Disease Diagnosis

Finding out what makes cattle sick or die is important because:

- Many different diseases make cattle sick or die
- Each disease requires different control measures (treatment, prevention)

History taking

- What: Clinical signs
- When did they start, how long
- How many cattle have been affected
- How many cattle have died
- Introductions of animals
- Are other species sick
- Nutrition
- Treatment
Field observation

- Observe animals in their normal environment
- Observe environment: food, water, other animals

Clinical Signs

- Observe clinical signs described by farmer
- Examine animal
- Know what is normal

Necropsy (Post mortem)

- For observing abnormalities
- For taking samples
- If anthrax suspected – NO POST MORTEM

Samples for laboratory tests

From life animal
- Blood (correct blood tube)
- Faeces
- Skin scraping
- Photos

From dead animal
- Fresh tissue
- Fixed tissue (Formalin)
- Body fluids (stomach, heart...)
- Photos

Different diseases require different samples for lab tests
Sample storage and transport

- Correct containers
- Correct additives/preservatives
- Correct temperature
- Transport to lab quickly

Contact lab for information

Questions?