



UPDATES ON STATUS OF RABIES



NEPAL

March 03, 2025

Introduction

- Rabies - Endemic in Nepal.
- **Notifiable disease in Animal Health.**
- Rabies Control Strategy drafted; yet to be approved.
- Department of Livestock Services is responsible for rabies control in animals (co-ordination with three tiers of government).

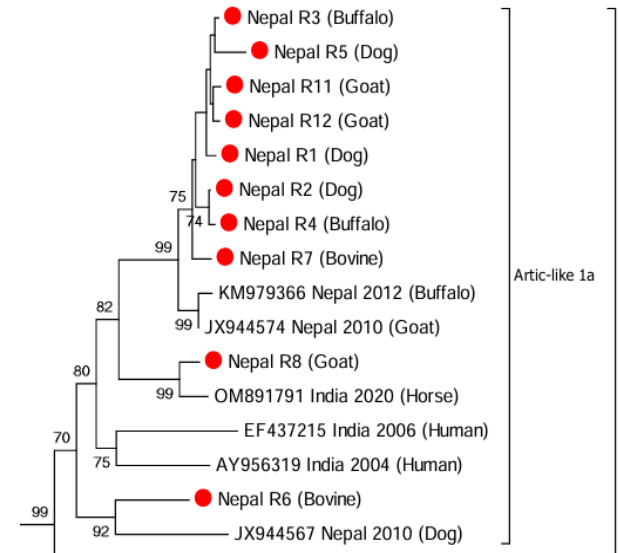
Introduction....

