

The Rinderpest Campaigns

Amanda Kay McVety has written the first history of the international effort to eradicate rinderpest – a devastating cattle disease – which began in the 1940s and ended in 2011. Rinderpest is the only other disease besides smallpox to have been eradicated, but very few people in the United States know about it, because it did not infect humans and never broke out in North America. In other parts of the world, however, rinderpest was a serious economic and social burden and the struggle against it was a critical part of the effort to fight poverty and hunger globally. McVety's history of the campaigns against the virus expands our understanding of development, internationalism, and national security by showing how these concepts were framed not only by economic and political concerns, but also by biological and environmental ones.

Amanda Kay McVety is Associate Professor of History at Miami University. She is the author of *Enlightened Aid: U.S. Development as Foreign Policy in Ethiopia* and has published articles in the journals *Diplomatic History* and *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*.



Global and International History

Series Editors

Erez Manela, Harvard University John McNeill, Georgetown University Aviel Roshwald, Georgetown University

The Global and International History series seeks to highlight and explore the convergences between the new International History and the new World History. Its editors are interested in approaches that mix traditional units of analysis such as civilizations, nations and states with other concepts such as transnationalism, diasporas, and international institutions.

Titles in the Series

- Antoine Acker, Volkswagen in the Amazon: The Tragedy of Global Development in Modern Brazil
- Christopher R. W. Dietrich, Oil Revolution: Anti-Colonial Elites, Sovereign Rights, and the Economic Culture of Decolonization
- Stefan Rinke, Latin America and the First World War
- Nathan J. Citino, Envisioning the Arab Future: Modernization in U.S.-Arab Relations, 1945–1967
- Timothy Nunan, Humanitarian Invasion: Global Development in Cold War Afghanistan
- Michael Goebel, Anti-Imperial Metropolis: Interwar Paris and the Seeds of Third World Nationalism
- Stephen J. Macekura, Of Limits and Growth: The Rise of Global Sustainable Development in the Twentieth Century
- Michele L. Louro, Comrades against Imperialism



The Rinderpest Campaigns

A Virus, Its Vaccines, and Global Development in the Twentieth Century

AMANDA KAY MCVETY

Miami University





CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi - 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108434065 DOI: 10.1017/9781108381673

© Amanda Kay McVety 2018

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2018 First paperback edition 2021

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-108-42274-1 Hardback ISBN 978-1-108-43406-5 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.



> For Harvey and Bonnie Vernell Franks



Contents

List of Figures		page viii
Ac	knowledgments	ix
List of Abbreviations		xii
	Introduction: Grosse Île, September 1942	I
Ι	Rinderpest and the Origins of International Cooperation for Disease Control	13
2	GIR-1: Rinderpest in World War II	47
3	"Freedom from Want": UNRRA's Rinderpest Campaigns	86
4	The Machinery of Development: FAO's Rinderpest Campaigns	121
5	Back to Grosse Île: Biological Warfare in the Postwar World	164
6	"Freedom from Rinderpest"	207
	Conclusion	250
Select Bibliography		254
Index		278



Figures

0.1	Concrete pier and former immigrant inspection	
	building on Grosse Île where researchers worked on	
	rinderpest during World War II.	page 3
1.1	"God strikes the Netherlands with rinderpest."	19
2.1	Junji Nakamura and Keikichi Yamawaki at the Pasteur	
	Institute in Paris.	49
2.2	Richard Shope during World War II.	65
	Field veterinarian in village office near Taipei.	98
3.2-3.5	Four photographs demonstrating the manufacture of	
	1	103-105
3.6	Huang Sung-ling of the Provincial Bureau of	, ,
_	Agriculture and Forestry, Robert C. Reisinger of FAO	
	(working as a JCRR veterinary consultant), and others	
	investigate a case of suspected rinderpest during an	
	outbreak in Taiwan.	116
6.1	Walter Plowright and Kazuya Yamanouchi in	
	Tokyo in 1994.	212
6.2	Dr. William Taylor looks for the characteristic	
	rinderpest lesions in the mouth of a cow in Sudan in	
	1987.	224
6.3	President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya and other dignitaries	
	at the unveiling of a buffalo statue at Meru National	
	Park in 2010.	237
6.4	Tom Olaka, a community animal worker in Karamoja,	
	Uganda, using thermostable rinderpest vaccine to	
	vaccinate local cattle in 1994	2.4 T

viii



Acknowledgments

I owe thanks to many people who helped me with this project. Drew Cayton read the first draft of this manuscript. It was in very rough shape, to say the least, but Drew, as he had done for countless others before, offered insightful feedback that helped me turn it into the book it is today. He was an amazing colleague and friend. I am one of many who miss him. Daniel Immerwahr graciously read the second draft of this manuscript and he too offered insightful feedback that helped me tighten the narrative and vastly improve the overall structure. I could not have written this book without the assistance of Kazuya Yamanouchi who shared a wealth of knowledge and sources with me. His generosity knew no bounds and I am very much in his debt. When I visited FAO, Felix Njeumi spoke with me at length about rinderpest and helped me to secure some valuable documents. The head of the FAO archives, Fabio Ciccarello, could not have been more gracious or more helpful. Peter Roeder, Jeff Mariner, and Michael Baron all kindly agreed to be interviewed for this project and offered valuable insights. Richard Shope spoke with me about his grandfather and cheerfully shared articles and images. Many others helped along the way in conversations at conferences and workshops, including, but not limited to: Tatiana Seijas, Nick Cullather, Julia Irwin, Stephen Macekura, Tom Robertson, Jenny Smith, Erez Manela, Thadeus Sunseri, Ed Miller, Megan Black, Jessica Wang, Karen Rader, Jim Webb, Prakash Kumar, Karl Appuhn, Paul Adler, Sheyda Jahanbani, and Steve Porter. Special thanks to Stephen, Erez, Tom, and Jenny for organizing two of those excellent workshops. George Sweat translated some material for me. Sheila Sparks secured innumerable sources through interlibrary loan. My anonymous readers at Cambridge University Press provided



