



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Dilliman
1100 Quezon City

September 11, 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 29

Series of 2020

SUBJECT: WAIVING OF THE LABORATORY FEE FOR CAPRINE ARTHRITIS ENCEPHALITIS (CAE) AT THE ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC AND REFERENCE LABORATORY (ADDRL) OF THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND REGIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES (RADDLs)

WHEREAS, Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE) is one of the economically important viral diseases of goats and sheep with worldwide distribution;

WHEREAS, the CAE virus, a lentivirus of the family Retroviridae, infects its host for life and causes multisystem diseases like arthritis, mastitis, pneumonia, chronic wasting disease, and encephalitis in kids;

WHEREAS, there is no specific treatment nor any available vaccine for CAE and among the recommended control measures are the semi-annual serologic testing of the herd with identification and segregation of seronegative and seropositive goats, and eventual culling of seropositive goats;

WHEREAS, most lentivirus-infected sheep and goats are largely asymptomatic, but remain persistent carriers of virus which are capable of transmitting infection via colostrum or milk and respiratory secretions;

WHEREAS, serology is the most cost-effective method of diagnosing infection in persistently infected, clinically normal animals, and a 100% testing of all animals is a requirement for the accreditation of small ruminant breeder farms as per DA Administrative Order No. 4 Series of 2007 - Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Small Ruminant Breeder Farm Accreditation Program (SRBFAP); as well as for the issuance of local shipping permit as per DA Administrative Order No. 5 Series of 2019 - Guidelines on the Local Transport/Shipment of Animals, Animal Products and by-products;

WHEREAS, the cost of serology deters the goat raisers from submitting samples to the laboratory to determine the incidence of CAE in their farm which is essential in the institution of effective control measures; discourages the goat raisers to apply to the breeder farm accreditation program of the Bureau of Animal Industry; and proves to be cumbersome to farmers and traders intending to transport their animals;

NOW THEREFORE I, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby order a waiver on the laboratory fee for CAE at the ADDRL and the RADDLs.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

WILLIAM D. DAR, PhD
Secretary

