



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



East Coast Fever (ECF), expanding out of CE /
EES and in parts of WES, Lakes -

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Nimaya Mogga



INTRODUCTION

FAO has been aware of the ECF problem for the animals that moved from Jonglei state for some time now. We ran out of the therapeutic drugs and acaricides (chemicals for tick control), we expect a delivery soon.

As we explained during the last meeting of the LTWG, ECF has always been a problem each time cattle move into CE from elsewhere as generally the animals are naïve (newly exposed with no prior immunity) as opposed to cattle owned by the host communities.

In fact there is some level of endemic stability in CE (for ECF in animals owned by host communities).

However we also note that there is a possibility that favorable habitat for the (tick) vector is expanding out of CE /EE now covering parts of WE, Lakes (Cueibet, Rumbek Central and Yirol East counties) and the parts of Jonglei state. This could be due to unregulated movement of animals and climate change ([ECF survey report](#))



In the short term we recommend some sustainable solutions as follows:

- (a) effective tick control including use of ethno veterinary practices
- (b) early detection of the disease (**very important**) – this requires training of CAHWs with special focus on ECF; in our experience most pastoralists are aware of the signs of the Juba disease.
- (c) use of the Central Vet Lab for confirmation – very few partners are using the diagnostic facility to facilitate evidence based intervention



(d) provide support to agro – dealers / vet shops to stock drugs for ECF.

- (In February 2021, FAO did a brief survey around Juba and these drugs were not available.
- Livestock owners are willing to buy the drugs but availability in the market is a challenge. ECF drugs are expensive and given the need it is not sustainable for the humanitarian community to continue to provide them for free.

(e) Explore and other treatment options (use of 30% oxytetracycline injection and antihistamine)

(f) Use of voucher system to treat animals of poor households (this was done in Bor (2012 – 2103) but interrupted by the conflict of 2013)



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- End

- Any questions and comments?