Genetic characterization

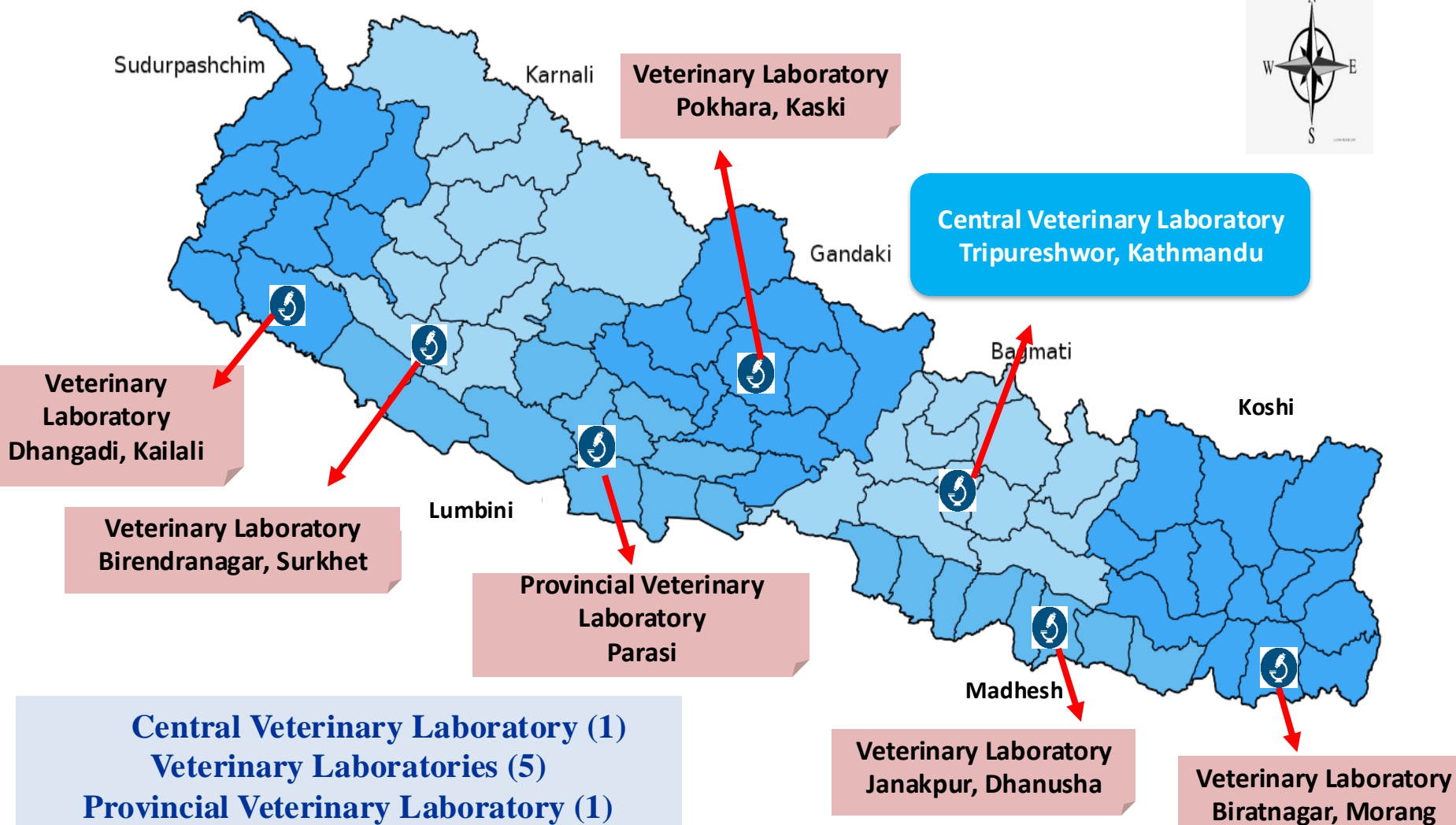
Arctic-like lineage 1; **2003**

An Indian subcontinent clade and two different Arctic-like sub-clades within the Arctic-related clade (AL1, AL3); **2013**

Only Arctic-related clade (Arctic like 1a); **2023**



Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratories for Rabies in Nepal



