

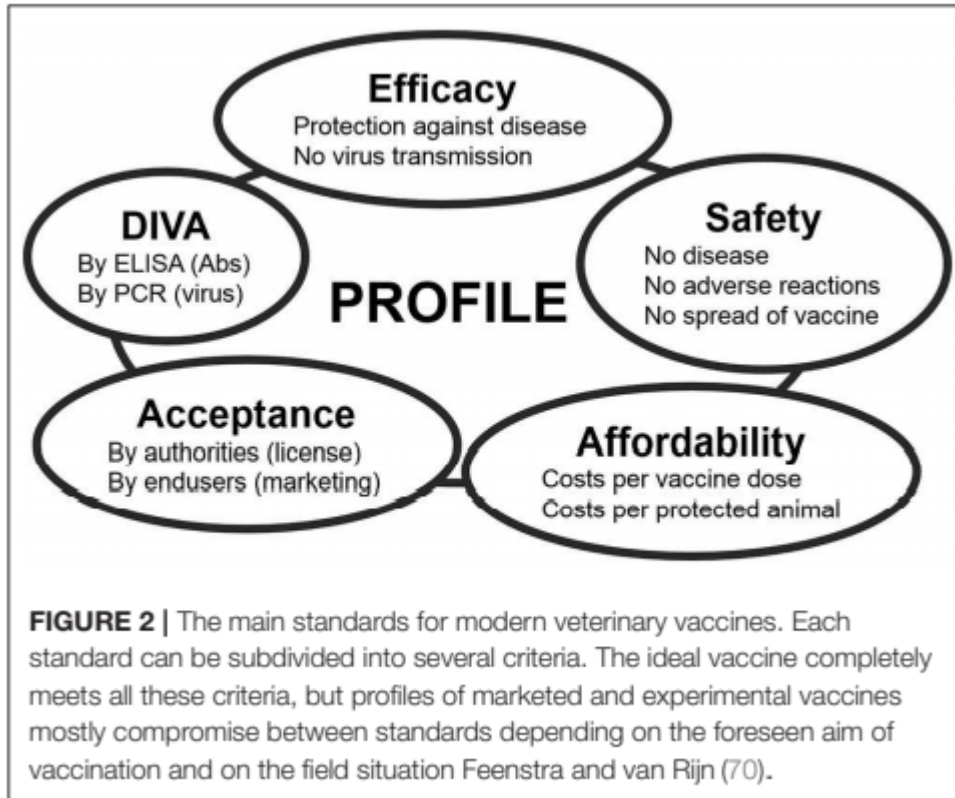


# African Horse Sickness Vaccines

Webinar 28 April 2020  
AHS Thailand

Dr Alf-Eckbert Füssel  
DG SANTE  
European Commission

# Requirements for vaccines



Prospects of Next-Generation Vaccines for Bluetongue

Piet A. van Rijn

Frontiers in Veterinary Science, November 2019, Volume 6, Article 407

[www.frontiersin.org](http://www.frontiersin.org)

# AHS vaccines - OIE

SECTION 3.5.

**EQUIDAE**

---

CHAPTER 3.5.1.

**AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS (INFECTION WITH  
AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS VIRUS)**

**Requirements for vaccines:** *Attenuated (monovalent and polyvalent) live vaccines for use in horses, mules and donkeys, are currently commercially available. Subunit vaccines have been evaluated experimentally.*

African horse sickness , S. Zientara , C.T. Weyer, S. Lecollinet, Rev. Sci. Tech. Off. Int. Epiz., 2015, 34 (2), 315-327  
 African Horse Sickness: A Review of Current Understanding and Vaccine Development , Susan J Dennis , Ann E Meyers , Inga I Hitzeroth and Edward P Rybicki , Viruses 2019, 11, 844; doi:10.3390/v11090844  
[www.mdpi.com/journal/viruse](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruse)

