little weight gain. That changed the day the Zoetis team visited her farm with a demonstration on Integrated Parasite Management (IPM) and the use of Dectomax. “We didn’t expect miracles,” admits Dr. Kibet, her consulting vet. “But what we saw after applying Dectomax was incredible. Coat quality improved, appetite returned and within a few weeks, there was visible weight gain.” For Sempeyo, the impact was so convincing that she not only adopted Dectomax as part of her routine deworming strategy, she became an ambassador for change. “I told my neighbors about it. We now treat together, and we’re already seeing the difference.”

Across Kenya, parasites remain one of the biggest threats to livestock productivity. Gastrointestinal worms, mites and ticks silently rob animals of weight, fertility and immunity, often before symptoms appear. “Many farmers wait until it’s too late,” explains Dr. Melita, a field veterinarian in Kajiado County. “They deworm based on habit, not science. But worms are evolving. We need to be smarter.” He describes his own experience with Dectomax as a breath of fresh air. “It is the kind of product we’ve been waiting for. Effective, long acting and reliable. I now confidently recommend it, and my clients are thrilled with

the results.” In Machakos, feedlot operator Kilson runs a commercial fattening unit with tight timelines and tighter margins. “When you’re finishing beef cattle, everyday counts,” he says. “I tried Dectomax as part of our induction protocol, and the results were immediate - better feed efficiency, shiny coats and animals hitting slaughter weight ahead of schedule.” He attributes his improved turnover and market returns to targeted parasite control, especially during critical growth periods. “Dectomax has helped me manage both internal parasites and external pests in one go. That’s efficient.” Integrated Parasite Management (IPM) is a modern, science-backed approach that combines strategic deworming, fecal egg count monitoring, pasture rotation, veterinary consultation and the use of broad-spectrum, long-acting products like Dectomax. By breaking the parasite lifecycle, IPM reduces resistance, minimizes drug wastage and boosts animal productivity. “Instead of mass deworming every month, we now treat based on need, season and life stage,” says Dr. Kibet. “And products like Dectomax make that possible. It’s not often you find a product that ticks all the boxes.”

Dectomax is winning trust in Kenya because it controls both internal and external parasites, provides extended protection with fewer treatments, improves weight gain and coat condition, and is suitable for beef cattle, sheep, and goats, as well as pigs. Whether you’re in the highlands of Nakuru, the plains of Kajiado, or the feedlots of Kitengela, Dectomax is proving its worth. A healthier herd is just a shot away.

Dr Peter Canisius, Technical Manager Ruminants, Zoetis Kenya.



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For further information, please see the product SPC or contact your local product distributor.

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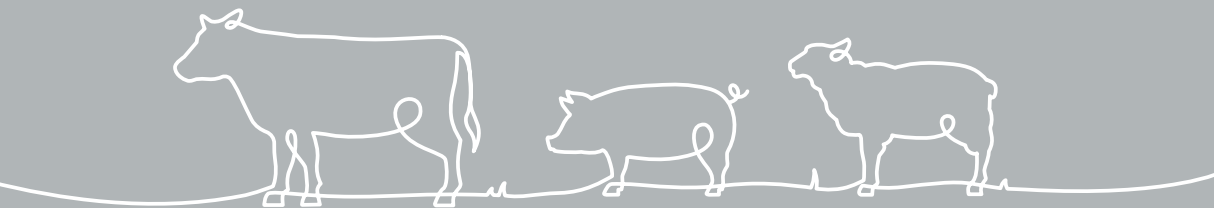
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