

2685

M-SERIES  
VETERINARY APPLICATIONS REPORT

by

H. EGEYES

on

GEMSBOK  
RHINOCEROS, BLACK

date submitted 11/11/66

DR. H. EBEDES B.V.Sc.  
 VETERINARIAN  
 ETOSHA GAME PARK  
 OKAUKUEJO  
 VIA OUTJO  
 SOUTHWESTAFRICA

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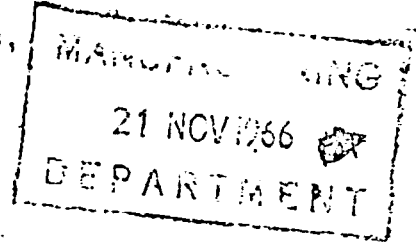
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 (C. C. C.)*



TEL. ADDRESS:  
 "BIOLOGIST ETOSHAPARK"

11 th November, 1966.

Mr G. Colman Green,  
 Manager, Pharmaceutical Research Laboratories,  
 Dansome Lane,  
 Hull,  
 ENGLAND.



Dear Mr Colman Green,

M99 and M285: GEMSBOK AND RHINO IMMOBILISATION.

Thank you very much for your most interesting letter of 25th October.

1. Rhino - On the 18th October, 1966 we caught our first black rhino. In our letter to you dated 12/10/1966 we mentioned that we would immobilise him with the following: 4mg M 99 + 20mg Siquil. However, because we chanced upon him so suddenly and unexpectedly, we did not remember the dosage and mixed a dart containing the following: 4mg M99 + 30mg Acetylpromazine.  
 Immobilisation time: 12 min 30 seconds.  
 Weight estimated: 1,600 lbs. (= 806 kg)  
 Respiration after 30 min: 10 per minute.  
 60 mg Lethidrone I.M.  
 Respiration after 45 min: 22 per minute.  
 " " 100 min: 12 per minute.  
 50 mg ACP after 120 min.  
 100 mg Lethidrone I.V. 155 min after immobilisation.  
 Up 42 seconds after antagonist. Crated. Loaded.  
 Transported 280 miles, travelling throughout the night.  
 Rhino slept and rested intermittently while travelling.  
 Very docile.  
 Average respiration during journey: 22 per minute.  
 Arrived fit and well at Ombika.

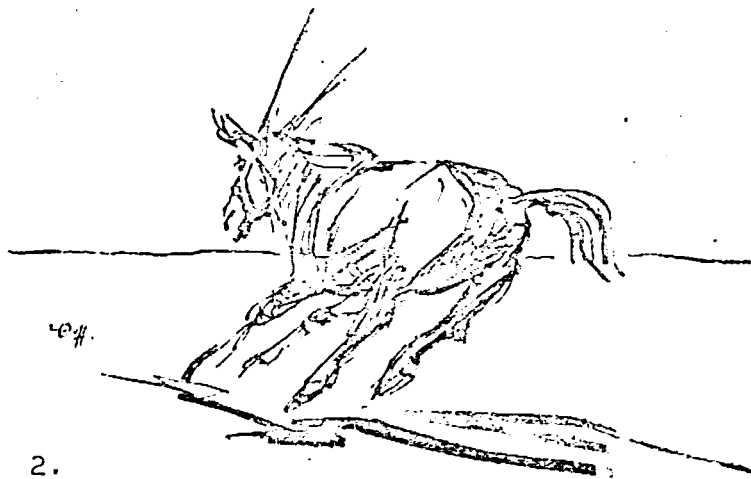
*Approx.  
 M.99 5.0 µg/kg.  
 A/P 372 µg/kg*

Thank you very much for suppling the M99 to catch our 1st SWA rhino.

2. Gemsbok -  
 We are enclosing a draft of our immobilisation trials on gemsbok using 4 mg M99 + 20 mg Hyocine + 50 (60) mg Siquil. In checking our records we found a typographical mistake which should have been checked ~~corrected~~ before sending you our letter of 17th June, 1966: E 44 and E 45 received 60 mg Siquil each and not 20 mg as was typed in the table.

DR. H. EBEDES B.V.Sc.  
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2.

In the new table of results, we have left out the 4mg of acetyl-promazine which was included in the cocktails for E 48 and E49. We are doing this because we feel that this small amount of AP could not have affected the immobilisation time to any serious extent. All gemsbok immobilised after E 50 received their M99 dissolved either in Siquil or in acidified distilled water, and we were therefore able to eliminate the small amounts of A.P. that was usually used to dissolve the M99 in previously. We may mention here that the M99 dissolves fairly well in Siquil which also has an acid ph (4.8 and 4.6).

Our Director is very impressed with our latest results and is very pleased that at last we have an agent which successfully and safely immobilises gemsbok. He has asked for a full report as well as a short article which he would like published. We have also <sup>been</sup> asked to write a short article on the immobilisation of game for the "1967 Southwestafrica Annual." We hope that you wont mind if we put a few of our thoughts on paper at this early stage of our immobilisation projects.

The results being submitted to you now, conclusively show that M99 is useful for immobilising gemsbok (75%) and also that the site of darting has a very important bearing on the immobilisation time. Darts placed near bony structures or abdominally (sometimes unavoidable when operating from a bouncing Land Rover) resulted in excessively long immobilisation times or no immobilisation. We also succeeded in immobilising a number of pregnant cows. The big secret is not to chase them far (under 1 mile) and to dart into a thick locomotion muscle group (especially the shoulder). What do you think of E58 ?

3. Zebra - We wrote to the Editor of the Journal of the S.A.V.M.A. and asked him to please return the article on zebra immobilisation so that we could effect the corrections you suggested. Unfortunately he wrote back saying that the article was already being printed and would appear in the September edition of the Journal, which we have not yet received todate. In future we will first submit our intended articles to you for your good advice and approval. We apologise for not being able to correct the errors you suggested we should. We are learning the hard way.

The rainy season is upon us and we will have to leave our bokkies for a while. We hope to do a few giraffe if we can find some young ones. There is also a possibility that we may have to go south to assist with the capture of red hartebeest. There has been the suggestion that this species may be caught faster by using nets, however this remains to be seen. There is also a project envisaged to capture some more gemsbok in the Namib, if it doesn't rain and if the new Ranger in charge of game catching has been appointed. Four more bomas are being erected at Halali- the new rest camp in Stosha,

Our supply of M99 has come down to 48 mg and we would appreciate a further consignment if you are able to supply us. Unfortunately we have a lot of wastage through misses and also because we have experienced that it is advisable not to use a dart more than 12 hours old. In this heat, the lubrication of the rubber plunger of the dart dries and this interferes with the firing mechanism. Also we feel that the drugs in the cocktail may lose some of their potency after being in combination and in the heat for several hours. Is it possible for you to check this in the lab and let us know how you feel about the matter?

In conclusion, thank you very much for your continuous interest in us and your excellent advice, which unfortunately we don't always take. We would like to say that we are learning all the time and gain experience with every animal we immobilise.

Best wishes and sincere regards,

Sincerely yours,



H. Ebedes.