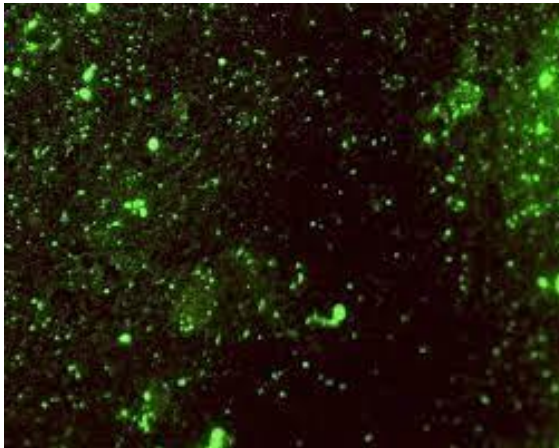
Diagnostic Facilities

Central Veterinary Laboratory

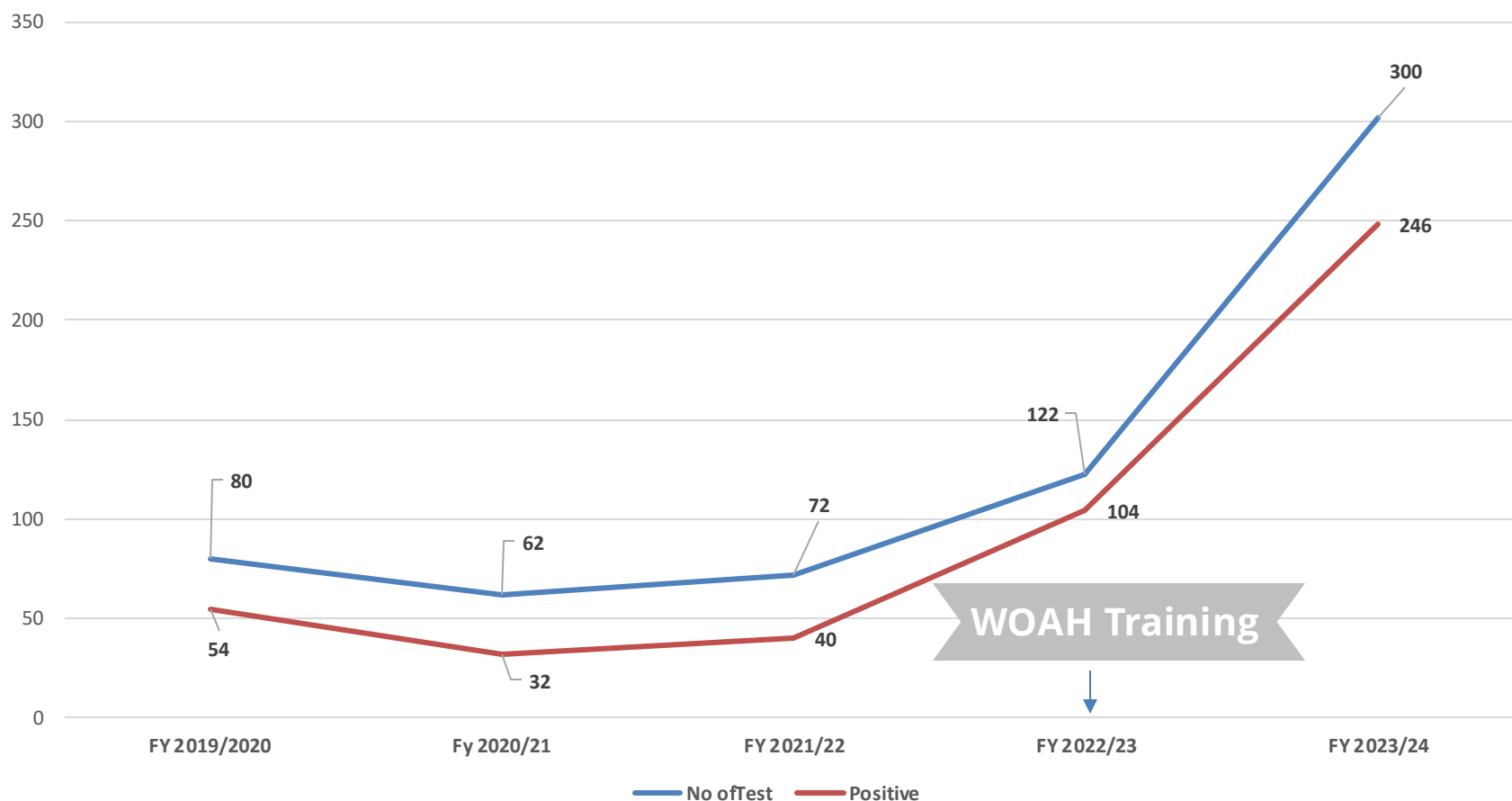
- Lateral Flow Assays
- Fluorescence Antibody Test (FAT)
- RT-PCR
- Histopathology

5 Veterinary Laboratories

- Lateral Flow Assays
- FAT started in VL, Pokhara
- VL, Dhangadi upgraded to start FAT and PCR