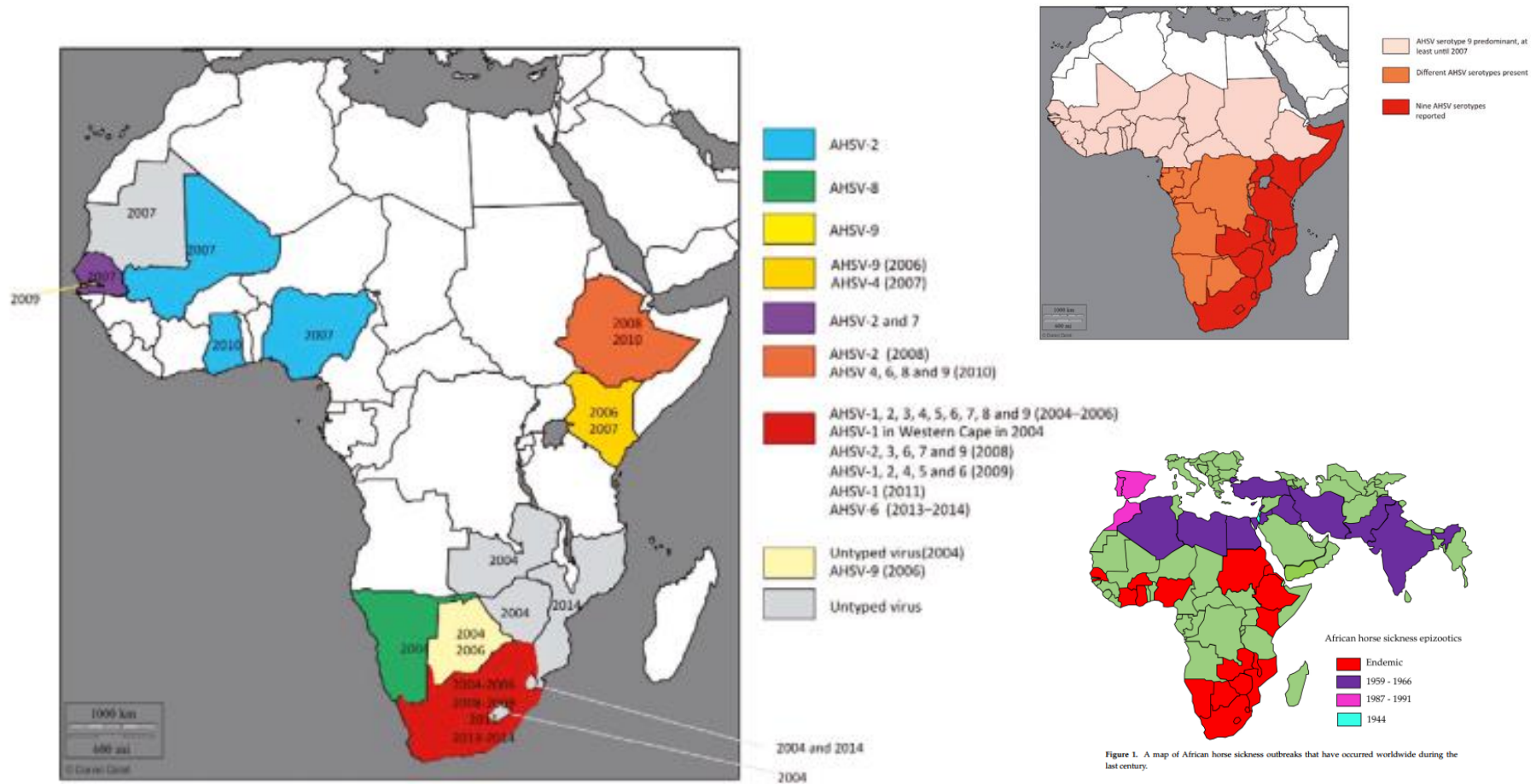


Figure 1. A map of African horse sickness outbreaks that have occurred worldwide during the last century.

### b) Recent outbreaks of African horse sickness (2004–2014)

Based on data from the OIE World Animal Health Information Database, Promed alerts and a review of the literature (8, 9, 10)

# Known live attenuated AHS vaccines

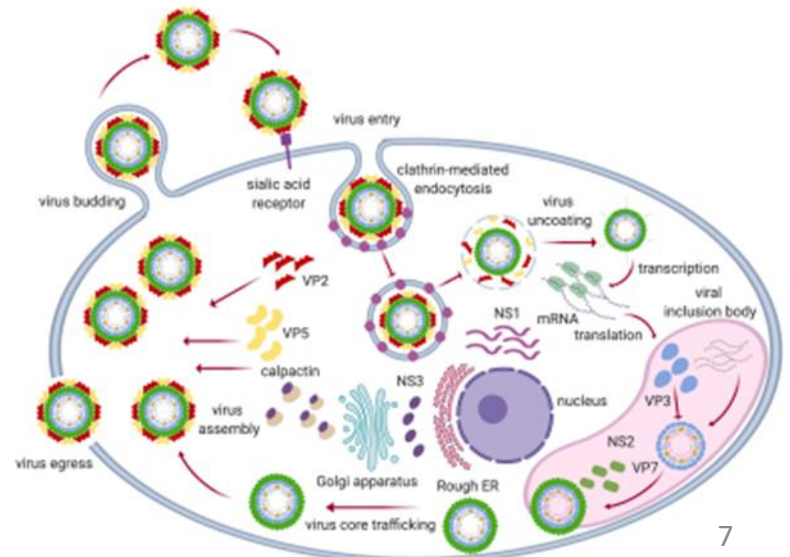
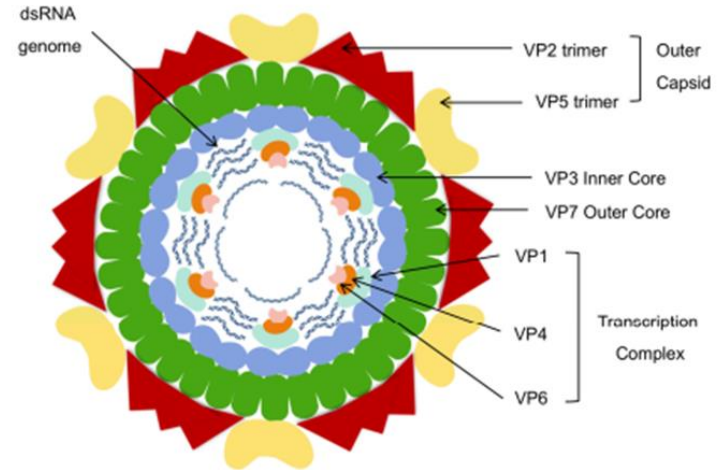
- AHSV-(1-3-4)+(2-**6**-7-**8**) (Onderstepoort Biological Products, South Africa)
  - Cross-protection AHSV-**9/5**
- AHSV-**9+2** vaccine (National Laboratory, Senegal)
  - Cross-protective AHSV-**6/1**
- AHSV-**9+4+2** (National Veterinary Institute Ethiopia)
  - Cross-protection AHSV-**6/1**

