



FOREWORD

Proceedings: Onderstepoort Centenary Pan-African Veterinary Conference

Onderstepoort South Africa, 7–9 October 2008

In 1908 a Pan-African Veterinary Conference formed part of the inauguration ceremony of the Onderstepoort Veterinary Laboratory. Attended by 18 delegates from 12 countries in southern Africa, including the four colonies and three protectorates forming British South Africa, Rhodesia, German South West Africa, Portuguese East Africa, Madagascar and the Belgian Congo, discussions focussed on the animal diseases of the region with the emphasis on trypanosomiasis (nagana) and East Coast fever. The successful meeting was followed by a series of similar conferences held in different African countries during the first half of the 20th Century.

It was therefore fitting that the centenary celebrations of the Onderstepoort complex in 2008 should again be accompanied by a Pan-African meeting of those involved in combating animal diseases on the continent. The intention was to celebrate accomplishments of the past but also to look into the future and plan the way forward. The focus was on research achievements and needs but due consideration was also given to the important contributions of veterinary training, veterinary field services and vaccine production.

The invited contributions of a number of experts in the field of African animal diseases are recorded for posterity in these Proceedings.

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PRETORIA
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