

Article 149  
Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Control Branch,  
Department of Veterinary Services,  
P. O. Box 8283,  
Causeway. S. Rhodesia.

7th August, 1963.

The Acting Assistant Director Veterinary Services,  
Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Control Branch.

Blood Meal Results for the Nagupande Area and Lusulu  
Controls

I attach a summary of some blood meal results for the Nagupande Shooting Operations Area and the Lusulu Controls. These cover the period 22nd October - 21st December 1962.

These results only arrived two days ago and I have made this preliminary summary with the view to discussing the information with my officers when I visit Sebungwe at the weekend. I regret that I have not been able to give much thought to the results due to the general pressure of work at the moment but the following observations are made:

1. The large number of negatives in the Nagupande Shooting Area results were, I think, a result of the over enthusiasm of the field assistant at the time when catches began to fall off and bloodmeals were consequently becoming fewer. I do not expect as many negatives in the earlier collections or in later collections for that matter as it was towards the end of December that I explained to F.A. Edward that it was quality and not quantity which I wanted.
2. We seem to be on the right track as far as the suids, bushbuck and kudu are concerned. The high suid percentage for Sigalala was what I would have expected from observation.
3. Dr. Weitz has had trouble again with the specific identifications of pigs and consequently the results are often given as simply pig or unidentified pig. I think we can assume they are mostly warthog.
4. Antelope other than kudu and buckbuck hardly figure in the results. There was one definite roan and one impala. Eland, Roan, sable, impala and of course duiker occur within the area in varying numbers (the larger species have probably tended to leave the area due to the general disturbance but there are still frequent spoor records). Reedbuck also occur but these animals are localised on the more extensive vleis - I did expect this species to show up in the Sigalala results - they may still do so of course.
5. Elephant had been virtually completely driven out of the fenced area by the 22nd October and there was only the odd buffalo in the area during the period covered by these blood meal results - this latter species only really re-entered the area early in the New Year.
6. The "man" identifications were probably feeds from the catching party.
7. The high unidentified primate percentage for the Bemsee area is interesting. Dr. Weitz says in his letter "the unidentified primate feeds were only tested for man and we cannot say whether they are from baboon or monkeys".
8. The high avian percentage for the Bemsee area is extraordinary. There must be a party of ground hornbills resident here. Guineafowl had already broken up into pairs at this time and were therefore not such

9. The rhino identifications for the Lusulu rounds were expected. Rhinos are frequently seen on these flyrounds.



SENIOR ENTOMOLOGIST

DFL/MCL

Some Blood Meal Results for the Nagupande Shooting Operations  
Area and the Lusulu Controls. (period 22nd October - 21st  
 December 1962)

1. Lusulu Control Flyrounds LF1 and LF2

Pig	77	56.20	} percentage of total
Eland	2		
Kudu	9		
Bushbuck	11	33.59	
Impala	1		
Unidentified bovid	22		
Eland or Kudu	1		
Rhino	10	7.29	
Unidentified primate	4	2.92	
Negatives	8		
	<u>145</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	

The negatives have been ignored and therefore the total is 137

2. Nagupande Blood Meal Flyrounds NO5 and NO6

Warthog	102	} percentage of total	
Bushpig	2		66.27
Unidentified pig	114		
Roan	1		
Kudu	15		
Bushbuck	14		
Unidentified bovid	36		26.14
Bushbuck or Kudu	18		
Bushbuck, kudu or eland	2		
Rhino	2		0.61
Man	5	1.51	
Unidentified primate	12	3.95	
Baboon	1		
Cat	1	0.30	
Avian	4	1.22	
Negatives	83		
	<u>412</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	

The negatives have been ignored and therefore the total is 329

3. Sigalala Blood Meal Flyrounds S01 and S02

Warthog	17	} percentage of total	
Unidentified pig	79		81.35
Kudu	1		
Bushbuck	3		12.72
Impala	1		
Unidentified bovid	10		
Man	3		2.54
Unidentified primate	1		0.85
Antbear	1		0.85
Avian	2		1.69
Negatives	108		
	<u>226</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	

The negatives have been ignored and therefore

4. Chevi Chevi Blood Meal Flyrounds Ch1 and Ch2

Warthog	22	)	63.52	)	
Unidentified pig	25	)		)	
Bushbuck	3	)	29.73	)	
Unidentified bovid	19	)		)	
Man	1	)	1.35	)	Percentage of total
Unidentified primate	1	)	1.35	)	
Avian	3	)	4.05	)	
Negatives	73	)		)	
	<u>147</u>		<u>100.00%</u>		

The negatives have been ignored and therefore the total is 74.

5. Bemsee Blood Meal Flyrounds B1 and B2

Warthog	27	)	47.43	)	
Unidentified pig	19	)		)	
Kudu	3	)	24.74	)	
Bushbuck	11	)		)	
Unidentified bovid	10	)		)	Percentage of total
Man	2	)	2.06	)	
Unidentified primate	8	)	8.25	)	
Antbear	1	)	1.03	)	
Avian	16	)	16.49	)	
Negatives	71	)		)	
	<u>168</u>		<u>100.00%</u>		

The negatives have been ignored and therefore the total is 97.

Warthog	3	8	2		7	15	5	9			49	8.775)	
Bushpig													42.208
Un. pig	33	26	30	60	6	4	11	14			184	33.833)	
Buffalo													
Eland			2			1	5	2			10	1.811)	
Roan			1		4	5	20	4			34	6.175)	
Sable													
Kudu	26	12	11	8	1	2	7	7			74	<sup>13</sup> 74.405)	
Waterbuck													
Tsessebe													44.036
Bushbuck		4	4	7		1	1	1			18	3.26)	
Impala				1							1	.181)	
Reedbuck	1										1	.181)	
W. kudu	6	4	4								14	2.545)	
Sharpe's grysbok													
Duiker or kudu		1									1	.181)	
Eland or kudu				1	1	7	5	2			16	2.895)	
Roan or kudu							1				1	.181)	
Un. bovid	13	3	11	18		4	14	10			73	13.221)	
Zebra													
Rhino	10	12	6	5	2	8	11	6			60	10.852	10.852
Elephant													
Man	1	1									2	.362	0.362
Monkey													
Baboon													
Un. primate			1	3							4	.724	0.724
Antbear		2									2	.362	0.362
Porcupine													
Cat													
Dog	1										1	.181	0.181
Avian	2	2			2	3					7	1.275	1.275
Mammal	96	75	70	105	21	50	80	55			552	100.00	100.000

Miscellaneous points - Lusulu Control Figures

1. Dr. Weitz has been having trouble with the pig identifications recently. It was thought however that the majority of the unidentified pigs were warthog.
  
2. Of the Bovids kudu has been the only species to come up regularly month by month. This is probably because it is local in habit. Roan have featured in the winter months but not in the extreme dry season and early wet season. This is comparable with results obtained in the Nagupande Shooting Area.
  
3. Rhino are resident throughout the year on the Lusulu Control flyrounds and as can be seen in the bloodmeal results provide a regular source of food for the tsetse.

D.F.L.  
17.4.64.