

# KVA NEWS

KVA Monthly Newsletter

May 2016

## Establishing working relationships



Left: KVA team pays a courtesy call to the Principal CAVS Prof. Kiama accompanied by VSA chairman and the chairman CSD. Right: KVA team pays a courtesy call to the KVB office.

The team identified strategic partnership areas and a cohesive working relationship that will ensure synergies between the organizations. Kenya Veterinary Board  
Both parties agreed to work together to weed out all types of quacks. This way, KVA members will not encounter unnecessary competition and thus grow their businesses. Among many other areas of collaborations with the UON, KVA will closely work with UON to transform the KVA journal



The team also paid a courtesy call to the PS-SDL Dr. Andrew Tuimur (second right)

Possible areas of collaboration and a harmonious working relationship was also discussed and need for continuous follow-ups identified to enhance

Among the major priority issues are; Finalization of the Veterinary Policy, the need to implement the VMD regulations, enhancement of the public –Private Partnerships in the delivery of the veterinary services among others.

The team also paid a courtesy call to the IGAD Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD) office and identified potential areas of partnership to be followed up.

KVA is keen to continue negotiating and building more partnerships within the animal resource industry in Kenya and the region. Members are encouraged to continue sharing great ideas and opportunities to enhance re-positioning of the KVA.



### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE—DR KAHARIRI

I present to you the first KVA newsletter that highlights the key focus of the new team for the past 1 month in office. The new team acknowledges the immense potential held by this profession which can only be realized if we embrace teamwork and deliberately focus on uniting all the arms of this noble profession.

KVA seeks to build new partnerships that will see the achievement of her objectives towards improving the livelihoods of Kenyans. The new team therefore has laid great emphasis on strengthening structures that enhances accountability and service delivery in order to safeguard the interest of our new partners. We continue to urge members to continue being supportive and being good ambassadors of KVA. This is the time to do for KVA that which you have always dreamt about. I encourage all those who are yet to become members to join the association and together we move this profession our dream position. Thanks for being part of the change!

## In This Issue

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- Advocacy continues
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# Advocacy

KVA has intensified media advocacy and sensitization on various issues affecting the profession. The team has also embarked on plan to empower the KVA branches to adequately spearhead the advocacy of issues at the County levels

## County advocacy

KVA is took part in advocacy for better service delivery to avert disease outbreaks in Murang'a county.

KVA participated in the Nyeri County strategic planning and identified areas of partnerships. The County is set to employ a number of Vets soon.

Nairobi County: KVA participated in the budget review process and suggested key changes in the priorities pertaining to the delivery of veterinary services.

## EAC activities

Under the umbrella of APSEA KVA continue to actively advocate for strategic opportunities for the Kenyan Veterinarians in the East Africa Community

Nyeri > Official urges vaccination

## Disease robs meat dealers Sh0.6m daily

Up to 30 per cent of slaughtered animals in the country go to waste, says agency

BY BONIFACE MWANGI  
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Meat dealers in Nyeri lose up to Sh0.6m everyday because of a disease that affects internal organs of cows, sheep and goats.

Up to 30 per cent of all animals slaughtered in the county every day are affected by Hydatid disease, according to the Kenya Veterinary Association.

Association's central region secretary Gichomo Mwangi said the condition, commonly known as, Echinococcus disease can be controlled through vaccination.

Dr Gichomo who is also the head of veterinary services, said internal organs of many animals slaughtered in the county go to waste because of the disease. "A study which he carried out last year shows that at least 2,000 cows and over 1,000 goats and sheep are slaughtered in the county every day.

"When human beings consume the infected organs, one harbours an intermediate host which grows into a huge ball-like mass that can only be removed through surgery because there is no treatment," Dr Gichomo said yesterday.

He called on dog owners to take management of their pet seriously because the disease is human beings is mainly caused through infection by larvae of its dog tapeworm. This happens when one accidentally ingests eggs of the larvae that the infected dog excretes through its faeces.

"Many people are no longer vaccinating or deworming dog and livestock and this trend is worrying," he said.

The meat dealers get animals they slaughter from the neighbouring semi-arid Laikipia County, a region which, according to Dr Gichomo, is predominantly occupied by pastoralists who do not practice animal management, including vaccination and deworming.

"This county also borders the Aberdare and Mt Kenya forests where wild animals also spread the tapeworm through faeces. Later livestock eat them while grazing," Dr Gichomo said.