African Horse Sickness: A Review of Current Understanding and Vaccine Development  
 Susan J Dennis , Ann E Meyers , Inga I Hitzeroth and Edward P Rybicki,  
 Viruses 2019, 11(9), 844; <https://doi.org/10.3390/v11090844>

TYPE OF VACCINE	STRATEGY	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
LIVE ATTENUATED VACCINES	Attenuation of live virus by serial passage in a heterologous host or cell culture. Low-level replication in the vaccinated animal permits the stimulation of virus-specific immunity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mimics sub-clinical infection</li> <li>- Stimulates both humoral and cellular immune responses</li> <li>- long-lived immunity</li> <li>- can contribute to herd immunity</li> <li>- cost-effective</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reversion to virulence</li> <li>- gene segment re-assortment</li> <li>- non-DIVA compliant</li> <li>- variable serotype-specific immune response</li> <li>- requirement for high level bio-safety facilities</li> <li>- not licensed for use outside Africa</li> </ul>
INACTIVATED VACCINES	Large quantities of virus are produced and inactivated by chemical or physical procedures. Infectivity is eliminated without destroying the antigenicity of the virus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- safe</li> <li>- stable</li> <li>- no genetic re-assortment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- transient immunity</li> <li>- non-DIVA compliant</li> <li>- expensive</li> <li>- possible reaction to adjuvant</li> <li>- requirement for high level bio-safety facilities</li> </ul>

# AHSV Virus

- AHSV is a non-enveloped double-stranded RNA virus
- genome consists of 10 segments (S1 to S10)
- RNA encodes
  - 7 structural proteins (VP1–VP7)
  - 4 nonstructural proteins (NS1, NS2, NS3, NS3a)
- 9 serotypes (AHSV1 to AHSV9)



RECOMBINANT VACCINES			
DNA Vaccines	DNA encoding viral proteins is injected as the vaccine. DNA is transcribed and translated to produce viral protein which elicits an immune response in the vaccinated host.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- safe</li> <li>- stable</li> <li>- cost-effective once gene is cloned</li> <li>- DIVA compliant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- low humoral response</li> <li>- possible incorporation into the host genome</li> </ul>
Subunit vaccines	A specific viral protein is purified or produced via recombinant DNA technology and presented to the host's immune system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- safe</li> <li>- DIVA compliant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- weak immunogens</li> <li>- expensive</li> <li>- possible protein aggregation</li> <li>- boost inoculations required</li> <li>- need potent adjuvant</li> </ul>
Poxvirus-vectored vaccines	The gene encoding an antigen target for neutralizing antibodies is cloned into a poxviral vector. Animals vaccinated with the recombinant virus mount an immune response to the antigen of interest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Induces both humoral and cellular immunity</li> <li>- more than one gene per vector possible</li> <li>- DIVA compliant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- costly</li> <li>- complicated design strategy</li> <li>- requirement for high level bio-safety facilities</li> <li>- can't be used in immune-compromised animals</li> </ul>
Reverse genetics vaccines	Recombinant virus strains are genetically engineered to lack a functional gene, allowing either only a single replication cycle or preventing viral egress and inhibiting viraemia. Purified recombinant viruses are used as the vaccine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- does not cause disease</li> <li>- low risk of genetic reassortment</li> <li>- DIVA compliant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- complicated design strategy</li> <li>- expensive</li> </ul>
VLP vaccines	AHSV structural proteins are expressed from recombinant bacterial strains in mammalian, insect or plant expression systems. These assemble into empty viral-like particles which are administered with adjuvant as the vaccine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safe</li> <li>- No risk of reversion to virulence</li> <li>- No risk of genetic reassortment</li> <li>- Cost-effective in plants</li> <li>- Ease of scale up in plants</li> <li>- DIVA compliant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Costly if produced in insect or mammalian cells</li> <li>- Possible reaction to adjuvant</li> </ul>



# Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

Slide xx: [element concerned](#), source: [e.g. Fotolia.com](#); Slide xx: [element concerned](#), source: [e.g. iStock.com](#)