



Status of Animal Health in the SADC Region (January – March 2011)



SADC LIMS

The SADC Livestock Information Management System (LIMS) facilitates the collection, collation, transfer, storage and analysis of livestock data and dissemination/sharing of information between the SADC Secretariat and Member States and other stakeholders in the livestock sector. It is based on a decentralised information management philosophy whereby databases are installed at different levels in Member States and at SADC Secretariat with automated electronic data transfer between the lower and immediate higher levels. Regular collection and analysis of data in the livestock sector is mandatory to monitor progress made towards achieving indicators set by the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan and the Dar es Salaam declaration on Agriculture and food security made by SADC Heads of State.

Introduction – This quarterly Animal Health bulletin is based animal disease occurrence reports from the SADC Member states. It seeks to provide brief feedback to Member States on status of Animal health situation as well as the usage of the LIMS application in the region.

Status of disease reporting – Reporting was been poor in the quarter. Only 10 out of 42 disease reports expected in the quarter have come on time. As at 30 April, last day for receiving disease reports, 22 reports were still outstanding. Details of the reporting Member States are given in table 1. The format column indicates LIMS utilisation in region.

Table 1: First Quarter LIMS reporting*

Member State	Jan	Feb	Mar	Format used
Angola	Red	Red	Red	
Botswana	Green	Green	Green	LIMS xl
DR Congo	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Non LIMS
Lesotho	Yellow	Green	Green	LIMS
Malawi	Red	Red	Red	
Mauritius	Red	Red	Red	
Mozambique	Yellow	Yellow	Green	LIMS
Namibia	Green	Yellow	Yellow	LIMS xl
Seychelles	Red	Red	Red	
South Africa	Red	Red	Red	
Swaziland	Green	Green	Green	LIMS xl
Tanzania	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Non LIMS
Zambia	Red	Red	Red	
Zimbabwe	Red	Red	Red	

Disease outbreaks – A total of 33 diseases were reported from countries which submitted reports.

Table 2 gives the diseases ranked by number of outbreaks. During the quarter, 488 different outbreaks occurred. The 10 diseases that each had a single outbreak are not listed in the table. These are Botulism, Canine distemper, Caprine and ovine brucellosis, Dermatophilosis, Enterotoxaemia, Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis, Mastitis, Mucosal disease, Sheep scab and Trichomonosis.

Table 2: Diseases in the region ranked by number of outbreaks recorded in the 1st Qtr

Disease	Outbreaks
Rabies	96
Lumpy skin disease	72
Heartwater	41
Fowl pox	26
Blackleg	24
Bovine brucellosis	22
Bovine anaplasmosis & African swine fever	20 (for each disease)
Trypanosomosis & Theileriosis	18
Peste des petis ruminants	17
Newcastle disease	15
Contagious pustular dermatitis	14
Bovine babesiosis	13
Foot rot	10
Foot and mouth disease & Goat mange	9 (for each disease)
African horse sickness & Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia	8 (for each disease)

* Under columns Jan, Feb and Mar, the colour red represents reports not submitted, yellow reports submitted late in the quarter while green is for reports submitted on time. Format used for reporting to SADC is given in the format used column.

Spatial distribution of important disease outbreaks in the SADC region

Foot and mouth disease – is a trans-boundary animal disease (TAD) of economic importance to the region. It was reported in 4 of the 7 Member States that reported.

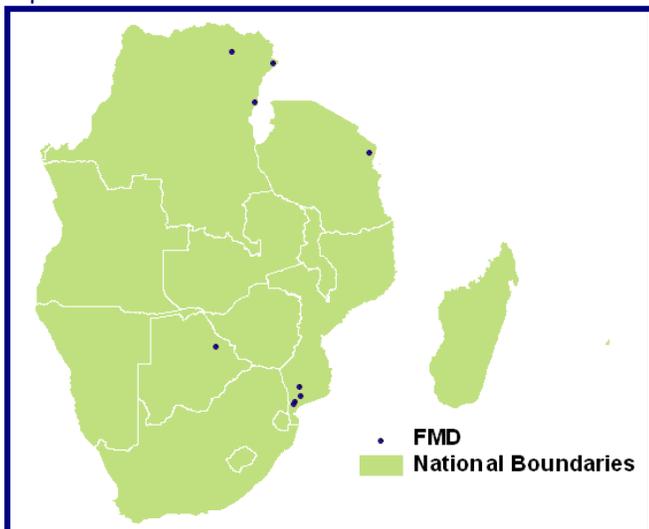


Figure 1: Spatial distribution of FMD outbreaks in the region

Pestes de petits ruminants – PPR was reported in 2 northern states (Tanzania and DRC) of the region. This indicates that the PPR is slowly establishing itself in the region. Regional concerted efforts are required to stop the spread of PPR. It is worth mentioning that 3 states sharing borders with Tanzania and DRC did not report in the quarter. Apart from being important as a TAD, PPR is of economic importance because of the significant contribution of small ruminants to household livelihood security.

