Assessment of emerging livestock ticks and tick-borne disease threats and integrated control strategies in West and Central Africa (WECATiC)

Project Code: LFA/02/CP/CW/2011-14/

Objective:
This project is assessing the impact and risks of two major cattle tick species introduced into West Africa. It aims to address the challenges associated with controlling ticks in West and Central Africa through the establishment of more efficient acaricide application techniques combined with assessment of tick resistance and quality control of the chemicals used. The project team is also assessing the current status of acaricide residues in meat and milk associated with the use of chemicals to control ticks.

Background/Rationale:
The livestock industry is directly contributing (through meat, milk and egg production) to 35% of the agricultural economy in Africa; an amount to which one should also add indirect contributions provided by natural fertilizer and draft power to farming systems and also the trade of skins and leathers for the artwork industry. In total, the contribution of the livestock industry to the gross domestic product was estimated at around 13% in East Africa, 25% in Central Africa, 38% in North Africa, and as high as 44% in West Africa (CEDEAO, 2008). According to the FAO, the productivity of the cattle industry in Africa should increase at a rate of 4.2% per year up to 2015 in order to satisfy human needs while progressively reducing food importation. With this in view, improving animal health in Africa is pivotal not only for the average income of local breeders but also for the improvement of the nutritional health and the economy of the communities.

Project Outputs:
- Establishing the distribution and risk of *Rhipicephalus microplus* in WCA
- Controlling and managing tick acaricide resistance and acaricide quality control
- Identifying factors of footbath acceptability in farming systems
- Capitalizing & Popularizing tick control strategies

Project Funding Type: Commissioned project

Participating institution and country location:
IRAD (Cameroon),
EPAC/UAC (Benin),
LNE ( Burkina Faso), IDR/UPB (Burkina Faso), INERA ( Burkina Faso),

Lead Institution: CIRDES, Burkina Faso; Dr Hassane Adakal, CIRDES 01 BP 454 Bobo-Dioulasso Burkina Faso, Email: hassaneadakal@yahoo.fr; hadakal@cirdes.org; Tel +226 20 97 20 53

Project duration: 2011-2014
Starting date: June 2011

Ending date: 2014

Source of funding: AusAid

Amount of funding: 500000 $