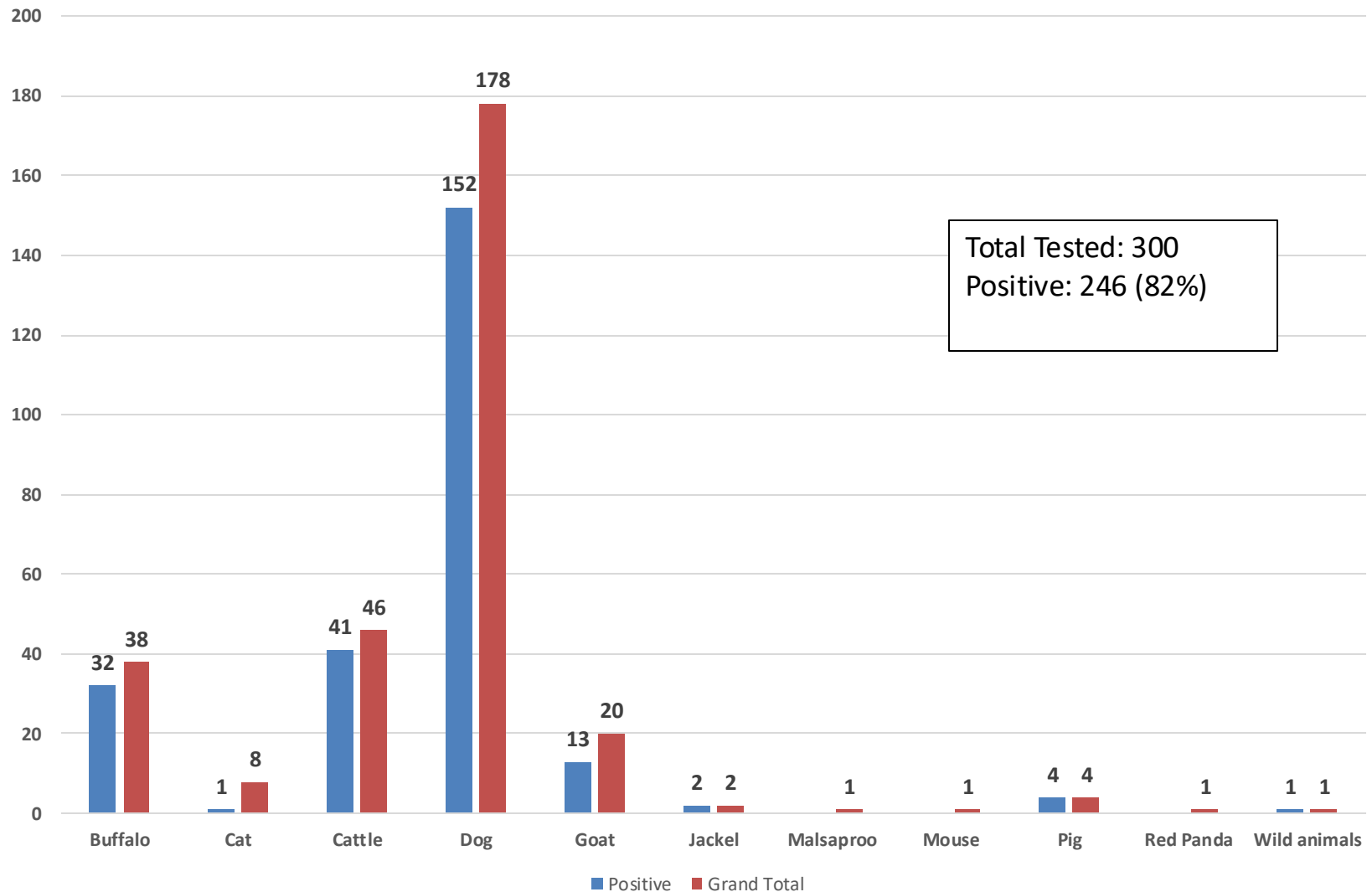


Trend of Rabies cases: Last 5 Years

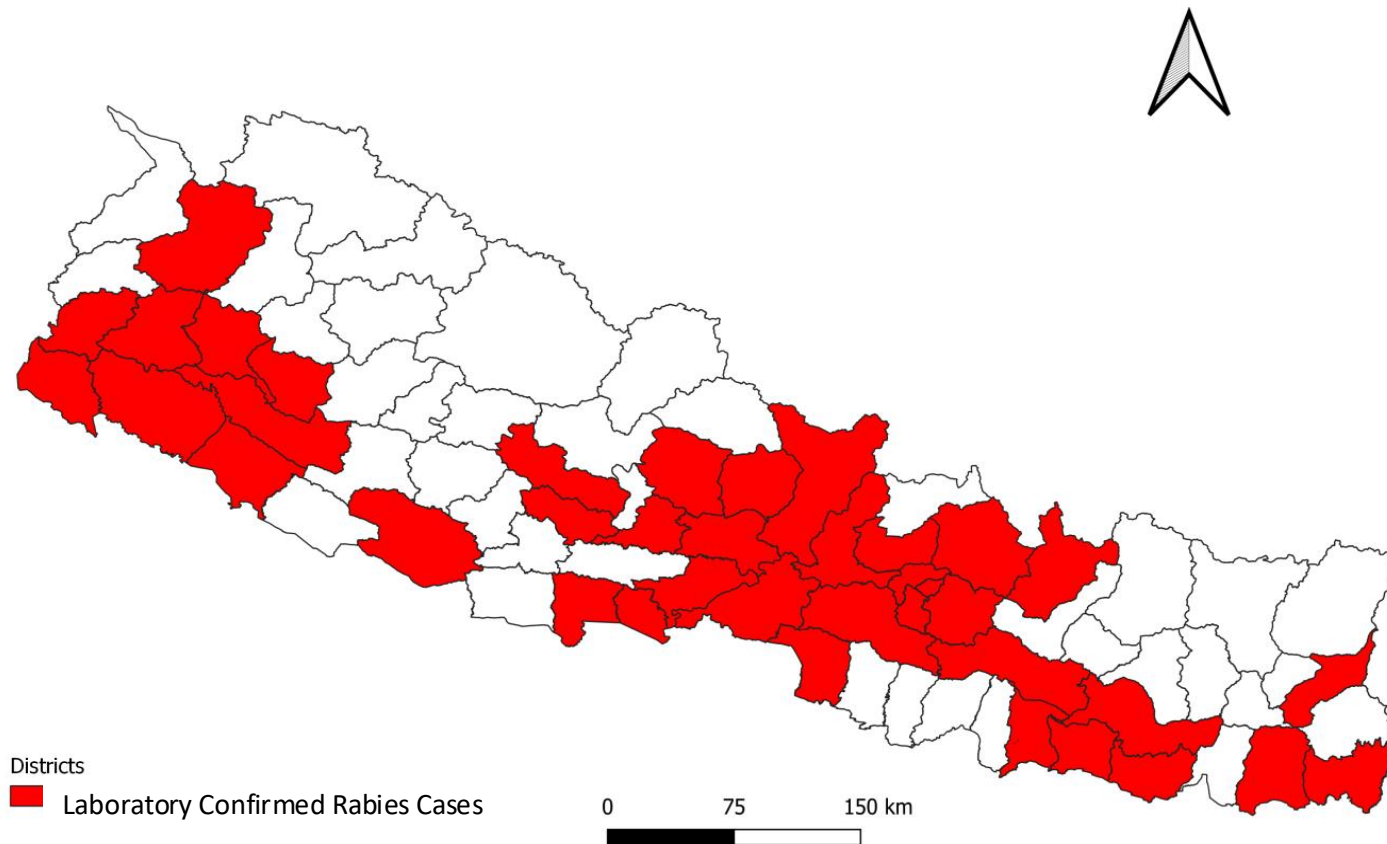


Source : Annual Bulletin of CVL

Species wise Rabies Cases (July 2023 – June 2024)



Distribution of Rabies Cases (July 2023 – June 2024)



Rabies Sample collection training

From 2023 June, we have been conducting Rabies sample collection training and till now training has been provided to 583 Participants (Veterinarian, Veterinary technicians and Private veterinarian and technicians)



Out of 753 local levels, we have trained the staffs from 364 local levels and others from district hospital, Private Practitioners and Academia

Further plan to train field level staff from remaining local levels
Continuous support from FAO ECTAD to train field staffs

Animal Birth control programme

- We have been conducting ABC programme targeting community dogs.
- MTOT for Spaying and castration conducted in seven provinces

Anti-Rabies Vaccine production

- 0.18 million doses being produced and used
- 0.1 million doses being imported

School Awareness Program for Rabies control

In the year 2024, The school education program reached 491 schools across all over Nepal educating 40891 students and teachers about rabies prevention



Challenges

- Dog census not started
- Overpopulation of community dog with frequent wild interface
- Large forest cover area (Wild animal oriented rabies)
- Information sharing mechanism at grass root level

Way Forward

- RFFIT capacity building at central level
- Develop Vet lab, Dhangadhi as National reference lab for rabies diagnosis
- Establish FAT Diagnostic Facility in all sub national Laboratories
- Increase Rabies Surveillance
- Capacity building of vets and paravets
- Participation in Proficiency testing programme

thank you!