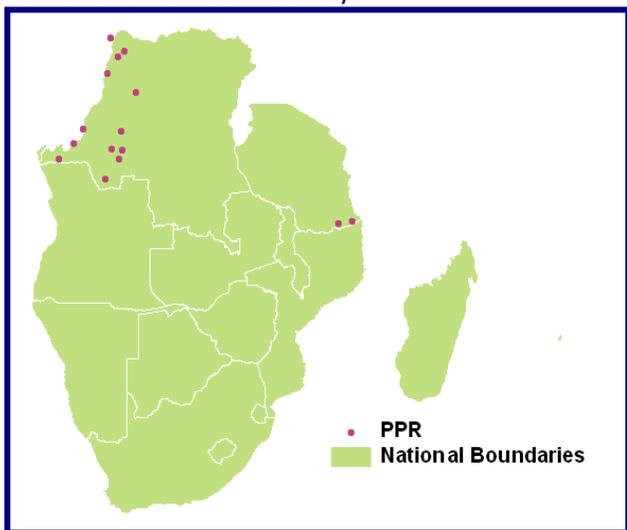


Figure 2: Spatial distribution of PPR outbreaks in the region

Rabies – has the highest number of outbreaks in the first quarter of 2011. Only Mozambique of the 7 Member States had no Rabies outbreak. The high number of rabies outbreaks raises concerns on the significance of zoonotic diseases in the region.

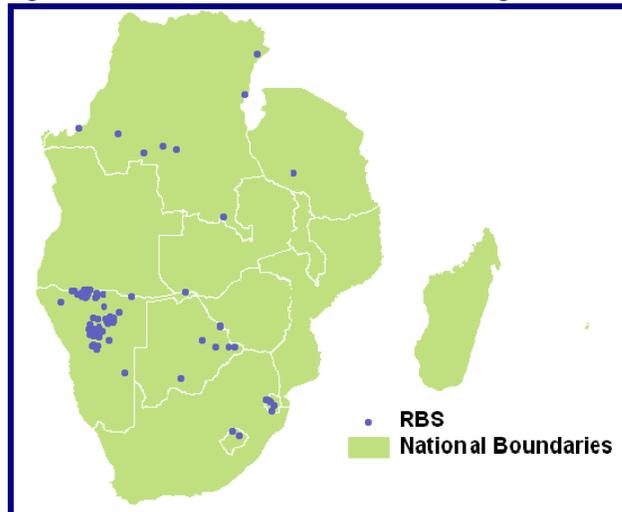


Figure 3: Spatial Distribution of Rabies in the region

African swine fever – This is an important disease which causes high mortality in pigs of all ages.

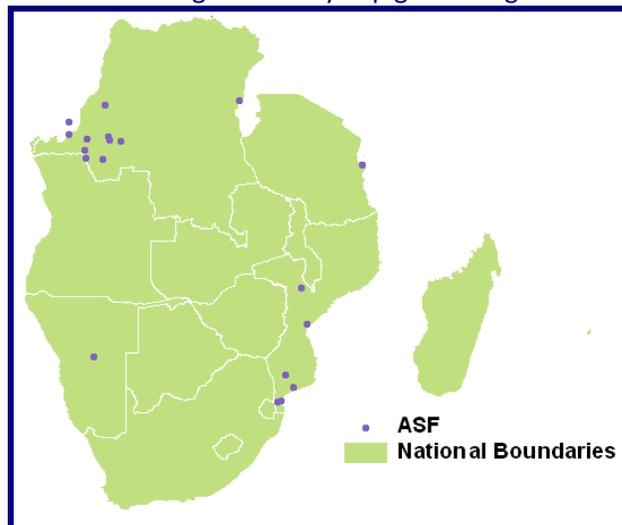


Figure 4: Spatial distribution of African swine fever in the region

Conclusion – The quality and significance of this bulletin depends on the collection of accurate, timely and complete disease data. Continued strengthening of the LIMS, as a multi level information system, at sub-national, national and regional level is a prerequisite to improving this and other reports generated from LIMS.