



**TESTED  
ELSEWHERE**

# Understand, prevent and control Anthrax

## Problem statement

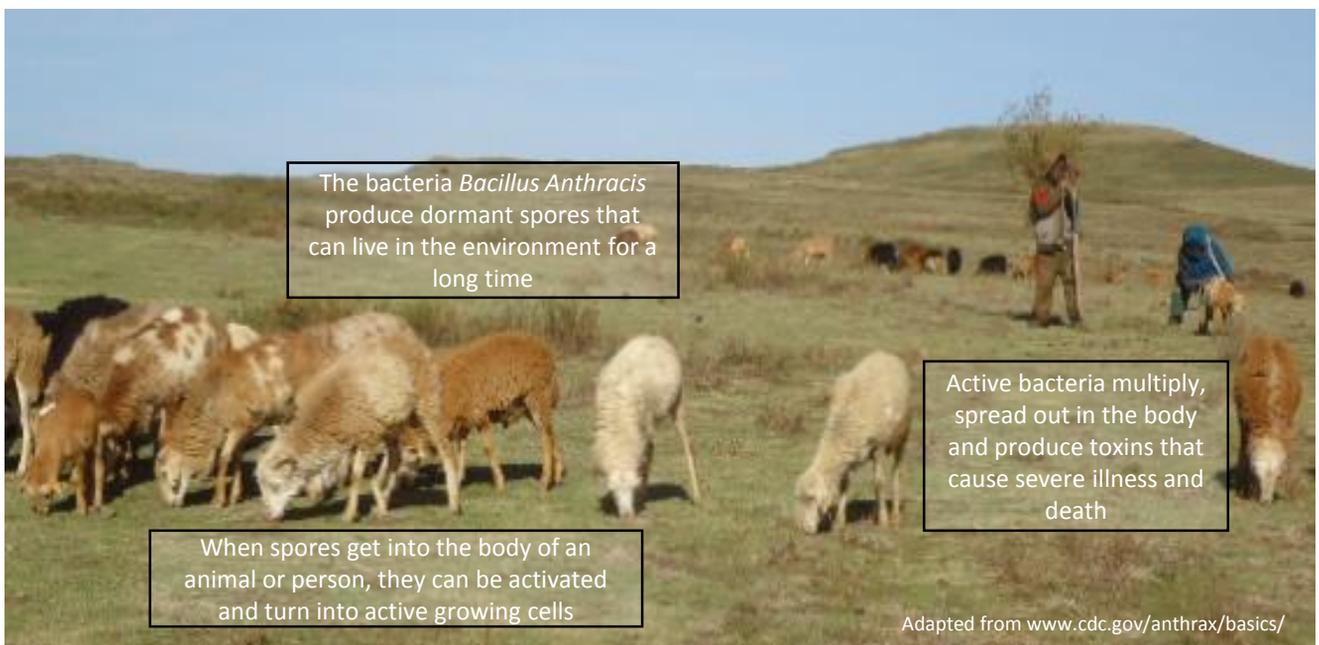
- Anthrax outbreaks in livestock occur in all regions in Ethiopia and has been mentioned as a major constraint for livestock production due to its high mortality rate.
- Livestock can be vaccinated, but vaccines are not always available when needed.
- Anthrax spores can survive in the environment for many years.
- People handling animals or animal products can be exposed and get cutaneous, inhalation or gastrointestinal anthrax. In the livestock production setting, cutaneous anthrax is the most common.
- If untreated, anthrax can be fatal also in people.

## Key messages and solutions

- Through focus group discussions (FGDs) investigate the real extend of the problem and clarify perceptions about anthrax in the communities.
- Conduct participatory disease search to identify high risk areas around sites and promote prevention by vaccination of livestock.
- Improve knowledge at community level (men and women) through trainings on the cause, transmission and control options of anthrax in livestock and people
- Promote reporting of suspected cases to investigate outbreaks and to implement control measures, such as proper disposal of carcasses, vaccination of susceptible animals and marking of sites potentially contaminated with anthrax spores.

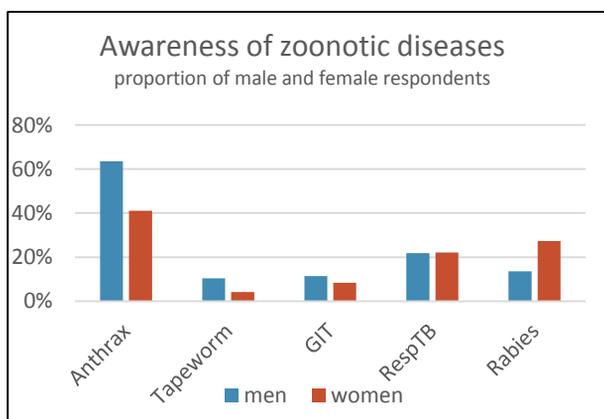
## Benefits

- Improved awareness and understanding in the community about the disease cause, transmission and control
- Improved handling of suspicious carcasses
- Reduced risk of exposure to anthrax
- Reduced mortality in small ruminants and other livestock



## Evidence

- During FGDs in project sites, anthrax was ranked among the top diseases by 23 FGDs in Amhara, Tigray and SNNP (25% of FGDs). Furthermore in Amhara, participants of some FGDs had sign of cutaneous Anthrax.
- Studies also found that awareness of zoonotic diseases was very low with only 46% of respondents being able to name a zoonosis. Of these respondents, 52.3% mentioned anthrax when asked for an example, and most of them stated consumption of raw meat from infected animals as the main source of infection.
- Even though awareness of anthrax is higher compared to other zoonoses, there is an obvious need to increase awareness and build capacity to deal with outbreaks.



## Suitability

- This intervention makes sense in sites where anthrax has occurred in recent years.
- The intervention ideally is combined with other health and gender interventions.

### Resource requirements (low to high)

Land	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Water	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Labour	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Cash	● ● ○ ○ ○
Access to inputs	● ● ○ ○ ○
Knowledge and skills	● ● ● ○ ○

### Impact areas (low to high)

Food security	● ● ● ○ ○
Human nutrition	● ● ○ ○ ○
Employment and livelihoods	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Natural resources base	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Gender empowerment	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Market linkages	○ ○ ○ ○ ○

## Value chain focus



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### Acknowledgements

This is a product of the CGIAR research programs on Livestock and Fish (2012-2016) and LIVESTOCK (2017-2022) as well as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)-funded SmART Ethiopia Project - Improving the Performance of Pro-Poor Sheep and Goat Value Chains for Enhanced Livelihoods, Food and Nutrition Security in Ethiopia. The project is led by ICARDA in collaboration with ILRI, national and other international partners. The Project thanks all donors and organizations who globally support its work through their contributions to the [CGIAR system](#). Organizations contributing to this work are: ICARDA, ILRI, ARARI, OARI, SARI, TARI