

INTRODUCTION

In April 2011 locally produced thermotolerant I-2 ND vaccine was accepted for registration by the Pharmacy, Medicines and Poisons Board of Malawi. The registration will initially be for a period of one year but can be renewed in subsequent years.

I-2 ND vaccine production in Malawi commenced in 2003 with the support of the Southern Africa Newcastle Disease Control Project (SANDCP).

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Vaccine Production Laboratory Staff Trained at the Institute for International Cooperation in Animal Biologics (IICAB) Iowa

Capacity building is an important element of the vaccine and vaccination component of the Phase 2 Newcastle Disease (ND) control project. From May 10 to 25 three veterinarians assigned to the ND vaccine production laboratories in Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia are attending a 12 day Veterinary Biologics Training program at the IICAB in Ames, Iowa, USA.

The Program is co-sponsored by the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Center for Veterinary Biologics, National Veterinary Services Laboratories, and the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. The course gives participants an overview of the scientific principles of vaccines and of the USDA regulatory process for assuring the purity, safety, potency, and efficacy of veterinary biologicals.

An effective and sustainable ND control program for village chickens depends on the availability of good quality, affordable vaccine. After their return participants are expected to submit a report and action plan outlining how the information from the training will be put to use to improve vaccine production and quality at their institutes.

MALAWI: Active village leaders have a positive effect on community participation during vaccination campaigns

Group village headman Nkhwiripe Nsomera from Chiradzulu district in southern Malawi is one of the traditional leaders who encourages his community to vaccinate chickens against Newcastle disease. He says the I-2 ND vaccine is affordable: "At first we thought it was expensive to vaccinate each chicken at a cost of seven cents. Through the extension worker, we realized later that by just selling one egg we can use the money to vaccinate two chickens." (By R. Mgonezulu)



Figure 1: Village Headman Nsomera seated fur left in brown jacket and neck tie. Picture taken by Richard Mgonezulu.

ZAMBIA: Newcastle disease (ND), *Chipumpu*, a disease of importance in village poultry production in Zambia



Figure 2: A chicken house in Mutumbisha village and the owner at the back. (Picture taken by B. Bagnol)

In the villages visited during the PRA in Zambia, participants in focus group discussions stressed that everybody in the household can have chickens as a way to test the luck of each of the members.

In Mutoya village they said: “During the rainy season there are less chickens because of ND.”

“We eat more chickens in October to March because they are sick and we eat and sell them.” (in Brigitte’s PRA report).

A Baseline survey and PRA were conducted in 10 randomly selected villages in Chibombo and Chongwe districts of Zambia from 21 – 30 March, 2011. A team comprising Brigitte Bagnol, a researcher associated with the International Rural Poultry Centre (IRPC), KYEEMA Foundation, staff from Central Veterinary Research Institute and government staff from the districts visited Chuni, Nsama, Mutoya, Chipako and Chachima villages (in Chibombo District) and Chitentabunga, Muyoba Lunshimbi, Mwampatisha, Mutumbisha and Kolomwe villages (in Chongwe District). The PRA confirmed that ND is an important disease in village

poultry production in Zambia.

Chickens are raised mainly for consumption and as a means of raising ‘quick’ money to address emergent family needs such as school fees, transportation fees, medical bills, settling disputes, paying fines and funeral rites. Most villagers felt that chickens were easier to rear than other livestock such as cattle that need more space. Chickens were considered easier to sell and a cheaper source of protein.

The PRA participants defined *chipumpu* as a very sudden and deadly disease affecting chickens of all age groups. It usually occurs every year during the hot season around September to November. People in these two districts usually kill the sick chickens before they die as it is not common to eat a dead animal.



Figure 3: Dr. Bagnol conducting a PRA exercise in Mutumbisha village in Chongwe district. Participants look on. (Picture taken by N. Muyamwa).

