

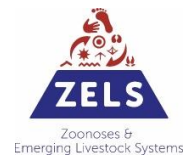
International Livestock Research Institute

Training course report

Syndromic surveillance workshop



March 2017



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Project background

The syndromic surveillance training course was made possible by a pump-priming grant from the Institute of Infection and Global Health at the University of Liverpool awarded to Laura Falzon. The 2.5 day training course was held on 14–16 March 2017 at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)/Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Zoonosis laboratory in Busia, Kenya, a research facility operated collaboratively by ILRI, DVS and the Busia County Veterinary Department.

The training was delivered by John Berezowski from the Veterinary Public Health Institute in Bern, Switzerland and Laura Falzon from the University of Liverpool. Laura is also a postdoctoral research associate in the *Zoonoses in Livestock in Kenya* (ZooLinK) project.

On the first day, the trainees were introduced to surveillance (definition, goals and types of surveillance) and syndromic surveillance (definition, steps, advantages and disadvantages). The remaining 1.5 days focused on running exercises in R (e.g. syndrome definition, developing time-series and applying event detection algorithms). All notes and codes were written within R Notebook.

Training summary

Organizers: Laura Falzon, Christine Mosoti and Lilian Achola

Lecturers/facilitators: John Berezowski and Laura Falzon

This was a 2.5 day training course. On the first day, a brief overview of surveillance and syndromic surveillance was given. This included definitions, types, evaluation and application of surveillance and syndromic surveillance.

On the remaining 1.5 days, the focus was on running exercises in R, using a dataset that was based on meat inspection records from a slaughterhouse in western Kenya. The R exercise involved importing, visualizing and formatting data, running descriptive statistics, developing time-series, and applying event detection algorithms to the data.

Agenda

- Introduction to surveillance
- Introduction to syndromic surveillance
- Introduction to R: short lecture, download R, R studio and do some simple operations – syndrome definition; event and outbreak detection
- Setting up the syndromic surveillance software in R with notes and codes written within R Notebook
- Syndromic surveillance exercises

Training material

Each participant received a hard copy of the notes and a USB stick with all course documents, exercises and datasets. The notes and USB sticks were kindly provided by the Veterinary Public Health Institute in Bern, Switzerland.

List of participants

Serial No.	Name	Email contact	Sex (M/F)	Country of origin	Country Classification (Developing/Developed)
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