Acknowledgments

excellent advice for improving the manuscript. Debbie Gershenowitz was enthusiastic about the project from the first time I spoke with her, as were Erez Manela, John McNeill, and Aviel Roshwald. Along with Debbie, Ruth Boyes, Krishna Prasath Ganesan, Faye Roberts, Tad Cook, and Kristina Deusch turned the manuscript into a book. I am very grateful for all of the assistance. Any errors are my own.

Luckily for me, I work with some of the best people in the business at Miami University: they are smart and funny and make work a source of joy. I want to thank everyone in the history department for their friendship and support, with particular nods to Steve Norris, Renée Baernstein, Charlotte Goldy, Wietse de Boer, Allan Winkler, Elena Albarrán, Dan Prior, Peggy Shaffer, and Steve Conn for their encouragement along the way. I owe special thanks to Erik Jensen, who, by traveling with me on several research trips, turned them into adventures. He also graciously translated some of Robert Koch's writing from the German. José Amador, with his enthusiasm and support, helped bring this project to life. As Altman Fellows at the Miami University Humanities Center, we co-organized the program "The Human and the Nonhuman: Exploring Intersections between Science and Humanities" during the 2012–2013 academic year. That collaboration convinced me that I could turn my fascination with rinderpest into a book. This is just one of many projects that the Humanities Center, under the direction of the supremely talented Tim Melley, has nourished. We are lucky to have it and him.

I could not have written this book without the assistance of archivists at FAO, the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, the National Archives at College Park, Library and Archives Canada, the National Archives at Kew, the United Nations Archives, the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, the Rockefeller Archive Center, the Schlesinger Library, the Hoover Institution, and Oklahoma State University Library Special Collections and University Archives. The Harry S. Truman Library Institute and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation generously helped fund my research and writing through the Truman-Kauffman Research Fellowship Program. Miami University also provided funding for some of my research trips. I am grateful for all the support.

My final thanks go to my family. This book is dedicated to my grandparents, Harvey and Bonnie Vernell Franks, who dedicated their lives to making sure that their children and grandchildren had access to far more opportunities than had been available to them. My grandfather passed away in 2015 at the age of 90. I miss him every day. My



Acknowledgments

xi

grandmother continues to bring love and joy to everyone who knows her. She and my mother both traveled with me to Geneva while I was researching this book and I have wonderful memories of the adventures that we had together there. My parents, Bruce and Elaine McVety, have provided unending love and support from the beginning. I owe them a great deal. The same is true for my sister and brother-in-law, Christy and David Rowe, and my many wonderful aunts, uncles, and cousins. While writing this book, I met and married Brian Hogan, gaining, in the process, both a marvelous husband and a new pack of wonderful relatives. We now have two sons, William Harvey and Eamon Bruce, who fill the house with laughter and chaos. Joy abounds.



Abbreviations

CBAHW Community-Based Animal Health Workers

CCTA Commission for Technical Cooperation in Africa South of

the Sahara

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **CDC**

Communist Liberated Areas Relief Administration **CLARA**

China National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration **CNRRA**

Colonial Office CO

CWS Chemical Warfare Service DRB Defense Research Board EC **European Commission**

ECA Economic Cooperation Administration

Economic and Financial Organization (League of Nations) **EFO EMPRES** Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal

and Plant Pests and Diseases

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization

Grosse Île Rinderpest (WWII research program) GIR-T GREP Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

IAH Institute for Animal Health

IBAH Interafrican Bureau for Animal Health Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources **IBAR**

IEG Imperial Ethiopian Government International Institute of Agriculture IIA ILO International Labour Organization

JCRR Joint Commission on Rural Reconstruction

JP15 Joint Programme 15



List of Abbreviations

xiii

KAG Kabete attenuated goat vaccine

LNHO League of Nations Health Organization

MEP Malaria Eradication Programme

MeV Measles virus

OAU Organization for African Unity

OFRRO Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations
OIE Office International des Epizooties (now World Animal

Health Organization)

PANVAC Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre
PARC Pan African Rinderpest Campaign
PE Participatory Epidemiology

PENAPH Participatory Epidemiology Network for Animal and

Public Health

PPR Peste des petits ruminants

RPV Rinderpest virus

RVCM Rinderpest virus-containing materials

SAREC South Asian Rinderpest Eradication Campaign

SEP Smallpox Eradication Programme

STRC Scientific Technical and Research Commission

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Organization

UNICEF United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund UNRRA United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration USAID United States Agency for International Development

USBWC United States Biological Warfare Committee
USDA United States Department of Agriculture
USOM United States Operations Mission

WAREC West Asia Rinderpest Eradication Campaign

WBC War Bureau of Consultants Committee

WFB World Food Board
WHA World Health Assembly
WHO World Health Organization
WRS War Research Service