WORLD VETERINARY DAY AWARD 2013

World Veterinary Day was initiated by the World Veterinary Association (WVA) in 2000 to be celebrated annually on the last Saturday of April. In 2008 the WVA and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) agreed on the creation of the World Veterinary Day Award aimed at rewarding the most successful celebration of the veterinary profession by national veterinary associations, alone, or in cooperation with any other selected veterinary body.

The selected theme for 2013 was VACCINATION

The WVA is happy to inform that the World Veterinary Day was celebrated this year in more than 30 countries, in all world regions. The WVA highly recognizes and appreciates the huge effort and preparation done by each one of these National Veterinary Associations.

In the opening ceremony of the OIE 81st General Session of 26 May 2013, the OIE DG, Dr Bernard Vallat, announced the winner of WVD 2013;

South Africa, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development together with the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA)

for their vaccination campaign which was held at Rust de Winter, North of Pretoria on 26 April 2013 to commemorate the World Veterinary Day 2013.

The campaign was well participated by many vet students, veterinarians, para-veterinarians, governments’ officials, veterinary technicians, farmers and stakeholders’ representatives.

A total of 3753 cattle, 1849 goats, 108 sheep, 52 dogs and 20 cats were vaccinated (About 70% of all the livestock in the area were vaccinated).

The WVD 2013 was covered by the press in number of media channels and national journals to highlight the importance of livestock and poultry vaccinations and the role of veterinarians and para-veterinarians in safe-guarding both animal and human health.

Dr. Malcolm de Bude, the Gauteng Veterinary Services Chief Director was invited to the stage to receive the WVD award 2013 price of 1000 US$.