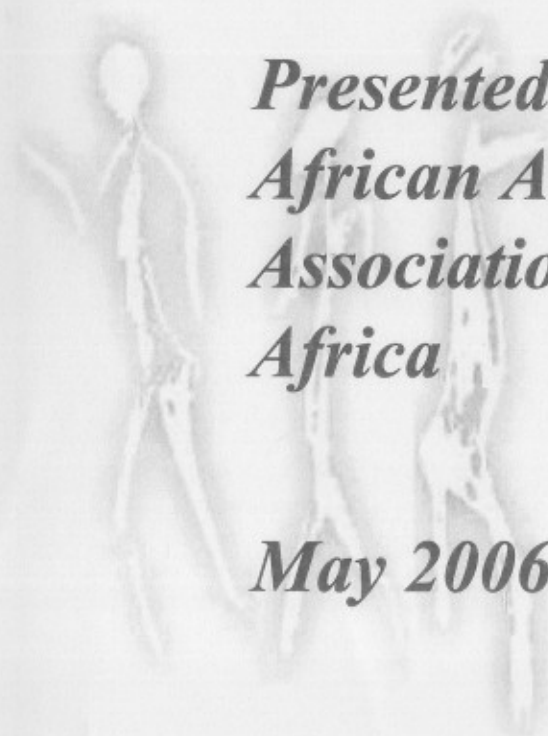


# Presentation to the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture



*Presented by the South  
African Animal Health  
Association of South  
Africa*

*May 2006*



23/05/06 PC Agric & Land  
Save a si  
Saaaha

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Committee on Agriculture**

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**Presentation Contents**



- SAAHA Relationship to AVCASA
- Introduction to SAAHA
- Economic Importance of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals
- Current legislative environment
- Basic issue
- Effects of basic issue
- History of attempts to correct the issue.
- Proposal
- Proposal Benefits
  - Nepad
  - Other



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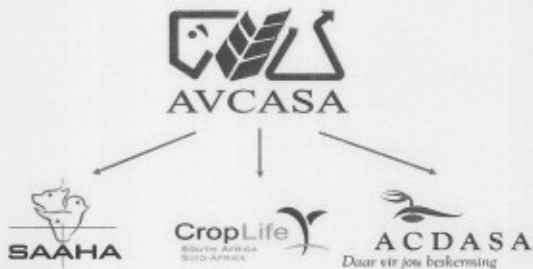
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**Relationship between SAAHA  
& related associations:**



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**Introduction to SAAHA**  
*The South African Animal Health Association*

- Is the only Industry body
- Represents in excess of 80% of the establishments involved in the manufacture, marketing and distribution of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals.
- Currently represents 15 member organisations




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**Economic Importance of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals**

Veterinary Pharmaceuticals are an important component in the safe and efficient supply of quality meat based protein, and are thus an significant contributor to national animal product production.

2003/4 preliminary gross value of animal production is reported as being R30.7 billion, which represents 42.8% of the Gross Value of Agricultural Production.

2003/4 estimates of expenditure on meat, milk & eggs is R56.9 billion.

2003 SACU exports of animal based products is reported as being R1.4 billion




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**Current Legislative Environment**

*There are two Acts under which Veterinary Pharmaceuticals may be registered:*

- The Medicines & Related Substances Control Act 101 of 1965**
  - Falls under the Department of Health
  - Veterinary Pharmaceuticals defined as Veterinary Medicines
- The Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947**
  - Falls under the Department of Agriculture
  - Veterinary Pharmaceuticals defined as Stock Remedies




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## Basic Problem

### Veterinary Medicine Definition

- 'veterinary medicine' means any substance or mixture of substances used or purporting to be suitable for use or manufactured or sold for use in-
  - the diagnosis, treatment, relief, modification or prevention of disease, abnormal physical or mental state or the symptoms thereof in man; or
  - restoring, correcting or modifying any sense or function or organic function in man;
  - and includes any veterinary medicine;
- 'veterinary medicine' means any substance or mixture of substances, other than a stock remedy or sera used to be registered in terms of the Fertilisers, Farm Fossils, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 [Act 36 of 1947] used or purporting to be suitable for use or manufactured or sold for use in connection with vertebrates, for the treatment, diagnosis, prevention or cure of any disease, infection or other unhealthy condition, or for the maintenance or improvement of health, growth, production or working capacity, or for curing, preventing or modifying any somatic or organic function, or for correcting or modifying behaviour.

### Stock Remedy Definition

- 'stock remedy' means a substance intended or offered to be used in connection with domestic animals, livestock, poultry, fish or wild animals (including wild birds), for the diagnosis, prevention or cure of any disease, infection or other unhealthy condition, or for the maintenance or improvement of health, growth, production or working capacity, but excluding any substance in so far as it is controlled under the Medicines and Related Substances Control Act, 1965 (Act No 101 of 1965).




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## Effects of Basic Problem

- Circular Reference
- GMP Certificate / Harmonisation issue
- Focus of Act 101 – Human Beings
- Focus of Act 36 – Ag Remedies
- Different and sometimes inappropriate standards and requirements.
- Residue question




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## History of Attempts to Correct the Basic Problem

- Oct '77 First Draft of National Vet Drug Policy
  - Vet Med should be controlled by one independent act.
  - All decisions regarding Vet Med should be made jointly by Ministers of Agriculture & Health
- Oct '94 Veterinary Products Policy Committee
  - aimed to facilitate the registration & control of veterinary medicines
- 2002 Second Draft of National Vet Drug Policy
  - submitted to DG of Agriculture
- May 2003 Fax from Deputy Minister of Agric
  - Stating that this matter is an important issue




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## Proposal

One legislative act be promulgated, to be administered by the Department of Agriculture, which will be dedicated solely to the registration and control of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals, which are currently registered as either Veterinary Medicines or Stock Remedies.



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## Proposal Benefits

### NEPAD

- Assists in the acceleration of regional and continental integration and thereby higher levels of sustainable economic growth.
  - It is difficult to achieve inter country harmonisation, if intra country harmonisation does not exist.
  - Crop Protection have already achieved harmonisation of requirements within SADEC via SEARCH, whilst the veterinary equivalent SEAVDRAC has stalled.
- Promotion of diversification of production and exports, particularly with respect to agro-industries.
- Accelerating intra-African trade.
- Facilitating implementation of the food security and agricultural development program in all sub regions.



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## Proposal Benefits

### Other

- The Strategic Plan for South African Agriculture
  - Lowering the overall cost of production
  - Improved national and household food security
  - Increased incomes and increased foreign exchange earnings.
- May 1994 ANC Agricultural Policy section 9.5 – Veterinary Pharmaceuticals
- This document states: "The ANC supports the control of veterinary pharmaceuticals by a single body, namely the Department of Agriculture." with which this proposal is entirely consistent.



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# The Way Forward ?



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