To all Laboratory Managers

RE: Reporting of Test Results for Controlled and Notifiable disease as stipulated in the Animal diseases Act 1984 (Act 35 of 1984)

Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the confusion regarding the requirements for reporting of controlled and notifiable diseases in the Animal Diseases Act 1984 (Act 35 of 1984) and stipulated in Regulation 12B under the Act:

12B A veterinarian, person or a laboratory that does diagnostic testing or screening for a controlled animal disease or a notifiable animal disease, shall report on all the diagnostic testing or screening for such animal diseases and the results thereof in the format as prescribed by the director.

1. Reporting structure of results

In order to simplify matters, samples will be classified as follows:

1. Samples paid for by the government (Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries or Provincial Government): These test results will be reported only to the relevant state veterinarian.

2. Samples sent in and paid for by a private veterinarian or another laboratory: Results will be sent simultaneously to the state veterinarian and the private veterinarian or laboratory.

2. Reporting format for results

All samples have to be accompanied by a fully completed laboratory submission form. The information is crucial for immediate follow-up action in case of positive results or as epidemiological background in case of negative results.
The result sheet should also contain basic information to allow for proper analysis of the information. The minimum information that is considered crucial and has to be included on the submission form and the result sheet is as follows:

- Name and contact details of sender
- Name and contact details of owner and/or manager of the animal(s)
- State Veterinarian
- Origin of sample: Farm or village name
- Location of the farm/village (preferably the coordinate but if not available, the name of the nearest town or village)
- Species sampled
- Purpose of sampling
- Sample type
- Date of sample collection
- Date of sample registration at laboratory
- Test requested and test performed
- Test method
- Date of the test result
- Test result

3. Requirements for complete information

The requirements for the reporting of results for controlled and notifiable diseases will be communicated to SANAS and will be included in the scope of their audits. Compliance will also be verified during DAFF approval audits.

The above requirements will be implemented as from 1 January 2017. Please inform all clients of the requirements and the set cut-off date for full compliance. After 1 January 2017, no test results may be made available if the required information has not been submitted to the laboratory. Urgent requests for tests for which the laboratory is unable to obtain the required information should be communicated to DAFF.

For enquiries please send an e-mail to Epidemiology@daff.gov.za or contact Dr Grietjie de Klerk at 012-319 7412.

Kind regards

[Signature]

Dr Mpho Maji
DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL HEALTH
Date: 2017 - 10 - 17

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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