To the editor — Aan die redakteur

Request for retraction of published statement on EIA

In the article ‘An investigation of equine infectious anaemia infection in the Central Anatolia region of Turkey’ by O Yapki, S Yavru, M Kale, O Buluty, A Şimşek and K C Şahna (2007, 78(1): 12–14), it is stated that equine infectious anaemia is endemic to South Africa.

Equine infectious anaemia (EIA) was last seen in South Africa in 1955. The Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) requested a follow-up on the statement in the article and the authors led the DVS to a mistake in the records of the OIE. The DVS has requested the OIE to investigate the matter and the OIE has since corrected the mistake.

The second reference supplied by the author uses Wikipedia as a source. The statement in Wikipedia was added by an anonymous author without any scientific proof or peer-reviewed reference.

EIA is not endemic in South Africa and has not been found since 1955. The DVS wants to prevent the use of this statement as a reference in future articles.

The Directorate of Veterinary Services therefore requests the editor to publish a correction.

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Emendations to PARSA abstracts

There were critical omissions in the abstracts of three posters presented at the 35th Annual Congress of the Parasitological Society of Southern Africa (PARSA), 24–26 September 2006, and published on behalf of PARSA in the Journal of the South African Veterinary Association (2007; 78(2): 112–113). The abstracts in question are:
- A novel method of administering an endectocide, abamectin, in game.
- Remote treatment of ticks.
- Persistent acaricidal efficacy of ivermectin against 1-host ticks in cattle.

Please note that the proprietary VetCap® technology alluded to in the abstracts is patented and the property of VE Biosciences, Sydney, Australia.

B Bell
General Manager, Virbac RSA (Pty) Ltd