

BURN TRIAGE SURVEY

Dear survey participant:

You are invited to participate in a research study that forms part of my PhD studies. This information leaflet will help you decide whether you would like to participate. Before agreeing to take part, you should fully understand what is involved.

What is the study all about?

The study aims to assess the current way in which farmers/vets and other stakeholders make decisions regarding production animals burnt in wildfires, moreover; seeks to gather information on the common injuries sustained per species (ovine, bovine), the constraints farmers face after the fire, the main challenges faced when evaluating affected animals and the overall animal-human welfare affectation due to fire events.

What will you be required to do in the study?

You will be required to answer pertinent questions based on your previous experience during a wildfire event or eventually if faced with the event. The complete questionnaire will take 15-20 min to complete, with most questions having predetermined options and only a few open-ended questions in which you can express your opinion and feelings regarding how you coped or will cope in these situations.

What are the potential benefits that may come from the study?

The main benefit of this study will be the establishment of clear guidelines for categorizing the severity of the injuries and determining the treatment options available for affected animals.

Will you receive any financial compensation or incentive for participating in the study?

No. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You have the right to withdraw without having to give reason/s.

How will confidentiality and anonymity be ensured in the study?

All information gathered from the survey is confidential. Access to your data will be strictly limited to the principal researcher and supervisors of the study.

How is the information provided going to be made available and disseminated to the public?

The information provided will be carefully analysed and primarily presented in the required theses format for degree purposes. Dissemination of research will be presented in a scientific format (journal article) as well as oral/poster presentation format at local and/or international conferences contributing to improve the global knowledge of the topic.



Is the researcher qualified to carry out the study?

The researcher is a veterinarian, lecturer and PhD student at the Production Animal Studies Department and aims to find solutions that allow for a correct allocation of resources to mitigate suffering and losses during such unfortunate events.

Has the study received ethical approval?

Yes

Who can you contact for additional information regarding the study?

The primary investigator, **Dr Claudia Cardoso**, can be contacted during office hours at tel: 012 529 8303 and on cell: 072 101 9547 and via email at claudia.cardosocamaiti@up.ac.za. The supervisors, Prof R Leask and Dr K May can be contacted by email on rhoda.leask@up.ac.za and kate.may@up.ac.za

Declaration: There is no conflicting interest related to this research.

Access the survey before the 26th July 2023 by clicking on the link or scanning (camera) the QR code with your smartphone.

https://pretoria.eu.qualtrics.com/ife/form/SV_0j4K6AVbp2w8ZkW



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