



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Date: 02 February 2004

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Ref.no: V13/1/P

Circular no: V4/2004

**TO: ALL STATE VETERINARIANS
ALL CONTROL ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS**

TRACING OF IMPORTED ANIMALS

During the recent EU inspection and problems experienced to locate imported animals for purpose of disease control (BSE) and residue control, it became clear that imported animals should be traceable until the end of their life-span, therefore: -

1. All imported food-producing animals (cattle, sheep, goats ostriches) shall henceforth be identified individually by means of codes and numbers **and** the special brand for imported animals applied. The brand for sheep shall be similar to that of imported cattle but smaller in size and shall be applied on the left check. Branding irons for sheep will be provided in near future.
2. Records by means of on-farm and State Veterinary office registers must be kept for all imported animals containing the necessary details as per attached prescribed format. All movements or deaths of such animals shall be reported to the State Veterinary offices concerned without delay and registers updated accordingly. Reasons for deaths should as far as possible be determined and recorded. Efforts should be made to test brains of all imported cattle at the end of their life-span for BSE as part and parcel of Namibia's BSE surveillance programme.
3. On a quarterly basis each State Veterinarian must verify that the information on each farm in his/her district is still valid and update the office register accordingly. A copy of this updated register must be forwarded on 6 monthly basis (end January and end July) to DVS-HQ.
4. During visits to farms DVS staff must inspect on-farm registers and confirm inspection by means of his/her signature and date at the last entry.

DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES

(The previous circular no. V3/2004 dealt with EIS continuity in NCA was sent to all SV offices)