TANZANIA: Extension materials ready to print

Extension materials are important tools in ND control in Tanzania. During 2010 Stephanie Bradford, a volunteer with the KYEEMA Foundation in Tanzania, assisted CVL staff

to revise, develop and finalise the materials. The leaflets, posters, manuals, flip charts and registration books funded under the SANDCP are now ready to print.

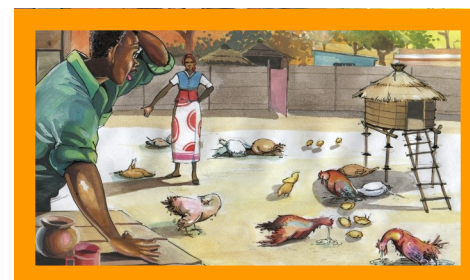


Figure 5: Some of the drawings in the extension material revised by Stephanie Bradford during her visit to Tanzania.

Worker Manuals.



Figure 4: Stephanie Bradford during her visit in Tanzania. Picture taken by H. Msami

5,000 copies of the ND Campaign preparation brochure (Kiswahili), I-2 Vaccine Instruction Leaflet (Kiswahili), ND Campaign pamphlet (Kiswahili), ND Vaccination calendar (Kiswahili A2 size) and Fight ND Poster (Kiswahili) will be printed. Other materials to be printed are 1,000 registration books (Kiswahili A5 size), 500 Kiswahili Kudhibiti Mdondo (ND) flip charts, 300 ND training manuals and 500 Extension

MOZAMBIQUE: Study recommends increasing vaccine sale price

The Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique recently carried out a study to evaluate the real cost of ND vaccine production and distribution in the three districts of Gaza province.

The study, funded by KYEEMA Foundation through the Regional ND Control Project showed that the current cost of producing one dose of I-2 wet vaccine packed in an eye dropper bottle is about 0.61 Mt (about 0.017 USD). The cost of distributing one dose of the same vaccine to the communities in the selected districts ranges from 0.15 and 0.21 Mt, while the total cost of

producing and distributing a single dose of the vaccine to the end users in the same districts ranges from 1.53 to 1.59 Mt.

From these results it was concluded that the production and distribution costs are higher than the price currently paid by the end users, which varies from 0.5 to 1.0 Mt.

Considering that the vaccinator is the key actor in the ND control at village level, the study recommended that the selling price of vaccine to the end users should be 1.5 Mt per dose, and the state should provide the financial support to cover the additional costs of production and distribution of the vaccine.



Figure 6: Head of the administrative post in Manjacaze District during the vaccination campaign.



Australian Government Aid Program

An Australian Government initiative in Africa

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"Building a sustainable future for all"

KYEEMA Foundation

The KYEEMA Foundation is a non-profit organisation formed in 2003, which supports prevention and control programs for diseases affecting plants and animals in developing countries, as well as helping with the development of technology to assist in improving the living standards of individuals. Capacity building is a core component of KYEEMA's projects which are usually implemented in collaboration with national government agencies and local NGOs.

KYEEMA Foundation and its subsidiary entity the International Rural Poultry Centre (IRPC) have been working towards capacity building, community development and poverty alleviation through developing and implementing a sustainable model for ND control.



Welcome to Dr. Jan Wiesenmüller

KYEEMA Foundation's New Regional Director for Southern Africa



Dr. Jan Wiesenmüller started work with the KYEEMA Foundation in Maputo on the 18th April 2011 as Regional Director of the Southern African region office.

Jan is a biologist (MSc) by profession and an engineer of tropical agriculture (PhD). Over the last 20 years he has gained extensive working experience in South America (Brazil, Peru, Bolivia) and Africa (Angola and Mozambique).

He has managed livelihood and food security projects and done agricultural research on small holder systems. He has also worked as project country director with international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

He says: "Now I'm looking forward to shape and expand KYEEMA's activities in close collaboration with our partner organisations. I will be available for you in the regional office in Maputo-Mozambique".

Jan's appointment follows the resignation of Ms. Tanya Radosavljevic, who moved to her new position with UNICEF at São Tomé and Príncipe.

We wish both Jan and Tanya all the best.