

# KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND PRACTICES OF BREEDERS AND VETERINARY PERSONNEL RELATING TO BOVINE HERPESVIRUSES IN NORTHERN REGIONS OF CAMEROON

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## **Abstract**

*To determine the epidemiology of Bovine Herpesviruses in three northern regions of Cameroon, a cross-sectional survey was carried out to assess the behaviour of farmers and veterinary personnel towards Bovine Herpesviruses. Therefore, a total of 484 respondents were interviewed using a semi structured questionnaire, and the responses were recorded on a binary scale. An ANOVA was used to assess significant differences in mean knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) scores between regions, while linear regression was performed to explore the relationships between demographic characteristics and KAP. Certain demographic parameters, such as level of education, age and number of years of experience, influenced the respondents' levels of knowledge, attitudes and practices. In general, the study revealed low levels of knowledge ( $0.21 \pm 0.17$ ), desirable attitudes ( $0.44 \pm 0.28$ ), and inappropriate practices ( $0.68 \pm 0.12$ ). The nature of the respondents was positively associated with attitudes and practices, while age was positively correlated with knowledge. Educational level was positively associated with the respondents' knowledge, attitudes and practices. This study highlights the need for continuous training of veterinary staff on the silent evolution of certain pathologies and regular awareness of breeders on disease management on their farms.*

**Key words:** *Bovine Herpesviruses; cattle farmers; veterinary personnel; Cameroon*