## **Vet Medicine Centre Services**

Central supply and services comprises of three sections; the workshop, the stores and the animal accommodation. The animal accommodation comprises the experimental animal quarters, the infectious animal facilities, the animal quarantine and the paddocks. The experimental animal quarters is where one can find all the laboratory which include the mice, rats rabbits guinea pigs and chickens.

The quarantine besides being used as a screening and isolation area for sick and other animals before being taken into the paddocks is also an area which is being used as a milking parlour for the dairy animals.

The infectious animal facility is a research area where research programmes involving infectious animal diseases are conducted.

The paddocks are demarcations by means of barbed wire fences into 1.5 hectares each and are seven in number. This is grazing land for the dairy cattle, the sheep and the goats including the horses and donkeys. The paddocks also house the piggery unit, the animal spay race and the bore hole for the irrigation of the pastures during the dry season.

AIM: The main aim or purpose of the central supply and services is to support the four(4) teaching departments which are:

- disease control
- Clinical studies
- Para clinical studies
- Biomedical sciences
- in the provision of teaching material in the form of animals (animal accommodation), repair of equipment (workshop) and the storage of chemicals (stores).

PROVISION OF TEACHING MATERIALS (ANIMAL ACCOMMODATION)

- (1). PRODUCTION UNITS For the teaching departments to have the teaching material available for the students, the animal accommodation section keeps animals on a production basis to produce offspring that can be used later in teaching and practical lessons. The teaching and practical material includes:
- Blood and faecal matter from dairy cattle, sheep, goats, guinea pigs and chickens.
- Milk from dairy animals for microbiology lessons.
- Whole pigs (boars) for castration and anatomy practicals.
- Whole cattle (bulls) for castration.
- Female cattle (cows) for pregnancy diagnosis.
- Young cattle (both male and female) for surgery practicals. The excess teaching materials are later sold to the university community to raise funds for in order to feed the animals in the production units and the cycle continues for the two semesters of the university calendar.

## (2). EXTRA ACTIVITIES

Hay Production – The vibrant young men and women collect hay bales from Liempe farm after it has been cut and baled by the tractor. This hay is used to feed the ruminant animals as a supplementary feed in the dry season.

Crop Production – The young men and women are also engaged in crop production. This is to supplement the green vegetation to the animals for research and teaching such as the guinea pigs and the rabbits that require a constant supply of roughage in their diet. The crops include vegetables and maize.

Collection of Firewood – The young men and women are engaged in the collection of firewood from Liempe farm and the surrounding areas and also around the university grounds which the staff from the horticulture section cut down. The firewood is used to burn the dead material after the students from the four teaching departments have used it.

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