

Infection and treatment method (ITM) for ECF control

And

Use of cattle deeps for tick control

Infection and treatment method (ITM)



A VETAID report from a vaccine trial in 2019 is very informative (excerpts below):

- the vaccine is quite expensive and even in other countries in the region, only less 1% of the livestock population take up the vaccine.
- (b) The trial will also take time to get the results and the decisions to blanket use of the vaccine might take time. It is possible this has changed over the past 2 years?
- Considering ECF vaccination (Infection and Treatment Method (ITM) of Muguga cocktail (MC) which require storage at -20'C using liquid nitrogen), due to the limited understanding of importance of cold chain at field level, it is not recommended just to procure vaccines (MC).
- The use of ECF vaccine needs careful training and continuous follow-up. Although the ITM would be the ideal control measures at this stage, the lack of capacity in handling the cold chain will ruin the output.

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- The "vaccine" (MC) is produced by ILRI, Kenya or Centre for Ticks & Tickborne Diseases, Malawi, not by a commercial company and it takes more than one year to produce one batch. If ITM is to be introduced in South Sudan for standard control measures, a supply chain of the MC and liquid nitrogen should be established under the government (or FAO) initiative and the temperature control during both storage and transport must be monitored seriously.

ITM cont

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- (a) The above report clearly shows South Sudan is not yet ready for ITM



Use of cattle deeps and sprays



- Some few experience of the use deeps in South Sudan (results?)
- Following are condition that may affect the use of cattle deeps in South Sudan
 - Livestock in South Sudan are seasonally on the move
 - Concentration of accaricide in the deep requires regular testing (to prevent tick resistance) currently lack of capacity
 - Deeps requires intensive management and maintenance by well trained staff
 - Continued use of deep and removing all tick will strip livestock from immunity to tickborne diseases

Conclusions

- Government of South Sudan has approved the introduction and the use of ITM in South Sudan,
- Use of the ITM and cattle deeps:
 - Requires huge investments in terms of establishment of cold chains procurement of the ITM vaccines and construction of deeps
 - Requires highly qualified staff to handle and manage the ITM and the deep systems
 - Suitable specialized intensive highly productive livestock system