To all Veterinarians

RE: GOVERNMENT APPROVED LABORATORIES FOR EXPORT OF DOGS AND CATS

Dear Colleagues,

It has come to the Directorate of Animal Health's attention that there have been numerous incidences where the required blood tests, as stipulated by trading partners, have been performed by non-government approved laboratories.

Most trading partners require the blood tests to be performed by government approved laboratories. This is important in terms of traceability and accountability if potential problems with the blood work arise. It also provides the means for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to assist in the case of a potential problem and give quality assurance to our trade partners, in regard to the blood tests performed pre-export.

The laboratories used should be compliant with the import requirements, as stipulated by the trading partner, to enable the provincial state veterinarians to endorse the veterinary health certificate.

The government approved laboratories in South Africa, can be accessed on the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries website, www.daff.gov.za, at the following link:

http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Animal-Health/Epidemiology/Approved-Laboratories

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter and if there are any uncertainties, please contact DAFF for clarification in this regard.

[Signature]

DR MPHO MAJA
DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL HEALTH
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