### Background

#### DISEASE CAUSED BY DOG FAECES

Hydatid disease is caused by contact with faeces of an infected dog. This forms cysts in vital organs of the body such as the liver. Bulging fluid on the meat immediately the animal has been slaughtered is one of the major signs of Hydatid disease.

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## Drug residue in products poses risk to consumers

BY IRENE HUGO

Consumption of drug residue from animal products is a major public health concern in the country, the Kenya Veterinary Association has warned.

According to the association's chairman, Dr Simon Kabariit, some traders of animal products have been bypassing the official quality assurance channels like meat inspection, jeopardising Kenyans' health.

Dr Kabariit said some antimicrobial agents like hydrogen peroxide were being added to milk by unscrupulous traders, who include major companies and cooperatives societies, to extend its shelf life.

"Some of the animal products we consume have bypassed the periodic tests for drug residues to safeguard the health of our people," he said.

According to the association, raw milk was either being sold directly from farmers to consumers or via various informal market agents.

"Misuse of the veterinary drugs in food animals and handling of the drugs by unqualified individuals masquerading as veterinarians have seen a great rise in a wide range of antimicrobial, at levels above maximum residue limits," said Dr Kabariit.

DAILY NATION | Thursday June 2, 2016

Health > First case of disease detected in Kenya

## Cat diagnosed with feline 'HIV' in city

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Pet owners told not to panic as virus can not be transmitted to human beings

BY JACQUELINE KUBANIA  
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If you own a cat you might want to get it tested for the feline equivalent of HIV as scientists now say there is evidence your beloved pet could be carrying the infectious disease.

The Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) was found in the blood of a cat tested at Lancet Laboratories in Nairobi.

Although the virus was first documented in 1986 and has been found in cats in the United States and other parts of the world, this is the first time it has been detected in Kenya.

According to Lancet, the virus manifests in much the same way that HIV does in human beings. It lowers immunity, leaving the cat vulnerable to oppor-

tunistic diseases. Ultimately, it degenerates into a full blown version of feline Aids and kills the cat through opportunistic infections.

However, cat owners should not panic and throw out their pets because the virus cannot be transmitted to human beings.

### Symptoms

#### THE SIGNS TO WATCH OUT FOR

- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Fever
- Weight loss
- Dishevelled coat
- Poor appetite
- Diarrhoea
- Dental disease
- Wounds that don't heal
- Sneezing
- Discharge from eyes or nose
- Frequent urination, straining to urinate or urinating outside litter box
- Behaviour change

"This discovery should prompt cat owners to protect their cats from exposure to the virus by keeping them indoors and reducing contact with free-roaming cats that carry the virus," said Dr Dhaval Shah, a veterinary pathologist at Lancet Kenya.

The virus is primarily transmitted among cats through bites during fighting.

According to a study published last year by Cornell University in the US, casual, non-aggressive contact between cats has not been found to transmit the virus, therefore, those that live in a stable home environment and are protected from contact with feral cats are at little risk of infection.

Kenya Veterinary Association honorary secretary Kenneth Wamweyo expressed concern at the large number of stray cats in the country.

"An increasing number of Kenyans are keeping cats as pets. It is important for them to protect their pets from this virus through regular screening for the virus and to prevent spreading infection to other cats," Dr Wamweyo said.



## MEMBERS WELFARE



The KVA through SEVET branch spearheaded a fund raising ceremony for one of the members to undergo a surgical procedure. The event was graced by PS Labour Dr. Khadijah Kassachoon. The total amount raised during the fundraiser was KES 460,000.

KVA also participated in resource mobilization for the funds to settle the late Dr Makau's hospital bill.

The team is working around the clock to commence products that will ensure every veterinarian gets access to affordable medical cover and a personal accident / last respect schemes before the end of the first quarter.

Mentorship: KVA participated in the Leavers party for the VET class of 2016 to usher the young graduates to the profession.

# KVA Calendar Events



KVA organized Donkey day celebration under the Brooke funded project at Kajiado County. KVA was also represented in the Donkey day celebrations in Laikipia County.

## Other Upcoming Calendar events

Activity	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL
National Donkey day celebration												
KVA Annual Golf Tournament- 23 July												
World Rabies Day Celebrations and a Scientific Conference												
World Animal Day Celebrations												
KVA jubilee celebration/ International conference												
Vet of the year Award ceremony												
CSR activities-Field days												

To participate in any of these events contact the KVA National office

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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