100 th anniversary ITM in 2006
Overall goal

To improve the health and wellbeing of the human populations in the tropics by developing, disseminating and applying scientific knowledge of tropical livestock diseases.
Activities

• **Research**
  – Biology, epidemiology and control of diseases of livestock in the tropics

• **Teaching**
  – Post-graduate level
  – Alumni network

• **Service delivery**
  – To institutes in Belgium and overseas

• **Networking**
Research
Four units

1. Unit of Veterinary Protozoology (S. Geerts)  
   – trypanosomosis/ theileriosis/ ticks
2. Unit of Animal Disease Control (P. Van den Bossche) - trypanosomosis/ zoonoses
Four units (cont.)

3. Unit of Veterinary Helminthology (P. Dorny)
   – Cysticercosis/ trichinellosis/ nematode control

4. Unit of Epidemiology and Applied Statistics (D. Berkvens)
   - Bayesian analysis/ risk analysis/ modeling
## Research priorities

**Tsetse/ trypanosomosis**
- Trypanocidal drug resistance
- Role of animal reservoir of human sleeping sickness
- Development of integrated decision support systems

**Ticks/ theileriosis**
- Molecular epidemiology and control of theileriosis
- Study of the cellular immunity of *Theileria parva*
- Vaccine development against theileriosis
### Research priorities (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cysticercosis</th>
<th>Emerging diseases</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved diagnosis of porcine and human cysticercosis</td>
<td><strong>Brucellosis and Tuberculosis</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Epidemiological studies/ disease impact studies</td>
<td>- Epidemiology and control under various epidemiological settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intervention studies to control the taeniosis/cysticercosis complex</td>
<td>- Zoonotic tuberculosis (<em>Mycobacterium bovis</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Bluetongue</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Prediction of spreading by modeling</td>
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<td>- Vector monitoring (outbreak Belgium)</td>
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Linking research to development - collaboration in the South

**AFRICA**
- Laboratoire Vétérinaire and INRB, Kinshasa
- Centre International de Recherches et de Développement sur l’Elevage en zone Subhumide (CIRDES), Burkina Faso
- International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC), Banjul, The Gambia
- Central Veterinary Laboratory, Kigali, Rwanda
- Veterinary Faculties of the Universities of Rabat, Morocco
- Jimma University, Ethiopia
- Centre for ticks and tick-borne diseases, Lilongwe, Malawi
- Veterinary Faculty of Pretoria, South Africa
- University of Zambia (UNZA), Zambia

**ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA**
- International Centre for Zoonoses (CIZ), Quito, Ecuador
- Cysticercosis working group, Lima, Peru
- National Institute for Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology (NIMPE) and National Institute for Veterinary Research (NIVR), Hanoi, Vietnam
- National Zoonoses and Food hygiene Research Centre (NZFHRRC), Kathmandu, Nepal
- Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, India
- Royal University of Agriculture (RUA), Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Teaching
MSc in Tropical Animal Health (MSTAH)

- 10 month duration – 60 credit points
- Alternating English and French
- Strong academic orientation (intends to initiate students into scientific research)
- Target group: veterinarians, agriculturists and biologists involved in livestock programmes and research in the tropics
- Designed following a modular approach
  Learning paths consisting of a common part, a major (out of two) and a thesis work
- Majors: animal disease control & epidemiological data collection and processing
Common part

Mandatory - 12 credits
3 modules:
- Research methodology
- Project management
- Global livestock development

Animal disease control

Elective major - 25 credits
4 modules:
- Laboratory diagnosis
- Vector-borne disease control
- Control of infectious diseases
- Helminth disease control

Collective module

Epidemiology of specific diseases

Epidemiological data collection and processing

Elective major - 25 credits
4 modules:
- Geographical information systems
- Introductory statistics & epidemiology
- Survey methodology
- Risk analysis

Thesis work

Mandatory - 23 credits
PhD-training (in collaboration with Universities)
Currently about 25 PhD-students (sandwich system)

Distance learning (web based)
- MSc ‘Veterinary Tropical Diseases’ and continuing professional development
- In collaboration with the University of Pretoria, SA
New technologies such as the interactive potential of the World-wide Web demolish traditional boundaries or make them more porous by creating new opportunities which enable information to be shared more freely, as well as allowing access to a wider client-base, utilizing expertise and other resources more efficiently wherever they may be available, and presenting educational information in a modern format. We believe that this new web-based MSc degree programme, which focuses on animal health management issues of infectious and parasitic diseases, particularly in the Afrotropical (sub-Saharan) Region, fulfills these criteria.

We are optimistic that this degree programme will appeal not only to students from Africa but also to those from all over the world.
Teaching (cont.)
Alumni network (RIPROSAT)

- Maintains the continuous learning process
- Generates feedback for permanent evaluation and improvement of the courses
- Provide support in all sorts of ways
  - maintaining a database with expertise
  - publishing a semi-annual Newsletter (400 subscribers)
  - organising regional meetings and national workshops
Meeting in Cotonou (2004)

Meeting in Dakar (2007)
Service delivery and networking
Main service delivery activities

- **Reference Centres:**
  - National reference laboratory for trichinellosis, echinococcosis and anisakiasis
  - FAO Reference centre for Livestock Trypanosomiasis

- **Scientific Committees**
  - Belgian Food Safety Agency (FAVV)
  - PAAT (Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis)
  - European Food Safety agency (EFSA)

- Advising colleagues and the public on prophylaxis and treatment of tropical animal diseases

- Be-troplive
Thank you for your attention