



# KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE, AND PRACTICE OF DAIRY WORKERS ABOUT TOXOPLASMOSIS IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

University of Fort Hare  
Together in Excellence

\*Chabula M.E, <sup>1</sup> Jaja I.F

<sup>1</sup>Department of Livestock and Pasture Science, University of Fort Hare, Private Bag X1314, Alice 5700, South Africa.

<sup>2</sup>Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases (DVT), University of Pretoria, Faculty of Veterinary Science P/Bag X04 Onderstepoort 0110, South Africa.

<sup>3</sup>Risk and vulnerability science center (RAVAC), University of Fort Hare, South Africa, Private Bag X1314, Alice 5700, South Africa.

Author: 201614733@ufh.ac.za

Corresponding author: ijaja@ufh.ac.za

Cell number author : 0739707307

Cell number corresponding author: 078 549 2098

## INTRODUCTION

- Toxoplasmosis is contagious among animals and humans.
- It poses significant risks to human health, healthcare systems, and strains the health budgets.
- Most farmers delay addressing this disease, potentially due to inadequate awareness.

## OBJECTIVE

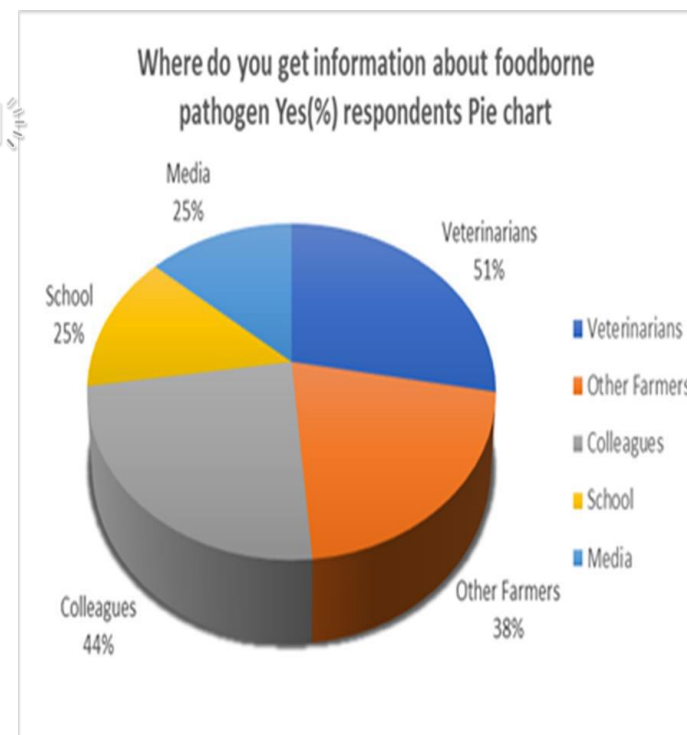
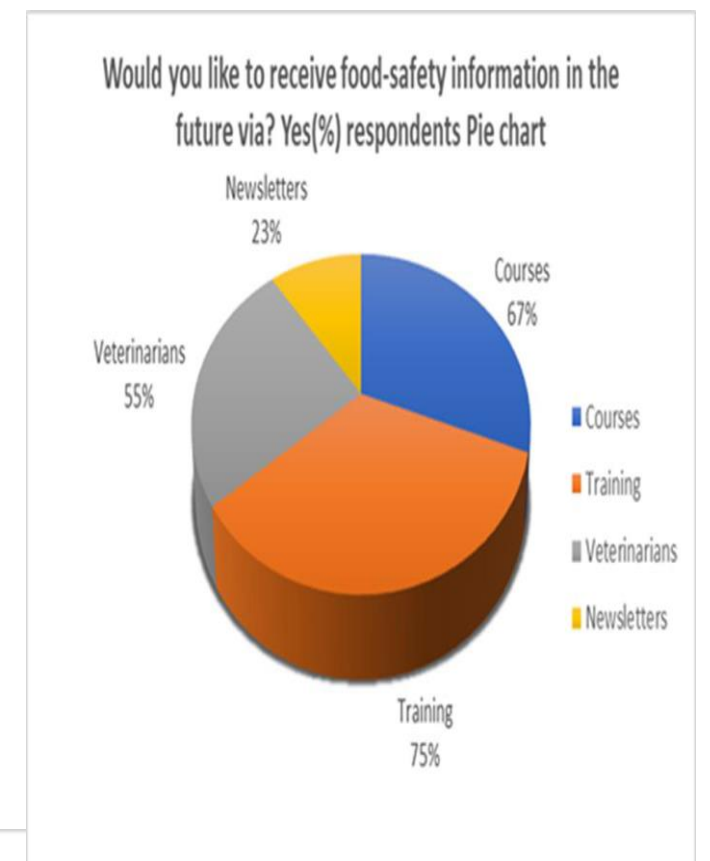
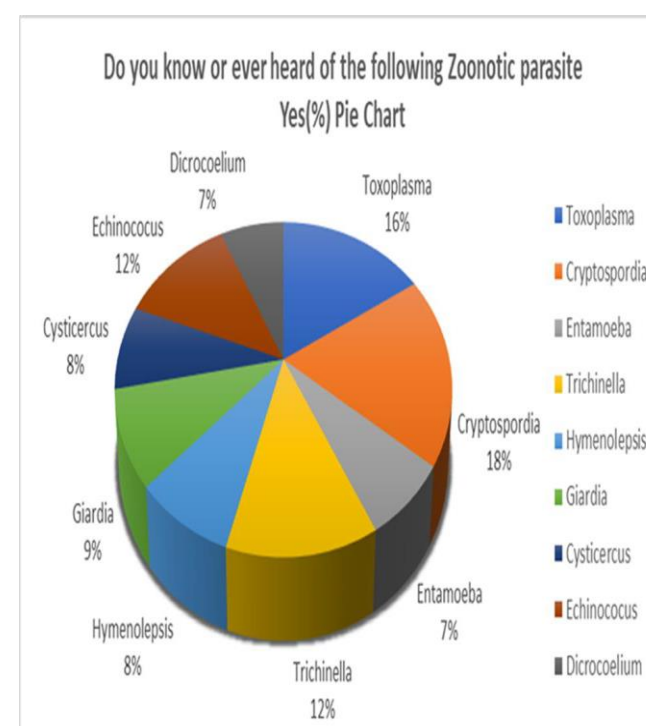
- This study evaluated dairy workers knowledge, attitude, and practice about toxoplasmosis in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa

## METHODOLOGY

- The data was collected from a total of 150 registered dairy farms, where dairy workers were interviewed using a close-ended questionnaire.
- A structured questionnaire was used to collect data in five district municipalities (Amathole, OR Tambo, Chris Hani, Cacadu and Alfred Nzo) in the Eastern Cape.

## RESULTS

- The most known pathogen was Cryptosporidia (18.0%) followed by Toxoplasma (15.8%), Echinococcus (12.2%), Trichinella (11.5%), Giardia (9.4%), Hymenolepis and Cysticercus (7.9), Dicrocoelium (7.2%), and Entamoeba (6.5%).
- Some respondents (77%) on the farm assist cows that may be infected during calving without gloves or sanitizing which may lead to an infection to occur also in humans.



## CONCLUSION

- The study underscores the need for comprehensive measures to improve the knowledge of toxoplasmosis, Highlighting its status as one of the Neglected Tropical Disease.

## References

Mose, J. M., Kagira, J. M., Kamau, D. M., Maina, N. W., Ngotho, M., & Karanja, S. M. (2020). A Review on the Present Advances on Studies of Toxoplasmosis in Eastern Africa. *BioMed Research International*, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/7135268>

