

# WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023

## Activities in 2023

This report has been submitted : 1 juillet 2024 17:27

### Laboratory Information

<b>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOA Reference Laboratory:</b>	Sheep pox and goat pox
<b>Address of laboratory:</b>	No. 100 Old Soutpan Road, Onderstepoort, 0110, Gauteng Province, South Africa
<b>Tel.:</b>	+27-12 529 91 17
<b>E-mail address:</b>	LubisiA@arc.agric.za
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://www.arc.agric.za/">https://www.arc.agric.za/</a>
<b>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</b>	Dr. Arshad Mather - Acting Senior Manager Research: Animal Health and Protection
<b>Name (including Title and Position) of WOA Reference Expert:</b>	Dr. Baratang Alison Lubisi - Research Team Manager: Diagnostic Services
<b>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</b>	Governmental

### TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.?

(Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

No

### TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOA?

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOA Members?

No

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

Not applicable

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOA Members?

Not applicable

### TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOA Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOA Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

### TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAHO Members?

No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAHO Member?

No

## TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAHO Members other than the own?

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	PARTNERS (INSTITUTIONS)	WOAHO MEMBER COUNTRIES INVOLVED OTHER THAN YOUR COUNTRY
Sequence analyses of Capripox viruses	Continuous	Analysis of the genome sequences of capripox viruses	Federal Center for Animal Health (FGBI ARRIAH), Vladimir, Russia	RUSSIA

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs\* relevant for WOAHO?

No

## TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?

Yes

IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE DATA COLLECTED:

Capripox virus genomes were sequenced and analysed.

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?

Yes

IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE DATA COLLECTED:

A peer reviewed scientific article was published.

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

1

Sprygin, A., Shalina, K., van Schalkwyk, A., Mazloum, A., Shcherbinin, S., Krotova, A., Byadovskaya, O., Prokhvatilova, L. & Chvala, I. 2023. Molecular and epidemiological analysis of sheeppox outbreak in Russia from 2013 to 2021. TBED. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2023/8934280>

b) International conferences:

0

c) National conferences:

0

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

## **TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING**

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAHA Members?

No

## **TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE**

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

No

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

No

20. Does your laboratory maintain a "bio-risk management system" for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

The laboratory adheres to good laboratory practices and has standard operating procedures (SOPs) and fit for purpose equipment and facilities to ensure biosecurity, biosafety, and biocontainment of pathogens.

## **TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAHA?

No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAHA?

No

## **TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAHA REFERENCE LABORATORIES**

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAHA Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?

No

24. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other WOAHA Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

No

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAHA Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

No

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAHA Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

No

## **TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING**

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAHA Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen?

No

## **TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS**

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAHA?

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

*South Africa is free of sheep and goat pox (SGP) and there are no local positive samples for test method validation. The majority of the work done on capripox viruses involves lumpy skin disease. However, in the event of request to diagnose the disease, PCR tests and sequencing can be done.*

*In mid-2023, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) made funding available for improvement of the laboratory, including implementation of different SGP specific test methods. The laboratory reached out to several international reference laboratories on SGP for collaboration. Project logistics planning and applications for permits to import infectious materials and diagnostic reagents are in progress.*

*A plea was also made to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) through the WOAH Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa, for veterinary officials and research organisations to collaborate on any of the diseases the ARC-OVR is WAOH Reference Laboratory for.*