



COVAB'S CENTRAL DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY (CDL) IMPORTANT FINDINGS FROM CDL-STAKEHOLDER INTERACTIONS



INTRODUCTION

The central diagnostic laboratory (CDL) is a node of the joint national diagnostic centre (J-NADIC) located at the college of veterinary medicine, animal resources and bio-security.

The main purpose for its establishment was to provide supplementary assistance to MAAIF in the diagnosis of livestock diseases in Uganda.

CDL is committed to offer the following services;

- Animal disease diagnosis
- Biologics production
- Animal health surveys
- Animal health researches
- Information storage and distribution
- Training for field workers
- Support for satellite laboratories



In this year, CDL has participated in two livestock related exhibition shows and these include the national agricultural show held in Jinja and the world egg day celebration and exhibition held in Mukono town.

Among the objectives for participation in the above events include the following;

- Publicity of the CDL activities and COVAB regarding their roles in the livestock development
- Meeting and interacting with stakeholders and professionals for example farmers, animal feed producers, service providers, veterinary officers and clinicians.
- Making presentations and distribution of disease information to farmers and other stake holders.

CDL'S participation in the above events provided an opportunity to interact with various stake holders from which the following

Observations were made;

Stakeholders justified need for diagnostic services in the country

- Need to extend animal disease diagnostic services to various districts so that farmers can easily access them
- Farmers are incurring a lot of losses due to livestock diseases and parasites
- Need to train vets and animal health workers on how to collect and preserve samples for laboratory examination
- Need to equip farmers with possible ways of preventing livestock diseases
- There is need to continue participating in various exhibitions which involve farmers and other stakeholders
- There is need to develop a strong network between COVAB and stake holders especially farmers and vets in the field
- Extension services for farmers are inadequate
- Farmers did not know where to report disease outbreaks.
- Veterinary services are expensive and sometimes farmers cannot access them



CDL TEAM DOING A POSTMORTEM ON CHICKEN WITH JAPANESE EXPERTS



JINJA AGRICULTURAL SHOW



Presentations to farmers about the importance of diagnostic services to the animal industry



Importance Of Accurate Diagnosis

- ☐Minimizes treatment costs
- ☐Limits deaths and other effects of disease
- ☐High recovery rates
- ☐Right response
- ☐Target control
- ☐Limited drug resistance
- ☐Safety of products-drug residues
- ☐Detection of emerging diseases
- ☐Safety of farmers and consumers, etc

CONCLUSION

CDL is committed to promote and provide reliable, accurate animal disease diagnostic services in the country and we are working tirelessly to tackle and provide solutions to the above findings.



FARMERS SEEKING FOR TECHNICAL ADVICE FROM CDL. TEAM DURING ONE OF THE EXHIBITIONS

CDL's Contribution To A Profitable livestock Industry in Uganda

- ☐Reliable and accurate disease diagnostic services
- ☐Disease outbreak investigations on request
- ☐Appropriate recommendations following accurate diagnosis
- ☐Assessment of vaccination effectiveness-NCD
- ☐Disease information
- ☐Research
- ☐Link to MAAIF & professional AHWs & related services e.g. feeds, professionals, drugs, etc

WAY FORWARD

- COVAB requires to develop and support community outreach programmes which involve students from the college and by doing so, this will also act as a skills training tool for the students.
- COVAB should continue to directly provide solutions in terms of innovations especially in areas of disease investigation and diagnosis, vaccines production and veterinary pharmaceuticals and others through research.
- COVAB needs to revive the vibrant ambulatory services which used to exist if veterinary students are to obtain sufficient practical skills

