

EAST AFR. PROT.  
13127

C.O  
13127  
REC'D  
REG 19 APR 13

204

Number  
202  
1913  
March  
Last previous Paper.  
1909

RINDERPEST SERUM

Forwards copy of letter from the C.V.O. on the subject of increased production to meet local and other requirements. Is not of opinion that his proposal to acquire a portion of the Native Reserve should receive consideration.

Mr. Bottomley (see also 13078 beneath).

Mr. Stoddard considers that Mr. Montgomery's estimate of the cost of production of serum at Nairobi in 1913 is too low and that the rules of S. A. P. and Uganda must be considered to give help can be promised to S. E. Africa, Nyasaland and Rhodesia. The production of 200,000 doses of serum would require the whole of the present laboratory with the 1910-14 additions, and would mean that other contagious diseases would have to be neglected.

The price of serum will probably rise, owing to the scarcity of susceptible cattle.

Mr. Montgomery will probably come here on Friday afternoon, Apr 25th with regard to vaccine and appointments. I shall send him a copy of the letter.

Next subsequent Paper

13527

In G. H. H. H.

It will be desirable to get this off to Mr. Montgomery at once so that he can give us his views when he comes here on Friday on such points of detail as Mr. Sturdy's suggestion that a <sup>longer</sup> period of immaturity could be achieved.

As regards outside arrangements generally we shall do well to await the results of the Baluwayo Conference, which Mr. Sturdy was to attend.

W.L.S.

Pl see also 13078

22/4/13

at once P.H. 22/4/13

1166

Mr. Reed  
Mr. B. B. B.

? Reply to Gov? That the I.S. will await the results of the Conference at Baluwayo before expressing any opinion as to the time of action to be taken with regard to the granting of assistance to C. P. Africa and Rhodesia, but that in the meantime he concurs in the Gov's view that the proposal of Mr. Sturdy to acquire a portion of the native Reserve should not be considered.

W.L.S. 26/4/13

I think we can wait until we have already telegraphed to Nyasaland asking for info. as to the result of the Conference by telegraph & as it is

to meet on April 10<sup>th</sup> we ought to

210

hear very soon.

Mr. Montgomery has said that he has no comments to make at present on this memo, as Mr. Sturdy says, the Circs have altered since he left. He has heard privately however in the last few days that there is now a better chance of getting cattle for serum purposes.

W.L.S.

5/5/13

Wait at once  
H. J. R.  
5/5/13

C.O.  
13127  
19 APR 1918

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA  
March 27th, 1918.

ST. AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 202.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 77 dated 29th January ultimo enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. R. E. Montgomery, Veterinary Pathologist, on the subject of the outbreak of rinderpest in German East Africa and the measures taken for the prevention of the spread of the disease, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter dated 10th instant from Mr. Stordy, Chief Veterinary Officer, on the subject of an increased production of serum to meet, in addition to the requirements of this Protectorate, the possible needs of Uganda, German East Africa and Rhodesia.

*Handwritten notes:*  
Yes  
2-10-18  
C.V.O.  
9-18

2. With regard to the final paragraph of the Chief Veterinary Officer's letter I am not of the opinion that his proposal to acquire a portion of the Native Reserve should receive consideration.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your humble, obedient servant,

*Handwritten signature:*  
H. Conroy Beylert

GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
LESLIE HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

INCLOSURE C. O.  
In Despatch No. 202 of *hand 20427*  
REC  
19 APR 13  
212

Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer,  
Nairobi.

10th March, 1913.

To the

Hon'ble the Chief Secretary,  
Nairobi.

thro' the Hon'ble Director of Agriculture.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of a copy of correspondence which has passed between the Colonial Office and Mr R. Eustace Montgomery dealing with the production of anti-rinderpest serum in this Protectorate.

The local conditions have altered so considerably since Mr Montgomery proceeded on leave that I am constrained to reply to his letter of the 24th January.

German East Africa has been supplied with 10,000 doses of serum and 5,000 doses have been sent to Nyassaland.

With the spread of rinderpest in our own Protectorate, the demand from Uganda for additional serum and the increasing difficulty in obtaining susceptible cattle it has been found impossible to further assist German East Africa and British Central Africa at the present time.

C.O. 333  
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

I fully realise the gravity of the situation and any surplus stock of serum will be earmarked for these Protectorates.

I submit that with the funds on hand it is our primary duty to suppress rinderpest in the Protectorate herds belonging to settlers and natives, and secondly to assist Uganda, for by so doing it may be possible to prevent the disease from extending to the hitherto clean zones, and thereby safeguard our only present source of supply of susceptible cattle essential for the preparation of protective serum.

