



# agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**World Antibiotic  
Awareness Week  
13-19 November 2017**

## **ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE**

Happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used against them to treat the infections they cause. These infections become difficult to treat in animals and people.

### **What can livestock producers and pet owners do to prevent antibiotic resistance?**

- ⇒ Vaccinate animals to reduce the need for antibiotics;
- ⇒ Ensure that antibiotics given to animals are only used to treat infectious bacterial diseases and under veterinary supervision. Don't use antibiotics on healthy animals.
- ⇒ Give antibiotics to animals at the prescribed dose and continue until the course is completed;
- ⇒ Observe the correct withdrawal periods to ensure that food produced from animals treated with antibiotics, such as meat, milk and eggs, does not contain harmful levels of antibiotic residues;
- ⇒ Promote and apply good practices, including improved hygiene, biosecurity and improved animal welfare, at all steps of animal production.



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[www.daff.gov.za](http://www.daff.gov.za)

[www.fao.org/antimicrobial-resistance](http://www.fao.org/antimicrobial-resistance)

[www.oie.int/antimicrobial-resistance](http://www.oie.int/antimicrobial-resistance)

[www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance](http://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance)