

- Individual housing of pregnant dogs reduces the spread of the disease.
- Testing of both male and female dogs for canine brucellosis before breeding helps to reduce transmission.
- Contact your veterinarian and kennel club for information on how to ensure that breeding dogs does not spread diseases.
- Do not use dogs from infected breeding facilities for breeding.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect infected breeding facilities.

CANINE BRUCELLOSIS IS A CONTROLLED DISEASE IN SOUTH AFRICA UNDER THE ANIMAL DISEASES ACT, 1984 (ACT NO. 35 OF 1984)

References:

https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/brucellosis_canis.pdf

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/downloads/brucella_canis_prevention.pdf

Please contact your nearest state/private veterinarian/animal health technician for further information. Provincial state veterinarian contact details are available at <https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Animal-Health/contacts/provincialveterinary>

**For technical queries, contact:
Directorate: Animal Health**

Animal Health

Tel.: +27 12 319 7456

Fax: +27 12 329 7218

Email: Epidemiology@dalrrd.gov.za

Website: www.dalrrd.gov.za

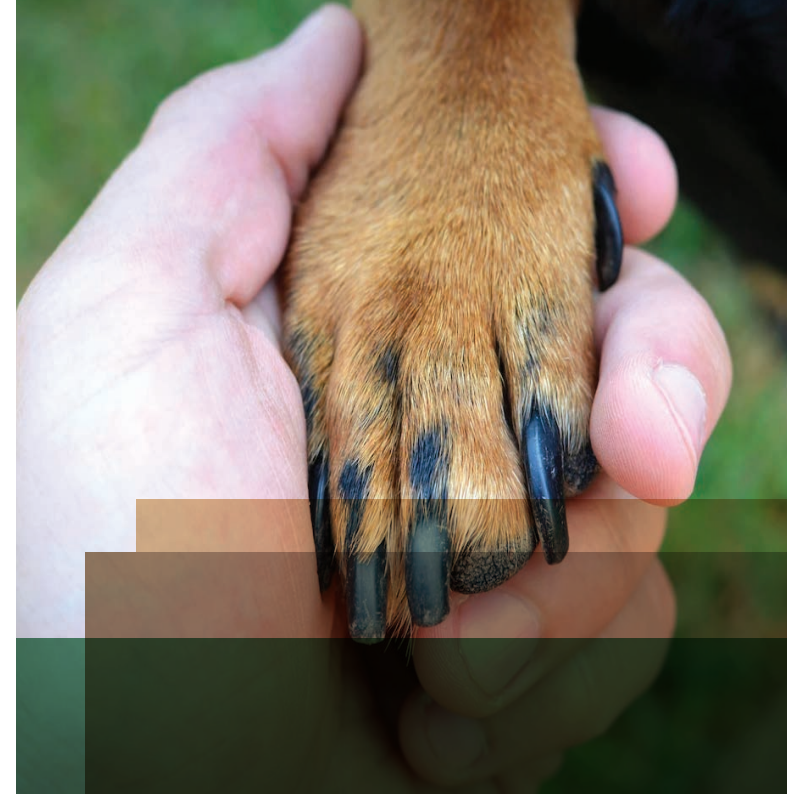
**For awareness and promotion, contact:
Directorate: Food Import and Export Standards**

Animal Health Promotion Division

Tel.: +27 12 319 6004/6117/6444

Email: info.sps@dalrrd.gov.za

Website: www.dalrrd.gov.za



Canine brucellosis



**agriculture, land reform
& rural development**

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WHAT IS CANINE BRUCELLOSIS?

- Canine brucellosis is a disease that primarily infects dogs and mostly affects the reproductive organs.
- It is caused by a bacterium called *Brucella canis*, which is a zoonotic organism that can also cause disease in people.
- Canine brucellosis can affect all dog breeds.



CLINICAL SIGNS OF CANINE BRUCELLOSIS MAY INCLUDE:

- Infertility, especially in males
- Late-term abortions and stillbirths in pregnant dogs
- Litters with both live and dead puppies

- Weak puppies that may die soon after birth
- Prolonged vaginal discharge after abortion
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Arthritis and swollen joints
- Swollen scrotum and testicles
- Loss of alertness and poor performance of tasks.



TRANSMISSION:

- Contact with aborted material (foetus, placenta, birth fluids) and vaginal discharge from an infected dog
- Natural and artificial breeding
- Contact with urine and semen of infected dogs.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU SUSPECT YOUR DOG HAS CANINE BRUCELLOSIS

- Consult a veterinarian.
- Isolate the infected dog and take precautions so that the disease is not spread to other dogs or people.
- Report any suspicion of this disease to your nearest State Veterinary Office OR your local veterinarian.

TREATMENT

- The Animal Diseases Regulations (R.2026 of 1988) state that infected dogs should be euthanised, but owners may apply for exemption from the Director: Animal Health.
- Any consideration of exemption from the Director: Animal Health is subject to private veterinary supervision and a prolonged course of specific antibiotics for the affected dogs.
- Owners should consider the zoonotic risks carefully because dogs with canine brucellosis often relapse after treatment.

CONTACT YOUR MEDICAL DOCTOR IF YOU HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH AN INFECTED DOG

Prevention and control of canine brucellosis

There is no vaccine for canine brucellosis.

Keep your pet in the yard and provide food and water to prevent roaming.