

## NEWSLETTER MAY

Dear clients,

In this newsletter you can read more about rabies. Sadly, there is a big outbreak going on in Namibia. On our website you can find an updated article about rabies, which is free to download. I am happy to announce that Wildlife Vets Namibia now officially has got its own game dealers license. Last month we had our first DRC shipment of the year again, where we brought game to a reserve close to Kinshasa. Lastly, we are changing over to a new invoicing program, so should you encounter any issues, please let us know. Kind regards, Ulf

### ***RABIES OUTBREAK***

There are widespread outbreaks of rabies occurring in Namibia at the moment. Several farmers informed us of kudu's dying on their farm and/or surroundings. We therefore strongly advise to have a close look at your kudu and eland populations and to consider vaccinating them.

We have uploaded an updated article about rabies on our website. On the next page you can read some sections out of it. In the online article we give more information on the disease and its transmission, symptoms, and what you can do to minimize rabies on your farm. Feel free to download the entire article [here](#).





## ***RABIES IN KUDU AND ELAND: IMPLICATIONS TO THE GAME INDUSTRY***

In spite of rabies being a well-known and much researched disease, many uncertainties exist around the peculiar, seemingly Namibia specific, manifestation of rabies which decimates our Kudu and Eland populations country-wide. Amongst wild herbivores, Kudus appear to be most susceptible to rabies, likely followed by Eland.

From a trophy hunting perspective, the Kudu bull is both one of the most wanted and slowest maturing (i.e. reaching trophy standards only after 8+ years) antelope. The decimation of the Kudu population due to rabies, especially on game fenced farms, poses a severe and long-term threat to the farmer's income.

The quickest and most efficient way to vaccinate is to dart the animals from a helicopter. Over the past few years we have done this repeatedly on a number of game farms both during and following an outbreak. In all cases the farmers reported the outbreak

stopped within 10-14 days of vaccination. Those farms where we prophylactically vaccinate annually or biannually now support a thriving Kudu population.

Ideally one strives towards obtaining the highest possible percentage vaccine cover in the said Kudu population. Depending on the size of a farm, the Kudu and Eland population density, bush density (season) and the % vaccination cover aimed for, such a vaccination campaign could be executed within a few hours at a cost equivalent to the trophy fee obtained for say 4-6 Kudu bulls shot. Spending this amount of money to protect and ensure a sustained healthy Kudu population on a given farm is definitely an economically feasible exercise.

Contact us for vaccination strategies on your farm!

Click [here](#) to download the entire article from our website



## GAME DEALER REGISTRATION

In February this year I sold my share of Super Game Dealers cc, which I founded in 2004, to Jan Blaauw and am thus no longer associated with the company. This also means that my Super Game Dealers email address (ulf@supergamedealers.com) is no longer valid (current contact details on the last page).

I did, however, obtain a full and unlimited MET registration as game dealer and retained sufficient trucks and equipment to enable us to do major wildlife translocations (see DRC article below). Being an unlimited game dealer means that we can capture and translocate all Namibian game species, from antelope to rhinos and elephants. Our services include:

- ✓ Game capture and translocation services (focussed on high value species such as rhino, sable and roan)
- ✓ Game import and export, especially to other African countries



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

### CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

(in terms of Ordinance 4 of 1975, as amended)

*It is hereby certified that*

**Wildlife Vets Namibia (Dr. U Tubbesing)**

PO Box 50533

Windhoek

*is registered as a*

**Game Dealer**

*Particulars of licence* This licence is valid for the capture, care, keeping, purchase, selling and transport of game.



*Giraffe capture. We kept all the necessary trucks and equipment to capture and translocate animals. These giraffes were taken to the DRC.*

## ***DRC TRANSLOCATION 2018***

Last year Wicus Herholdt and myself (under Super Game Dealers) started an enormous translocation project where we started to restock two reserves in the DRC by introducing around 700 animals. We are proud to be associated with a conservation project of this magnitude which continues this year under the Wildlife Vets Namibia banner! At the end of April, we translocated species such as lechwe, nyala, zebra, giraffe, hartebeest and wildebeest (in total 190 animals) to Parc de la vallée de la Nsele, close to Kinshasa.

The animals were mainly caught in Namibia, and on 25 April we transported them to Walvis Bay. The containers were loaded on the ship, and early morning we were ready to sail out. We sailed four days on the deep blue ocean before reaching the Congo river.



Check out our DRC 2018 trailer [here!](#)



***We transport the animals in converted wildlife containers. The animals do well on the ship, it seems much less stressful than road transport. After capturing, they receive a long-acting tranquilizer. They are fed and given water twice a day.***



***Offloading nyalas***

After 7 hours sailing on the Congo river, we reached the harbour of Matadi. From here it was another 14-hour travel by road, before we reached the reserve. We offloaded the animals in a 5 ha pre-release "boma", so the animals had time to regroup and settle down. After 3 days this boma was opened to finally release the animals into the 15,000 ha reserve.

***Lechwes and zebras in the pre-release boma***





## ***NEW INVOICING PROGRAM***

We are in the process of changing our invoicing program to a new program, called Billdu. We had several issues with our old program, which you might be aware of... It was often not clear for instance what the total amount of the invoice was. We hope we have solved that issue now. In case you encounter any problems, or if you have tips for us to improve the invoice, please let us know!

IF YOU ARE HAPPY WITH OUR SERVICES, WOULD YOU BE SO KIND TO GIVE US A REVIEW ON FACEBOOK? THAT WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED! YOU CAN FIND THE WILDLIFE VETS NAMIBIA FACEBOOK PAGE [HERE.](#)

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WILDLIFE VETS

***At Albert Hufnagel's farm we darted almost 100 animals (sables and nyala's) in two days from the car! I immobilised the animals and checked/trimmed the hooves together with Albert and the workers, my assistant checked the animals, vaccinated them and treated them for parasites. While I dart the next animal, she reverses the immobilized animal. Because we work in a team, we are able to work fast and efficient!***

