

# Pastoralism: Animal health and food safety situation analysis, Kenya and Tanzania



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## Introduction

Pastoralism is largely practiced in the arid and semi arid land (ASAL) – 80% of Kenya’s landmass; 50% of Tanzania’s landmass.

Its most productive uses: livestock rearing, wild resource harvesting and tourism.

Livestock is main sources of livelihood of ASAL area inhabitants, but animal and public health challenges are faced by farmers.

## Study AIM and OBJECTIVES

To describe the current animal health scenario and its implication for food safety based on data collected among pastoralists who enjoy substantial territorial occupancy in Kajiado county (Kenya), and Tanga and Morogoro regions (Tanzania).

## Materials and methods

A total 238 farmers were interviewed in a cross section study in Kajiado county (Kenya), and Tanga and Morogoro regions (Tanzania). Total of 688 animals were serologically tested for Q fever.



Interview being conducted in kajiado

## Results

### Veterinary services

Among 84 % of respondents trust government veterinary services  
Government veterinary offices are more 5 km away to 71% of the respondents.



Goat carcass being skinned for a meal

### Farmers and zoonosis

13% of respondents use unboiled milk  
While 11% will eat on an animal that is sick from and  
Only 11% will handle aborted foetus with protective gear. Aborted material in 77 households are fed to dogs

### Veterinary Drugs

Easily accessible to 38% of respondents  
Self administering of veterinary drugs to their animals by 71% of the respondents  
Oxtetracycline and penicillin streptomycin were the most commonly stocked antibiotics at household level

### Animal health

Diseases commonly reported by farmers:

- East coast fever 43%
- Anaplasmosis 23%
- Trypanosomiasis 9%
- Only one respondent knew of Q fever

Drought

Reduced livestock assets

### Food safety

Unclean milk harvesting  
Consumption of uninspected meat  
Consumption of animal that was on treatment  
Drinking of raw milk and raw milk products

Compromised food safety

## Research into use

- Upscale on regulation to access , prescription, storage and dispensing of veterinary drugs
- Enhance knowledge, skills and attitude of the pastoral communities on zoonosis
- Increase accessibility of government veterinary services for essence of disease control and extension services



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