Should this supply fail us it will be necessary to import susceptible cattle, entailing greater expense together with the attendant risk of East Coast Fever infection and other tick borne disease.

The Chief Veterinary Officer of Uganda has informed me that the Western Provinces of Uganda are now threatened by extension of Rinderpest from the South end of Lake Victoria Nyanza and that he may require further large supplies of serum.

He also writes :- 'There is a large demand for bullocks all over this Province for slaughter purposes and it is now extremely difficult to obtain transport oxen even of an inferior stamp.'

Three years ago, prior to the appearance of the epidemic of Rinderpest in the Eastern Province, large numbers of slaughter cattle and almost all the transport oxen were drawn from the Eastern side of the Nile, since then this source of supply has been and still remains, cut off. With the demand here increasing as it has done of recent years, prices are bound to rise still more.'

1913

Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer  
Nairobi  
10th March 1913

Hon'ble the Chief Secretary  
Nairobi

From the Hon'ble Director of Agriculture

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of a copy of correspondence which has passed between the Colonial Office and Mr. R. Wallace Montgomery dealing with the production of anti-rinderpest serum in this Protectorate.

The local conditions have altered considerably since Mr. Montgomery proceeded on leave and I am constrained to reply to his letter of the 24th January.

German East Africa has been supplied with 10,000 doses of serum and 5,000 doses have been sent to Kivulindi. With the spread of rinderpest in our Protectorate, the demand from Uganda for additional serum and the increasing difficulty in obtaining susceptible cattle it has been found expedient to further extend German East Africa and British Central Africa to the present time.

It is highly probable therefore that the cost of serum will gradually increase and that Mr Montgomery's estimate may be considerably exceeded.

The estimates for the next financial year meet the expenditure necessary for the production of 150,000 doses of serum, but if the manufacture of serum is to be undertaken on a large scale it will be necessary to provide additional European assistance, and the laboratory water supply is now so inadequate that considerable expense must be incurred to create a full and sufficient supply.

For the Laboratory to be in a position to turn out, say 400,000 doses of serum per annum, the extra accommodation together with the 1913-14 additions would be required, entailing the suspension of experiments in regard to other contagious disease of stock - a contingency which is most undesirable.

To combat rinderpest and control its spread is of such paramount importance that should any measure of success attend our endeavours in this direction, any extra expenditure for the production of anti-rinderpest serum would be fully justified.

The Laboratory in the past has had a hard to mouth existence, and as there are numerous important problems in regard to the production of serum awaiting solution by experiment, I strongly recommend that the utmost financial assistance be given to the Veterinary Pathologist.

The serum now produced only confers a passive immunity of about 14 days, but I am still of the opinion that, given ample funds for the purchase of experimental and serum producing animals, the Pathologist could evolve

a method whereby a serum capable of conferring a prolonged passive immunity could be produced.

With such a serum one could with confidence undertake the active immunization of stock in rinderpest areas.

It is only by conferring active immunity that we can ever hope to stamp out the disease.

Rinderpest now threatens Rhodesia and the Provinces of South Africa.

We have at present areas in Uganda from which we can draw susceptible cattle, but I would again emphasize that these areas are in great danger of rinderpest invasion - a danger which increases day by day. I cannot therefore too strongly urge upon the Government to avail itself of the opportunity now offered.

With sufficient funds, staff, and accommodation the output of serum could be so increased as to place us in a position to give all necessary help to British Central Africa, Rhodesia and South Africa, and by timely aid assist these Governments in their endeavours to prevent the spread of Rinderpest further South - an eventuality which would be nothing short of a National calamity.

Should it be decided to adopt my suggestions I would strongly recommend that between 300 and 500 acres of the Native Reserve adjacent to the Laboratory and situated on the opposite side of the railway line be reserved for grazing and isolation purposes. We are at present paying a rent of £25 to Mr. H. D. Cooper for the grazing rights over a portion of his farm.

I have the honour to be,  
 Sir,  
 Your obedient servant,

*Alan Plender*  
 Chief Veterinary Officer.

Box 13127 / East Afr Prob.

216

sc

C. D.  
APR 23 1913  
23

April 1913

Sir,

I am etc to transmit to you for your conser the accompanying copies of a report by Genl R. T. Shanks, Chief Vet. Officer, E. A. P. on the subject of measures proposed for the suppression of independent in the Prots and the production of an independent serum in the Prots.

I am —

(Signed) H. W. JUST.

DRAFT.

S. Montgomery Esq  
Disley  
Cheshire.

MINUTE.

- Mr. D... 22/4/13
- Mr. ... 22/4/13 p.
- Mr G. Fisher.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Emmott.
- Mr. Harcourt.

By R. T. Shanks 10th March 1913 D  
sent in 1917

Particulars of the former  
... as they have gone