
GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

NOTICE 327 OF 2017

ANIMAL DISEASES ACT, 1984

(ACT No 35 OF 1984)

“Discussion Paper on the review of Bovine Brucellosis Control” under the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No 35 of 84), the Animal Diseases Regulations (R.2026 of 1986) and the Bovine Brucellosis Scheme (R. 2483 of 9 Dec 1988)

I, Senzeni Zokwana, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries hereby

- (a) invite all interested institutions, organisations and individuals to submit written comments on the “Discussion Paper on the review of Bovine Brucellosis Control”, and to do so within 60 days from the date of publication of this Public Consultation Notice to the following address:

The Director

Directorate: Animal Health

Department of Agriculture

Private Bag X138

PRETORIA

0001

Tel: +2712 319 7520

Fax: +2712 329 7218

E-mail: PetuniaM@daff.gov.za

G29 Delpen Building

Riviera

PRETORIA

0001

- (b) inform all that the “Discussion Paper on the review of Bovine Brucellosis Control” can be obtained from the Director: Animal Health or alternatively can be accessed on the DAFF website <http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Animal-Health/information/dahpolicy>.

MR. SENZENI ZOKWANA

Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE:**DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE REVIEW OF BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS CONTROL IN SOUTH AFRICA**

Brucellosis is a controlled animal disease under the Animal Disease Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) and the Animal Diseases Regulations (R.2026 of 1986). Bovine brucellosis, caused by *Brucella abortus*, is a chronic herd disease that negatively impacts on cattle production and reproduction by causing abortions, still-born and weak calves, retained placentas, decreased milk yield and reduced fertility in bulls. Brucellosis is zoonotic and can infect humans through consumption of raw milk, through slaughtering infected animals without protection and through handling of aborted fetuses and afterbirths of infected cows. Debilitating disease ensues if humans are infected which may become recurrent or chronic if not treated efficiently in a timely manner. The most effective way of reducing the impacts of the disease on livestock and prevent human infection is to control this disease in the animal population.

Development of a reformulated Bovine Brucellosis Policy has been identified as a key intervention and output of the Veterinary Strategy (2016-2026). Several aspects of the established brucellosis control measures require discussion and revision to optimize collaboration between government, industry and the farming community. A discussion document that highlights disease control challenges regarding brucellosis has been put together by the Directorate of Animal Health to request inputs from all stakeholders and role-players. This discussion document focusses on bovine brucellosis control, i.e. *Brucella abortus* infection in cattle.

This discussion document aims to highlight current challenges that are experienced pertaining to brucellosis control in terms of legislative shortcomings and implementation challenges and calls for comment to provide sustainable solutions. Inputs from all stakeholders and role-players are called for in order to promote the development of a comprehensive and implementable Bovine Brucellosis Policy to address and control the disease in cattle in South Africa. Comments received will be reviewed to aid with the development of a draft Bovine Brucellosis Policy that will be further refined and published for comment prior to finalization for implementation.

This notice serves to invite comment on the "Discussion Paper on the review of Bovine Brucellosis Control" for a period of two (2) calendar months from the date of publication of this notice. A copy of the "Discussion Paper on the review of Bovine Brucellosis Control" may be obtained on request from the Director: Animal Health or alternately can be accessed on the DAFF website.

Comments on the "Discussion Paper on the review of Bovine Brucellosis Control" must be addressed in writing, before the end of the consultation period, to the Director: Animal Health.